

Muleshoe Journal



Photographs by Gabby Perez

Getting Ready For Some Football

The Freshman, JV and Varsity Mules ventured to Idalou on Friday, Aug. 16, for the first of two scrimmages. The next scrimmage will be against Lubbock Cooper on Aug. 22. Additional photographs are on B1.



Bad Luck... Or Just Poor Planning?

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Poor planning and a bit of coincidence has landed a Muleshoe resident in county jail faced with two burglary charges.

Mitchell Herndon, 29, of Muleshoe currently sits in Bailey County's jail facing two burglary charges due in part to poor planning in the his alleged disposal of stolen property, as well as his ability to choose his friends.

On about August 6, according to Bailey County Sheriff Richard Wills, Herndon allegedly burglarized a garage attached to a residence on West Camp Road, stealing two saddles in the process.

The victim, Clinton Rogers, apparently learned of the theft a few days later when someone he knew — according to the sheriff, mentioned he had purchased one of the saddles Rogers had for sale.

"I didn't sell a saddle," Rogers replied, according to Wills.

A quick check at Roger's residence showed that two saddles were indeed missing from the garage.

And, since Herndon had been kind enough to provide a signed bill of sale with the saddle he allegedly sold, it

wasn't long before the saddle's owner and purchaser showed up at the sheriff's department to report the incident.

As for the second burglary charge, according to the sheriff, county deputies followed up on information received from a confidential informant of the burglary of a vacant residence that was being planned by Herndon.

On Aug. 12, deputies sat up near the location — also on West Camp Road, and watched as Herndon arrived, entered the building and carried property out and placed it in the vehicle, the sheriff said.

Among the property of which Herndon was allegedly in possession at the time of his arrest was a commercial-grade cooking appliance alleged to have been stolen from the vacant residence on West Camp Road, and an air compressor believed to have been taken from another burglary.

According to the sheriff, the case is still under investigation to determine the owner of the air compressor.

"We've got an outstanding case on this one," the sheriff said.



City Budget Shows Expenses Cut

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Although the City of Muleshoe's proposed budget for FY 2013-14 shows a 32.24 percent cut in expenses, it isn't as dramatic as it appears, according to City Manager David Brunson.

The city manager explained that a significant portion of the decrease was the result of capital improvement projects that were completed

in the past year. In FY 2012-13, the city's water and sewer fund was set at \$2,808,851. For next fiscal year it will drop by 40.72 percent to \$1,412,305.

Other areas of change in next year's draft budget — work on which is still under way and probably won't be finalized until after a related public hearing on Aug. 27, and it is presented to the city council for adoption on Sept. 9, include a

two percent increase in general fund expenses and a 16.52 percent increase in hotel-motel tax fund expenses.

Another area that, according to Brunson "skews" the budget is the economic development fund's expenses.

He explained that the amount budgeted as expense is actually the Muleshoe Economic Development Corporation's available funds because it isn't known what project

requests they will receive during the fiscal year.

In the current year's budget, the EDF expense budget was listed at \$964,670; however, the city manager said the actual expenses only reached about \$69,000.

For next year, MEDC's budgeted expenses (funds available) are down 21.31 percent, at

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God's Joy, Beauty Are Divinely Extravagant

What an amazing night!

First, the sunset that Monday evening was truly beautiful. That happens so often here that we almost don't notice it, but that one was blazing for attention.

Second, the annual Perseid meteor shower was at its peak that night. I must admit that, though I looked, the only falling star I saw, much less caught and put in my pocket, was, well, one.

Still, I find it incredible that the Lord uses dust particles to create both sunsets and meteor showers. Yes, indeed, "the heavens declare the glory of God!"

Ah, but the most amazing thing I saw that night was not in the sky; it was on the



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

ground out near our backyard fence.

May I offer some

background to the backyard event?

My Granddaddy Key died in 1975. Granddaddy had a plant he was fond of, a plant of a variety that is easy to share. He gave cuttings to my mother and some others in our family. My younger

brother passed one on to me. Which I killed. Not easy to do, unless you freeze it, which I did. Then he gave me another one.

The plant is what most folks call a "night-blooming Cereus." And that's the thing: it

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'Muleshoe Day' Planning Is Under Way

With the Courthouse, will Independence Day celebration in the past, and the Christmas festivities in the distant future, the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture has dropped a bit of excitement in the middle, announcing the first annual Muleshoe Day to be held next month.

Set for Sept. 21, the event — which will be held on the lawn at the Bailey County

include music from a live band and street dancing, a barbecue cook-off, and a talent show.

Individuals interested in participating in any of the events, and vendors are asked to contact chamber secretary Becky Hoksbergen at the chamber office, 272-4248, or chamber president Gina Wilkerson at 806-240-2111.

OPINION

Focus On Faith... Continued From A1

Around Muleshoe...



Announcements from non-profit organizations in the Muleshoe area.

To post an announcement send an email to editor@muleshoejournal.com

Junior Class Pre-Game Meal

Muleshoe High School's Junior Class will be hosting the pre-game meal on Friday, Aug. 30.

The menu will include a brisket sandwich, with all of the trimmings, chips, beans, and dessert for \$7.

Serving will be from 5-7 p.m. for dine-in, and deliveries will be available from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. To place an order call 272-7305.

For tickets contact any MHS Junior or call the high school at 272-7303.

School Health Fair

The Muleshoe Area Public Library will be hosting a Back To School Health Fair on Aug. 22, from 10 a.m. until noon.

South Plains Community Action, Uniting Parents, Molina Healthcare, Texas Migrant Council, and Dental Quest will be available to talk to anyone coming.

There will be free backpacks for those who participate.

Storytime at the library will start back up on Sept. 16, at 10 a.m. The theme for Storytime will be "Be Kind." Ages for Storytime are two years until school age.

Library Movie Night

"Movie Night" will be Sept. 16 and 18, at 3:45 p.m., at the Muleshoe Area Public Library.

The movie that will be shown is *The Lucky One*. Library staff request that only teenagers and adults attend the movie viewing.

Reserved Seat Tickets

Reserved seat tickets for the 2013 Muleshoe Mules football season went on sale Monday, Aug. 5. The tickets are \$35 for six home games.

Persons who held reserved seat tickets for the 2012 football season may purchase their seating options at the MISD Administration office, located at 514 W. Ave. G, Monday through Friday, during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Beginning Monday, Aug. 26, all remaining tickets will go on sale on a first come, first serve basis.

Any reserved seats remaining after the season starts will be available at a cost of \$8 per game and may be purchased at the administration office on game day.

If you have questions concerning the ticket sales, contact Dana Rasco at 272-7400.



blooms only at night, and any single bloom lasts only one night.

Jim remembers Granddaddy staying up all night to watch his Cereus bloom. And Jim's plant put on quite a blooming show with about a dozen blooms, about 13 years ago.

So when our six-year-old granddaughter and the grandmother I'm married to found a bud, looking like a space alien, protruding from our bedraggled and seriously hail-damaged Cereus plant, we all took notice. I'd been planning to prune that thing back, but procrastination won the day. Good thing!

I set my alarm for several nights so I could be sure the blooming Cereus didn't sneak up on me. On the fourth evening, one look said, "Tonight's the night!" At 9:30 p.m., or so, it started opening. By midnight, almost exploding from the skankiest-looking leaf you ever saw, we had a brilliantly white eight-inch blossom looking like it had come straight from Eden.

Holy moments! Amazingly beautiful. And, by 12:40 a.m., it was starting to wilt.

Our Lord amazes me. No sanctimonious puritanical bean-counter, God is recklessly extravagant with beauty! It's there, if we'll just look. In people. In things. In places.

That plant is an ugly

MAHD Board Meets Again In Closed Session

The governing body of the Muleshoe Area Hospital District met in closed session again its Thursday, Aug. 15, special session.

As it has for almost a month, the MAHD's board of directors met for about an hour in executive session to discuss a single agenda item listed as "Deliberation of the governing body of certain providers of health care services," which reportedly is related to the hospital district's negotiations with local physicians.

Upon the board's return to open session, it adjourned with no action taken regarding

duckling for sure, but, wow! "When the time had fully come," at just the right moment, God does what we'd never expect in ways we could never imagine.

I wonder how much we miss seeing because we live in a fog, half-asleep and stumbling around with our eyes closed? I wonder how much important and beautiful we miss as we're tyrannized by what is simply loud and "urgent?"

God's joy won't be quenched because our eyes are closed, and, unlike some who have claimed to speak for him, he is not in the least afraid of beauty or joy, or fearful lest he run out, miserly in the use of either.

God would have put on that show even if we'd never noticed. But what a shame if we'd missed it!



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Muleshoe Journal USPS 367820

Established Feb. 23, 1924 Published by Panhandle Weeklies, LLC. Every Thursday at 201 W. Ave. C, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

Periodicals paid at Muleshoe, TX, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

We are qualified members of the Panhandle Press Association, West Texas Press Association and Texas Press Association

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Continued on A3

City Budget... Continued From A1

\$759,147. Brunson explained the decrease was a result of the decision to move a portion of the sales tax designated for the MEDC into the city's street improvement projects.

When the city council votes to adopt the FY 2013-14 budget on Sept. 9, according to Brunson, it will also be setting the tax rate.

Projected revenues for FY 2013-14 are down by 6.28 percent, with the largest decrease being in the city's 2008 certificate of obligation bond fund which was set at \$101,500 in the current year, but which won't be included in next year's revenues.

And, as was noted in the MEDC's expenses, the corporation's projected revenues are expected to drop from \$968,992 to \$78,000 — a 19.50 percent decrease that apparently is related to the decreased sales tax the fund will receive.

Projected revenues for the general fund are

currently set to decrease by 3.07 percent. All in all, the city's revenue is projected to decrease by 6.28 percent.

While area sales tax have shown a decrease, the city manager said he was a bit surprised that Muleshoe's is up slightly, an increase of about 5.73 percent.

Prior to that council vote, it is anticipated that it will adopt the effective tax rate of .7476 — which includes a debt service rate of .0888 and a maintenance and operation tax rate of .6588.

According to the city manager, the city proposes to use some of its exiting fund balance on capital improvement projects rather than increase municipal taxes.

One of the city's improvement projects, that began recently, is concreting the jogging trail in the New City Park. Brunson said it is expected to be a five to six year project, with about 20 percent of it being completed each year.

Work Continues On County Budget

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

With public hearings still ahead, the Bailey County Commissioners' Court current proposed budget for FY 2014 includes raises for both county employees and elected officials, lists total projected revenues at \$3,086,456.19, and maintains the county law enforcement center as a 96-bed facility.

The county's total revenue includes \$2,345,256.19 in taxes; \$559,750 from county services and fees; \$119,400 in fines and forfeitures; and \$50,050 from miscellaneous revenue such as rental fees of the Bailey County Coliseum and donations to the aging program.

Of the individual departments, the county's projected budget is the largest at \$1,494,982.20, of which \$1,075,554.7 is salary and benefits, and \$419,427.50 are operating expenses.

In FY 2013, the sheriff's department's budgeted operating expenses were \$346,197.50, and its actual expenses were \$223,393.89.

At last week's commissioners' court on Aug. 12, County Judge Sherri Harrison noted that she was increasing the budget items related to prisoner boarding due to the decision to continue operating the jail as a 96-bed facility instead of reducing the number of beds to 48.

At that time the judge said the amount the reduction would save in employee costs by reducing the number of prisoners the facility could hold were relatively insignificant.

Although the budget for the sheriff's department was \$1,340,031.49, the actual expenses listed for the year totaled \$778,113.89, according to the budget

information received by the Muleshoe Journal.

The county's second largest department budget is Bailey County EMS — the ambulance service, with a projected budget of \$430,817.25, an increase of \$32,959.51 from last year's budgeted amount, and \$188,355.47 more than last year's actual expenses.

The EMS' actual expenses in FY 2012 were \$172,824.15 less than the actual expenses from FY 2011, a significant savings the commissioners' court attributes to a change in management and more efficient billing procedures.

While the EMS director — who holds the county's highest paid position — requested a raise to \$55,000 during county budget talks, the FY 2014 budget lists his position at \$52,000.

However, also according to the budget talks, he would also be paid an additional amount if he had to cover unfilled EMT or paramedic shifts.

Other proposed departmental budgets for FY 2014 include the county judge — \$107,628.40; county clerk — \$154,865.37; county treasurer — \$93,074.12; tax assessor and collector — \$101,645.37; district court — \$144,979.66; district clerk — \$107,726.96; and non-departmental — \$389,385.70.

The only other county position with a performance bonus is the county sheriff, who has the potential of receiving an additional \$2,500 per quarter based upon the number of out-of-county prisoners boarded at the law enforcement center.

The projected budget for county precinct 1 in FY 2014 would be \$329,471.33; precinct 2 — \$278,530.80; precinct

3 — \$264,622.18; precinct 4 — \$262,794.66.

These budgeted items do not include the individual precinct's road and bridge fund, which are \$214,826.99 for precinct 1; \$207,526.99 for precinct 2; \$213,526.99 for precinct 3; and \$205,526.99 for precinct 4.

The projected budget for the county's health services and office on aging is \$296,648.26.

The budget for the justice of the peace and county constable totals \$94,012.78.

Among the budget items affected by state stipends are the county attorney at \$95,876.58; probation at \$40,700; the county extension office at \$109,561.74; and the district attorney at \$156,574.61.

One of the major issues discussed during the commissioners' court meetings while working on the FY 2014 budget has been the salaries of both county employees and elected officials.

According to the proposed FY 2014 budget, the county's elected officials — and most county employees — will receive a five percent pay increase, while the county jailers will receive a seven percent increase, Judge Harrison said at the court's Aug. 12 regular meeting, and the county's road hands would receive a three percent increase.

Also at the Aug. 12 meeting, the court approved a proposed tax rate for FY 2013-14 at the rollback rate of .9163, and set public hearing dates for Aug. 26 and Sept. 9.

The rollback rate includes a farm to market rate of .1343 per hundred dollars of valuation, a maintenance and operation rate of .6845,

and an interest and sinking fund rate of .0979, and is based on general fund tax values of \$328,494,462 and farm to market fund tax values of \$324,574,135.

The county's effective rate, based upon the same tax values, is .8557, according to Harrison, with an farm to market rate of .1244, and a maintenance and operation rate of .6334.

The interest and sinking fund rate remains at .0979.

At the meeting, the county judge recommended the court approve the rollback rate as the proposed tax rate, noting that while the court wouldn't be able to exceed that rate in its final approval, it could still set a lower rate.

"I feel good about the budget," Brunson said.

According to the city manager, the projected budget is "pretty tight," but also "pretty conservative," noting that it still included salary increases of about 3.6 percent city-wide.

"I believe it's going to meet the needs of the city and the citizens," he said.

"All of the department heads are real effective with the funds they receive," Brunson added.

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MAHD Board...

Continued from A2 the closed session.

The board's next regular meeting is Thursday, Aug. 22, at which time the agenda item from the Aug. 15 special meeting, along with personnel matters and the hospital's Q&A report are scheduled once again for a closed session.

Obituaries

Harold Toombs

Funeral services for Harold C. Toombs, 91, of Maple were held on Monday, Aug. 19, at First Missionary Baptist of Morton, Texas with Michael Jannise of Morton officiating.

Burial followed in Morton Memorial Cemetery.

Harold died on Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013, in Muleshoe Area Medical Center. He was born on May 18, 1922, in Manchaca, to Maurice Bertram and Beulah (Burns) Toombs, and married Marie (Basham) Toombs in Maple on Feb. 4, 1945.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife and one son — Gary Mack Toombs.

Harold had been a

resident of Maple since 1930 moving from Littlefield.

He was a member of the First Missionary Baptist Church, and a member of the Levelland Masonic Lodge #1236.

Harold was a farmer and served in the US Navy during World War II, and was in the Sea Bees.

Survivors include Bonnie Wright, his companion; a son — Monte Toombs of Hewett; a daughter — Janice Chilcoat of Terrell; two sisters — Josephine Hines of Seminole and Mary Beth Roberts of Ft. Worth; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Online condolences can be made at www.ellisfuneralhomes.com.

Wanda Kittrell

A memorial service for Wanda Imogene Kittrell, 79, will be held on Aug. 31, at the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe, with the Rev. Dr. Stacy Conner and David Gray officiating.

Mrs. Kittrell died on Aug. 19, 2013, at Park View Nursing Care Center of Muleshoe. She was born on Sept. 5, 1933, in Bokchita, Okla., to HR and Grace Pyler.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, a brother, two infant children, and her husbands — JW Barker in 1948, LB Garner in 1960, and WB "Buster" Kittrell in 2010.

Wanda was a faithful member of her church and especially loved her Sunday School class and worship services.

Wanda, along with her husband — Buster Kittrell, volunteered their services at Park View, where he regularly led song services, and cut men's hair, and she helped bring doughnuts to all of their residents and staff of the facility.

She was also a regular visitor at the Oneita Wagon Senior Center in Muleshoe, where she helped register those

who came to visit, play games of dominos with her friends, and enjoyed the company of her peers.

Survivors include five children — Mike Barker and wife Denise of Tucson, Ariz., Wayland Barker, also of Tucson, Gayla Philpot and husband Jack of Noble, Okla., Kay Gray and husband David of Muleshoe, and Kenny Kittrell and wife Patti of Lubbock; three brothers — JC Pyler of San Angelo, Frank Pyler and wife Betty of Ft. Worth, and LD Pyler and wife Dorothy of Port Orchard, Wash.; numerous grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made either to the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe or to the Oneita Wagon Senior Center.



Weddings

Murff, Riley Joined In Texas-Style Wedding

Lindsay Claire Murff and Garrett Travis Riley were joined in holy matrimony on Saturday, May 4, 2013, at The Murff Ranch in Mosheim, Texas. The Rev. Steve Ramsdell officiated at the ceremony, which took place on a cliff overlooking a large canyon, adorned by a nine foot, hand-wrought cedar cross covered in grapevine and small white blossoms.

Wild flowers and a Texas spring sunset surrounded guests during the exchange of vows.

The bride is the daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Joseph S. Murff of Austin and the granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. Gene Murff of Waco and Mrs. James L Smith and the late Dr. Smith of Houston.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Riley of Muleshoe and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Riley, also of Muleshoe, and the late Ms. Mary Jordan Pool and Mr. Myron Pool II of Muleshoe.

The bride is a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, where she majored in public relations. The groom is also a graduate of Texas Tech University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a minor in exercise sports science.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an elegant v-neck gown with a romantic lace over lay. The floor-length dress featured a fit and flare bodice, a low back framed with vintage inspired lace, and a short lace train of southern style.

In tribute to her family's Texas heritage, the bride's ensemble included cowboy boots. The bride's garter, fashioned of delicate blue silk and soft lace, was worn by the groom's mother and grandmother.

The bride carried a beautiful free form, hand-tied bouquet in shades of soft pink and white. The bouquet included pale pink peonies, ivory hydrangeas, succulents in green, Wendy spray



Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Riley

roses, snowberries, natural grasses, seeded eucalyptus, and ranunculus wrapped in off-white lace.

Maid of honor was Morgan Costello, childhood friend of the bride. Bridal attendants were Sarah Cumbie, Alisha Copeland, Jasmine Aghili, Katelyn O'Donnell, Caitlin Riley and Meagan Conner.

The bride's attendants wore fitted, three-quarter sleeved lace dresses in dusty pink and their favorite brown cowboy boots. Each carried hand-tied bouquets of snowberries and ivory hydrangeas.

Best man was Lincoln Riley, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were David Murff, brother of the bride, Timothy Conner, Dusty Clayton and Colt Ellis.

The flower girl was Reese Conner, daughter of Tim and Meagan Conner. She wore a dress of white lace with a pair of cowboy boots.

Alex Thie provided music for the ceremony on acoustic guitar accompanied by violin.

The procession included "Love Never Fails" by Brandon Heath, as well as other classical favorites. The ceremony concluded to the strains of "Here Comes the Sun," by George Harrison of the Beatles.

The reception was held in the ranch's limestone barn with natural wood interior. An air of elegance was created throughout, with silver and mercury

glass vases, soft white candles and an array of white, fresh cut flowers placed at every table.

The ceiling of the barn was draped in swags of sheer white, accented by two large crystal chandeliers hanging from the rafters.

The horses' stalls were transformed into intimate seating areas using white cloth-draped hay bales and antique dining chairs, and decorated with cascading baskets of white flowers.

One stall featured photographs of the couple's families, including their parents' wedding portraits, as well as photographs of their grandparents as newlyweds, all arranged on occasional tables in candle-lit corners. This unique family display also showcased the 1950s era bridal gown worn by the bride's maternal grandmother.

The bride and groom first danced to *That's My Kind Of Woman*, by George Strait, which the

groom chose and kept a secret until the time of the dance.

The bride and her father danced to his song of choice, *She's Like Texas*, by the Josh Abbott Band, and the groom selected *What a Wonderful World*, by Louis Armstrong to dance with his mother.

The bride received her grandmother's Tiffany & Co. champagne flutes for her 21st birthday, which were used for the couple's first toast as husband and wife.

The sterling silver cake knife used for the occasion had been a wedding gift to the bride's paternal great-grandmother.

The bride's cake was composed of four layers of vanilla cake with butter cream frosting and a thin layer of raspberry preserves in between.

In lieu of a traditional groom's cake, the groom opted for his grandmother, Evelyn Riley's, "Muffins and Sauce," which consisted of semi-sweet vanilla muffins topped with a warm vanilla sugar sauce.

Following a honeymoon to St. Thomas, the bride and groom have made their home in Greenville, N.C., where he is employed as an offensive graduate assistant coach for the East Carolina University football program.

She is now the assistant manager at Monkees, a popular local boutique.

The couple is very excited to have started their journey together and thank their family and friends for their continued support.

Death Notices

Debbie Gray

Clovis, N.M., resident Debbie Gray, 56, died on Aug. 13, 2013, at St. Anthony Healthcare in Clovis, N.M. She was born on Nov. 19, 1956, in Muleshoe. Funeral services were Saturday, Aug. 17, at Steed-Todd Funeral Home Chapel in Clovis. Burial followed at Plainview Cemetery in Plainview.

Slaves, Servants and Masters

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A X X Z R M Q B O S C F L G C A X J F O
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RANDY'S ROUNDUP

UPDATE BY CONGRESSMAN RANDY NEUGEBAUER

More Obamacare Flaws

Another week, another Obamacare delay by the President. This time, it's caps on out-of-pocket insurance costs.

Apparently, the computer systems can't communicate with each other, so the caps can't be put in place on time.

The caps aren't a great policy to begin with; as this Forbes article explains, "If you ban lifetime limits, and mandate lower deductibles, and cap out-of-pocket costs, premiums have to go up to reflect these changes."

Translation? Higher costs for consumers.

In other news, businesses are planning to cut back on full-time employees because they can't afford to provide the health insurance required by Obamacare.

So workers will be laid off or forced to reduce their hours, resulting in lower paychecks at best, and unemployment at worst.

Additionally, there are significant concerns about how consumers' privacy will be protected under the new system.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott joined 12 other state Attorney Generals in a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen

Sebelius raising concerns about potential flaws in privacy protections.

Enough already. I'll tell you what I've told every constituent in my town hall listening sessions over the past two weeks: this law has too many flaws.

We don't need any more exemptions, carve-outs, or delays. It's time to defund it, repeal it, and replace it with more commonsense policy that puts you in charge of your health care.

I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag...

I bet every single one of you can recite the rest of that Pledge of Allegiance. And you know how it finishes — One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

I want to bring your attention to the latest attack against the reference to God in our Pledge.

The American Humanist Association has filed a suit in Massachusetts in an effort to make it unconstitutional for students to say the phrase "under God" when reciting the Pledge.

Here's what's interesting about this case — students are not

required to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. They can abstain for any reason and won't ever be asked why. So even though the plaintiffs aren't required to say the Pledge, they're trying to prevent other students from saying it. It makes no sense.

The Pledge of Allegiance has evolved and changed since it was first written, and Congress has repeatedly reaffirmed our commitment to our historic legacy as "one Nation under God."

I've signed on to a friend-of-the-court brief in support of the Pledge.

We argue that the opportunity to voluntarily recite the national Pledge of Allegiance is an important expression of our national identity.

Allowing schools to tinker with the Congressionally-enacted language means that we won't have a National Pledge — we'll have a number of somewhat similar sounding recitations that vary from school to school and state to state.

That devalues the Pledge and the patriotism and unity it represents.

Eating Healthy = Staying Healthy!

Obamacare And The Rule Of Law

With each passing day, it becomes more and more obvious that President Obama's health-care law is simply unworkable.

Yet rather than accept reality and support full congressional repeal of the law, the administration is instead violating Obamacare and applying it selectively.

Last month, for example, President Obama unilaterally delayed the requirement that large employers provide health insurance to their workers, and he also delayed various oversight provisions.

More recently, he intervened to protect the health-care benefits received by members



JOHN CORNYN
UNITED STATES SENATOR, TEXAS
TEXAS ★ TIMES

of Congress, and his administration confirmed that it will delay enforcement of a cap on out-of-pocket costs.

In addition, to help implement Obamacare, the IRS has announced that it will issue health-insurance subsidies through federal exchanges, even though the law makes clear that those subsidies can be issued only through state exchanges.

Speaking of which, the administration is reportedly running months behind schedule in preparing data security for the

exchanges.

Meanwhile, states across the country are projecting that Obamacare will cause individual insurance premiums to skyrocket. A new National Bureau of Economic Research paper suggests that the law may also trigger "substantial declines in aggregate employment."

It is already prompting businesses to replace full-time jobs with part-time jobs: That's a major reason why the number of people doing part-time jobs for economic

Continued on A7

Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery

Annual General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 3rd, 6 p.m.

Bailey County Electric Meeting Room

Located at 610 E. American Blvd.

It is very important that all persons with an interest in the Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery attend this meeting in order to allow the following business to be conducted:

- Old & New Business
- Financial Report

Please make an effort to attend.

Thank you,

The Board of Directors

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House Remains Separate Property After Marriage

Q. I own a house. If I marry I believe that my home is still mine in case of a divorce. Is that true?

A. Your understanding of the law is correct. In Texas, property is considered "separate," or, "community."

Separate property is owned solely by one while spouse, while community property is owned jointly.

If there is a divorce, the court will divide the community property between the spouses, but separate property goes to the spouse who owns it.

All property acquired after a marriage is considered community property. Property owned before marriage, such as a house, remains the property of the spouse who owns it.

In other words, unless you wanted to give your spouse an interest in your house, it will remain your separate property and would not be divided if there was a divorce.

Q. I moved into a complex and was shown a model unit. Much to my surprise and disappointment my unit is nothing like the model. What are my rights?

Ask A Lawyer...

By Richard Alderman

A. Texas has a consumer protection law called the Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

Under this law, commonly referred to as the DTPA, a person or business is responsible if it makes any misrepresentations about what is being sold or rented.

If someone violates this law, he may be liable for three times your damages plus attorneys' fees.

In most cases, a misrepresentation takes the form of an oral or written statement about the goods. For example, it is a misrepresentation to say, "The apartment has new carpet," when it does not.

But a misrepresentation does not have to be expressed in words. A misrepresentation also can arise in other ways, such as showing someone a model apartment, and leading him or her to believe his or her apartment will look substantially the same as the model.

In my opinion, if the apartment you were rented is not

substantially the same as the model you were shown, the landlord has violated the DTPA.

I suggest you let him know you know your rights, and ask for a new unit, repairs to your current unit, or the right to terminate your lease.

Q. I own a timeshare in another state. I can no longer afford the payments and want to get rid of it. The company will not take it back and says I have to continue to pay or they will sue me.

Can I force them to take it back? A company contacted me and told me that for \$3,000 they would find a technicality and get me out of the contract.

A. As you are discovering, it is very difficult to get out of an obligation for a timeshare. Unlike personal property, you cannot just throw away real estate or abandon it. As long as you own it, you have an obligation to pay.

As a first step, you may want to let the company know you are going to stop paying and ask if it will agree

to let you out, for a small fee. You may be able to negotiate your release. If you do, be sure to get any agreement in writing.

There also are companies that sell timeshares. I actually sold a timeshare about three years ago. I would not, however, pay anyone in advance to sell or get out of a timeshare.

Finally, look at the debt collection section on my website below, to see what might happen if the company does try to collect.

In many cases, there is not much a creditor can take to collect even if it sues. That is why the company may settle the matter with you once you let it know you are no longer able to pay.

Q. I was sexually assaulted in the laundry room of my apartment. I am very scared to live there and asked the landlord if I could terminate my lease.

He said if I left early I would be breaking the lease and would continue to owe rent. Do I have the right to leave?

A. As far as the law is

concerned, you generally do not have the right to terminate your lease simply because you do not want to live there.

But since 2010, the law has been changed to allow a tenant who is the victim of a sexual assault to terminate the lease with no further

liability.

I suggest you let the landlord know you know the law, and you are terminating your lease.

Do you want to know more about your legal rights? Check out my website, www.peopleslawyer.net

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Sen. Cornyn... Continued From A6

reasons soared from 7.6 million in March to 8.2 million in July.

I voted against Obamacare four years ago, and I strongly support replacing the entire thing with patient-centered reforms that actually address America's biggest health-care challenges.

Indeed, my colleagues and I are ready to work with President Obama to give businesses and individuals permanent relief from a public-policy debacle.

That's how the legislative process functions: If the president and members of Congress object to a law — or a portion of a law — because they think it's bad policy, they work together to fix it.

What the president is doing with Obamacare is quite different: He is effectively picking and choosing which parts of

the law to enforce, based on convenience and political expediency.

This isn't the first time President Obama has taken such liberties. Time and again, he has shown that if a law proves inconvenient — or unpopular among his supporters — he will ignore it.

We saw this during the 2009 government-run Chrysler bankruptcy process, when the company's secured bondholders received much less for their loans than the United Auto Workers pension funds did.

We saw it during the run-up to the Solyndra bankruptcy in 2011, when the Obama administration violated the law by making taxpayers subordinate to private lenders.

We saw it when the president made unconstitutional appointments to the National Labor

Relations Board and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

We saw it when he announced a moratorium on the enforcement of certain immigration laws. We saw it again when his administration unilaterally waived key requirements in the 1996 welfare-reform law and the 2002 No Child Left Behind Act.

Government by executive waiver is no way to run a democracy.

Our Constitution obliges the president to make sure that all laws are "faithfully executed."

Under President Obama, inconvenient or unpopular legal requirements have repeatedly been swept aside by executive fiat.

If this president — or any president — is allowed to selectively enforce the law based on political expediency,

our democracy will be gravely weakened.

The principle at stake here is much larger than Obamacare: It's about the constitutional separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches of government.






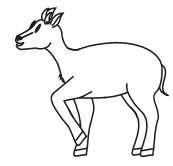
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Jesters, Jousts & Joy!

I just love turkey legs!

We're going to a fair - one set in a time when kings or queens ruled and there were knights and jousts! It was a time of new ideas, inventions and changes in the countries of Europe. It is called the Renaissance or "rebirth" period.

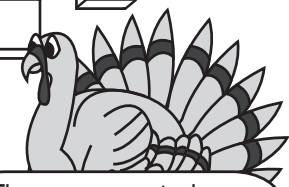
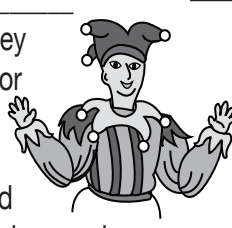


Read these clues that describe the idea behind an exciting fair called a 'Renaissance Faire':

1. the Renaissance started in _____ and spread
2. it was a period of time that covered about two hundred years and brought big _____
3. just before it started, a terrible disease or _____ had swept through Europe and killed about half of all the people there
4. many of the countries then were ruled by a _____ or queen
5. _____ were men who were the leaders in the king's army; they wore armor and rode on horses in battles
6. later, knights only fought on horseback in competitions or _____
7. men started to sail or travel to other countries to explore and _____
8. buying and selling goods brought _____ more work and money
9. people switched from trading goods for other goods (bartering) or from using silver bars to using gold _____ for large purchases
10. it was a time of questioning, thinking and _____
11. _____, music and written works like poetry were encouraged
12. a man named Leonardo _____ was an artist, scientist, musician, engineer
13. math, science, technology, new medical ideas and _____ became important
14. the invention of the _____ press let people share ideas widely and quickly
15. your local Renaissance fair may have fun _____ like archery, or axe or star throwing

Going to the Fair

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change
knights
Italy
art
king
jousts
coins
printing
inventions
8
10
12
14
2
9
11
13
15
6
learning
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There were no turkey legs at feasts in Europe until the bird was brought there from America.

4-H Fund Raiser... Continued From A4

where the stores are located," Barrett said. "These funds have been used to help counties with their leadership training efforts, help youth attend leadership camps and present workshops, purchase needed equipment, pay registration expenses for 4-H contest participation, and support various 4-H programs and activities." This year, participating stores include all Stripes locations throughout Texas - including the two stores in Muleshoe, as well as stores in eight additional counties of Oklahoma and New Mexico.

camp so they could learn about leadership roles within the 4-H program." Nolen said other fundraiser funds went to support existing 4-H programs and toward new program resources, including resources for their new clothing and textiles effort. Barrett said during this year's fundraising campaign representatives from 4-H will continue their popular Facebook contest. Photos will be submitted to the Texas 4-H Foundation and posted on the Texas 4-H Friends & Alumni Facebook page where they can vote for their favorite picture.

we plan to do it one dollar at a time." DeSutter said Stripes Stores and the Susser family maintain a longstanding tradition of investing in health and education programs that focus on children. "We carefully choose initiatives that inspire us, and we are proud to provide support that aids the communities we love so much," he said. Stripes Stores officials said more than \$391,000 has been raised for 4-H through this alliance since 2010 and they hope to surpass the half-million dollar mark with the 2013 campaign in September.

"We want to make this year our biggest 4-H Foundation and Stripes Stores collaborative fundraising year to date, with a goal of \$400,000 for what is the nation's largest youth development organization," Barrett said. She noted that while Texas were helped by last year's fundraiser, some of those receiving the greatest financial benefit from 2012 efforts included Victoria, Dimmit, Harris, Lubbock, Midland, Reagan, Val Verde and Wichita. "Funds from last year's fundraiser allowed us to increase our 4-H participation at the district, county and state level by reimbursing 4-H families for their contest entry fees," said Sheryl Nolen, AgriLife Extension agent 4-H and youth development for Harris County. "This 'Get Your Green On' effort increased participation from 10 kids to 60 kids at the county level. The funds also allowed us to bring 80 4-H members to our daylong leadership

The county with the picture getting the most Facebook likes will receive an additional donation sponsored by the Alumni Association. "The 4-H and Youth Development Program is a recognized leader in developing life skills, empowering youth and volunteers, and facilitating effective partnerships to create capable and responsible citizens," Barrett said. "We're grateful to once again have the support of Stripes Convenience Stores through this multi-state fundraising effort." "Now in our fourth year as a 4-H alliance member, we are really excited about our upcoming campaign," said Steve DeSutter, Stripes Convenience Stores president and CEO. "With the combined generosity of our customers and the hard work and dedication of our team members we can raise needed funds for these programs which support youth leadership, healthy living, and educational scholarships for local students. We want to make a difference, and

Mark your Calendars

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September 21, 2013

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SPORTS NEWS

Mules Vs. Wildcats: Aug. 16 Scrimmage At Idalou



Photographs by Gabby Perez

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News about your college student

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

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

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

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

Muleshoe Journal FOOTBALL CONTEST COMING SOON!

Will begin August 30, 2013

FREE TO ENTER! ••••• FREE TO HAVE FUN!

RULES - Circle your choice of the winning team in each of the games sponsored by local businesses. The entry with the most correct choices will win the weekly \$25 prize. In the event of a tie, the contestant that guesses closest to the combined tiebreaker score will be the week's winner. The player with the most correct guesses at the end of the regular season will win the Grand Prize of \$200. So we encourage you to play every week to increase your chance of winning the Grand Prize. Entries may be mailed to the Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, dropped off at the office (201 W. Ave. C), faxed to 806-272-3567 or e-mailed to: adsales@muleshoejournal.com. Please indicate FOOTBALL CONTEST ENTRY. Need not have original entry form to enter. Entries for each week's contest must be postmarked before or received in our office by **12 PM ON FRIDAY OF THAT WEEK'S GAMES. NO EXCEPTIONS!** Muleshoe Journal employees and their families are not eligible to win. Decision of the judges is final. Games not marked will not be counted. Must be at least 12 years old to play. We encourage your support of the businesses that sponsor this contest.

74th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

BAILEY COUNTY ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

to be held in the

BAILEY COUNTY COLISEUM
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MULESHOE, TEXAS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2013

REGISTRATION

6:00 P.M.

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT

6:00 P.M.

FREE MEAL

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6:00 P.M.

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New Dillman Teachers

New Dillman Elementary teachers for the 2013-14 school year include, on the right from left to right: Karen Oldham, Nicole Morrissey, Lindsey Clayton, Jessica Sturdivant, Irene Espinoza and Hayley Sheets.



New DeShazo Teachers

New DeShazo Elementary teachers for the 2013-14 school year, pictured on the left, from left to right, are: Kelli Morrison, Vicky Huerta, Lyndsey Lasater, Marie Delgado, Trisha Edwards and Erika Perez.

New Watson Junior High Teachers

New Watson Junior High teachers for the 2013-14 school year include, pictured on the right from left to right: Jaimie Davis, Theresa Oursbourn, Gretchen Ogerly and Jan Morris, who is not in the photograph.



New Muleshoe High School Teachers

New Muleshoe High School teachers for the 2013-14 school year, pictured above, from left to right, are: Front row — Julie Maxwell and Nellie Zaragosa; back row — Karie Preston, Nicole Flores, Brinnan Pierce, Katie Loera and Melody Robinette; and on the left, from left to right — William Smith, David Strudivant, Wes Wood and Bryan Loera.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination Muleshoe ISD

Career and Technology Education Programs

1. It is the policy of Muleshoe ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
2. It is the policy of Muleshoe ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
3. Muleshoe ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.
4. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Muleshoe ISD Assistant Superintendent at 514 W. Ave G, Muleshoe, Texas 79347. You may call at 806-272-7400.

Published in the Muleshoe Journal on August 22, 2013

NOTIFICACIÓN PÚBLICA DE NO DISCRIMINACIÓN MULESHOE ISD PROGRAMAS DE EDUCACIÓN DE CARRERAS Y TECNOLOGÍA

1. Es norma de Muleshoe ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.
2. Es norma de Muleshoe ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmendada, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.
3. Muleshoe ISD tomara las medidas necesaria para asegurar que la falta de habilidades en el uso de la idioma ingles no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educactivos y vocacionales.
4. Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimiento de quejas, por favor de ponerse en contacto con el Asistente Superintendente en el 514 W. Ave. G, Muleshoe, Texas 79347. También puede hablar al 806-272-7400.

Published in the Muleshoe Journal on August 22, 2013

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- Handicap apartment available.

For more information or if you wish to look at an apartment, contact RAQUEL OR OLIMPICA 806-272-5560 during business hours TTY:1-800-735-2989:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday – Friday.

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HARMON ELLIOTT Apartamentos para Los Ciudadnos Mayores

I, II, III

**Localizado a 901 W. AVE. K, MULESHOE
Tiene Apartamentos Disponible**

- Los apartamentos son agradables y limpias
- Estufa y refrigerador es suministrada
- El agua es suministrada
- Motivos y todos los trabajos de mantenimiento principales, incluyendo mantenimiento de patio se incluyen
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RAQUEL O OLIMPICA

806-272-5560 durante los horas de negocio

TTY:1-800-735-2989

8:30 a.m. A 4:30 p.m.; Lunes-Viernes

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Club News Zeta Rho

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The door prize, yellow mums, went to Judy Wilbanks.

DPS Boosts Patrols For Labor Day Enforcement Period

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DPS troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent.

The enhanced patrols that target impaired drivers are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

“Keeping Texas roadways safe for all travelers is a vital concern for DPS, and these increased patrols are designed to save lives by getting intoxicated drivers off the road,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

“The Department

urges drivers to mark the Labor Day holiday responsibly by utilizing safe driving practices and not drinking and driving,” he said.

During the Labor Day enforcement effort last year, DPS troopers made 1,879 DWI arrests, and approximately 503 of those were the direct result of the increased patrols.

Last year during this same time period, DPS enforcement also resulted in 24,779 speeding citations, 3,890 seat belt/child safety seat citations and 4,062 no insurance tickets.

In addition, troopers made 1,238 fugitive arrests, 895 felony arrests and 889 drug arrests during routine patrol operations.

DPS offers the following tips for safe travel during the Labor

Day holiday:

- Don’t drink and drive. Designate a driver or take a cab.

- Eliminate distractions, including the usage of mobile devices.

- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it’s the law.

- Slow down — especially in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.

- Slow down or move over for tow trucks and police, fire and EMS vehicles stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated — it’s the law. Starting Sept. 1, the law also applies to TxDOT vehicles.

- Don’t drive fatigued.

- Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.

School Health Fair Is Thursday

The Muleshoe Area Public Library will be hosting a Back To School Health Fair on Aug. 22, from 10 a.m. until noon.

South Plains Community Action, Uniting Parents, Molina Healthcare, Texas Migrant Council, and Dental Quest will be available to talk to anyone coming.

There will be free backpacks for those who participate.

Storytime at the library will start back up on Sept. 16, at 10 a.m. The theme for Storytime will be “Be Kind.” Ages for Storytime are two years until school age.

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Have you taken an interesting trip this year? Let us know about it!

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Muleshoe Housing Authority

of City of Muleshoe, Texas

Tumbleweed Apartments

LOCATED AT 301 E. 6th Street, MULESHOE
Has Apartments Available

- Apartments are extra nice & clean.
- Stove and refrigerator furnished.
- All utilities are included
- Grounds and all maintenance work, including yard maintenance, are included.
- Rental assistance is provided for qualified tenants.
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Vendors Needed!

Civic Clubs, Businesses, Non-Profit Organizations

15TH ANNUAL COWBOY DAYS

featuring

Visit Historic Downtown Plainview for this Memorable Event!

Events Will Include:

Trail Boss Shootout	Cowboy King & Queen Contest
Food Vendors	Texas Animals
Hale on Wheels	Demonstration
Bike Ride	WBU's Kids Kraft Korral
YMCA Moo-A-Thon	Cowboy Church
Classic Car Show	Ranch Rodeo
4-H Horse Rides	Rodeo Dance
Stick Horse Race	
Pinatas	

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21, 2013

\$30 per booth

Vendors and Participants - Come Join The Fun & Excitement

Cowboy Days Entry Form

Yes, I would like to join in.

I will be selling _____ Name _____

I'll have a booth displaying _____ Address _____

_____ Phone _____

_____ I need electricity.

(1 plug available only)

Mail Entry Forms or Call
Carmen Ortega - Plainview Herald
820 Broadway • Plainview, TX 79072 • 806-296-1320

Registration Deadline: Friday, Sept. 6th



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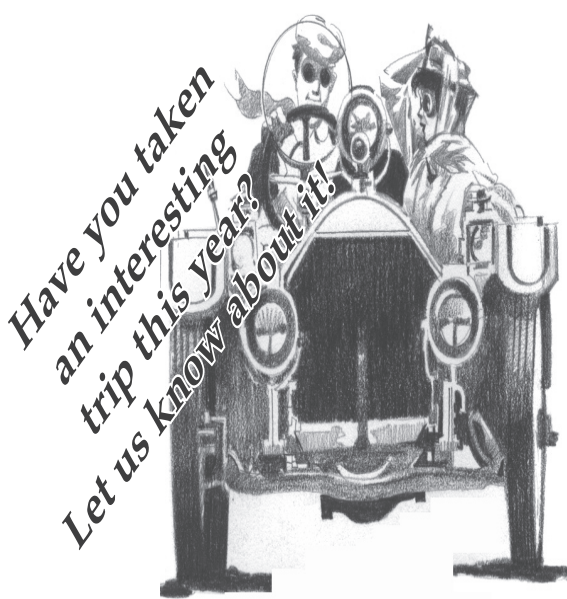
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