



Focus On Faith...
God's Genuine Joy...
 Page A2

Happy New Year!
The Muleshoe Journal
 office will be closed Jan. 1



Muleshoe Journal



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Technology Available At All Levels

*By Dr. Gene Sheets
 MISD Superintendent*
 Last year, the Muleshoe Independent School District Board of Trustees initiated an MISD Technology Grant. Teachers in Muleshoe could apply for a grant for technology equipment or software that they could use in their classroom for instruction. The school board believes in the MISD Mission Statement: *The Mission of the Muleshoe Independent School District is to graduate life-long learners and productive citizens by providing an instructional program and educational environment that develops the skills, attitudes, and ethics necessary to meet the needs of a changing society.*

our students to have a successful future they must be seekers of information, be able to problem-solve, and be a team player. Muleshoe ISD prepares students for future success by combining new technology with skills to prepare them to be contributing members of society. One example of utilizing new technology in classroom instruction involves the iPad™. The iPad engages students in ways that no piece of school or classroom technology has ever done. Many Muleshoe ISD teachers applied for and received iPads for their students to use in their classrooms for instruction. There are literally thousands of instructional applications (apps) available to engage students in math, science, reading, writing — these apps allow



Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets and board member Jay Cage look on as students from Dillman demonstrate their use of iPads™ purchased through the district's technology grant.

our students to seek and learn information, develop and expand concepts, and even teach information themselves to others.

Let me give a couple of examples of projects teachers have done using iPad's in the classroom. "Educreation" is an app that the students can use to teach a concept to other students. The students determine the lesson plan and, with the help of an iPad,

create, record, and present a lesson to other students. Research shows people learn best when **Continued on A3**

Some Good Deeds Are Of Doubtful Destination

*By Larry Thornton
 Managing Editor*
 It's the holiday season, a time for giving and caring for those in need. But how do you know the photograph of the little girl or boy pasted on the jar at the local restaurant or convenience store is going to benefit from your charity? Such is the question that was raised recently when a jar at a local restaurant sought donations for "The United Cause" of San Antonio. With a website listed



as "unitedcause2009.org," and the telephone number 855-290-8391, the organization appears to be legitimate...

on the surface, even noting that one of its functions is to "help our member agencies raise funds mainly through participation in workplace campaigns." The website also describes it as a "coalition comprised of many of America's finest charitable organizations dedicated to meeting the needs of children." However, when the organization's jars began raising suspicions in the Sweetwater area, it was determined that the donation jars, the website and the information received about the organization seemed to raise more questions than were answered. **They looked legit...** In fact, according to Sweetwater Police Det. Melinda Moncada... it's a scam. "They looked legit," Moncada said, referring to what she was told by business owners who were asked by United

Cause representatives to be allowed to display the jars and pick them up and the money they contained at a later date. Moncada even said the jars were picked up by someone with some type of United Cause badge, but attempts to verify the organization through both the Texas Attorney General's office and the office of State Comptroller Susan Combs' office was unsuccessful. In fact, according to Moncada, representatives of the two state agencies said the organization didn't appear to be a valid charity. Moncada said during her telephone interview with a United Cause representative, over the cellphone to which the 855 number apparently sent her call, she was told the organization collected funds from the San Antonio area — where the organization purports to be located, for distribution to San Antonio area families in need. But at 268 miles, few **Continued on A3**

2012: A 'Pretty Good Year' In Muleshoe

*By Larry Thornton
 Managing Editor*
 For the most part, area residents would have to agree that 2012 was a "pretty good year" in Muleshoe and Bailey County. **January** Whether the Muleshoe City Council should set a curfew for local juveniles attracted community participation at the first meeting of 2012. Initially raised at its November meeting, the council listened to speakers from both sides of the issue before the decision was made to form a committee that would bring a

recommendation back to the council. According to City Manager David Brunson, the issue of a curfew to regulate the nighttime activities of the community's youth came from an official at Watson Junior High. Individuals speaking in favor of such an ordinance included Estela Duarte who suggested that enforcement of a curfew would curtail certain behavior. "I feel like it will be a safer

neighborhood," she said. While Nancy Benham said she didn't want a curfew ordinance "to be mean." "I want to do it because we love them... to protect them from them-selves," she said. And over at the Bailey County Commissioners' Court a contract with Specialized Public Finance, Inc. of Lubbock was approved to refinance the 2003 certificates of obligation used to finance the construction of the law enforcement center. At the court's December meeting the court's members showed interest in contracting with SPF due to its office's closer proximity, and receiving information that a significant reduction in the certificates' interest rates was possible. January also brought some surprises at the Muleshoe Independent School District, with the school board members paying a surprise visit to the high school cafeteria. According to Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets, the **Continued on A6**

2012 The year in Review



A local youngster tries his hand at fishing during Muleshoe's first annual kids fishing derby. A total of 95 kids participated in the June 2 event.

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OPINION

Presidential Push Is No Big Surprise

Editorial

The fact that President Obama has selected Joseph Biden, vice president and liberal extraordinaire, to head up his administration's push for gun control, along with the news that Biden will reportedly be meeting with a group of the nation's "pro-gun control top cops should give the general public a pretty good picture of what is to come.

Prior to this year's election, we were confident that it wouldn't be long before the current White House's anti-gun agenda would show its face. And while the terrible events at Newtown, Conn., has the media attention, the President has decided to take action. Big

surprise!

In all honesty, should we have expected anything else? It is very hard for those opposed to such actions — especially the nation's political leaders, to stand up to be counted in the face of the recent tragedy.

To be quite honest, there is little if anything they can say that wouldn't sound insensitive to the parents and community having to deal with its loss.

In 2005, approximately 75,000 people died as a result of alcohol abuse, of which

almost 50,000 were from alcohol-related traffic accidents.

In comparison, less than a fifth that number met their end through the use of a firearm, and yet where are the federal forms needed for the purchase of alcoholic beverages?

In some countries, where possession of firearms is forbidden, knives appear to be the weapon of choice and have been used to attack and murder school children.

Should this country mirror the laws of those nations and outlaw the unlicensed possession

of a six-inch paring knife?

The biggest issue facing this nation isn't the type of weapons being used against the helpless members of our society, it is that weapons are being used in the first place.

The liberals of this nation, such as the man selected to head up this White House committee, will fight for a woman's right to have the small life she is carrying destroyed, and then fight against the right of others to protect their own families.

The deaths at Newtown were caused by a madman using a tool that has found disfavor in the eyes of many, but his actions were the result of a breakdown in society that started when the leaders, the courts and the people of this country decided that protecting their children from hearing about God was more important than protecting them from the monsters of this world.

Around Muleshoe...



Announcements from non-profit organizations in the Muleshoe area.

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

Adult Education Classes

Free literacy, GED preparation, adult basic education, and English as a second language classes are available through the Work Force Solutions office, located on Main Street in Muleshoe.

New enrollment begins Jan. 8, and classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m.

contact Alison Broughton at 817-504-0189 or 806-272-5156 for additional information.

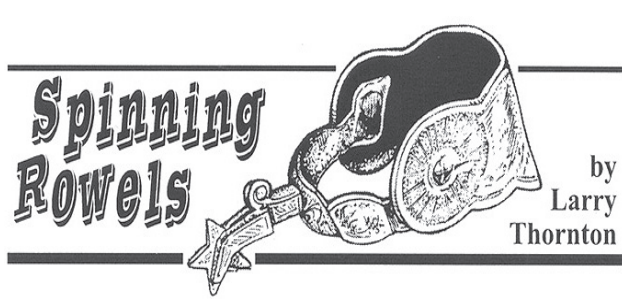
If You Are Reading This Issue... Take Heart

If you are reading this week's issue of the *Muleshoe Journal*... take heart.

For one thing, it means you've survived the rigors of another Christmas holiday with usually more than ample food and festivities, and also that most if not all of the relatives you were so happy to greet when they arrived, have headed home.

For the second thing... you're actually able to read the newspaper. Which means all of the "end of the Mayan calendar" woes that troubled conspiracy theorists, doomsday preppers and others of their like are breathing easier.

During the past year, multitudes of



Spinning Rowels

by Larry Thornton

misinformed have worried about the affect last Friday, Dec. 21, would have on... well, the world. And while I started penning this column on Thursday, Dec. 20, I fully expect it to make it to press as part of the Journal's "end of the year, but not the world" publication.

While I've always been a John Cusack fan, and enjoyed the special effects from his science fiction thriller, 2012, I didn't place any credence in the idea

that the world's rotation and axis were going to change this month.

I guarantee that if I thought everything would be for nought, even as much of a work-a-holic as I am, I wouldn't be at the office. I'm not saying I'd be spending the last remaining hours of Thursday digging a storm shelter and stocking it with canned goods, but I wouldn't have bothered working on next week's issue.

About a dozen years

ago — to be exact 12 years and 10 days ago, as of Dec. 20 — many in the world were fearful of the terror and turmoil they expected at the changing millennium.

With the year 2000 rolling in, and many computer operating systems believed to be susceptible to the Y2K bug, thousands if not millions of people around the world waited for more than the ball to drop in New York City.

As it turned out, the biggest "Y2K" story that

year was the lack of a Y2K story, and I figure this month will end the same.

Still, if by chance I am wrong... you have my best wishes for the coming year.

God's Genuine Joy Can Bubble Up Almost Anywhere

Ah, I love the Advent and Christmas seasons — the waiting, the preparing, the hoping, and the glittering joy-glimmers, each sparkling facets of God's light and the diamond-truth that his Son has come and is coming again.

The older I get, the more I realize what a rotten Puritan I'd make. I've gotten over feeling even remotely guilty about experiencing God's genuine joy, however and whenever he sends it. (And I find it



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

increasingly difficult to trust people who don't trust joy.)

I figure God wants us to take his joy full on, straight up, with a heart overflowing from an abundance of gratitude, a mouth well-accustomed to the taste of sweet laughter, and eyes regularly rinsed

clear by pure tears that prove that joy and sorrow can indeed walk together in his grace.

And all of that because we know Christ has come and is coming.

So I make no apology to the Puritans. If they choose to distrust joy (because it smacks of freedom and thus frightens stone-cold law-lovers), that's a sad choice, but not one we have to repeat.

I know the trappings of this season can sometimes be contrived and shallow, the light artificially created by those whose spirits, either because of unbelief or because of toxic religion, can rise no higher than Jingle Bells.

But hearts lit up by God's genuine light know how to "harken" to the glowing message of the "herald angels" and receive that beautiful joy, even as they get the much more minor but still real joy of Jingle Bells — and lights and tinsel thrown in for good measure. I don't think God minds.

All real joy is God's joy, and Puritans are wrong: it's not possible to get too much of it.

Continued on A3

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Fourth Grade Performance

The holidays wouldn't be the holidays without a bit of Christmas music tossed in. Pictured on the left, fourth grade students at DeShazo Elementary presented a Christmas concert in December.

Photograph by Rhea Gonzales

MISD Technology... Continued From A1

best when they teach others. Research also shows that the person doing the talking learns the most.

So when the students are doing most of the talking about the lesson, they are really engaged and learning.

DeShazo Elementary teachers recently had several projects for their students.

Projects connect learning across the curriculum — instead of “just writing in writing class,” students write reports about the information they have gathered in math and science classes.

In one project, the students produced commercials in science and used the skills they



are learning in English/language arts in their advertisement.

One of the projects the students did at Thanksgiving involved planning a Thanksgiving meal. Three students in a group had to find the average number of guests coming to all of the houses for Thanksgiving.

They had to decide what they wanted to eat. Then, they had to figure out the amount of food they needed to buy for their meal.

The students took their iPads to Lowes and “scanned” in the

items to find the cost of the food. They then had to calculate the cost of the entire meal — and figure it per person!

We have several learning projects that involved Muleshoe High School Seniors working with students at Dillman and DeShazo Elementary.

It was wonderful to have high students who are positive role models help these students with this project.

One of the projects involving MHS Seniors who came and worked with students at DeShazo Elementary dealt with learning

about cause and effect. Students had to actually build a paper airplane.

They had to design and install modifications to make the planes fly longer and more accurately.

The students then developed and wrote cause/effect statements about their projects.

Another great project involving MHS Seniors and DeShazo students had to do with time, distance, and travel.

The students were given seven designated points across the world. They were to imagine flying to all seven places in 24 hours.

The students had to determine the time and distance of the travel, taking in consideration the different time zones around the world.

They then had to determine the rate of speed needed to make it that distance.

It was great for our

high school Seniors to be able to work with the DeShazo Elementary students on such a project. I don't know if the Seniors or DeShazo students learned more from the project. It was a great learning experience for everyone!

The use of the iPad is transforming instruction at Muleshoe ISD. We are preparing students for success as they work in teams, find the information they need, draw conclusions about their work, and communicate what they have done.

They understand

concepts because they are truly engaged in their learning.

We are grateful to the Muleshoe ISD school board for implementing the technology grant for teachers in Muleshoe.

We are not just handing out technology gadgets and hoping students learn something from them.

We are purposefully utilizing technology to enhance instruction and learning at Muleshoe ISD. We are building the future... using technology in a purposeful way... one student at a time!

Focus On Faith...

Continued from A2

I'm looking at our beautiful Christmas tree as I write. I think they get more beautiful every year, and this year my favorite daughter-in-law (I have three favorite daughters-in-law, all my very favorites in amazing ways), did a great job doing the lion's share of the decorating.

Yes, it's a plastic tree likely made by Buddhists in China. I think kids will have lost a very nice thing if they never get to walk through a Christmas tree lot, pick the perfect imperfect tree, smell those great smells, and warm up near an old topless 55-gallon drum glowing with a real wood fire. I want a real tree again sometime before I die!

But this tree is still beautiful, and, though I've not done exactly what I did so many mornings as a child, crawling in under real branches and gazing up through layers of lights and ornaments toward the star on top, I still look at that sparkling tree each morning and feel that same joy.

I'm particularly proud this year of the bubble lights I'd told my grandkids about and promised to find. Those lights were my favorites on our tree when I was little, and I wanted my three wee folks to see them.

Since he is the Source of it all, God's joy can bubble up and surprise us yet again almost everywhere. From a star. From a song. From a tree. Even from one turned into a cross.

Donation Jars...

Continued from A1
would consider Sweetwater to be in the same area, and at 191 miles further, neither can Muleshoe.

According to Mondaca, after her initial investigation, she'd received calls from law enforcement agencies from across central and west Texas about the United Cause donation jars.

When the Muleshoe Journal contacted United Cause at the aforementioned number, the telephone interview was consistent with what Det. Moncada said.

However, there were a few changes that apparently hadn't been updated on its website. For example, according to the United Cause representative Leticia

Brooks, the organization is not affiliated with any other organization, group of charities.

She also claimed that the Sweetwater Police Department hadn't done a very thorough investigation, and provided a number under which the organization was registered with the comptroller's office.

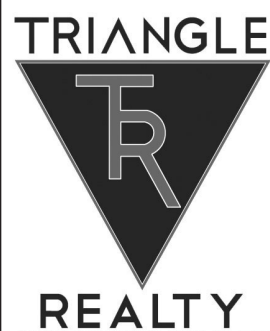
Unfortunately, attempts by the Journal to verify this information online were unsuccessful.

While it is the prerogative of local businesses whether to display donation jars, Lt. Benny Parker of the Muleshoe Police Department recommends donations be limited to verified charities, or local requests for assistance.


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**Good Luck
Good Wishes
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in the
New Year!**




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Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

Another year is closing and a new one opening up. May each of you have a Happy New Year.

We have so much to be thankful for. The Oneita Wagnon Senior Center operates on donations and you have been so generous this past year.

Perhaps you gave a donation for a loved one, bought a meal ticket for someone or just wanted to help out, we send our deepest appreciation and gratitude to you.

The center is a great place to come to. You meet friends, play games, watch television,

Happy New Year!

read a book from the library or just visit friends. We welcome you to come.

Monday, Dec. 31, the center will be open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2013, the center will be closed for New Year's Day. Then we will open on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 8 a.m..

Thursday, Jan. 3, will be bingo time at 1:30 p.m.

This is always a good time. So call a friend and come play.

Remember to bring your canned food for the food bank.

Please keep all of our senior citizens who are out because of sickness in your prayers.

We wish them well soon and hope they are

back with us soon.

Dec. 31 - Jan. 4 menus:

Monday, Dec. 31 — Barbecue beef sandwich, tator tots, carrots and zucchini salad, and ambrosia.

Tuesday, Jan. 1 — Closed. Happy New Year!

Wednesday, Jan. 2 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad wheat roll, and fruit cobbler.

Thursday, Jan. 3 — Lasagna, spinach, tossed salad, wheat roll, and fresh banana.

Friday, Jan. 4 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, beans, coleslaw, cornbread, and fruit salad.

All meals are served with low fat milk, tea, coffee or water.



Decoration Winners Announced

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture recently announced the winners of its first annual Christmas Lighting Contest, along with the recipients of this year's Mule Bucks drawings. Pictured above are Best Decoration winners Kenneth and Darlene Henry. Other winners included Best Lights — Kim black; All Around — Maria Martinez; and the Business Winner — the Valley Motel. Mule Buck winners included: \$50 Gift Certificate — Dale Burden, Joe Balderama, Christy Clark, Shani Nichols, Cindy Purdy, Kay Griswold, Gene Richardson, Charleson Steinbock, Pat Barlow, Irma Costilla, Jenny Shaw and Mary Vasquez; and \$100 Mule Bucks — Joann Mendoza, Darlene Pierce, Hollye Hooten, Juan Flores, Nell Magby, Charleson Steinbock, Bernardo Herrera, Gina Mardis and Tona Andrade.

BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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Obituaries

Charles Greene

Charles Elliott Greene, 70, passed away on Nov. 17, 2012, in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

Memorial services were held on Nov. 24, at the Bailey County Coliseum with Robert Rogers officiating.

Charles was born to Lawton H. Greene and Sarah Kathryn Greene on Aug. 10, 1942, in Miami, Fla.

Charles loved people and was a resident of Muleshoe for 13 years.

Charles was a full time minister of Jehovah's Witnesses.

He loved to talk to people about Jehovah's promised kingdom through his son, Christ Jesus.

A loving member of his family and



congregation he will be deeply missed by all.

Charles was preceded in death by his father, Lawton H. Greene, his mother, Sarah Kathryn Greene, his daughter, Lesa Rosanne Greene, and wife, Laura Elizabeth Greene.

He is survived by his wife — Carla Greene; a son — Matthew Wayne Greene; sister — Dorothy Greene Gibson; five nieces and nephews; and a great crowd of friends.

Muleshoe Volunteers Honored By SPSCP

The South Plains Senior Companion Program held its annual recognition event on Dec. 12.

Muleshoe volunteers honored at the event include Gloria Acevedo, Frank Estrada, Josephine Fragoso, Florencio Martinez, Zulema Rodriquez and Betty Ruthardt.

Acevedo, Rodriquez and Ruthardt were unable to attend the event this year.

Roger Cardenas and Christy Hartin presented the certificates and goody bags to the companions.



Cattle On Feed Totals Are Down For Texas

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Texas feedlots with capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 2.70 million head on Dec. 1, down 10 percent from a year ago.

According to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office, the estimate was up one percent from the Nov. 1 level.

Producers placed 465,000 head in commercial feedlots during November, down one percent from a year ago but up three percent from last month.

Texas commercial feeders marketed 415,000 head during November, down eight percent from 2011 and down six percent from last month.

On Dec. 1, there were 2.34 million head of cattle and calves on feed in the Northern High Plains, 87 percent of the state's total.

The number on feed across the area was down eight percent from last year, but up one percent from the

Nov. 1 total.

November placements in the Northern High Plains totaled 410,000 head, up four percent from the October total. Marketings were down six percent from last month to 364,000 head.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States in feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 11.3 million head on Dec. 1. This inventory was down six percent from Dec. 1, 2011.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.92 million head, six percent below November 2011. November placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds totaled 645,000 head; 600-699 pounds totaled 450,000 head; 700-799 pounds totaled 375,000 head; 800 pounds and greater totaled 453,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.76 million head, one percent below 2011.

Texas Milk Production Was Down In November

Texas milk production totaled 761 million pounds during November, down 3.7 percent from last year's production of 790 million pounds.

October 2012 production totaled 772

million pounds.

The number of milk cows during November averaged 430 thousand head, down 5,000 head from last year but unchanged from the October 2012 number.

Production per cow averaged 1,770 pounds during November, 45 pounds lower than last year and 25 pounds lower than October 2012.

Milk production in the 23 states participating in the monthly survey totaled 14.9 billion pounds during November 2012, up 1.1 percent from production in these same states during November of last year.

October revised production, at 15.2 billion pounds, was down slightly from October 2011.

Production per cow during November averaged 1,758 pounds, 19 pounds above a year ago.

The average number of milk cows in the 23 states was 8.47 million head, 3,000 lower than last year but 8,000 higher than October 2012.

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Military News

Mendoza Promoted

Navy Seaman Apprentice Patricio H. Mendoza, the son of Yolanda and Humberto Mendoza of Muleshoe, was recently promoted to his current rank upon graduation from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Mendoza received the early promotion for outstanding performance during all phases of the training cycle.

Training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations."

This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet.

"Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment.

Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Mendoza is a 2012 graduate of Muleshoe High School.

Obituaries and Death Notices

Death notices will be published free of charge in the Muleshoe Journal.

Obituaries will be published at the rate of \$4.50 per column inch.

In all cases, the death notice and obituary information should be submitted by the funeral home for verification purposes.

The guidelines that will be used to determine if, and how much the publication will cost is as follows:

Death Notices...

Death notices may include the deceased's name, city of residence, age, date and place of birth, date and place of death, and the names of parents. Survivor information will not be included.

If the notice is to be published prior to any services, the time, date and location of services, and location of burial may be included.

If publication will be after said services, the time will not be included.

Obituaries...

Obituaries printed in the *Muleshoe Journal* are printed at the rate of \$4.50 per column inch, and may contain a variety of information, including but not limited to: Date and details of funeral and place of burial; date and place of birth and parents names; date of marriage; biographical information; names of parents, spouses or children who have preceded the person in death; names of survivors; and where memorials may be directed.

A black and white photo will be included; however, there is an additional charge of \$75 to include a color photograph.

Luke 1:13-15

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2012: A 'Pretty Good Year'... Continued From A1

school district had been in negotiations with Aramark for the last year, with the intent of providing better meals for the student population.

These negotiations, and a litany of complaints about the cafeteria food resulted in the "surprise" inspection of the food and service being provided by Aramark, the district's food service contractor.

And according to Daniel Harper, MISD business manager, any action regarding a decision to "rebid" the district's food service contract had to be made during Monday's meeting, because of the lengthy "request for proposals" bidding process required.

Without a vote to rebid the contract Monday, Harper said the school district had only two options: Renew its contract with Aramark for another year, or operate the district's three cafeterias "in-house."

"I thought it was plenty adequate," board member Jay Cage said, a comment that was apparently shared by several other school board members.

"I thought the portions were adequate," board member Carroll Precure said, mentioning that some of the district's athletes had complained about the portion sizes.

However, by the end of the school year, it had become apparent that the school district continued to be unhappy with Aramark's, resulting in the board's decision to contract with a new food service provider.

Over at the Bailey County Sheriff's Department, in January, an investigation was under way concerning an incident in which one of its deputies was allegedly assaulted by students throwing rocks on Thursday night, Jan. 19.

According to Sheriff Richard Wills, Dep. Kevin Jefferson was dispatched to a report of individuals trespassing on private property, at a caliche pit about two miles north of Muleshoe on Road 163.

After arriving, the deputy discovered a large number of individuals — juvenile and young adult students from Muleshoe High School, and vehicles at the location, some of whom had apparently been drinking alcohol.

At some point, one or more individuals began throwing rocks at the patrol vehicle, damaging its window, said the sheriff.

"All of these kids need to recognize the seriousness of it," the sheriff said.

After Dep. Jefferson called for assistance at the scene, additional law enforcement officers were dispatched, and helped escort several of the students to the sheriff's office, where

they were temporarily detained.

January also marked a county jury's decision to pass a "hefty" prison sentence on two young men who were involved in a local burglary spree in November 2010.

Because Edgar Hernandez, 18, and his brother, Silverio Hernandez, Jr., 19, had already plead guilty to the burglary of the Gary Parker residence on East Hickory, in the afternoon of Nov. 11, 2010, the hearing was limited to testimony needed to determine if and how long they would be incarcerated.

While such a residential burglary may result in a prison sentence of no less than two years nor more than 20 years, Dist. Attorney Kathryn Gurley requested a 15 year sentence, accompanied by the maximum fine of \$10,000 each.

In stark contrast to the sentences handed down by an earlier Bailey County jury — which recommended the pair to be sentenced to a lengthy probation, at the suggestion of defense attorney David Martinez, for their part in the burglary of the Eva L. Ramey residence on West Ave. C, five days before the Parker burglary, this jury took only 19 minutes to decide in favor of the district attorney's recommendation.

And, January was a time for some longtime Muleshoe residents to receive a special blessing. They were presented with the keys to their new residences on Friday, Jan. 27.

The homes, which were part of a federally-funded housing rehabilitation program, are the second such set awarded by the City of Muleshoe, the first being in December 2009.

Measuring slightly more than 1,000 square feet, the residences replace structures that needed to be completely torn down because of their state of disrepair.

At Friday's ceremony, Mayor Cliff Black and City Manager David Brunson presented keys to the house recipients, welcoming them to their new homes with a bit of the fanfare of various network television shows.

"This is where it gets exciting," said Karen Allison, West Texas Grant Consultant project grant administrator, at Muleshoe City Hall, where the recipients — Tina Costilla, Emilio "Pee Wee" Estrada, Florenico and Margarita Martinez, and Lupe Anguiano, completed the paperwork required in the program, prior to moving to the individual residents for the key presentations and tours.

February
On Feb. 1, both Ken King of Canadian, candidate for state representative, and Jim Landtroop of Plainview made a stop in Muleshoe visiting

with the administrative team at the Muleshoe Independent School District.

King, who is currently president of the school board at Canadian ISD, and a businessman of that community, described himself as the "education candidate" for the House Dist. 85 seat.

"It took me a year or so of thinking I was too dumb for the school board because I didn't know anything about school finance," King said, referring to both his currently held position and his state election bid. "Then I figured out neither does anybody else."

Landtroop also met with with local officials and citizens during a "town hall meeting" at Muleshoe State Bank in the afternoon.

Over at the Muleshoe Area Hospital District Board of Directors' meeting, board president Zona Gatewood welcomed those in attendance, stating it was "a new board, a new year and a new beginning," and encouraged the other board members to look forward rather than back at previous contention.

However, such wasn't to be the case as board member Bill Liles and administrative staff member butted heads over such things as the balance sheet's listing for the current earnings for Park View Nursing Care Center, and the use of temporary staffing.

Liles was comparing the positive earnings from the end of last fiscal year, as of Sept. 30, with the negative balance of \$169,886.93, as of Dec. 31.

"We're getting where we need to be," said Shanna Laughton, Park View's administrator, noting that Rapid Temp's services should no longer be needed after mid-February.

At the Muleshoe Economic Development Corporation, a new director was in place. Kasey Coker had joined the team, and had "hit the ground running."

Coker joined the team on Jan. 30, taking on a role that Janet Claborn left behind when she retired at the end of December 2011.

February marked some tense times in local law enforcement with an officer-related

shooting. According to information from the Muleshoe Police Department, Sgt. Steve Bartley, 35, had responded to a reported incident of domestic violence at 416 E. Fifth, at about 11:30 p.m.

At some point after his arrival, Bartley was fired upon by Juan Mendoza Quezada, 44, and returned fire.

Bartley was struck once in his bulletproof vest, and once in the right hip.

According to a report to the commissioners' court following the incident, Quezada was struck four times, including at least once in the face.

Both the officer and the suspect were airlifted to hospitals in Lubbock, Bartley to University Medical Center, where he was later released, and Quezada to Covenant Medical Center.

The Muleshoe City Council received a "clean" audit during its February regular meeting.

"We like to hear 'clean opinion,'" Mayor Pro Tem Irene Mason said after hearing the report from Randall Field, p.c.

"This is what is called a clean opinion," Field had said just prior to Mason's comment.

Field went on to say that nothing had been discovered during the audit that raised concerns about the city's accounting practices.

According to this year's report, which covered the period ending Sept. 30, 2011, Field said the city's net assets totaled \$4,014,408, with total assets at \$4,127,025 and total liabilities at \$112,617.

The report also noted that at the end of the current fiscal year, Muleshoe's combined governmental fund balance totaled \$2,558,231, of which about \$1,000,190 were unassigned and \$288,640 were assigned to equipment capital expenditures.

At the school district, in February, the Muleshoe Independent School District Board of Trustees voted to join with other school districts from across the state seeking equitable financing.

The action sought to force the state's legislature and courts

to address the issue of school finance.

"I don't think the legislature is going to do anything unless we do," Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets said.

"It's an economic development issue in our area," Dr. Sheets said.

In 1954, the United States Supreme Court handed down its landmark decision in Brown verses Topeka (Board of Education),

which overturned the "separate but equal" state laws supporting racial segregation.

After Monday's meeting, the superintendent said a similar argument existed over the economic and financial disadvantages between the state's funding of "wealthy and poor" school districts.

Sheets compared Muleshoe's school

Continued on B3

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Texas Beef Quality Producer Training Set For Jan. 29

All beef producers are invited to attend a training session on Jan. 29 for the Texas Beef Quality Producer program to sharpen their knowledge of Beef Quality Assurance principles, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

specialist. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with the program from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the AgriLife Extension office for Donley County, 4430 State Highway 70 North, Clarendon.

A complimentary lunch sponsored by

Texas Beef Council will be served.

"Beef Quality Assurance is a national effort in the beef industry that focuses on proven management practices that help ensure safety and quality of beef," said Dr. Ted McCollum, AgriLife Extension

beef cattle specialist in Amarillo.

"The Texas Beef Quality Producer program is developed for cow-calf and stocker producers in Texas," McCollum said.

The program is a collaborative effort of AgriLife Extension,

Texas Beef Council and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, he said.

Funding is provided by Beef Checkoff dollars from the beef council and by the cattle raisers association.

In addition to focusing on the safety of beef products, the program informs producers on current industry concerns and how producers can help with increasing demand for cattle and beef, he said.

The training will cover Beef Quality Assurance principles, industry updates, record

keeping, environmental stewardship, management practices associated with genetic selection, cattle handling, culling and use of animal health products, said Leonard Haynes, AgriLife Extension agriculture agent for Donley County.

Participants should RSVP by Jan. 23 to Stacy Fox at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association at 800-242-7820 or sfox@texascattleraisers.org, or by contacting the AgriLife Extension office in Donley County at 806-874-2141.

DPS Increases Holiday DWI Enforcement

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase DWI patrols from Dec. 21 through Jan. 1, which includes both the Christmas and New Year holidays.

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

The enhanced patrols that target intoxicated drivers are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation.

"Drinking and driving are always a concern during holidays, and there is no doubt that increased

enforcement by DPS and other law enforcement will help save lives," said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

"But the public must also do their part to help make sure all travelers on our roads have a safe and happy holiday season. Plan ahead. Designate a non-drinking driver or find alternative transportation if you plan to drink, and never get in a car with an intoxicated driver," he added.

During the Christmas/New Year holiday enforcement effort last year, DPS troopers made more than 1,100 DWI arrests,

and approximately 350 were the direct result of the increased patrols. DPS enforcement also resulted in more than 15,000 speeding citations, 2,000 seat belt/child safety seat citations and 18,000 other citations.

In addition, troopers made 1,020 fugitive arrests and 623 felony arrests during routine patrol operations.

DPS offers the following additional tips for safe travel during the holidays:

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

distractions, and don't text while driving.

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

- Don't drive fatigued, and allow plenty of time to reach your destination.

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

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

- 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.



The Sudan Buzzy

A Season For Giving Back

This holiday season, in the wake of the terrible tragedy in Newtown, Conn., I think every American is pausing to reflect on the things that are truly important.

Each of us will hug our families just a little tighter this year, we will cherish our time together just that much more, and we will, I hope, give just a little more to others as we consider how precious life is.

There are some wonderful organizations that help people both during the season and year-round.

For those who want to help the families of the Sandy Hook shooting victims, the United Way of Western Connecticut has set up a dedicated fund.

The Sandy Hook School Support Fund can be found online and checks can be sent to Sandy Hook School Support Fund, c/o Newtown Savings Bank, 39 Main Street, Newtown CT 06470.

As the nation learned the names and the faces of the tiniest victims of Sandy Hook, a world away 10 more young girls were murdered, whose names we will never know.

They were killed by a car bomb as they collected firewood in rural Afghanistan.

Though we have made tremendous progress in Afghanistan, it remains the worst place in the world to be female.

cultural norms have kept women and girls under constant attack, particularly those who bravely participate in public life, get an education or teach others.

Roughly 87 percent are illiterate, the same amount of the female population estimated to suffer at least one form of physical, sexual or psychological violence or forced marriage in their lifetimes.

I see a poignant line between the educators in Newtown who sacrificed their lives to protect their students and the brave women and girls in Afghanistan who risk their lives to give and get an education.

Women for Women International (womenforwomen.org) operates in eight countries, including Afghanistan, teaching the world's most excluded women

practical skills and business principles, so they can get jobs, start their own businesses and find their way to economic and social self-sufficiency.

You can make a one-time donation, purchase holiday gifts — everything from okra seeds to education packages — or sponsor a woman for her one-year job-training program.

You can even get updates to follow her progress and write letters back and forth.

This past week has reminded us all how vulnerable and precious children are. Human trafficking is a horrifying crime that too often claims children as its victim.

The Polaris Project (polaris.org) fights human trafficking in the United States — which exploits an estimated 100,000 children each year.

And finally, though

it seems so small compared to the scope of the tragedy, making a child's Christmas wish come true by donating to your local Toys for Tots drive is a simple way to bring a little joy to someone's life — as well as your own.

Taking the time to do something for someone else is its own reward.

We can't begin to comprehend the depths of the grief of the Newtown families, nor can we imagine what measure of strength it takes to get through each next breath.

All we can do is take the reminder of just how precious life is and try to make the lives of others a little better this holiday season.

It is the best way for any of us, and the nation, to begin to heal.



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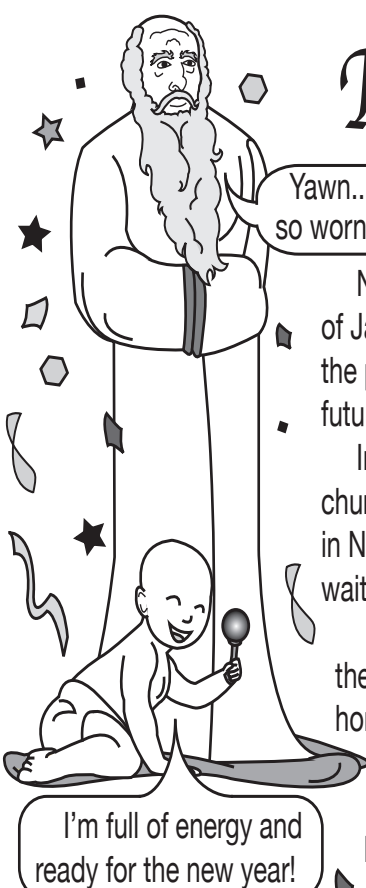
Happy New Year everyone!

It's a great time for new beginnings.

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Happy New Year! 2013

New Year's Day is a wonderful time. This first day of January and of the new year is a time to remember the past, celebrate, and hope for a happy, healthy future.

In our country, some people have parties or attend church services at midnight. Others go to Times Square in New York City to listen to music, enjoy the crowds and wait for the magical stroke of midnight.

In other countries people exchange gifts or open their homes to neighbors or visitors. Many people honor parents or relatives and try to pay all their debts so they will not owe anything at the start of the new year.

New Year's Day is a time to think back - and ahead!

List 2 things that you will remember about 2012!

- _____
- _____

Now list 2 things you think will be important in 2013.

- _____
- _____

Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

- hollow, metal objects that ring when struck
- beginning, for the first time
- pleasing sounds made by voices or instruments
- to call on or stay with someone
- present, something given
- chart of the months, weeks and days of the year
- a promise or decision
- to raise glasses to drink in honor of a person or thing
- worn out, time gone by

10. people getting together to have a good time

11. to honor or praise something

12. instrument, makes a loud noise

13. condition of your body and mind

14. twelve o'clock at night

15. first month of the year

Free Puzzles

Print out our new puzzles: **A New Year!, Santa Claus, Holiday Decorating Fun, and December ABC** crossword. Make sure you print out the newest reading log and certificate set: www.readingclubfun.com

Midnight Fun!

It's New Year's Eve! Help Star find her way to the clock and then to the fireworks!

New Year's Search

Study the puzzle above. Then find and circle the words around it in the puzzle below!

P	S	J	D	M	C	U	V	T	I	S	I	V	L	M	A	B	T	U
B	I	C	X	L	E	U	M	O	J	C	W	S	F	D	S	F	M	C
E	F	R	N	I	E	S	T	A	N	U	I	W	O	X	I	B	W	A
J	I	E	W	Y	B	Z	R	S	T	F	Y	H	E	G	M	E	C	X
N	E	S	N	T	Y	D	E	T	U	U	L	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y
U	T	O	N	B	Y	P	N	T	U	B	K	U	I	I	P	U	T	E
C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R	N	J	D	Y	U	T	S	N	B	I	U
H	N	U	I	D	L	R	L	S	L	L	E	B	I	N	U	T	H	E
T	R	T	K	I	L	T	F	E	A	A	U	Y	F	T	N	I	T	E
R	T	I	L	D	I	Y	R	H	B	N	I	C	O	G	C	A	L	O
G	I	O	W	L	H	Y	I	S	T	F	I	P	U	E	R	Y	A	T
H	O	N	R	O	H	I	R	N	D	S	L	I	E	B	I	W	E	N
U	N	R	T	G	Y	H	K	D	U	Y	N	O	E	M	D	E	H	O
J	T	H	G	I	N	D	I	M	I	N	O	L	U	X	O	I	E	G
N	K	I	E	I	U	H	Y	T	D	E	E	T	H	N	Y	U	E	X
N	U	Y	G	V	F	R	E	D	S	C	N	I	E	S	U	Y	T	O

Cornyn Proposal To Fight VA Backlog Using Texas Model Passes Congress

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn's (R-TX) proposal to fight the growing backlog of disability claims within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) using a new Texas initiative as a national model passed both the House and the Senate. The proposal passed this week as part of the final Defense Authorization bill that will now be sent to the President to be signed into law.

"The massive backlog of VA disability claims reminds us that far too many veterans are being underserved," said Sen. Cornyn.

"This is a national disgrace, and veterans with pending claims deserve more than just rhetoric from VA headquarters in

Washington," said Cornyn.

"The VA has not proven up to the task, so the State of Texas has stepped in to pick up some of their slack and help veterans with their claims," he said.

"My proposal will require the VA to implement Texas' model on a national scale, helping to alleviate the backlog and streamline the claims process. Our veterans fulfilled their solemn duties, and it's about time the VA did the same," he added.

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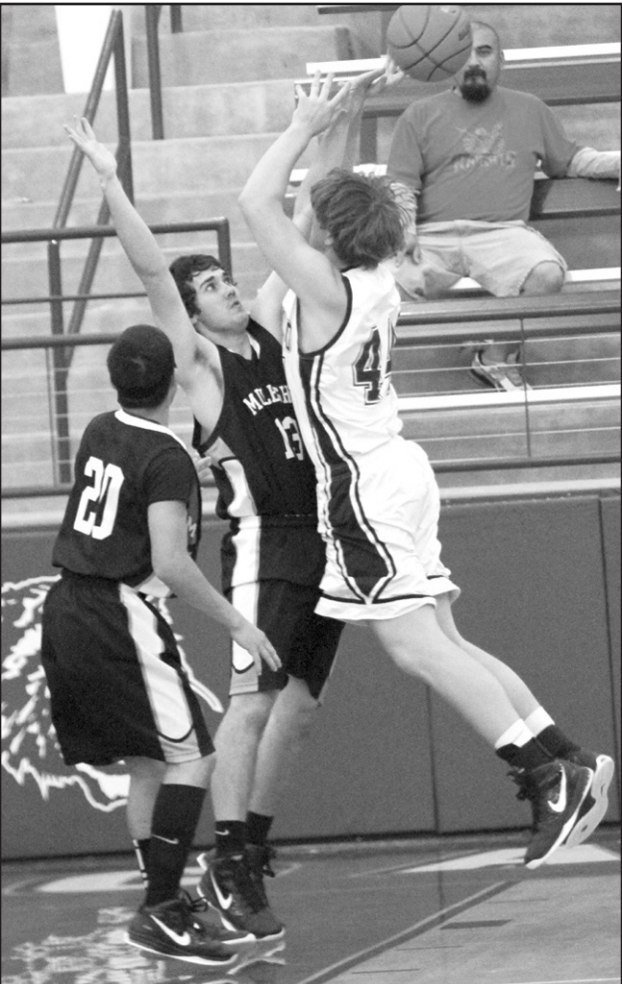
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SPORTS NEWS

2012: The Year In Sports (January - June)



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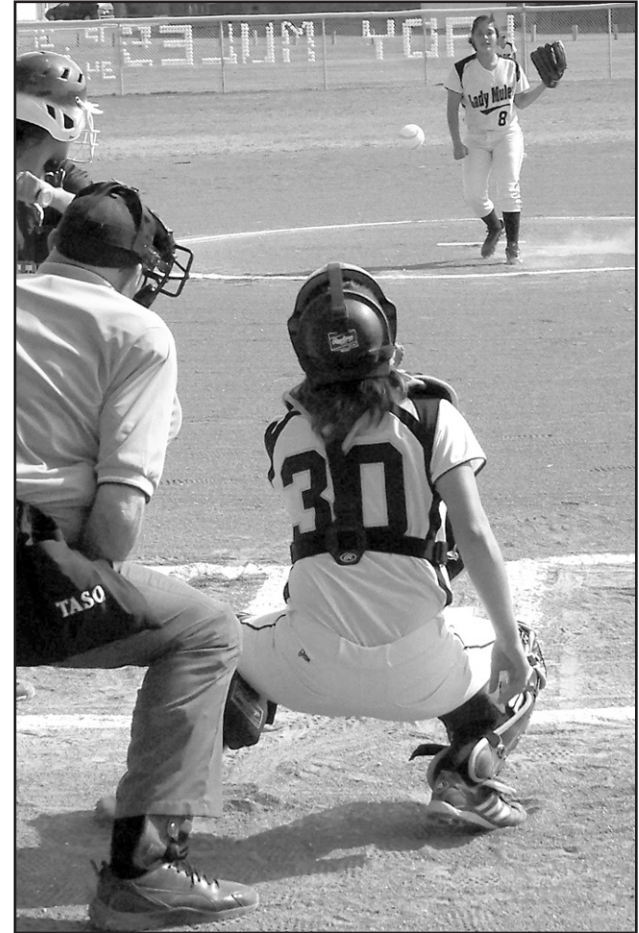
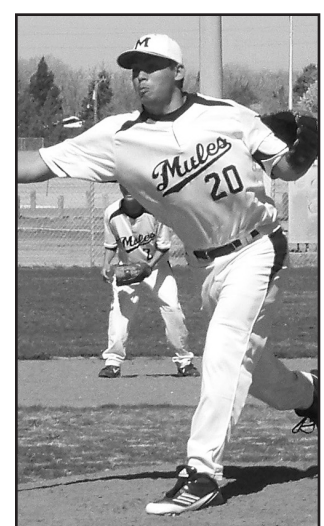


Dec. 27-29th • VG - TBA • (Littlefield Tourney, There)
 VB - TBA • (Littlefield Tourney, There)
 Jan 1st • JVB - 2:00 PM • VB - 3:30 PM (Morton, Here)
 Jan 4th • JVB - 5:00 PM • VB - 8:00 PM (Littlefield, There)
 JVG - 5:00 PM • VG - 6:30 PM (Littlefield, There)



SPORTS NEWS

2012: The Year In Sports (January - June)



A NEW LANDFILL HAS BEEN APPROVED OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?

KEEP THE LIGHT ON PUBLIC NOTICES



Currently your government officials publish their plans and decisions in the newspaper – including where they intend to build facilities you might not want down the street.

That could change in the future because they want to bury their public notices somewhere online, on a little seen, rarely visited government website – out of sight, out of mind.

Don't let government keep you in the dark.

If it is not in the newspaper, you won't know about it.

Muleshoe Journal

201 W. Ave. C, Muleshoe
806-272-4536

2012: A 'Pretty Good Year'... Continued From A6

district with that of Denver City's, which has a comparable student population and ethnicity, and noted that Muleshoe received approximately \$4 million less.

"Our students have to graduate on the same plan as a wealthy district student," he said, but added that the funding to support local education efforts were significantly less.

March
March marked a special victory for Sudan's Hornettes, who took their sixth state championship with a 70-40 win over Martin's Mill.

According to Sudan correspondent Cheri Sain, Danielle Logan led the Nettes to the Hornette victory with 36 points. She was named as the Tournament 1A Most Valuable Player,

and was honored with a State All-Tournament selection.

Sain wrote that Logan had 56 points for the tournament, and that Bailee Black had 45 points and Jasmine Weaver 24.

March also marked the launching of a new application on the City of Muleshoe's website.

Laughingly referred to as "Mulepedia," in comparison to an "online" encyclopedia that allows information to be added by the general public, the application is available for use by both public employees and the area community.

Granted, it carries a much less exciting non de plume — the City of Muleshoe's Interactive Mapping, located on the municipal website: www.city-of-muleshoe.com, but as it was described in the

Muleshoe Journal, it is a database that has large possibilities for growth and use.

"We know this is going to be a growing project from now on," City Manager David Brunson said during a special presentation of the program and some of its capabilities at Muleshoe City Hall on Thursday, March 8.

He added that the city will be depending a lot on its citizens and business community to help determine what additional information can be provided on the site.

"It's a very important tool for you (the Muleshoe community) to have," Brian Shirley of 3cGeo of Austin said at the presentation.

"This is only going to improve in value for the city," Shirley said. "It is least valuable...

right now. The first day it's turned on and is available to the community it has its least value to the community. And now from here... it grows in value every single day, from now on."

While the geospatial project was initiated with the intent of keeping accurate municipal utility maps and information, the potential for use by other public entities, economic development and even commercial enterprises is only limited by the imagination.

"The city is offering this up as a tool for you to make decisions and communicate ideas," Shirley said. "It's really only limited to your imagination, and how you use the layers of information."

In other news, the county commissioners

court renewed its burn ban, and the Muleshoe Heritage Foundation held the grand opening for the Ray and Donna West RV Park.

Blowing sand that made such an impact in the Muleshoe area in 2011, not to mention during the Dust Bowl days of 75 years earlier, was still making an impact in March, with the blowing sand causing problems at the Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, where the wind driven sand was threatening to cover up the ground-level markers.

Fortunately, the problem was addressed. Later in the year, the county commissioners help build a road at the cemetery, which needed to expand.

"Elvis was back in the building," in March as the members of the

Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture and the local community gathered at the Bailey County Coliseum for an evening of 1950s food and fun.

Elvis Presley impersonator Mike Garrett of Lubbock was quick to point out that he wasn't the actual "king of rock and roll," but he was close enough to send one former bobby socker into pseudo-hysterics at his close proximity.

"I think it went great!" Muleshoe chamber president Gina Wilkerson said about the event the following Monday. "I'm still pumped."

Also in March, the Muleshoe Journal returned from the Panhandle Press Association's annual

Continued on B4

CLASSIFIEDS

Deadline is Monday at noon to place a classified ad. Call 272-4536.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO RECEIVE PROPOSALS MULESHOE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
The Muleshoe Independent School District will receive sealed proposals for the following:
1. High School Wireless Network
2. High School Network Equipment
3. District Server
4. Core Network Equipment
The proposals should be returned in a sealed envelope with the name of the category and the word PROPOSAL clearly indicated on the outside of the envelope. Return the sealed proposal to Erik Craig, Technology Director, Muleshoe ISD, 514 West Avenue

G, Muleshoe, Texas, 79347, or delivered to Mr. Harper at the Business Office, 514 West Avenue G, Muleshoe, Texas. The sealed proposals will be received until 3:00 p.m., January 7, 2012. Proposals mailed will be deemed as delivered only when received by Mr. Craig. A proposal that has been opened may not be changed for the purpose of correcting an error in the proposal price. Specifications on the above category can be obtained at the Muleshoe ISD Technology Office, 514 West Avenue G, Muleshoe, Texas. The Board of Trustees of Muleshoe Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and to waive all

informalities or irregularities and to make the proposal award in the best interest of Muleshoe ISD. This is a solicitation for proposals and is not an offer. All proposals and information received in response to this solicitation will become the property of Muleshoe ISD. Any questions concerning the proposal forms and specifications should be directed to Mr. Erik Craig, Technology Director, 514 West Avenue G, Muleshoe, Texas, or by calling (806) 272-7400. Published in the Muleshoe Journal December 27, 2012 and January 3, 2013.

HELP WANTED
Running water Draw Care Center seeking LVN

2 to 10 p.m. shift, full time, benefits available, competitive pay. Non profit skilled nursing facility, 800 West 13th St., Olton, TX. Please call for appointment at 806-285-2677.

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Country Homes
New Listing! Muleshoe area. Brick home on 1.5 acres. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, nicely updated, metal roof. Property also has a metal shop and a pole barn for horses or FFA/4-H projects.

Northwestern Lamb County- Pleasant Valley, 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 3/4 bath, Fireplace, Sunrooms, Granite counter tops, 2 car garage, on 5.94 acres on pavement.

Farmland/Investment
Western Bailey County - Irrigated - 174 acres, 2 irrigation wells, Valley Sprinkler, 1 domestic well, on pavement, corners in grass.

Bailey County- 1140 acres of recreational property with an income stream. 767 acres in C.R.P. 9 Years remaining on contract. Mule Deer, Dove, Pheasant and Quail. Some improvements.

Lynn & Terry Counties - GRP - 270 acres in CRP. 50 acres in native pasture for a total of 320 wooded acres.

Bailey and Parmer Counties - 960 acres, 9 wells, 5 center pivot sprinklers, Brick house w/ improvements.

Bailey County - 177 acres, 10 year CRP contract. On pavement, could be a nice recreational place. Mule deer and other wildlife in the area.

Vic Coker, Broker Cell 806-946-7242
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Thanks for reading!

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Sudan - Texas 180 acres, 1982 Valley Sprinkler, Three wells, currently in alfalfa.
Sudan Texas - 177 acres, Valley sprinkler. 3 wells, 1/2 currently in cotton.
Sudan Texas - 174 acres, Valley sprinkler. 3 wells, 1/4 currently in peanuts.

RESIDENTIAL
Sudan - 539 fm 298. Beautiful 4/3/2. 2959 sf. Two Story Home just outside of town. Built in 2007 this is a must see home. By appointment only. \$350,000.00
Sudan - 201 Ormand, 4 BR, 2 bath, 3 Car Garage and large family room with fireplace. New updates and tile. \$110,000.00
Sudan - Country Home, 3BR, 2B, Carport and Sun Room. All on four acres, one mile north of Sudan. Asking \$75,000.00

COMMERCIAL
Littlefield - 701 West 3rd. Laguna Market: 40x40 metal building, combination Deli and convenience store. Money Maker, Large Lot close to school. Frisbee course brings in a lot of customers. \$130,000

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New Listing - Very nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath brick home, central heat and air, appliances, large utility, 2 car garage, sprinkler system, storage building, fenced backyard. Priced to sell!!!

New Country Home on Highway - Extremely nice 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath brick home on 46.61 acres, hard wood floors, living areas, large utility office, sprinkler system, septic system, city water, 2 car garage, approx. 1200 sq. ft. shop, out buildings, fenced backyard, patio, this house is a must see!!!

ONLY \$45,000.00 - Great Investment Property - 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, central air and heat, carport, fenced backyard.

ONLY \$69,900.00 - Nice large 3 or 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home, central air and heat, electric fireplace, appliances, large living room, utility, all electric, covered patio, carport, fenced backyard, storage building, great home on corner lot, Priced to sell!!!!

ONLY \$45,000 - Nice 2 or 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home, hard wood floors, fireplace, single car garage, fenced backyard, patio, would make a great starter or investment property.

PRICE REDUCED In Country on 10 acres. Nice 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick home, fireplace, utility, built-ins, new windows, roof and air, large storage, 2 car garage. Call for more details.

ONLY \$69,900.00 - Nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick home, central air and heat, appliances, single car garage, carport, fenced backyard.

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HAVE BUYERS! NEED HOME AND LAND LISTINGS!!

HIGH SCHOOL AREA

- NICE 3-2-2 Home, corner lot, built-ins, Cent. A&H, workshop/storage plus storage building!! 1794' livg. area!! \$96K!! PRICE REDUCED \$79,500
- Remodeled 3-2-1 Det. Garage Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, hdwood & tile floors, 4 fans, fenced yd., approx. 1520' lv. area!! \$80K!!! Price Reduced \$74K
- 3-1.5-1 carport Home, Cent. A&H, stove thermal windows, "AS IS", MAKE OFFER!! \$47K!!!
- 4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath, 2 Car garage, Approx. 3883' lv. area, 150'x140' corner lot, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fan w/lights, lg closets & storage, auto.spkrl., fenced yd.!! MUCH MORE!! \$145,000!!
- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Car Garage Home on corner lot, wall furnace heat, win. refrig. air, stove, refrigerator, ceiling fans w/lights, large wkshop in garage, fenced yd., stor. bldg., includes 1 bdrm. rental unit!! \$83,450!!

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- 2 Nicely Remodeled Duplex Units & 1 NEW Duplex Unit!! Price Reduced!! \$350K!!!!
- Nicely Remodeled 3-2-2 Brick, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP w/wood pellet insert, corner lot, fenced yd., auto. spkrl., + lot w/stor. bldg.!! 2159' lv. area!! \$150K!! REDUCED!
- VERY NICE 3-2.5-2 Brick Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, approx. 2749' lv.area, lots of storage, nice courtyard & landscaping, workshop/storage/ fenced yd., Much More!! Reduced-\$170K!
- VERY NICE 3-2-2 Brick Home on corner lot, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, remodeled bathrooms, nice carpet & tile, sunroom, fenced yd., auto. spkrl., approx. 2216' lv area!!! \$125K!!
- BEAUTIFUL 3-2-2 Brick Home, (2007), approx. 1575' lv. area, built-ins, ceiling fans, auto spkrl., fenced yd.!! \$139,500!! PRICE REDUCED!!
- 2-1 Home, wall furnace heat, window evap. air!! \$30,000!!!
- NICELY REMODELED 3-2-2 Brick Home, Approx. 2474' lv. area, Geothermal Cent. A&H, Built-ins, FP, cov. porch & patio, auto. spkrl., fenced yd!! MUCH MORE!! \$170,000!!

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- 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, 2 carport, Cent A&H, Dishwasher, WB Stove, approx. 2156' lv. area, \$60K!!

RURAL

- VERY NICE CUSTOM BUILT 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2 car garage home, at edge of town on 80 acres!! Geothermal heat & air, built-ins, FP, ash cabinets, approx. 2544' main lv. area plus 625' finished basement w/safe & storage, spkrl system, beautiful trees and landscaping, circle spkrl, 5 wire barbwire fence, 36' x 48' metal insulated bldg w/2 12' doors!! MUCH MORE!!
- 3-1 1/2-1 Home on 8 acres, approx. 1664' lv. area, Cent. A&H, built-ins, sunroom, storm shelter, stor. room, 2 CP, RV port, 1440' metal bldg.!! MORE!! \$110K!!!
- NICE 4.8 acre homesites, deed restricted!! \$17,500!!
- NICE 3-2 HOME ON 2 AC. (2860 FM 303)- APPROX. 2146' lv. area, DW, ceiling fans, thermal windows, lg. conc. patio, workshop/storage!! \$89,000!! \$80 K!!
- West of Sudan 3-2-2 Brick Home on 5.57 acres, Cent. A&H, built-ins, approx. 2688' lv. area, fenced yd., 40' x 80' quonset barn!! MUCH MORE!! \$135K!!
- NICE 3-2-2 Home on 11 acres at edge of town, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, freshly painted interior, thermal windows & doors, plus 1 bdrm house, workshop, storage, greenhouse, plus 3 garages, barns & outbuildings!! \$155,000!!
- FM 1760 @ edge of town, nice 3-2-2 carport home on 3 acres, cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, approx. 2253' lv area, fenced, horse barn w/corrals, hay & tack room!! \$105K!!!
- LARIAT AREA - 3-1 Home, Cent. heat, 5 acres, 1989' lv. area (2 story), 2880' quonset barn, out bldgs., Reduced \$39K!! POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCE!!
- 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!! PRICE REDUCED!! \$130,000!!!

LAND & COMMERCIAL

- Building w/approx. 3300' plus 1040' upstairs, Cent. A&H, 2 restrooms, MORE! \$39,500!! MAKE OFFER!!
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- GREAT BUSINESS LOCATION - 13000' Bldg., 7000' paved parking, corner lot, Hwy. 84 & Main. A&H, \$100,000!!! Price Reduced \$80,000!!
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- FOR LEASE - 2100' office space + 20,500' warehouse area!!
- 308 W. 2nd - 2856' bldg. - former Odd Fellows Lodge, PRICED TO SELL!! \$31,500

Subscribe Today!

Chamber Business Of The Month Announced

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture recently honored the staff and volunteers of the Oneita Wagon Senior Center as the December Business of the Month. Pictured on the right, chamber president Gina Wilkerson presents the certificate to center director Laverne Winn.



2012: A 'Pretty Good Year' ... Continued From B3

convention with an impressive number of wins over the weekend.

The Journal placed in all 15 categories of the PPA's Better Newspaper Contest, with first place awards for its sports and sport news photography.

April
April marked the retirement Bailey County Assessor and Tax Collector Melba Clark, and the appointment of Maria Gonzales, who has worked in the county assessor's office for several years, and who has already filed unopposed for the county position on the November ballot, as her replacement.

Gonzales was unopposed on the November ballot for the position.

At the Muleshoe City Council meeting, City Manager David Brunson spoke about the nearly completed "disc golf course," located in the new city park.

"Don't call them Frisbees™!" he said.

Brunson discussed the work that has been completed on the course, and also noted that Muleshoe's "first ever" disc golf tournament has been set for April 14.

After six years on the job, Police Chief Brian Frieda called it quits... at least in Muleshoe.

On Friday, April 13, it was announced that Frieda had accepted the position as chief of the Sweetwater Police Department.

"I've been very fortunate," Frieda said, referring to his time at the helm of the Muleshoe Police Department, and the staff with whom he's worked within the department itself and the City of Muleshoe.

"I've learned a lot," he added.

The reality of "stranger danger" came to light in Muleshoe one Saturday afternoon in April when a Hispanic male allegedly attempted to lure three local juveniles into his vehicle at the New City Park.

According to Police Lt. Benny Parker, Cpl. Steve Clifton and Ofc. Jesse Parks arrested Santos Velsquez Ramos, 503 E. Fifth, Muleshoe, for enticing a child after their initial investigation at the park.

Parker said Ramos

allegedly tried to persuade the children — ages 10, nine and three, to enter his car, a lt. brown Chevrolet Cavalier, shortly before 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21; however, the training the older juveniles had received regarding "stranger danger" at DeShazo Elementary came into play, turning the tables on the alleged suspect.

There was reason to celebrate at the Muleshoe Independent School District in April with the Mighty "M" Band winning the Sweepstakes.

The band competed at the UIL Region 16 Concert Band and Sight Reading contest in Sudan on April 11, receiving Division 1 ratings from all judges and capping off a Superior school year by earning a Sweepstakes trophy for the first time since 1991.

And April marked a menu change for the campus cafeterias. After 20 years with the same food service provider, Aramark, the school board decided it was time for a change, approving the recommendation of Business Manager Daniel Harper to contract with Southwest Food Service.

May
Shattered Dreams returned to Muleshoe in May, as students, faculty, and members of the local community joined to show the district's student population the devastation inherent in drinking and driving.

"It wasn't real... but it could have been," the story in the Muleshoe Journal began.

Two vehicles leave "the Pit" in Bailey County, each with high school students, all juveniles, doing what too many students do... drink and drive.

Wishing to celebrate the next step in life, they discovered too late

'Don't call them Frisbees™!'
— David Brunson

that four of their future dreams were destroyed. Two dead at the scene, another dead at the hospital, and a young man facing jail time over the deaths of his friends.

As with previous Shattered Dreams performances at Muleshoe High School, the intent was to present a startling image of what mixing alcohol and vehicles could bring. But in this year's event there was an unexpected bit of reality thrown in.

Just a week prior to the MHS drama, participants Baylee Bessire and Matthew Ambriz were in a single-vehicle roll-over accident. No alcohol was involved, and neither student was injured, but the pickup Baylee was driving was totaled, making for an all too realistic prop for the May 1 Shattered Dreams performance.

"Thank goodness they were wearing their seatbelts," Baylee's mother, Cindy, said.

For the event at the MHS football practice field, Baylee and Matthew switched roles, with Baylee riding shotgun—sans seatbelt, and thus ending up on the truck's hood, and Matthew behind the wheel, and later in the patrol car portraying an intoxicated driver facing a vehicular manslaughter charge.

And who could forget that Muleshoe High School's Junior Baca brought home gold from the Texas State Track Meet in May.

Before the month was out, the commissioners' court appointed Debra Redwine as interim

justice of the peace during its Wednesday, May 23, special session.

Redwine, who has been the secretary for the Bailey County attorney for the past six years, was chosen from among three candidates for the position being vacated by Deb Stone, who recently announced her resignation due to health and personal reasons.

She won election to the position, unopposed, on the November ballot.

The court also denied a tax abatement request from representatives of HEC Feedyard of Friona during its May 23 special meeting.

On May 14, the feedyard's representatives discussed the company's purchase of the property formerly owned by the Fullmer Cattle Company, and HEC's intent to move the buildings, pens and hutches of the calving operation to Parmer County unless HEC received a tax abatement and improvements to the caliche-covered road into the property located west of Muleshoe off the Portales road.

However, at the May 23 meeting, County Judge Sherri Harrison explained that the county's written

policies concerning tax abatements prohibited abatements on property that was already on the county's tax rolls.

June
Tragedy struck in Muleshoe on Monday, June 4, when a local woman was murdered across from DeShazo Elementary. The suspect in the crime was later captured by Bailey County law enforcement officers east of Muleshoe on Hwy. 84 at the City of Lubbock's water plant.

Daniel A. Cardon Jr., 49, of Artesia, N.M., formerly of Dumas, a Hispanic male, was alleged to have fatally shot Lucila Perez at 321 W. Third, at about 12:30 a.m., before fleeing from the scene.

On a brighter note, the first annual kids fishing derby at Lake Muleshoe was a great success.

According to City Manager David Brunson, a total of 95 children registered for the June 2 event, which not only offered some of their first experience into "bankside enlightenment," but also included a gun safety and bb gun target gallery, and free hotdogs.

It was also announced that the sale and use of fireworks for the annual Independence Day celebration in Bailey County would be allowed, with restrictions.

In 2011, the in-county sale of fireworks were prohibited due to the extreme drought

conditions. However, even though recent rains in Bailey County are lower than many hope, the commissioners' court voted to follow the lead of other area counties Monday and only restrict the sale and use of certain "aerial" types of fireworks.

But, the city manager said there would not be any private use of fireworks in Muleshoe.

He reminded county residents and holiday visitors that the commissioners' court's action only covers non-incorporated areas within the county. "The sell or discharge of fireworks within the city limits of Muleshoe is illegal," City Manager David Brunson pointed out Monday, June 25.

However, weather conditions would allow for a public display in the new city park.

More "2012: The Year in Review" next week.

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY INTO FIELDS

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the Northwest Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of all of Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Lamb, and Parmer counties and part of Randall County are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning **January 16, 2013**. All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone. For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

Happy New Year!

Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce

We would like to thank the businesses who helped make the 2012 "Christmas around Muleshoe" a success. Thank you to everyone that chose to shop with these participating businesses.

Thank you to the City Workers, Muleshoe Police Department, all the Muleshoe residents and participants.

Bailey County Senior Center • Williams General • Fry & Cox • Tres Bella Art Loft • Mohawk Auto • Muleshoe Heritage Foundation
Muleshoe Abstract • Wayne Copley Trucking • Vision Furniture
The Closet/The Studio • Higginbotham • Integra Care

Congratulations to the prize winners of "Christmas around Muleshoe"

\$50 Gift Certificate:	Jenny Shaw	Lighting Contest:	Christmas Parade
Dale Burden	Mary Vasquez	Kenneth and Darlene Henry-	Winners
Joe Balderama	\$100 Mule Bucks	Best Decorations	<i>1st Place \$300</i>
Christy Clark	Joann Mendoza	Kim Black- Best lights	<i>Mule Bucks: Muleshoe FFA</i>
Shani Nichols	Darlene Pierce	Maria Martinez-	<i>2nd Place \$150</i>
Cindy Purdy	Hollye Hooten	All Around	<i>Mule Bucks: Senior Citizen</i>
Kay Griswold	Juan Flores	Valley Motel-	
Gene Richardson	Nell Magby	Business winner	
Charleson Steinbock	Charleson Steinbock		
Pat Barlow	Bernardo Herrera		
Irma Costilla	Gina Mardis		
	Tona Andrade		

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