



Billy McWhorter and Marianne Smith hang the banner for Cornerstone Church on the square! — Photo by Leon Smith



THE WHEELER TIMES

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THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020

SINGLE COPY **50c**

“Wheeler: town of friendship and pride”



We are getting in a few email addresses; please send us your email address.

— cwe —

Open the online edition of the Times and give it a try; I did it and I am far from being an expert 'on line'. You can move the page up and down by using the keyboard; that was the only thing I did not

(Continued Page 3)

STORM REPORT



As Reported by...
Stormie Meriwether,
Tenth Grade Student

Dear Friends, Social Distancing Day 39 - Sometimes I go to school to get the breakfast/lunch. I enjoy that. One day I got to see my principal, Coach Bailey. I miss seeing him and all the teachers. The lunches are good. I like to see what they put in the sack. That's about it for seeing

(Continued Page 2)

FORT ELLIOTT

Early Enrollment Day
for 2020-2021

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Place: Fort Elliott Elementary
Front Office

Time: 8:00 to 3:00

Please Bring:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Immunization Record

If you have older students that would like to attend Fort Elliott or have any questions, please call: **806-375-2456**
Fort Elliott offers a Full Day Pre-K

Please turn in your packet by
Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Benefit Raffle

A benefit raffle is being held to benefit Ryan Mayhugh, an employee at the Buffalo Feed Yard west of Wheeler.

Ryan is presently undergoing treatment for cancer; proceeds from the raffle will go toward these costs.

Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20. Tickets can be purchased at Marshall Discount Auto. Raffle will be a Plowdisk Wok w/lid and Burner, made by Mack Marshall.

The drawing will be April 25, at 12 noon. The winner will be contacted by phone on the day of the drawing.

For more information, contact 806-334-0467.

W.I.S.D. Receives \$25,000 Grant

Minutes of Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Wheeler ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wheeler ISD was held Wednesday,

March 25, 2020, beginning at 6:30 PM in the board conference room located at #1 Mustang Drive, Wheeler, Texas, 79096.

Those present were: Dr.

Lee Ann Hillhouse, Billy Richardson, Ike Finsterwald, Mark Marshall, Beau Means, Machille Henson, Chad Helton, Bryan Markham, Superintendent; Mike Bailey, Secondary Principall. ESTABLISH A QUORUM

a. Pledge: Chad Helton led the pledge.

b. Invocation: Machille Henson opened the invocation.

II. OPEN FORUM

a. Hearing of Any Person/Group Wishing to Address the Board: None

III. READING OF MINUTES

a. Regular Meeting of February 19, 2020: Mark Marshall motioned to approve the minutes. Chad Helton seconded the motion. Seven members voted to accept the motion, no votes against.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Review of Bills: Mr. Markham reviewed the bills.

b. Financial Statement(s): Mr. Markham reviewed the financial statements.

c. Financial Assumptions: Mr. Markham reviewed the financial assumptions.

V. REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS

(Continued Page 2)

MERELY MUSTARD

Please excuse me - I seem to have forgotten my manners. Last week, I committed a faux pas in speaking without having introduced myself. It was a fool's error, and now the fool must beg your pardon. Shall I make introduction now? You may ask who would sign their name Merely Mustard. It is a fair question, but rather than answer the question - or, possibly, depending on how this piece unfolds, perhaps the question will be answered - I would like to ask a question of my own, namely, why not sign as Merely Mustard? After all, is not Mustard a sufficiently dignified name? It possesses a phonetic charm that rolls off the tongue like rainwater off of a roof during a gentle shower. It is in fact a surname, though the author neither confirms nor denies whether that is applicable here. If it is, the author is fortunate. If it is not, then it would be a pen name, and the author would be fortunate to at least have a good one. The use of pen names is common and is not limited to amateurs - Stephen

King has written under a pen name, and Mark Twain is in fact a pen name for the great Samuel Clemens.

Nonetheless, back to extolling the virtues of mustard. It is a humble plant, but a very useful one. The obvious use that comes to mind is the eponymous sauce, an excellent choice to pair with hot dogs and with pretzels. In fact, mustard is so strongly associated with pretzels that it is the only sauce for pretzels that comes to mind. Some versions of mustard also contain the herb turmeric, which has long (including a recent resurgence) been touted for its health benefits, namely the claim that it reduces inflammation, though it would seem that if mustard were to be paired with hot dogs or pretzels, the inflammatory response generated by those foods would outweigh any anti-inflammatory effects of the turmeric which may be contained in the mustard. But this is not a nutritional discourse, though perhaps that would be

(Continued Page 2)

Your Email Address Needed

We need your email address. With the cost of printing and mailing The Wheeler Times and our drop in advertising, we are going to have to make changes. The U.S. Postal service will allow us to skip mailings during COVID-19 and maintain our newspaper status.

Our alternative will be eType Services. The Wheeler Times went on the internet in November. The complete paper is available at the present time at no cost. The paper is full size or larger in full color at thewheelertimes.com. Open it up and give it a try; it is posted each Wednesday morning.

If we are forced (due to costs) to cease printing weekly, the paper will be available weekly on the internet. We will not switch entirely; the issues will be mailed once a month.

Most of our readers prefer the paper in print and we will go back to that as soon as this COVID-19 situation ends.

If you will send us your email address you will be put on the internet mailing and eventually have a choice of receiving the paper in print or on the internet as soon as COVID-19 ends.

We apologize for this inconvenience, but we cannot continue as we have in the past. So please bear with us and keep us posted.

Looking forward to things getting back to normal.

And please send us your email address NOW! And you can read the paper on your computer, ipad and phone every Wednesday morning.

The paper can be read online at:

<https://www.etypereservices.com/Wheeler%20TimesID786/>

Once A Conservationist, Always A Conservationist

Celebrating National Volunteer Week April 19-25, 2020

By Quenna Terry,
NRCS public affairs specialist

Wheeler, Texas, April 20, 2020 — This week is National Volunteer Week! The Texas USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is proud to honor Earth Team Volunteer Fred Allison in Wheeler for all of his contributions to Helping People Help the Land.

Fred Allison said he knew he wanted to be a conservationist at age eight. After working 47 years for the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and retiring, his passion never waned. He retired in 2013, the same year he became an Earth Team Volunteer (ETV).

His volunteer work for NRCS is in Wheeler, located in the northeastern area of the Texas Panhandle. We are proud to announce Fred is the first Texas Earth Team Volunteer to be recognized as a regional winner for the invaluable contributions he made to NRCS. Fred was also selected as the NRCS Central Region's winner for Individual Volunteer Award on the national level.

What makes Fred's help unique is his experience, knowledge and understanding of technical assistance. He has worked countless hours as an ETV volunteer to accomplish what limited field staff could not get to, and to assist in mentoring and training of new employees.

District Conservationist Calvin Devereaux in Wheeler said, "If it wasn't for Fred,

I wouldn't be able to do the field work as timely as we've done it. It's good to have an Earth Team Volunteer like him."

As we walked through a field where Fred had helped a producer plan and install a new water storage facility, he said, "It was always in my blood to work for the SCS and NRCS." He explained his older brother worked for the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) from 1949 through 1957. When he was a young kid, he remembers wanting to do the same work his brother was doing as a professional.

Fred earned a Bachelor of Science degree in range management and agronomy from Abilene Christian College, and shortly after he graduated, he started working for SCS in 1967. He worked for the agency in the

(Continued Page 2)



Sam Helton

Graveside Rites For Sam Helton

Samuel David Helton, 72, of Allison died Thursday, April 16, 2020 in Allison.

Private graveside services were Monday, April 20, 2020 in Zybach Cemetery in Briscoe.

Viewing was held from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM Monday at the funeral home. Due to the COVID mandates, we are only allowing 5 people to enter the funeral home at a time.

Arrangements were by Robertson Funeral Directors of Wheeler.

Sam was born August 7, 1947 in Wheeler to George and Cora Hall Helton. He had been a resident of Allison since 2005. He had worked with his excavator, building swimming pools in Arizona. He liked fishing, hunting, and

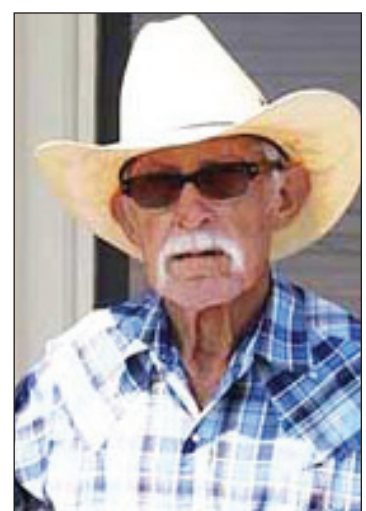
(Continued Page 4)

Listen For The Victory Bell

(Editor's Note: The ringing of the Victory Bell started last week, but we were not aware of it in time to get the article in the paper last week. When you hear the bell, run out and wave at the 2020 Seniors.)

A favorite memory of any Wheeler Mustang is the Friday morning victory bell. Hearing the bell ring around town reminds us that a victory is near and that our town and school are full of spirit. Each week we will be profiling and honoring a group of seniors by ringing the bell in their honor. Join us tonight at 6:00 as Brady Bailey, Valeria Tintori, Hope Mata, Alex Davis, and Kamie Beck ring the victory bell around town. If you hear the bell please step outside and show your support to these Seniors. The School Football lights will also be on

(Continued Page 3)



Fred Allison is a dedicated Earth Team Volunteer working directly with farmers and ranchers in Wheeler in Texas.



Fred Allison, earth team volunteer (right) and Calvin Devereaux, district conservationist (left) of Wheeler work together on watershed dam rehabilitation in their county

Board (from Page 1)

SION ITEMS

a. Principals' Reports: Principals did not have reports at this time.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

a. Unfinished Business
1. No Unfinished Business
b. New Business

1. Consider/Approve Resolution Regarding Wage Payments During Emergency School Closings: Chad Helton made a motion to approve the resolution regarding wage payments during emergency school closings. Ike Finsterwald seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

2. Consider/Approve Certification of Instructional Materials for 2020-2021

Billy Richardson made a motion to certify instructional materials for 2020-2021. Chad Helton seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

3. Consider/Approve School Calendar for 2020-2021: Billy Richardson made a motion to approve the school calendar for 2020-2021. Machille Henson seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

4. Consider/Approve Certification of Employee Security Awareness Training and Audit Requirements: Chad Helton made a motion to approve certification of employee security awareness training. Mark Marshall seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

5. Consider/Approve Auditor Engagement Letter for Audit Ending June 30, 2020

Ike Finsterwald made a motion to approve the auditor engagement letter from

News, Views & Commentary
KPDR-FM, 90.3
WHEELER, TEXAS
Weekdays: 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Merely (from Page 1)

a better usage of this space than these rambling thoughts are.

What I intended to say is that mustard is a humble plant, but a very useful one. Indeed, even Jesus made use of the plant, at least allegorically, drawing attention to its diminutive seeds as a manner of challenging the disciples' faith. At any rate, it is a name both humble and dignified, though unfortunately the latter adjective may not be applicable to this column. Given that, the modifier "merely" seems appropriate as part of the title. In any case, it seems I have now mercifully reached the end of this page, but regrettably, without having delivered much. To quote Roger Waters, I "thought I'd something more to say." It almost seems as if another apology were appropriate, but that would bring me back to the beginning of this piece, a place I do not desire to revisit. So I will leave it at that.

Merely Mustard

Shop At Home!



THE WHEELER TIMES
Page 2 — Thursday, April 23, 2020
"Wheeler: town of friendship and pride"

It is more important
now than ever to
SHOP AT HOME!

EAT OUT
... at home,
they will carry it out to you!

Make an
APPOINTMENT TO SHOP

Mark Kile, CPA. Chad Helton seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. School Safety Grant: Mr. Markham informed the Board that the District had received a \$25,000 school safety grant that would be used toward a new intercom system for the building. b. Preliminary Taxable Values: Mr. Markham reported that the District was looking at a significant drop in taxable values for 2020-2021.

c. Health Related Covid-19 Guidance: Mr. Markham reviewed TEA Guidance for the Covid-19 Pandemic. The District is serving students online/packets and providing two meals per day for students.

d. SB 1566 Student Performance Training: Board Training for SB 1566 will occur in the summer/early fall.

e. Review April Meeting Date: The Regular April Meeting will be held April 15, 2020.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. If Needed, According to Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et seq.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:01pm.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:26pm.

b. Consider/Take Action on Non-Certified Contracts: Ike Finsterwald made a motion to approve non-certified contracts. Billy Richardson seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

c. Consider/Take Action on Probationary Contracts: Chad Helton made a motion to approve probationary contracts. Machille Henson seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

d. Consider/Take Action on Term Contracts: Beau Means made a motion to approve term contracts. Ike Finsterwald seconded the motion. Seven members voted to approve the motion, no votes against.

e. Consider/Take Action on Resignations: Mark Marshall made a motion to approve all resignations, with regrets. Billy Richardson seconded the motion. Seven members voted to accept the motion, no votes against.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

LEXOPHILIA

• What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

• I dropped out of communism class because of lousy Marx.

• I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.

Mark Marshall motioned to adjourn at 7:31 pm. Billy Richardson seconded the motion. Seven members voted to accept the motion, no votes against.

Storm (from Page 1)

people except for my Mom and Dad. Pop made noodles! They put them in the back of their car and we picked them up. I love Pop's noodles! I miss having dinner with Baba and Pop. Leon made potato soup. It was amazing! I can't believe the most exciting things in the world are noodles and potato soup lol.

Living on the ranch is great. I have one calf to go and I will have all of my babies. It will be the "tie-breaker." I have three bulls and three heifers. I can't wait to see what the last one will be. "Rose" is just taking her time. Mom and Dad have over half of their babies. They are so cute. I love to go hunt for new calves. I get to take the big 4wheeler to check my cows and babies. I really don't mind staying at home except for not seeing people.

I am a little sad that the seniors are missing the last part of high school. All the things they planned won't happen. I'm also going to miss going to the State UIL Vocal Contest. I was very excited about that. It is hard to give up some of the things, but I want everyone to be safe. Maybe someday we will have school and normal things. That's it!

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YOUNG RANCH EAST: 1600+/- acres with 2 miles of highway frontage on the south side of I-40, 8 miles East of Shamrock. One mile of Elm Creek crosses the ranch and feeds a centralized pond. Other parts of the ranch are watered with 2 wells. Cliffs, ravines, big trees, and brush provide cover for the Deer Hogs, Turkey, Quail and Dove. Some of the ranch could be farmed.

300 +/- ACRES 5 miles W of Shamrock on the north side of I-40, Plains Bluesteam grass, city water, good fences, Deer, Quail and Dove.

COLLINGSWORTH COUNTY: 160 +/- acres Cattle Ranch. Canyons, Cliffs, Rolling Terrain, Big Trees, Shinnery, Mesquite, 3 Ponds, 2 Water Wells Great for Hunting, Mule Deer, White Tail Deer, Turkey, Hogs, Quail, Dove and Bobcats.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY adjacent to Shamrock at 164 exit. 133+/- acres, I-40/Route 66 frontage. City Water, Creek, Big Trees, High Visibility

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"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

In God we trust!

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Victory (from Page 1)

during this time to honor the 2020 Seniors.

Ringing the bell last week were:

Kamie Beck is the 18-year-old daughter of Shannon Beck and the late Brian Beck. During high school, she has been involved in FFA where she enjoyed showing pigs, band, the girl's basketball manager, and the FBC youth group. After graduation, Kamie plans on attending Platt College in Moore, OK and obtaining her Dental Assistant degree. Her favorite memories of high school include prom and homecoming.

Hope Mate is the 18-year-old daughter of Alisa Mata and Mario Barajas. In high school, Hope has been involved in Band and FFA where she enjoyed showing pigs. Upon graduation, she plans to attend Platt College in Moore, OK and eventually become a Dental Assistant. Her favorite memory of WHS is walking the field for the last time on Senior night with all of her class crying their eyes out.

Valeria Tintori is the 19-year-old daughter of Americo and Ivonne Tintori. While in high school Valeria has been involved in Cross Country, Basketball, Tennis, Track, Cheerleading, and the FBC youth group. Valeria is also the current Lions Club Sweetheart. After graduation, she plans to attend Amarillo College and become a Dental Hygienist. Valeria's favorite memory at WHS is when Coach Bailey did the Git Up Challenge at a pep rally.

Brady Bailey is the 18-year-old son of Mike and Mendy Bailey. While in high school Brady has been involved in Student Council, National Honor Society, Basketball, Football, Track, CX Debate, Academic UIL, and the FBC youth group. After graduation Brady plans to play basketball while earning a degree in Exercise and Sports Science and eventually becoming an Athletic Trainer. His favorite memory of WHS is all of the times playing sports he loves with the friends he loves.

Alexander Davis is the 17-year-old nephew of Linda Davis and the late Gary Davis. Alex has been involved in FFA, Academic UIL, Football, Basketball, Student Council, National Honor Society, CX Debate, and a member of the FBC youth group. After graduation, he plans to attend WTAMU. When asked his favorite memory of WHS Alex stated "There are way too many memories to name a favorite. A great one though was getting to spend 4 quarters running the exact same play next to Finny and Paden, and letting Hesston rack up as many yards as his legs would let him"

Chat (from Page 1)

understand. Call if you have a problem.

— cwe —

To read the paper online: <https://www.etypereservices.com/Wheeler%20Time-sID786/>

— cwe —

We have had some very nice days; but these warm days often result in storms later in the day. The shelter at the Agri/Life building is closed, but the school will be open to be used as a storm shelter.

— cwe —

Go to the front door; individuals will be on hand to advise you on "equal distancing".

— cwe —

Liz and John stopped by for a very short visit Saturday; we observed "equal distancing".

— cwe —

**Step out
and Wave
at the Seniors!**

**The shelter at the Agri/Life building is closed,
but the school will open to be used
as a storm shelter.
Go to the front door; individuals will be on hand
to advise you on "equal distancing".**

SIGNS AROUND TOWN



PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY!

—Photos furnished by Leon Smith

