

MMH focuses on future needs

By Janet Felderhoff
Facility needs change over time. Muenster Memorial Hospital has experienced a variety of such changes over the years. Patient rooms have been altered to accommodate other needs as the number of patients and lengths of stay became less.

The MMH Board and administration anticipates the need for more clinic space and other changes that additional physicians will bring. At the Tuesday, March 16 meeting members of the Facilities Committee gave a report on a recent meeting dealing with that topic.

Administrator Richard Arnold explained that Dr. Advincula had brought to their attention the name of a firm, Brycon Corporation of Georgetown, that specializes in evaluating the needs of a facility, developing and completing a construction plan. The firm builds and renovates clinics and hospitals and other health care facilities.

Members of the Facilities Committee and Arnold met with Brycon Corporation on Feb. 26. They shared the information received at this meeting with fellow Board members.

"They will come in with their planners and get to know what the Board wants, what the community needs, everything about it," Arnold explained. "They will put together a plan based upon Board input, doctor input, everybody who's involved type input, and then advise us if it's better to renovate that building (clinic) for instance, or build from the ground up; is it better to locate it (new clinic) on-site or off-site." He added that the firm would do all of the things needed

from a line drawing to the final product. Local talent would be utilized if available. The firm plans, designs, and executes what is decided. They are contractors.

There would be a \$10,000 charge to do a study considering long-range and short-range goals, determine a design plan, and develop a time-line.

John Aytes noted that he had hoped that they would realize that there was concern for more than just a clinic. He thought they might be able to say if it would be better to add a wing on to the hospital and use the current patient rooms as clinic space. He wondered, "Are we right in thinking that the first thing we should think of building is the housing of doctors?"

Dr. Walter Knight noted, "They are only going to be able to tell us what we should do based on what we anticipate the future holds. We have to tell them what the future holds and that's the hard part."

Arnold added, "That's why we are trying to peek through that veil and see how far we can see. Let's get this ball rolling. This has already got the creative juices flowing."

After some discussion, Dr. Knight suggested that they visit some of the places that Brycon had designed and constructed to evaluate their work. Arnold would be attending a TORCH meeting the next day and agreed to visit with other rural hospital representatives to seek out other firms that do the same type service and have good recommendations.

"The thing that I'm impressed with you all about is that you're not just sitting still looking back,"

Arnold remarked. "You're looking forward to if we need to do something in the short-term...and you're looking further to get the knowledge to put this hospital on the cutting edge that it should be on."

James Walterscheid said, "If we are going to bring in doctors, we want to be able to keep them. If we want to keep them, we have to design for efficiency. We need somebody to tell us how to do that."

Aytes reminded them that they had only three months to get ready for the next doctor to be here. "We need to get busy on the facilities that we have over there and make them presentable to the doctor for at least the next year," he said. This could be done cosmetically for the first doctor, but more had to be done to accommodate a next doctor scheduled to come in a little over a year.

In his monthly report Administrator Arnold said that Medicare has responded to MMH's cost report that was filed on Nov. 28 for Dec. 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003. Swing bed rates were increased from the former level of \$583.39 per day to \$1,125.44. He said that brings it in line with the cost.

Notification was received of the successful completion of a grant applied for that is funded through O.R.C.A. (Office of Rural Community Affairs). It is about a \$9,000 grant that will be used for computers that will be tied together for a continuing quality improvement program.

There was an excellent turnout for the Hospital's 40th anniversary celebration, said Arnold. Souvenir tabs that were inserted in area newspapers

are still available at the Hospital for those who didn't see one or who want a keepsake.

Plans are underway for the annual Health Fair. It is set for Saturday, April 17. Dr. Bonnie Carter is planning to attend this event to meet people from the community. She is the physician coming to join the MMH staff this summer.

Zula Lawyer, administrator of St. Richard's Villa, said that they had their Tile Review on March 9. There were no errors found during the review. She credited medical records and the nursing staff for a job well done. "It's hard to be perfect, but the staff did reach that goal," she said.

There is one bed open for a female. They were four days short of a full house for the month.

National Nursing Home Week is May 9-15. A schedule of events is being planned.

In other business the Board:

- Heard that Roger Frost of Kansas had been hired as the new CRNA. He begins duties on April 1. Frost will come from a small rural community hospital where he worked for 25 years.
- Learned that only three candidates had filed for the three Board positions.

- Adopted a resolution for a working line of credit with Muenster State Bank. "I hope we don't have to use it," said Administrator Arnold.

- Arnold reported that the MRI unit is installed and expected to be operational within days.

- Staff privileges were granted to Corwin Martin, D.D.S., M.D. and Paul Devanson, M.D.



Kelly Lamkin, LBSW, Social Worker and Bereavement Coordinator for Home Hospice of Cooke County was awarded "Social Worker of the Year" at the Texas and New Mexico Hospice Organization's annual convention on March 19, in Dallas. Courtesy photo

Federal funds approved for dam completion

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison announced on March 19 approval for the final installment of \$2 million in federal funds to complete construction of a dam for the Muenster Lake Project, a major effort designed to resolve the City's impending water shortage.

"I am pleased the necessary funds have been approved to allow this critical work to go forward," Sen. Hutchison said. "This project will help ensure a reliable water supply for the citizens of Muenster and the entire surrounding area."

With Muenster's only water source, the Trinity Aquifer, projected to no longer provide water fit for human consumption, the city signed an agreement with the Soil Conservation Service in 1980 to construct a dam and park area to meet its water needs. While local bond elections raised a total of approximately \$3 million in 1980 and 1999, Muenster still faced shortfalls for the project.

Senator Hutchison has been working with the community since December 1999 to get the federal government to help address the budget gap. As part of Appropriations bills enacted by Congress in recent years, she won approval for

Muenster to be added to the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) list of projects to be funded, resulting in approximately \$2 million in federal assistance to complete the work on the dam to ensure a sufficient water supply to support the growth in population.

According to the NRCS, the funding will allow construction of the dam for the Muenster Lake Project. Final plans and drawings for this phase are underway, and contracting procedures should begin around May 1. When completed in the fall of 2005, this multi-purpose reservoir will provide municipal water for the City of Muenster in addition to enhancing flood control that affects the entire area.

Dr. Larry Butler, State Conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture-NRCS in Temple, said, "This project is an excellent example of how federal and local partnerships can work together. The Upper Elm-Red Soil and Water Conservation District, Muenster Water District, and local officials have all been instrumental in getting to this point. When completed, this project will result in huge benefits for the local citizens."

Persistence pays off

By Don Rohmer
Bob Bauer, contracting officer for Muenster Lake and president of the Water Board, had the following comments regarding Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's announcement of funding approval for the lake.

"Muenster Lake was originally intended to be a one-phase project, but when government budget cuts interfered with allocation of some of the anticipated matching funds, the construction schedule was split into two phases. The altered schedule permitted groundbreaking on time to comply with Muenster Water District's contract with the NRCS and affiliated agencies that had already signed off on the project.

"The government's share of funding for the first phase was initially about a million dollars short, but

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison intervened and got the funds allocated. The second phase was also about a million dollars short, but once again Senator Hutchison was able to procure the required funds.

"I think it's appropriate at this point to recognize the magnificent effort, dedication, and forward thinking of the citizens of Muenster who supported the bond elections, which enabled us to continue with our part of the project and not have a shortfall at a critical time. Also to be commended are those citizens on previous Water Boards who had the foresight to fathom what had to be done and do it.

"This lake is a courageous, far reaching, and critical move on the part of this community, and one that will be remembered long into the future."

Laughlin questions County Road operation

By Janet Felderhoff
For a number of weeks Bob Henderson, Wayne Dodson, and Richard Laughlin have been making inquiries at Commissioners Court as to which road commissioner system Cooke County operates under. Richard Laughlin of Mountain Springs and Bob Henderson of Callisburg were on the Monday, March 22 agenda to discuss County Road Chapter 251-252. Henderson was ill and did not attend.

Laughlin gave a history of their efforts including researching records from 1995 when the code was adopted from Civil to Transportation. He said that within the Texas Transportation Code there are five options for the administering of County roads. Each option was briefly explained.

Laughlin asked Commissioners Court, "What form of government are we operating under?" Judge Freeman said they were operating under the Ex Officio System. "You researched back to 1995," noted Judge Freeman. "That wasn't when that law went into effect. That's when it was recodified and put into the transportation code. It existed prior to 1995. It went into effect in 1901 and 251 went into effect in 1884, so there are still a lot of records that need researched to find out the exact date of effect."

Laughlin asked if anyone had knowledge that it was done. Judge Freeman said that all he could say was how the roads have operated in the 26 years he's lived in Cooke County. "As far back as anybody can remember Ex Officio Road System is how the County has operated," he said. "It certainly may be in the minutes somewhere. As you

know if you went back and researched 1995 forward, that's eight years, you see how big a problem it would be to go back to 1901 for research. The records are in the County Clerk's office as government records are. My comment is that we're operating under the Ex Officio Road System right now."

Under the Ex Officio System, the commissioner is required to directly supervise all employees. That is, there can be no leads or straw bosses, all employees have equal standing, said Laughlin. It also requires a road report be submitted at nine months of the fiscal year.

Laughlin wondered why if that were true (Ex Officio System) they were in non-compliance with codes and why were they not having direct supervision instead of indirect supervision and why weren't they in compliance with the reports. He said that each commissioner is required to make an annual report showing the condition of each road or

part of a road and each culvert and bridge in each commissioner's precinct. These reports, he said, were to be entered into the minutes of Commissioners Court to be considered in determining the amount of taxes and improvements for public roads. These reports are to be submitted to the Grand Jury at the first term of the District Court.

Judge Freeman responded, "If you have ever heard anything about antiquated law, there are lots and lots of laws on the books. If you go back you can probably find a report that I'm not filing. I did check about this with the Texas Association County legal department. The majority of the counties in Texas do not file that report mainly because it would probably take at least one or two employees a long time to fill out. You'd probably have to hire somebody to do it. There are antiquated laws on the books that require certain reports that are not feasible to make out anymore in modern day society."

Laughlin said that an advantage to the report is that when a new commissioner comes in he would have a road map to follow if he chose. It would tell you where you are and where you're going, he said. "I believe if that is the system that we're operating under, it would be in the best interest of the citizens that we comply with the codes," Laughlin contended.

Judge Freeman replied that he had researched the subject and found that there is no penalty for not complying with that section.

In a late interview Judge Freeman said he hated to see the County's limited resources for road improvement and maintenance wasted on one or two county employees having to document county road, culvert, and bridge conditions. He said he'd rather see it spent for improvements and maintenance.

Only one bid was received for a Computer Assisted Dispatching (CAD) System. The bid came from Global

See CAD Pg. 2



Jared Ledbetter, far right, lines up a shot at the Sacred Heart Golf Tournament Tuesday at Turtle Hill Golf Course. See page 9 for more tournament action. Janie Hartman photo

Sheriff to address need for new jail

The April meeting of the Cooke County Republican Women will be held at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 1, at the Chamber of Commerce Building in Gainesville.

Speaker will be Cooke County Sheriff, Michael Compton giving a presentation of the need for a new jail. This will be in reference to the bond election to be held on May 15 to fund the construction of a county jail.

The public is invited to attend this informative meeting, as well as anyone who would like to join Republican Women of Cooke County.

Refreshments will be served following the meeting.



Rev. Martha Ann Mattner, Chaplain for Home Hospice of Cooke County, received the "Chaplain of the Year" Award from the Texas and New Mexico Hospice Organization. Making the presentation was Margaret Caddy.

Courtesy photo

Attention all dog owners

City Hall has received numerous calls complaining of dogs running at large. Spring temperatures are getting many folks out walking for their health. There have been several occasions when they are being frightened by dogs that bark and act aggressively towards them. The City Ordinance Code 5-2-4 states that pets shall either be kept in an enclosed area or tied with a suitable leash so as to restrain the pet from running at large.

Violation of this ordinance may result in fines to the owner of up to \$500, and can be even more serious if someone is injured by the animal. This is to protect everyone. Remember - your pet knows you, but not necessarily your neighbor or someone walking by. Dogs should also be kept on a leash when walking with their owners on the street. Others do not appreciate your dog relieving himself on their lawn. Please enjoy your animals, but be courteous to others.

Comptroller urges delinquent taxpayers to pay up now

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn announced *Project: Pay Up*, a three-week amnesty period aimed at collecting unpaid taxes owed by Texas businesses. From March 11 through March 31, 2004, taxpayers can come forward, pay their past due taxes in full, and the Comptroller will waive penalty and interest charges normally assessed against delinquent taxpayers.

Strayhorn estimates *Project: Pay Up* will bring in \$50 million in delinquent state tax revenue and an additional \$9 million owed to local governments.

The 78th Legislature authorized the tax amnesty, recommended by Strayhorn in her 2003 report *Limited Government, Unlimited Opportunity*.

"The last time the State of Texas offered a tax amnesty was in 1991," Strayhorn said. "This is indeed a rare opportunity for businesses with unpaid, unreported or under-reported taxes to wipe the slate clean. They can pay their taxes and avoid penalty and interest. They can pay up now or pay more later, when we seize

their business and padlock their doors."

The *Project: Pay Up* amnesty period applies to sales tax, franchise tax and all other state and local taxes and fees administered by the State Comptroller except Unclaimed Property and PUC Gross Receipts Assessments. It applies to taxes that were due anytime before February 1, 2004.

Strayhorn urges taxpayers to visit her Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/amnesty, call 1-800-252-7942 or go to their nearest Comptroller field office to learn all of the details about *Project: Pay Up*. Tax reporting forms are available on the Comptroller's Web site. To ensure that delinquent tax reports and payments are processed as amnesty filings, taxpayers must write "Tax Amnesty" at the top of tax reports, and on checks, cashier's checks and money orders. Tax reports and payments should be mailed to: Tax Amnesty, Comptroller of Public Accounts, P.O. Box 13232, Austin, TX 78711.

CAD frompg. 1

Software for \$50,000 with annual support for years two and three for \$9,000 each year. The money is supplied by the TEEX grant. The bid was unanimously accepted.

"The dispatch situation at the Sheriff's office in the last few years has really changed," remarked Sheriff Mike Compton. "The improvements that we made in our dispatch system have been probably the result of the efforts of your EMS Director Bob Harbin as much as anything else. He has brought a technical expertise to this County that is unbelievable and a tireless work effort on behalf of the Sheriff's office and the Emergency Management. This CAD system is a direct result of the efforts he has struggled with for four or five years at least to bring to this County. He not only handles the EMS, but he has been a blessing to the communication procedures within the County." Sheriff Compton wanted to be sure that all Harbin does for the County is noted. "We owe him a debt of deep gratitude," said Compton.

West Bay Exploration Company requested permission to conduct a 2-D Seismic Field Operation along CR 485 and CR 435 in Precinct #4. Precinct #4 Commissioner Virgil Hess said the company had done this before with no problems. He said CR 485 is directly north of Bulcher and CR 435 is about three miles west of that. Approval was given to the request.

Approval was given to the Frank and Lola Rust Family adopting CR 346, from the intersection of CR 381 and CR 333 in the TCE-EPD Adopt-A-County Road Program. Judge Freeman said, "We appreciate the Rust family doing this," said Judge Freeman. "This is working out really good. We're getting more and more roads adopted around the County to keep them clean and we appreciate all the help."

Several people signed up for the Public Comments portion of the agenda. Kenneth Atterbury inquired about courthouse restoration. He asked how much grant money the county had received to date and was told \$239,610.14. Also, he asked what would

the cost of moving personnel and telephones while restoration is being done and was told that wasn't possible to know that at this time.

Ruth Ann Dodson of Whitesboro said she'd been a licensed real estate person in Texas since 1980 and with that license she is held to a higher standard than the average public because she is licensed by the state. She said it is a privilege to serve the public.

"Our conduct opens us up to the scrutiny of the public that we serve," said Dodson. "We should not be defensive when we are scrutinized by our public. We should be willing and respectful to resolve any disputes. We all need to review our professional conduct from time to time. I've had to do it many times through the years. Let's do it now. If the shoe fits wear it."

Wayne Dodson talked about the Neighborhood Crime Watch Callisburg is trying to form. He took the Sheriff up on his invitation to visit the County Jail. He spent two hours there and noted how busy it was. "The Sheriff needs more deputies," he said. He wondered if some of the fine money brought in to the County could be used to hire more help in the Sheriff's Department.

Stephen Harlow remarked on the recent change of having to sign up to speak about an agenda item. He asked that they reconsider and vote it out. He said he liked being able to visit with them if a question arises during the meeting.

Judge Freeman said that one reason is to help the

Court prepare answers to questions that are asked. A person could be allowed to speak if there is a reason to speak and a motion is made and passed to allow it.

In other business Commissioners Court:

- Held an Executive Session: Deliberation regarding the purchase of real property, pursuant to section §551.072 Texas open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated. No action was taken.

- Approved request by Mountain Springs Water Supply Corporation to install a fresh water line across CR 295 about 100 feet east of the intersection of CR 295 and FM 3496. The two-inch line will run north and south. Commissioner Cox reported the company is very good at redoing any road damage caused during the process.

- Approved sale of used equipment by Cooke County Precinct #2. There are 15 items on the list. They can be viewed at the Valley View barn from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 30 and 31 and April 6 and 7. Sealed bids will be accepted.

- Approved sale by bid of two truss bridges located on CR 114 and CR 125 in Precinct #2. They were replaced with new bridges.

- Approved the Cooke County Sheriff's office 2003 Racial Profiling Statistics Report.

- Approved Pre and Post Adjudication contracts with Denton County. These are routine annual renewals.

- Approved the Lake Ray Roberts Planning and Zoning Commission's minutes for Feb. 24, 2004.

Panel asks taxpayers to "speak up" about IRS

The tax-filing season is underway and a group of private citizens wants to make the IRS user-friendlier. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP), E-Filing committee, will listen to your ideas and suggestions on Sunday, March 28, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Renaissance Dallas North Hotel, 4099 Valley View Lane in Dallas.

The Secretary of the U.S. Treasury Department appoints the members of TAP. The panel's mission is to listen to taxpayers, identify their issues, and make suggestions for improving both Internal Revenue Service customer service and taxpayer satisfaction. The committee is meeting to collect and provide feedback on IRS'

delivery of e-file products and services, as well as the IRS e-file marketing campaign.

"Millions of taxpayers electronically file their tax returns with the IRS during the filing season," said Mario Burgos, E-Filing Committee Chair.

If you're interested in attending the meeting, call 1-888-912-1227. The committee will also accept written comments by faxing them to (414) 297-1623 or mailing them to: Taxpayer Advocacy Panel, Mail Stop 1006-MIL, 310 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI, 53203. Comments can also be submitted through the TAP web site (www.improveirs.org).

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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, March 28, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Sacred Heart Ranch Rodeo, 2PM, Muenster Indoor Arena Buckaroo Rodeo, 9am	Monday, March 29, 2004	Tuesday, March 30, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center	Wednesday, March 31, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center	Thursday, April 1, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open, 1-4PM	Friday, April 2, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM AARP Board meeting, 10AM, Stanford House	Saturday, April 3, 2004
Sunday, April 4, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Palm Sunday Daylight Saving Time Begins	Monday, April 5, 2004 City Council meeting, 7:30PM	Tuesday, April 6, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Home Hospice Grief Support meeting, 6-8PM, Home Hospice Marketing Club meeting, 7PM, Farm Bureau MMH Auxiliary meeting, 7PM, Board Room at MMH SH Preschool Parent Group meeting, 7PM	Wednesday, April 7, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Chamber of Commerce Board meeting, 5:30PM Religious Ed Class, 7PM	Thursday, April 8, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open, 1-4PM Muenster ISD - Snow Day Pipeline Group Contractors Awareness Program, 6:30PM Gainesville Civic Center	Friday, April 9, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Good Friday - NO SCHOOL Muenster ISD - NO CLASSES AARP meeting & luncheon, 11:30AM, Stanford House	Saturday, April 10, 2004

Turn clocks ahead 1 hour at 2am

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Obituaries

Faye Fette 1920 - 2004



Faye Fette

Faye M. Brown Fette died Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at age 84 at Pecan Tree Manor in Gainesville. She was born on Feb. 24, 1920 in Gainesville to James Ferman and Julia Poarch Brown. A member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Muenster and the local Catholic Daughters of America, she also lived some years here; she graduated from Gainesville High School in 1938. She had close ties with relatives in Muenster. In the fifties she produced the Faye Fette Show on Radio KGAF remembered as "Faye Here and There." She worked with the U.S.O. in Viet Nam in the early seventies. She also worked as a hairdresser.

Survivors are two sons and daughters-in-law, James Kenneth and Kathleen Fette of Pflugerville, Texas and Timothy Charles and Judy Fette of Texarkana, Texas; and daughters and son-in-law Kay and Gordon Hickey of Lindsay and Linda Goodwin of Muenster; and a foster daughter and her husband Lisa and Ed Salazar of San Antonio, Texas. There are 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and several

nieces and nephews. Also a brother-in-law, Bill Terry of Gainesville and two sisters-in-law, Margaret Ratliff of Lubbock, Texas and Kate Wilson of Muenster.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her sister Wanda Terry; and two grandchildren, Gordon Hickey and Bill Hickey.

Graveside Services were held at Fairview Cemetery on Friday, March 19 at 10 a.m., conducted by Father Jim Sheridan of St. Mary's Catholic Church. "Amazing Grace" and "Now Thank we All Our God" were sung at the graveside services.

Danny Burger 1931 - 2004

Danny Burger, eldest child of Toney and Mary Catherine Burger, died at age 72 in Austin on March 10, 2004. He was born on Aug. 23, 1931 in Austin. His father, patriarch of a greatly respected sports family in Austin, and his mother, Mary Catherine, moved to Muenster in 1934 when his father became teacher of chemistry, math, and German and was principal and coach at Muenster Public High School, and originated the basketball team called the Muenster Samas.

Danny Burger attended Sacred Heart School in Muenster. In 1939, the family moved back to Austin, and young Danny attended St. Mary's Academy, St. Ignatius and Fulmore Middle School and Allan Junior High School. He graduated from Austin High in 1949, where he had served as a class officer, president of the Student Council, and lettered in basketball and baseball. He was employed part-time at American National Bank, and attended the University of Texas, graduating in 1953 with honors and a degree, and advanced studies in educational administration.

He pursued a career in banking and finance; held a position with the Municipal Advisory Council. In 1963 he joined the investment department of American National Insurance Company, Galveston, to administer its portfolio of governmental securities. Returning to Austin in 1968, he accepted appointment as Development Fund Manager of the Texas Water Development Board, a state agency that provides funds

to local governments for water and sewer projects. There he overviewed the financing for numerous regional water and sewer projects serving multiple cities and municipalities.

In 1976, he returned to the Municipal Advisory Council as its Executive Director which he held until his retirement in 1993.

Coming from a much admired sports family in Austin, Danny Burger involved himself in local sports, as a coach and official for Austin's youth city league and church-sponsored programs of basketball and baseball. He was an active member of the Austin Club, its Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Vice President, and President. He spoke to groups frequently on governmental accounting and finance.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine Burger; daughter Kathryn Burger; son and daughter-in-law David and Pam Burger; daughter and son-in-law Anne and Mark Entekin; daughter Patricia O'Neal; son and daughter-in-law Kim and Jacque McBride; daughter and son-in-law Kay and Jim Wray; six grandchildren; a sister Helene Stewart; and a brother-in-law, Col. Arthur Stewart.

A Rosary Service was held Sunday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Weed-Corley-Fish Chapel. Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, March 15 at Emmaus Catholic Church, Lakeway.

For those who have asked, the family has suggested memorials sent to Hospice Austin's Christopher House, 4107 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78759.

Gardening Tips & Techniques

Seal Plants - Gardeners use white glue for sealing the ends of pruned stems and branches against insects and excessive moisture loss.

Courtesy of ARA Content

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Slamming solutions

"Slamming" is when a consumer's telephone provider - local or long distance - is switched without his knowledge or consent. Texas law requires companies engaging in such practices to pay the cost of switching customers back to their original provider, provide billing records to the original provider and, in some cases, pay fines of up to \$5,000 a day for each slamming violation.

Tips for prevention:

- Request a Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) freeze from your phone company to prevent a change in long distance service without a written request.
- Inspect your phone bill each month and report unfamiliar charges to your phone company.
- Contact your phone company to confirm your preferred long distance carrier.



SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller (www.window.state.tx.us) and the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Statistics:

Some medical research indicates that as many as 8 out of every 100 people over the age of 60 have an undetected AAA.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Readers of the Muenster Enterprise,

Last Sunday night, March 21, the High School Sports Extra television show aired a short filmstrip of the Girls Varsity Basketball Teams from each of our two schools.

The film showed the two groups of girls standing next to each other in separate lines, when one of the Public School girls said "Hey, there's something wrong with this picture!"

The girls from both groups then immediately intermingled with each other and by doing so displayed a very good example of Unity.

None of these children

showed any reason to be divided even though they attended different schools in a small town.

The girls followed the example of Jesus Christ by the Unity they displayed.

It would be a great thing to do if more of us would follow the example of Unity that these girls displayed.

I wish to offer both of our girls' basketball teams a Big Thank You for your resistance to division and congratulations on a great basketball season.

May God Bless all of you.
Sincerely,
Bill Bayer
1487 CR 428
Muenster, TX 76252

From My Side of the Fence

by Ed Cler

Everyone knows that the season of Spring has arrived. There is a greening in the trees, especially in the Elms. They have a habit of being the first to begin leafing in the spring time, and often suffer from frostbite, and must start over. But they always do.

Peaches are in bloom - the plums are likewise. I see quite a lot of Bradford Pears in full bloom, and they are beautiful. Redbuds are at their best at this time, and are very noticeable.

So I get back to our "stupid" peach tree. It has been in some stage of blooming since the first week in January, and has continued blooming ever since. The temps dropped to 12°, and I made the comment that that would do it for the peaches. Well, we have had a half dozen mornings when the temps were freezing or below since that time, and the tree goes merrily on, putting on more blooms and leaves, and believe it or not, it has

enough teeny peaches on it for several trees. If nothing happens to them soon, we will need to thin them drastically. This tree has usually borne pretty small fruits, but some of the best tasting jelly has been made from them.

I noticed a lot of the birds are back and expecting Tony to feed them as he has for the last five years.

At present the Cardinals, the most noticeable bird of all, is back, as are the chickadees, the gold and the house finch, the tufted titmice, several varieties of sparrows, the collar turtle dove, and the mourning dove. We also have had occasional flights of south Texas White Wing dove. These latter are considerably larger than the local dove and are off our shooting list. Actually, the only birds Tony shoots here are blackbirds and Bluejays, as they are pests, and always quarrelsome and raucous.

Male breast cancer is not myth

Though rare, breast cancer in men does occur. It accounts for less than one percent of all new breast cancer cases and deaths, but each year 400 men die from it.

Most men with breast lumps have a benign condition known as gynecomastia, an excessive development of the male breasts.

The difference between the two types can usually be determined by physical exam and mammography. Mammography of the male breast is an essential part of the evaluation of male breast disease, and sometimes a breast biopsy is necessary.

Men with a family history of breast cancer in female relatives may be at increased risk. They should report any change in their breasts to a physician.

Info from UT Southwest Medical Center, Dallas

View Civil War history re-enactment

The second Cross Timbers Civil War Re-enactment is set for April 17 at the Yarbrough Ranch north of Gainesville. The Gainesville Downtown Association, which is made up of retailers and business professionals, and the 11th Texas Cavalry Company B Cross Timbers Campaign of Texas sponsor it.

The Civil War battles will take place near the Red River at the Yarbrough Ranch - a working cattle ranch located 2.5 miles north off of Interstate 35. Signs will mark the way.

Battles are scheduled for 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, April 17. On hand will be historians who will offer an insight into a time that shaped the future for all Americans. Vendors will be selling food and souvenirs.

Area schools will have a special demonstration day set for Friday, April 16. Students and teachers are invited to tour the Civil War battle camps where re-enactors, dressed in period costume will be on hand to give living history discussions and demonstrations of army life during the Civil War.

Schedule of events for Saturday are with all forces engaging in tactics of cavalry, infantry, and artillery for the benefit of spectators located at a special observation point.

The battle will begin in earnest at 11:30 a.m. when the Federal Scouts will encounter Confederate Picket Deployments and contacts will continue and activities increase until about 12:30 p.m. when the

lines will become static in order to re-supply and water the troops for about one half hour. The battle will renew about 1 p.m. and continue to 2 p.m. when the troops will withdraw to their camps to prepare for the non-spectator tactical

that will commence at 5 p.m. and continue through the next day.

Civilian camps and sutlers will be in close proximity to show spectators what life was like for people during the 1860s. For more information on

the Civil War Re-enactment contact Ed Zielinski, evenings at (940) 736-3779 or

email edzielinski@yahoo.com; Bob Fuhrmann at (940) 665-0660 or email boblstus@ntin.net or Rodney Hess at (940) 891-1376.



DEFENDING THE RED RIVER CAMPAIGN - It is spring 1864 and Federal forces have been dispatched to conduct a reconnaissance across the Red River into Texas from Indian Territories. Their objective is the commerce center town of Gainesville, which is a center of Confederate forces and supplies. Pictured is part of the 2002 Civil War Re-enactment to defend Gainesville from the Yankee invasion at the Parker Yarbrough Ranch. More battles are planned for April 17 at the second Cross Timbers Civil War Re-enactment at Parker Yarbrough Ranch. Courtesy photos

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New Arrivals

Popp

Andy and Jennifer Popp of Lindsay joyfully announce the birth of their son Colton Henry Popp. He was born on Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 12:40 p.m. in Gainesville Memorial Hospital weighing 8 lb. 5 oz. and measuring 21 1/2 inches in length. Colton joins a sister Kaitlyn Ann, age 22 months. Grandparents are Billy and Lisa Kupper of Valley View and Henry and Jeanette Popp of Lindsay. Great-grandparents are Paulo and Anna Borysowicz of Dallas and Margaret Kupper of Muenster.

Stewart

Ray and Shirley Stewart of Muenster are proud to announce the birth of a son, Logan Ray Stewart, on Saturday, March 20, 2004 at 3:43 p.m. in Denton Community Hospital. He weighed 6 lb. 12 oz. and measured 18 1/2 inches in length. A brother, Riley Matthew, age 1 1/2 years, also welcomes him. Grandparents are Red and Carol Henscheid and Rick and Darlene Stewart of Muenster and George and Laura Gould of Denton. Evelyn Koesler of Muenster is the great-grandmother.

Miller

Glenn and Stacie Miller of Muenster announce with joy the birth of their fifth child, a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth, on Saturday, March 13, 2004 at 1:01 p.m. in Gainesville Memorial Hospital. She measured 19 1/2 inches in length and weighed 6 lb. 15 1/2 oz. Welcoming her home are siblings Dana, Kristen, Lisa, and Austin Miller. Grandparents are Julian and Carrie Walterscheid and Herbert and Dolores

Miller; great-grandmother is Josephine Schilling, all of Muenster.

Griffith

Russell and Jayna Griffith of Muenster are pleased to announce the birth of a son, Levi Kidd Griffith on Saturday, March 13, 2004 at 2:33 p.m. in Gainesville Memorial Hospital. He weighed 7 lb. and 1/2 oz. and measured 19 1/2 inches in length. Levi joins a sister Madison age 11 and a brother Russell, Jr., age 6. Grandparents are Dale and Dolores Hofbauer of Muenster and David and Carolyn Griffith. Great-grandparents are Lounette Kidd and Naomi Marrow.

Badon

Tamra Walter and her husband Donald Badon of Lubbock joyfully announce the adoption of a daughter, Rachel Renee Badon. Rachel was born on Jan. 17, 2004 in Amarillo, Texas. She weighed 5 lb. 11 oz. and measured 19 inches in length. Grandparents are Claude and Nancy Walter of Muenster and Frank and Bunny Badon of Plainville, Connecticut. Great-grandmother is Nellie Stambaugh of Abbotstown, Pennsylvania.

González

Keila Sarai González was born to Norma A. and Reynold González of Gainesville in Muenster Memorial Hospital on Thursday, March 18, 2004 at 7:50 p.m. Keila weighed 6 lb. 10 oz. and measured 19 3/4 inches in length. There is one sibling, Eliam Yahaziel González, age 4. Grandparents are Julia and J. Santos González of Pilot Point and Teresa and J. Carmen Marquez of Mexico.

MMH Auxiliary work party set

Attention MMH Auxiliary members - there is a work party scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, March 27 at the Muenster Hospital. Work is being done on the flowerbed at the front entry. Bring your gloves, shovels, and hand shovels. Call Janet at 759-4485 or Darlene at 759-4167 for more information.

"Red River Review" tickets on sale now

Tickets go on sale this week for the Century Club's "Red River Review". This first time effort of the Club boasts an abundance of great talent representing a wide range of entertainers from across North Texas.

At this writing there are two great bands, a country western band headed up by Chris Stewart and a bluegrass band led by Wayne and Buddy Schutes. The outstanding reputation of these two groups is known far and wide by their past performances. Talented musicians enhancing the program include a wide range of talent and music ranging from gospel and bluegrass to country and popular. Some of the individuals who have already entered include Teresa Lemons from Nocona, Russell Paine, Lauren Gaston, Tom Harris, Cindy Lyons, and Dana McCrary from Saint Jo, David Murphy and C.L. Griffith from Forestburg, and Jeff Clarkson from Henrietta. There are several groups entered including a

gospel group, a choir, and multiple humorous skits. At this writing there are some 20 acts participating in this show.

With Jerry Raymond of Saint Jo serving as emcee, the show promises to

provide a fun night of family entertainment. Those who wish to perform must register by Friday, March 26 by picking up a form from Goff's Flowers in Saint Jo or calling Janis Sneed (995-7193).

Tickets are available at Saint Jo Farm and Ranch, Goff's Flowers in Saint Jo, Saint Jo Pharmacy, or any Century Club member. The price for tickets is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

The funds collected for this evening of entertainment will go toward community projects such as the annual college scholarship, the upcoming citywide Easter Egg Hunt, and other civic projects. The show will be held on April 3 at 7 p.m. in the Saint Jo School auditorium. Tickets will be available at the door.

Catherine celebrates her 6th with 3 parties

Catherine Fleitman celebrated turning six years old with three parties. Her birthday is March 13. On Friday, March 12, Catherine's aunt and cousin, JoAnn and Dana Schumacher brought cupcakes and drinks to Sacred Heart kindergarten to share with her classmates and teachers, Annette Bayer and Laneta Martin.

On Saturday, her mother hosted a party with Strawberry Shortcake as the theme. Her classmates Alana Endres, Hope English, and Katie Luttmir helped Catherine celebrate. Games were played with the help of her cousins Kelly and Dana Schumacher. Cake and ice cream were served. Catherine opened her gifts, and pictures were taken. Also attending were JoAnn Schumacher and Lynn Hacker. Goody bags were given as each little girl left.

On Sunday, Catherine's parents Ben and Carol Fleitman, hosted a hamburger cookout. Lots of side dishes were served, along with a Barbie cake decorated by Maurus Hacker. Helping Catherine celebrate were:



Catherine Fleitman

grandparents Damond and Evelyn Fuhrmann; godparents Maurus and Lynn Hacker; Jim, Judy, Keith, Aaron, and Daniel Fuhrmann; Leo, Peggy, Kristie, Pamela, and Patrick Lutkenhaus; LuElla Fuhrmann; Kelly and Dana Schumacher; and her brother Mark Fleitman. Gifts were opened and pictures were taken. Catherine had a wonderful birthday weekend.

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Vogel's possible champion Bois' de arc tree, and wildflower identification at the Becker prairie. The group will meet at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 27, at 407 W. Ninth Street. The public is invited to attend.

Love Fund opened

A Love Fund has been started for Chris Escobedo, 26 year old son of Frank and Joy Escobedo of Lindsay. The Lindsay High School graduate was injured in a car accident on Feb. 9, receiving massive injuries to his foot and leg. To date, six surgeries have been performed to repair his foot and leg. The Love Fund was

set up to help with medical expenses. Escobedo is a patient at Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth. He is the grandson of Martha Orona of Myra.

Donations are being accepted at the Muenster State Bank, First National Bank of Saint Jo (Muenster Branch), and GNB Muenster Banking Center.

VFW Auxiliary holds their monthly March meeting

Ladies Auxiliary VFW #6205 held their regular meeting March 15 in the Post Home. Frances Bayer, president, conducted the meeting. The opening ritual was led by Chaplain Hilda Sicking, Conductress Linda Knabe, and Patriotic Instructor Lucille Hesse pro tem.

Ida Bindel, secretary, read roll call and minutes of the previous meeting. Ethel Hesse gave the treasurer's report. Members voted to send a donation to Operation Uplink. The ladies each contributed to

the PAC fundraiser at the meeting.

The "lite bake" tapes came in and will be delivered at a later date, also the safety literature.

Members voted to contribute to the cancer aide and research fund in memory of Virgil Henscheid and Anna Fleitman. Members draped the charter in memory of Anna Fleitman.

Lucille Hesse served lunch to eight members. Sandy Hennigan won the door prize.

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Muenster academics compete at State TMSCA in San Antonio

On March 19 the academic teams of number sense, mathematics, calculator applications, and science competed at the state TMSCA (Texas Math & Science Coaches Association) meet at the University of Texas at San Antonio. The students have attended numerous competitions in preparation for the big event since December. The coordinator of Muenster's TMSCA is Danna Hess. She also coaches the mathematics and number sense teams. Others helping with their expertise are Molly Sicking coaching science, and Nancy Perryman calculator applications.

The number of entries in any event is unlimited, but a team score consists of the top four scores with no more than three seniors on the team. This encourages the younger students to participate. Muenster High School did an excellent job with the 18 students who participated at the state competition. Out of those students, there were no seniors participating and only five juniors, three sophomores, and 10 freshmen.

TMSCA is an excellent opportunity for the students to prepare for the UIL literary competitions. What is great about TMSCA is that the number of competitors is unlimited as where your UIL teams only allow you to enter four students per contest. This is an excellent opportunity for the underclassmen to build up their math and science skills.

Senior students are eligible for a top gun scholarship. This year the top six seniors out of each classification IA through 5A received \$500 for 6th, \$600 for 5th, \$700 for 4th, and so on to \$1000 for the 1st place senior. This is tabulated by a point system received by

placing in each of the four tests. This year there was a total of \$21,500 given away to 30 seniors for their hard work.

Muenster students competing as individual top guns in each grade level ended up as follows: out of the top 30 freshmen Krystal Wolf ranked 6th, Brad Endres 8th, and Micah Flusche 10th. Out of the top 31 sophomores Travis Felderhoff ranked 4th, and out of the top 29 juniors Derek Felderhoff was 8th. Muenster looks forward to the future for the opportunity to receive some of this scholarship money. As a group competing amongst 21 small IA schools, Muenster ended up 7th overall.

The highlight of the weekend was the number sense team placing third out of IA public and private schools. Derek Felderhoff placed 2nd in the 11th grade with a personal best score of 186. There were two freshmen who picked up personal records. Micah Flusche with a score of 85, earned a 4th place trophy in the 9th grade. Krystal Wolf with a score of 77 took home the 5th place trophy in the 9th grade. Finishing out the number sense team score was Travis Felderhoff with 174. He placed 5th in the 10th grade class and also brought home a trophy. Also competing in number sense were Megan Felderhoff with a score of 24, Zach Swirczynski with a score of 38, Whitney Watson with a score of 73.

In the calculator applications contest, the team placed 11th with a young team of only freshmen and one sophomore. Leading the pack was sophomore Travis Felderhoff with a score of 208, and a 6th place in the 10th grade. Brad Endres had a personal best in competition with a score of

153. He placed 6th in the 9th grade. Other freshmen competing were Jessica Walterscheid with a score of 148, Megan Felderhoff and Krystal Wolf both had scores of 131, and Collin Walterscheid finished with a score of 94.

The mathematics team finished 8th, with Micah Flusche placing 4th in the 9th grade with a score of 54. Collin Walterscheid had a personal best placing 6th with a score of 50. Other contributors were Brad Endres 26, Derek Felderhoff 74, Megan Felderhoff 20, Travis Felderhoff 58, Zach Swirczynski 18, Whitney Watson 38, and Dustin Wimmer 44.

The juniors carried the science team with Adam Vinson placing 2nd with a score of 84, AJ Fleitman placed 3rd with a score 82, and Gage Gilliland 6th with a score of 60. Brad Endres finished out the team score with a 48 and placing 3rd in the 9th grade and Kyle Caldwell placing fourth in the 9th grade with a score of 46. Other participants and their scores were as follows: Travis Felderhoff 20, Evan Koessler 14, Chris Steelman 10, Zach Swirczynski 16, Bret Walterscheid 24, and Collin Walterscheid 24.

The students traveled along with Danna Hess, Eddie Green, and Kristi Schneider on Friday. They spent the afternoon shopping, playing putt-putt golf, swimming, and finishing off the evening at Ernesto's, an authentic family-owned Mexican food restaurant. Saturday was hard work with the competition going from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There was a catered meal for the students and sponsors, then the awards ceremony following at 3:30 p.m. District competition for UIL will be on March 30 and 31 at Midwestern State University.



Muenster students with trophies after state TMSCA competition. Courtesy photo

Muenster FCCLA members attend Region II conference in Weatherford

The Muenster chapter of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America attended the Region II Conference held at Weatherford High School on Feb. 27-28. The chapter members were among 1100 delegates attending the two-day conference. The youth developed theme, "FCCLA: A Road Trip To Your Future" was carried out throughout workshops and general sessions which helped members become actively involved in issues facing today's youth. Some of the issues addressed at the meeting were scholarships, STOP the Violence, FACTS, Ready Set Read, Financial Fitness, Youth Exchanging with Seniors, Student Body and STAR Events. Also, the new officer team for 2004-2005 was elected to carry the organization forward.

Muenster FCCLA members, Danielle Bindel, Stephanie Buhrman, Haylee Hess, Kelsie Orsburn, Kimberly Parsons, and Leah Vinson represented their chapter and brought ideas and information to share with members for next year. One member, Tara Swirczynski was unable to attend and run for a Region II Office because of a conflict with the Regional basketball tournament. But one of the attendees of the meeting has set a goal to run for an office next year, so that Muenster FCCLA may possibly be represented at the Region II level in 2006.

There was also an opportunity to participate in the Regional Community Service Project to benefit Freedom House in Weatherford, which is a

refuge for battered women and children. Muenster meeting delegates delivered various toiletry items to donate at the community service table at registration. The organization was awarded a certificate of participation which will be displayed in this year's scrapbook.

FCCLA is a dynamic youth organization that has the family as its central focus. Student leaders of Texas FCCLA are now ready to have "A Road Trip To Your Future" and cruise with programs related to parenting, child development, management (personal and financial), interior design, entrepreneurship, food service, nutrition, hospitality, and career awareness.

Serra Club announces their winners

Lindsay School winners in the Serra Club poster contest were: 1st place winners - Chelsea Hermes (8th grade) and Laura Kelley (7th grade); 2nd place - Shirley Kay Hess (5th grade) and Tracy Bartlett (7th grade); 3rd place winners - Amber Nortman (7th grade) and Shea Garner (3rd grade).

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MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Hot dogs w/chili and cheese, potato wedges, beans, peaches, blueberry squares.

Tues. - Chicken nuggets, creamed potatoes w/gravy, green beans, pears, hot rolls.

Wed. - Ham and cheese sandwiches, lettuce and tomatoes, chips and salsa, apples, cookies.

Thurs. - Chicken fried steak, potatoes w/gravy, corn, pineapple, hot rolls.

Fri. - Tuna sandwiches, lettuce and tomatoes, French fries, carrot sticks, applesauce, ice cream.

SACRED HEART

Mon. - Cook's choice.

Tues. - Pork chop casserole, carrots, baked

sliced apples, bread.

Wed. - Beef stew, cornbread, green salad, apricots.

Thurs. - Chicken spaghetti, green beans, pineapple, bread sticks.

Fri. - Cheese pizza, salad, chocolate pudding.

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Spaghetti and meat sauce, corn, salad, pears, bread.

Tues. - Burritos, refried beans, pineapple, applesauce, bread.

Wed. - Hot dog w/chili, baked beans, broccoli and rice, carrot sticks, applesauce cake, bread.

Thurs. - Hamburger w/trimmings, French fries, ice cream.

Friday - Fish, beans, cole slaw, macaroni and cheese, peaches, bread.

ERA ISD

Mon. - Vegetable beef soup, grilled cheese sandwich, tossed salad, sliced peaches, rice crispy treat.

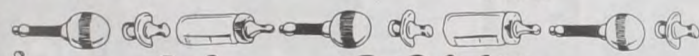
Tues. - Steak fingers or chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, tossed salad, sliced pears, hot roll.

Wed. - Salisbury steak or fish sticks, green beans, tossed salad, pineapple tidbits, wacky cake.

Thurs. - Burritos, pinto beans, tossed salad, strawberry applesauce, chocolate chip cookie.

Fri. - Pepperoni or cheese pizza, corn, fruit mix, ice cream.

Cats have over 100 vocal sounds. Dogs only have about 10.



It's a BOY!!

Kaylynn Fuhrman, wife of the late Gene H. Fuhrman, announces the arrival of Conner Gene Fuhrman, born in Denton Regional Hospital Tues, March 23, 2004 at 7:04 pm. Conner weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz., and was 21 in. long.

Proud grandparents are Ken and Elyn Patterson of Lubbock, Tx. and 1st time grandparents are Alvin and Gracie Fuhrman of Muenster, Tx.



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Best of Show winners included, above, from left, Kimberly Parsons, Kristian Koesler, Deann Dangelmayr and Amanda Rohmer; at left, John Crabtree and Mason Kieninger.
Janie Hartman photo



Muenster Elementary Best of Show included, from left, Zena Haverkamp, Lora Walterscheid, Brooke Hess, Zachary Klement, Clayton Rohmer, and Jace Fredrick.
Janie Hartman photo



Muenster ISD hosts Arts and Crafts Show

The Arts and Crafts Show returned to Muenster ISD this year as part of the Public Schools Week celebration. With 33 categories, over 550 entries were submitted to be judged.

Elementary students earning Best of Show for their entries were: Pre-K, Zena Haverkamp; Kindergarten, Zachary Klement; 1st grade, Lora Walterscheid; 2nd grade, Jace Fredrick; 3rd grade, Clayton Rohmer; 4th grade, Hunter Nobile; 5th grade,

Briana Bindle; Food, Brooke Hess. Also class winners in Tech Ed, Mason Kieninger; 8th grade, John Crabtree; 11th grade, Tara Swirczynski; and teacher, Sharon Hess.

High School Bests of Show included: Shannon Grewing, Chase Cain (two times), Megan Felderhoff, Lana Fisher, Bridgette Klement, Tara Swirczynski, Chelsea Felderhoff, Daniel Russell, Kristian Koesler, Kimberly Parsons, Amanda Rohmer, Deann Dangelmayr, Anna Jackson, and Kirk Hartman.

Era Fire Department to hold Bar-B-Q fundraiser

The Era Volunteer Fire Department will hold their annual Glen Scott Memorial Barbecue Dinner on Saturday, March 27. The event will be in the Era School lunchroom. The Department will be serving barbecue, beans, potato salad, and all the trimmings. They will also offer homemade desserts made by the community ladies.

The dinner begins at 5 p.m. and continues until 8

p.m. A raffle will also be held. If you are unable to attend, but would like to express your support and appreciation to the Era Fire Department, mail your donation to: Era Fire Department, Era TX 76238.

The Era Fire Department is led by Chief Michael Selby. Selby invites everyone to come to Era Saturday for a wonderful time of visiting and some good cooking by the Fire Department members.

NCTC Drama Department presents "All in the Timing"

Student actors from the Drama Department at North Central Texas College will explore the very odd world of playwright David Ives in a special staging of his popular play "All in the Timing" on Friday and Saturday (April 2-3).

Curtain time for both performances is 7:30 p.m. in the NCTC Little Theatre on the Gainesville Campus.

"All in the Timing" is actually five short plays, according to Thom Talbott, director. The plays, he said, are built on "snappy patter,

quick-fire comic brilliance, inspired gibberish, and paradoxical plot quirks that help to highlight the various uses of language in our everyday lives."

Tickets for the show are priced at \$5 each and may be purchased at the door. Admission is free for NCTC students who show their ID.

Seating in the Little Theatre is limited, so playgoers are urged to come early. For more information, contact Thom Talbott at 940-668-7731, Ext. 454, or 940-665-8152, email: ttalbott@nctc.edu.

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Area Happenings

Wichita Falls Arts & Crafts Festival
The 11th annual Wichita Falls Arts and Crafts Festival will be held March 27 and 28 in the Multi-Purpose Event Center. More than 150 exhibitors from throughout the Southwest will fill the exhibit hall with original art, limited edition prints, and hand-crafted items. Hours for the festival are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Mel Prather, organizer for

the two-day event, said besides the show being larger this year, it will also feature a large number of newcomers to the Wichita Falls area. "These first-time exhibitors will offer items such as painted wood crafts, seasonal decorations for Easter and spring, hand poured candles, Southwest artifacts, porcelain dolls, children's tee pees, marble boards, plant lamps, and horse feather pottery," Prather said. Plus much more too numerous to list.



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Sports

Lady Hornets compete at Possum Relays

A handful of Muenster Lady Hornets competed in the Possum Kingdom Relays in Graham on Saturday, March 20. Running in a division with 2 and 3A schools, the Lady Hornets, the lone 1A team, finished in 5th place.

Jacé Koelzer brought home two gold medals, winning the long jump with a distance of 15' 15 1/4" and the 300m hurdles at 47.66. Koelzer also competed in the 100m hurdles, finishing 2nd with a time of 15.74, and was a leg on the 4x400m relay which also won the silver. Alisha Walterscheid, JoAnna Felderhoff, Brooke Endres, and Koelzer finished the relay at 4:21.

Endres cleared an 8 foot pole vault jump for 2nd place, and was part of the 4x200m relay team, along with Stevie Klement, Felderhoff, and Walterscheid, that clocked in at 1:53 for 4th place. Kallie Gerstberger rounded out the Lady Hornet points with a 5th place finish in the 3200m run, clocking in at 13:01.

Winning the meet was Breckenridge with 97 points, followed by Holliday with 80, Graham 74, Wichita Falls City View 73, and Muenster in 5th place with 62 points. Other teams following were Vernon, Dublin, Seminole, Electra, Olney, Seymour, and Iowa Park.

Muenster will host their annual Hornet Relays this Saturday at Hornet Stadium.



Above, Kim Hess tees-it-up on the #10 box; below Kristi McAden takes a swing. Janie Hartman photos



Hornets open golf season

The 2004 MHS Hornet golf season officially began Monday, March 1. The boys team traveled to Pottsboro to participate in a golf tournament at Tanglewood Golf Course. They were the only class A school playing and the course was very wet. Under these grueling conditions, the team did not do as well as they would have liked. They scored a team 411. Jared Ledbetter led with a 97, Jordan Walterscheid finished with an even 100, Kyle and Derek Endres contributed with a pair of 107s. Zach Swirczynski, a newcomer to the team, had 116.

On the same date at Nocona Hills, the girls' team

played a short-handed tournament without #1 player Robyn Hermes who was participating in the state basketball meet. The girls carded a 451. Deann Dangelmayr led with a nice 102. Kristian Koesler shot 113. Newcomer Megan Dangelmayr had a 116 in her first tournament and Kristi McAden pitched in with a 120.

On Monday March 8, the boys traveled to Falconhead to play in the Saint Jo Tournament. The outcome was much better. They competed well against other Class A schools and even beat some 2A and 3A schools. The boys carded a 380 and were nosed out by district rival Archer City who had a 378. Jared Ledbetter again led the way with 87. Jordan Walterscheid posted a 90, with Kyle Endres following with a 97. Derek Endres posted a 106, followed by Zach Swirczynski with a 112. Each player improved over the first tournament.

On Tuesday, March 9, the Hornet girls went back to Nocona Hills and placed a nice 5th. Robyn Hermes finished with a 99 (good enough for a fifth place medal). Kristi McAden improved to a nice 109. Kristian Koesler posted a 113 again. Deann Dangelmayr had 118 and her sister Megan had 121. Stevie Klement posted a 116 as medalist. This was good enough for a team score of 439.

Submitted by Eddie Green

Endres selected to All Region Team

Russell Endres was selected 1st Team All Region. Only 10 players are selected from each region, so it is a very big honor. "I would have been disappointed if he had not been selected. He played very well this year, and he deserved it," stated Hornet Coach Kenny Mann. Endres averaged 26 points per game in district play, and led his team in assists, and steals as well. He was the team leader in free throw shooting, 75% for the year. Russell was also elected team co-captain by his teammates. "Endres is only a junior, so he will be back to do it again next year," concluded Mann.

Hornet Relays set for Saturday

Muenster Hornet Relays will be held Saturday, March 27 at Hornet Stadium beginning at 8:30 a.m. with the 3200m run. The run will be followed by field events. Running prelims will begin at approximately 10 a.m. beginning with the 400m relay. Finals are scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m.



Sacred Heart golfer Mitch Sellers putts Tuesday at Turtle Hill. Photo by Janie Hartman

Muenster competes at Saint Jo

The Muenster tennis teams competed at the Saint Jo Invitational Tennis Meet, bringing home some top placings.

For the Hornets, the doubles teams finished on top, playing each other for the championship. Clint

Miller and Jeff Walterscheid beat out Chase Cain and Derek Felderhoff to take first place.

Justin Wolf won the boys singles with wins over Era, Saint Jo, and Bellevue. Consolation went to Dustin Wimmer after he defeated teammate Dustin Felderhoff.

In girls action, the doubles team of Melinda Walterscheid and Rachel Clark finished in second place. Kallie Gerstberger and Mindy Walterscheid settled for a fourth place finish in girls doubles.



Local golfers include, clockwise, above, Brad Endres, Kristian Koesler, Noah Barnhill and Mark Fleitman.



Correction

Lori Kasperek, a senior member of the Lindsay Lady Knights basketball team, was also named District All-Academic. Lori's name was not submitted to the paper with other members of the team last week.

Looking for workers for the concession stand at the Muenster ISD Track Meets.

Friday, March 26, Junior High Saturday, March 27, High School

To sign up to work, please contact Shana at 759-4940 or 727-4368



Diana Knabe pops the ball onto the green Wednesday morning at the Sacred Heart golf tournament at Turtle Hill. Watch next week for tournament results. Janie Hartman photos

District 17-A 2004 All-District Team

District MVP - Russell Endres, Muenster
Offensive Player - Cody Denning, Slidell
Defensive Player - Brad Anderle, Lindsay
Newcomer - Brandon Huckaby, Lindsay
6th Man - Derek Endres, Muenster

First Team -

Cody Anderle
 Bridger Peck
 Cody White
 Cory Green
 Trinity Otta
 Michael Hunter

Second Team -

Sean Fuhrmann
 Travis Jones
 Wes Campo
 Sean Busse
 Kristopher Creed
 Chance Huddleston

Honorable Mention -

Cody Hess
 Clinton Kyle
 Josey Kyle

Lindsay Slidell
 Slidell Era
 Lindsay Era

Muenster Slidell
 Collinsville Slidell
 Lindsay Era

Lindsay Lindsay
 Lindsay

Academic All-District

Muenster - Sean Fuhrmann, Clint Miller.
 Lindsay - Bradley Anderle.

Turtle Hill Golf Association

2 Man 6-6-6

Sunday March 28th
 2:00 p.m. Shotgun
 Must Be Signed up by
 Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Other Upcoming Events

Couples Scramble
 Sunday April 4th

Senior Scramble
 Tuesday March 30th

Call Turtle Hill Golf Course to sign up
 759-4896



Farm & Ranch

Progressive Farmer helps you raise healthier calves

Something as simple as a change in your vaccination routine can help prevent stillborn calves or raise your average sales weights by up to 100 pounds. In "Eight ways to raise healthier calves" (p. 17), in the Feb. issue of *Progressive Farmer*, the editors give advice on how to prevent infection and encourage strong growth.

Here are a few of the tips:

- Work with a veterinarian to design the proper vaccination. You should protect against BVD Types I and II, as well as IBR, P13, BRSV, leptospirosis, and vibriosis. Vaccinate calves for blackleg at two months and for respiratory diseases at four to six months. Consider booster shots before weaning.

- Make sure newborn calves nurse and receive colostrum, the cow's first milk. Orphaned and twin calves should receive supplemental or substitute colostrum, available from your veterinarian. If the calf struggles in the bitter cold, bring it inside to warm for an hour.

- Have your hay tested to determine its energy and protein content. Cows and heifers may need nutritional supplements before calving to offset low-quality hay. Use the right mineral mix, compensating for the needs of your soils.

- Deworm your cows before calving season to prevent worm eggs from being dropped on the calving grounds. Deworm calves at two to four months with a product that inhibits *Ostertagia*.

- Prevent pinkeye by keeping weeds and brush trimmed short. Also, control face flies, which spread pinkeye. If you often have problems with pinkeye, consider using a vaccination.

A trusted voice throughout rural America, *Progressive Farmer* magazine (www.progressivefarmer.com) sets the standard for living in the country and taps into the unique challenges and joys that landowners of all size experience.



Risk Management Conference offered

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that the Texas Department of Agriculture is partnering with Texas Cooperative Extension, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency and the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association to offer

conferences in April and May to help producers manage challenges and risks in the beef industry. The first two conferences will take place in Amarillo on April 5 and at Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall, 1000 Fifth St. in Wichita Falls on April 7. Registration is \$20, and participants may register at the door. The events are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The conferences, called "Got Risk?" will also be held in six other major beef production areas of the state.

The workshops will highlight various tools available to producers. Sessions will include information on prices, strategic planning, state and federal programs, country-of-origin labeling, drought management and value-added marketing, to name a few.

For more information, call the Texas Department of Agriculture's Rural Economic Development Division at 1-800-TELL-TDA or visit mastermarketer.tamu.edu/btm.



Three Cooke County FFA members participated in this year's Houston Livestock Show, above left, Nathan Sicking; above Kirk Hartman; and below Kimberly Kuykenall. All three "won" last year's calf scramble and were awarded \$1000 towards the purchase of a heifer to show the next year in Houston. Hartman's heifer fished 2nd in her class in Scramble Show. Janie Hartman photos



NRCS announces cost-share program

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced the 2004 sign up for cost-share conservation practices to be implemented for 2005 in Cooke County. Cost-share will be offered at the rate of 50 percent. The application period runs through close of business on April 16.

Due to limited funds, only high priority practices that address erosion problems will be considered. Eligible practices in order of priority are as follows: 1. planting permanent grass on highly erodible cropland currently being cropped; 2. planting permanent grass on non-highly erodible cropland currently being cropped; 3. grass waterways and terrace systems on land currently being cropped; 4. planting permanent grass on abandoned cropland; 5. planting permanent grass on field borders and filter strips. Contact NRCS at 940-668-7794 ext. 3 for further information.

Monthly Report by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Texas feedlots with capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 2.69 million head on March 1, up 5 percent from a year ago. The estimate was down 3 percent from the February 1 level. Producers placed 350,000 head in commercial feedlots during February, down 5 percent from a year ago and down 10 percent from the January 2004 total.

Feed that caused BSE traced

Feed that probably caused two confirmed cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in North America was mixed at two mills in Canada. Officials in Canada said that feed mixed at two mills in 1997 could have been contaminated with infectious protein from cattle imported from Britain.

Investigators think that the two cows discovered to have BSE - one in Alberta, Canada in May and the

other in Washington state in December - ate contaminated feed as calves, just before the use of cattle tissue for feed was banned by the United States and Canada in 1997.

In related news, Canada's prime minister announced plans for \$750 million in aid for the Canadian beef industry, which has experienced extreme hardship due in large part to the discovery of one cow with BSE in May.

Cooke County Ag Census

	Planted acres	harvested acres	bushel yield per acre	production (bushels)
Wheat	41,000	28,000	45.2	1,265,000
Oats	9,400	4,600	74.8	344,000
Corn	1,900	1,600	100.0	160,000
All sorghum	8,400	8,200	3,537 lbs.	290,000

Cattle Jan 1, 03 - all cattle/calf inventory - 89,000
Beef cattle - 40,000 Milk cows - 3,100
2002 milk production (1,000 pounds) - 44,800

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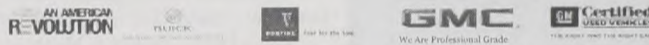
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CATTLE AUCTION MEDIA REPORT

Sale Date: March 18, 2004
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300-400 lb. \$130 to \$145;
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500-600 lb. \$109 to \$117;
600-700 lb. \$95 to \$105;
700-800 lb. \$85 to \$93.50.

HEIFERS
300-400 lb. \$115 to \$130;
400-500 lb. \$105 to \$115;
500-600 lb. \$95 to \$105;
600-700 lb. \$83 to \$92;
700-800 lb. \$78 to \$83.

PACKER COWS
Utility Boning, \$47 to \$52;
Canner/Cutter, \$45 to \$51;
Bulls, \$62 to \$68.

BRED COWS -
Choice, \$775 to \$830;
Medium-Good, \$700 to \$750;
Medium-Poor, \$575 to \$675.

COW-CALF PAIRS
Choice, \$925-\$1040;
Medium-Good, \$800 to \$860;
Medium-Poor, \$725 to \$800.

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Light Weight Steers - \$5.00 to \$8.00 HIGHER. Light Weight Heifers - \$2.00 to \$4.00 HIGHER. Feeder Steers & Heifers - STEADY. Packer Cows & Bulls - FULL \$1.00 HIGHER. Pairs & Bred Cows - STEADY. Sold at Friday's sale were 874 compared to 1,340 head of cattle the previous week. Tuesday, March 23, the market conducted the sale of 270 Goats, 188 Sheep, and 120 Hogs. The numbers from last week were 424 Goats, 226 Sheep, and 119 Hogs respectively. Results of both sales follow.

Feeder Steers (per lb.)	Stocker Cows (per head)	Ewes (per lb.)
200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 20-1.46; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.12; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.22; 400-500 lbs.: No. 2, 1.10-1.32; Nos. 2 & 3, 90-1.10; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 1.05-1.21; Nos. 2 & 3, 85-1.05; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 94-1.10; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-94; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 85-91; Nos. 2 & 3, 73-85.	Pregnancy-tested, 3 to 9-year-olds - Large Frame, \$725-\$890; Medium Frame, \$525-\$725. Cow/Calf Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - Large Frame, \$850-\$1040; Medium Frame, \$660-\$850. Holstein Baby Calves, \$75-\$115; Crossbreds, \$170-\$295.	Stocker 40-51; Thin, 20-38; Fat, 32-40.
Feeder Heifers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.15-1.32; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.15; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.12-1.26; Nos. 2 & 3, 95-1.12; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.00-1.18; Nos. 2 & 3, 85-1.00; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 95-1.04; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-95; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 86-95; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-86; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 75-85; Nos. 2 & 3, 65-75.	Barrows & Gilts (per lb.) US #1, 230-270, 45-50; US #2, 220-280, 39-45. Feeder (per head): 100-175 lbs. \$45-\$80; 25-90 lbs. \$13-\$35. Sows (per lb.): Feeder, 400 or less, 20-30; Light wt., 400-500, 25-30; Med wt., 500-600, 25-30; Heavy wt., 600+ NT, Boars (per lb.): 300 lb.-up, .02 Slaughter Cattle (per lb.) Slaughter Bull - Yield Grade 1-2, 1.200-2.050 lbs., 55-72. Slaughter Cows: #1-3, 47-5350; Cutter, 30-47.	Kids: 20-35 lbs., \$25-\$35; 35-55 lbs., \$35-\$65; 55-75 lbs., \$50-\$80; Yearlings: 75-120 lbs., \$80-\$100. Nannies (per head): Stocker \$55-\$120; Milk Type: \$50-\$90; Slaughter: Thin, \$25-\$50; Fat, \$65-\$95. Billies (per head): 120 lbs.-up Breeders, \$90-\$115; Slaughter, \$90-\$115. Boer Goats (per head): 1/2 Nanny, NT, \$105-\$140; 3/4 Nanny, \$95-\$115; Full Nanny, \$110-\$140.

(940) 665-4367



Kevin Neu - Lindsay 4-H
Grand Champion Market Lamb
Buyer: Gene Pelzel - \$2,500



Anna Jackson - Muenster FCCLA
Grand Champion Creative Arts
Buyer: James Wood Auto Park - \$350



Kassie Davidson - Valley View 4-H
Grand Champion Swine
Buyer: Valley View Friends, Gibby Concrete, MFM, Ken King - \$1,500



Justin Smithson - Red River 4-H
Grand Champion Market Rabbit
Buyer: Janelle Haverkamp - \$225



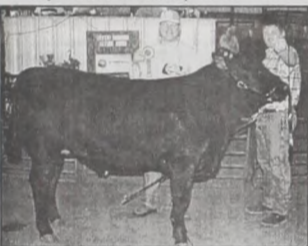
Joni Howard
Valley View FFA
Grand Champion Meat Goat
Buyer: MFM & Valley View Friends - \$500



Kimberly Kuykendall - Valley View FFA
Reserve Champion Market Lamb
Buyer: James Wood Auto Park - \$2,100



Stephen Wallace - Era 4-H
Grand Champion Clothing
Buyer: Janelle Haverkamp - \$250



Dustin Rucks - Valley View FFA
Grand Champion Steer
Buyer: Martindale Feed Mill - \$3,000



Charlotte Bartush - Sacred Heart FCCLA
Grand Champion Food Division
Buyer: Klement Ford - \$375



Amanda Bryant - Lindsay FCCLA
Visual Arts Division
Buyer: Lindsay FCCLA - \$325



Crystal Fuhrmann - Muenster 4-H
Visual Arts Division
Buyer: Team Bonner - \$375



Shivaun Beasom - Muenster FFA
Reserve Champion Broilers
Buyer: Friends of Muenster - \$300



Alyssa Smithson - Red River 4-H
Reserve Champion Market Rabbit
Buyer: Friends of Red River 4-H - \$100



Matt Anderson - Callisburg FFA
Reserve Champion Steer
Buyer: Joey Luttrell, McNatt Chevrolet - \$3,500



Justin Snyder - Valley View FFA
Reserve Champion Metal Shop
Buyer: Rite Weld - \$600



Melinda Mordecai - Woodbine 4-H
Reserve Champion Creative Arts
Buyer: Team Bonner - \$125



Amber Fuhrmann - Muenster 4-H
Reserve Champion Food Division
Buyer: Muenster Milling - \$350



Victoria Blessing - Red River 4-H
Reserve Champion Clothing
Buyer: Cooke County Farm Bureau - \$200



Jamie Cheaney
Valley View FFA
Reserve Champion Meat Goat
Buyer: MFM & Valley View Friends - \$500

2004 COOKE COUNTY YOUTH FAIR SHOW AND SALE CHAMPIONS AND BUYERS

A Special Thank You to the following Buyers and Supporters:

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Martindale Feed Mill • Callisburg FFA Parents • Valley View Friends • Friends of Muenster

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Luttrull McNatt Chevrolet • Era Youth Supporters • James Wood Autoplex
Woodbine 4-H Parents Club • Jet Star • Gene Pelzel • Team Bonner

Silver

Ryan Norwood, Inc. • Muenster Milling • Decatur Livestock • Kurt Harris
Guaranty National Bank/First State Bank • Alan Ritchey, Inc. • Friends of Red Riveer 4-H
Bowie Livestock • Lindsay FFA • Lindsay Youth Supporters • Red River Farm Coop
Rite Weld • Bullard Construction • Robins & Morton Contractors • Lone Star Land Bank
Klement Ford • Mike Graves Farm & Ranch • Hepp Oil Co.

Bronze

Gainesville Livestock Market • Smith Feed & Garden • North Central Texas College
The Auto Shop • Pettit Machinery • Flusche Enterprises • Muenster Livestock Market
Moore Supply Co./Martinson's Used Cars • Tim Stobaugh • Gene May • Nickso
Kenny & Laurie Kuykendall • Ganiesville Land Co. • Janelle Haverkamp • Reed Agriculture
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First National Bank Ardmore • Shelly & Joyce Hughes • Circuit Breaker Sales, Inc.
Gainesville Riding Club • Zimmerer Seed Co. • Mark Hitchcock • Klement Construction
Martin Farms • George & Martha Cox • Extension Education • Rocky Hill Farms
Jackson Farms • Hugo Livestock Market • J. C. Tool • F&M Mortgage • W W Auction
Gainesville Auto Supply • Yarbrough Real Estate • Tony & Nancy Manning • Danny Knight
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Don Mode • John & Mary Dangelmayr

Floor Buyers - Preston Cocanougher, John Comer, Trimble Livestock



Sam Shasteen - Callisburg FFA
Grand Champion Wood Shop
Buyer: Gainesville Land Company - \$475



Derek Felderhoff - Muenster 4-H
Grand Champion Broilers
Buyer: Flusche Enterprises - \$350



Will Seyler - Valley View FFA
Grand Champion Metal Shop
Buyer: Martindale Feed Mill - \$600