ENSTER

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VOLUME 67 NUMBER 39

August 22, 2003

Hall presents Eagle Rank to three Muenster Scouts

By Dave Fette
In an Aug. 3 ceremony at
Sacred Heart Church three
Muenster Boy Scouts were
awarded the rank of Eagle
Scout. The award was
presented by US
Congressman Ralph Hall to
Daniel Bartush, son of
Chuck and June Bartush,
Karl Fisher, son of Gary
and Marlene Fisher, and
Jack Biffle, son of Jim and
Donna Biffle. Assisting Mr.
Hall were past Eagle Scouts
Marty Farrell, Mike Voth,
Casey Walterscheid, and
Eric Fisher.
Also participating in the
ceremony were Scoutmaster
Dwayne Rohmer,
Committee Chairman Tom
Valliere, Advancement
Chairman Bill Rohmer, and
Life Scout Ricky Bell.
Shirley Knabe presented
the Mother's pins. Other
participants included Scouts
of Troop 664 Adam
Dangelmayr, Mark Gehrig,
Mike Valliere, and Brandon
Bindel.
Daniel Jack and Karl

Daniel Jack and Karl recipien where been in the Scouting program since the first grade as Tiger Cubs. The boys advanced to Arrow of Light under Cubmaster Shirley Knabe and Janet Voth. After bridging to Boy Scoutmasters Ernie Martin, David Fette, Gary Fisher, Chuck Bartush, and Dwayne Rohmer.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the



Daniel Bartush
home of Chuck and June
Bartush.
Eagle Scoute I

home of Chuck and June Bartush.

Eagle Scouts have active role in Scout activities
The three recent Eagle recipients have spent many years working to achieve the honor.

Daniel Bartush held positions of Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Historian, Patrol Leader, and Quartermaster.

His Eagle project was planning and planting trees at the new Muenster baseball park. Local scouts and Urban Forester Stick Lamar assisted in the project.

"I enjoyed being in the outdoors, learning new skills like first aid and rock climbing," remarked Bartush. "There was always something new to learn."

Daniel graduated from Sacred Heart High in May 2003 and will be attending college at Loyola University at New Orleans, Louisiana this fall.

Karl Fisher's life evolved around scouting activities and achievements for the past 12 years. Some of the highlights of his Scouting career include leadership roles as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aid and Quartermaster. He received his Arrow of Light, Parvulei Dei, Historic Trails, World Conservation. He made two trips to Philmont Scout Ranch, once in 1999 and the other in 2003.

Karl has actively participated in numerous community service projects through Scouting and school and assisted in several of his fellow Scouts Eagle projects.

In his own Eagle project,

projects.

In his own Eagle project,
Karl provided an outdoor
reading area for the
Muenster Public Library.
He constructed a brick-lined





Jack Biffle

Jack Biffle
golf scholarship. He plans
on pursuing a major in
business.
Part of Jack's plans for
the future also includes a
desire to be active in the
Scouting life. "It takes a lot
of volunteers and I am
grateful to those who have
helped me. There are lots of
things to learn in life and
Scouting is a good place to
begin."

"Movies and Tunes" play Nocona

Westervelt patrols for Muenster Police Dept.

By Janet Felderhoff
There is a new police
officer working the streets
of Muenster. Mitch
Westervelt, age 30, began
his duties in Muenster on
July 27. After earning his
certification from the Patrol
Academy at UNT in October



of 2002, Westervelt was employed by the Nocona Police Department.
Westervelt moved to Muenster two years ago. He married Kellie Silmon. She has two daughters Kayla Otto and Jamie Salisbury. Mitch has a son, Derek.

"I enjoy being here," said Muenster's newest police officer. "For the most part Muenster is a police friendly community."

Westervelt admits he made the decision to enter police work on a whim. He talked to his wife about it and she encouraged him to pursue it. He said he has been happy ever since.

Although Westervelt knows that he would like to do drug intervention with the local kids, he isn't yet sure how he will go about achieving that goal. He said he is especially adamant about drug enforcement.

Besides being a police officer Mitch Westervelt holds a certification in fire fighting from New York State. He worked in there in that profession for three years. In October 2000 he was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician through Tarrant County College Mitch joined the Muenster Volunteer Fire Department last January. This allows him to continue to use his training as a firefighter and EMT since the Muenster Fire Department serves as First Responders for the northwestern part of Cooke County.

Mitch was born and raised in Shawnee.

northwestern pa... County. Mitch was born and raised in Shawnee, Oklahoma,



Sacred Heart Principal Jon LeBrasseur, right, joins this year's Student Council officers to show off the traveling trophy for TAPPS 2A Overall Champs 2002-2003. The officers are, from left, Lynn Sicking, treasurer; Adam Taylor, 2nd vioe-president; Kevin Walterscheid, president; Karen Gehrig, secretary; and Kate Sepanski, vice-president.

Dave Fette photo

Sacred Heart High School wins TAPPS top school award for the 10th time

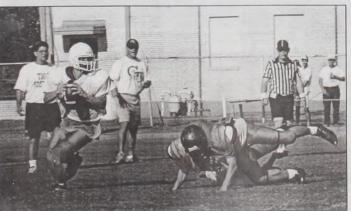
Sacred Heart High School has been awarded the Texas Association of Public and Schools (TAPPS) Class 2A Overall State Champions trophy for the 2002–2003 school year. Receiving the award for the seventh consecutive year, Sacred Heart has won the overall trophy more than any other school in any division. In addition to its Class 2A record, Sacred Heart won the Class 1A Overall State Championship, Girls' Basketball State Championship, Girls' Basketball State Championship, Girls' Basketball State Championship, Track State Championship, Girls' Track State Championship, and Third Place in Softball.

With a total of 73 points, The race was close, but not as close as the preceding year, when the preceding year, when the depotency of the way of the way of the way of the way of the outcome was the friendship and former Sacred Heart of Hellesville. The place in Vocal Music, Fifth Place in Vocal Mu

thankful for all the prayers and support of so many good people in this community and of our alumni everywhere that enable this school to do all the great things it does."

Chartered in 1978 as a service-type, non-profit organization, TAPPS serves over 35,000 students in grades nine through 12. Its purpose is "to organize, to stimulate, to encourage and to promote the academic, athletic and fine arts programs in an effort to foster a spirit of fair play, good fellowship, true sportsmanship and wholesome competition for boys and girls."

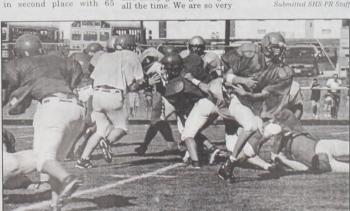
Submitted SHS PR Staff



The Sacred Heart Tiger quarterback was given extra time to get the pass away in a scrimmage with the Gunter Tigers Saturday morning. Sacred Heart will travel to Lindsay this Friday night for another practice session before regular action begins.

The Muenster Hornets offensive line opened a big hole for the running back to get a good Muenster hosted the Buildogs of Alvord in a Saturday morning scrimmage and will Gainesville State School this Friday night for another practice.

Janie Hartman photo



Inglish attends 2003 MDRT annual meeting

Wallace Inglish earned topics presented. Experts in the distinguished honor of such areas as estate attending the Million Dollar Round Table's (MDRT) 2003 and law shared their Annual Meeting, June 22 to knowledge during intense 25, at the Bally's/Paris hotels in Las Vegas, Nevada.

hotels in Las Nevada.
Nevada.
Inglish, a local business leader, was among approximately 6,500 Round Table members, special guests and speakers from 61 nations who were in

Table members, special guests and speakers from 61 nations who were in attendance.

During the prestigious four-day meeting, about 100 professional, non-member and MDRT member speakers discussed subjects of vital concern to those in the life insurance and financial services business. State-of-the-art life insurance and financial services concepts and methods of improving client service were among the

more association of financial professionals. An international, independent association of more than 28,000 of the world's best life insurance and financial services professionals from 74 nations and territories, MDRT members demonstrate exceptional professional knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding client service. MDRT membership is recognized internationally as the standard of sales excellence in the life insurance and financial services business.



Code of conduct changes endorsed by Lindsay ISD School Board

Code of Conduct. The Board unanimously approved all changes.

Superintendent Jerry Metzler explained, "I would say that there are very little changes in how we are going to use this. What happened is that the State came in and changed the title of what we call the Alternative of Education Program and specified it's the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program." This was done due to confusion with students, particularly in big cities, who return to school in alternative education programs or GED programs and students who have gotten into trouble, are taken out of the student population and placed in an alternative education program (AEP).

The Board was asked to determine maximum times that a student would be placed in the Disciplinary Alternative Program and for which offenses. They approved suggestions offered by the administration.

Principal Smith said the

By Janet Felderhoff
Lindsay ISD Principal
Larry Smith presented to
the LISD Board of Trustees
several proposed changes to
the 2003-04 LISD Student
Code of Conduct. The Board
unanimously approved all
changes.
Superintendent Jerry
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The Board was asked to
determine maximum times
that a student would be
placed in the Disciplinary
Alternative for the student
softened by the
administration.

Principal Smith said the
first choice dealt with cell
phone use at school,
but not allowed to use it
during school hours.

"Cellular phones are kind of
a safety device for some
kids," said Smith. "What we
are saying is we don't want
those kids to use their cell
phones during the school
day. We prefer they keep
hem in their purses or in
their lockers or cars. If they
have their cell phones out,
especially if they are using
them, we will confiscate
them." Many students use
them to call their parents
from the bus when
returning from an after
school event so that they
are the district does not committed on the
students of Education
programs (AEP).

The Board was asked to
determine maximum times
that a student who has
let the principal and the coulding homorary positions
or memberships in school
soft the principal the serv

goes to the Board of Trustees.

Smith reported a total enrollment of 459 as of that time. He noted several upcoming events and the dates.

Monica Parkhill, elementary principal, gave event dates for the elementary students. She said that there would be an eye screening for kindergarten and Ist through 3rd students. York Eye Associates will doit.

"Several of the elementary teachers have been up to school and all are very complimentary of how clean the building looked," remarked Parkhill.

"Everything just looks wonderful. They were very very impressed."

In his Superintendent's report, Metzler said that the staff is working very hard and are well organized. "Things are moving along smoothly," he noted. "This is the first time since I've been here that the Elementary is ready to go by Aug. I which is when the teachers want to get into it. Out staff is just real good. I'm proud of them.

Other items Metzler updated the Board on included purchase of a new ice machine for the field house, paving being done around campus, condition of PA system and lighting on football field, and roofing project proposals which will be sought later.

Business Manager Marlyn Cox reported on the certified property values. She noted that there have been no major changes in the proposed budget for 2003-04.

2003-04.
Discussion was held regarding teachers' salaries.
There are increased mandated by steps set by the State according to longevity. What the State might contribute to teacher

insurance was also considered. The Board voted to give a one-time bonus of \$500 to the teachers who are at the top of the locally developed payroll scale and who have not received a raise in the last three years. At the request of Superintendent Metzler, they also voted to conduct a study of the LISD salary schedule compared to other area schools.

In other business the LISD Board:

• Extended copier agreement with Ikon Solutions for Elementary school's copier. This will allow replacement of analog machine with a digital copier.

• Approved PEIMS Data Quality Services Agreement for 2003-04 year with the Education Service Center.

• Approved 2003-04 udit engagement letter with Hess & Rohmer, P.C. for \$11,885.

• Changed date of next regular meeting from Aug. 18 to Aug. 25 at 6 p.m. Budget and Tax Hearings will be set for this meeting.

• Approved transfer request for a kindergarten and a second grade student.

• Nominated Jim Myrick for consideration to the Cooke County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Noted that more than one name can be submitted as a nominee.

• LISD has a large amount of storage space taken up by computer equipment that is no longer of any use to them. With Board approval some of the equipment will be given away or contracted with American Computer Salvage.

The Board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, as usual, and added the Pledge to the Texas Flag, which is a daily requirement in Texas Public Schools this year.

Create a backyard sanctuary
* Relax and enjoy the process. Take your time;
there's no rush when you're enjoying yourself. This
is an uncommon opportunity for you to leave any
"Type A" tendencies behind. Who knows? Maybe
you'll discover the virtue of patience.
Courtesy of ARA Content



Rectory renovation Chairman Joe Bright (right) receives check from Chamber of Commerce President Alan Rohmer, (left). Fr. John Ohner, OSA, (center) congratulates both Rohmer & Bright on a successful benefit concert. Special thanks to sponsors: VFW, The Center Restaurant, Bayers Kolonialwaren, Sacred Heart Alumni, Muenster Jaycees, Kettle Korn, Miller of Denton, Coca Cola, Nortex Communications, Klement Ford and Ace Hardware.

The jaws of a big backhoe loom over the remains of the Sacred Heart Rectory garage and upstairs apartment which were demolished Monday in preparation for renovation.

Janie Hartman photo

We, the family of Werner Becker, Sr., we, the family of Werner Becker, Sr., wish to express our gratitude to all who stopped for a visit, sent food, flowers, cards, Mass donations and memorial contributions at the time of Werner's illness and passing. Thank you to Fr. John, and all who helped make the liturgy service so comforting. Thanks also to the doctors and nurses at Misenster and Denton hospitals, Homecare, Home Hospice and the ladies who prepared the family meal, and the KC's for the use of the hall. Your kindness and support touched

Your kindness and support touched our family in a special way.

Rita Becker

Werner & Linda Manica & Gene Lourey Theresa & Pat Benton and grandchildren and great-grandchildren

NOTICE TO PATIENTS

Dr. Angelika Lamar is announcing the closing of Muenster Chiropractic Clinic on August 22, 2003. Dr. Lamar is retiring from practicing to spend more time raising her three small children.

Copies of all medical records can be obtained at the clinic or can be forwarded to the physician of your choice or other area chiropractors

Patients will continue to be able to obtain copies of any medical records after closing of the clinic by contacting Dr. Lamar at 940-759-4044 or

I would like to thank my patients for their loyalty and regret this inconvenience but hope for your understanding on this very difficult decision.

Muenster Chamber of Commerce **COMMUNITY WIDE** GARAGE SALE Saturday, September 13

DEADLINE

For your sale to be ON THE MAP is Friday, Aug. 29

Call C of C Office 759-2227

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Outside of Cooke County - 1 year-\$42; 2 years-\$79
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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 27, 2003
Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30,
S.N.A.P. Center
SIHIS Freshmen Orientation,
6:45pm / Filgh Orientation,
6:45pm / SHS Alumni &
Friends meet the teachers,
7:30pm, Community Center
Religious Ed Mass. 6:30pm,
Class follows

Thursday, August 28, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM

Friday, August 29, 2003 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Deadline to sign up for Muenster C of C Community Wide Garage Sale

Saturday, August 30, 2003 Muenster Kiwanis Drive, Chip & Putt Junior Golf Competition, 9AM, Turtle Hill Golf Course

unday, August 31, 2003 Juenster Museum Open 1-4 PM

LABOR DAY No School FLY YOUR FLAGI Tuesday, September 2, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center SH Preschool parents meeting, 7pm / MMH Auxiliary meeting, 7pm, Adm. Office

Wednesday, September 3, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center C of C Board meeting, 5:30PM

Friday, September 5, 2003 AARP Board meeting, 10 AM, Stanford House

Saturday, September 6, 2003

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Obituaries

Clara I. Fleitman 1933 - 2003

By Elfreda Fette
Mass of Christian Burial
was offered for Clara I.
Fleitmann in St. Peter's
Church of Lindsay on
Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2003 at
10:00 a.m. officiated by
Father Ron Scheible OSA,
pastor

10:00 a.m. officiated by Father Ron Scheible OSA, pastor.

Clara I. Fleitmann died at age 70 on Aug. 16, 2003 at her residence in Lindsay. She was born in Muenster on Jan. 31, 1933 to William Henry and Lena Block Fleitmann. She was a member of St. Peter's Parish in Lindsay and attended Lindsay Schools. After graduating from Lindsay High School in 1950, she attended St. Paul's School of Nursing in Dallas, graduating in 1953. She received her license as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas in 1953; and then attended, and graduated from Mount, Carmel Mercy Hospital School of Anesthesia in Detroit, Michigan in 1955. She practiced as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist for 18 years in Dearborn, Michigan and then in North Miami Beach, Florida. After retiring, she moved to her hometown of Lindsay, Texas.

After being a dedicated nurse to others for 25 and 1950.

Lindsay, Texas.

After being a dedicated nurse to others for 35 years, Clara enjoyed the relaxation of caring for her yard and flower garden, along with a small vegetable garden. She also enjoyed traveling to many places throughout the world. It was her special delight to make baby quilts or afghans for each new great-niece or great-nephew, and they are proud owners of such treasures. A loyal and loving daughter, sister, and aunt, she will be greatly



Clara Fleitmann

Clara Fleitmann
missed by her family and a
host of friends.
Survivors are three
sisters, Virginia Krahl of
Gainesville, Mildred
Lindemann of Windthorst,
and Margie Reeves of
Jacksboro. Also a sister-inlaw, Annette Fleitman of
Lindsay, and several nieces
and nephews.
Preceding her in death
were her parents and a
brother, Henry W.
Fleitman.
A rosary service was held

Freitman.

A rosary service was held Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in St. Peter's Catholic Church, led by Father Ron. Sacred songs included "On This Day" and "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name."

Participating in the special liturgy of the Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday with Father Ron, were altar servers Dax Fleitman, Garret Block, and John Block.

Liturgical readings from the Old and New Testaments and the Prayers of the Faithful were given

by Wayne Fleitman, a nephew.
Offertory gifts of bread and wine were presented at the altar by Mildred Lindemann and Margie Reeves, sisters of Clara.
Eucharistic ministers were Wilbert Block, Kevin Block, Leon Fleitman, and Johnny Arendt.
Music ministers were members of the St. Cecilia Choir, and organist Clara Hellinger. Sacred songs included "Be Not Afraid" at the entrance, "Psalm of the Good Shepherd", "Amazing Grace" at Offertory, "I Am the Bread of Life" at Communion, "Whatsoever You Do" at the Meditation, and "How Great Thou Art" at the dismissal.
Burial in St. Peter's Cemetery was directed by Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. Church bells chimed "Ave Maria" at the conclusion of the graveside services.
Pallbearers were Roger Kent Desire Ver Liebert Ver Eree.

conclusion of the grandscrives.

Pallbearers were Roger Krahl, Patrick Krahl, Frank Lindemann, Curtis Reeves, Wayne Fleitman, Ron Fleitman, Bobby Fleitman, and Kenny Fleitman.

For those who have asked, the family has suggested memorials sent to Home Hospice of Cooke County, P.O. Box 936, Gainesville, TX 76241, or to St. Peter's Catholic Church.



Special Invitation

We are taking a small group on a beautiful European River Cruise Visit Christmas Markets along the Danube River

Explore Germany & Austria during it's most romantic season

We will depart the U.S. on Dec 12 and return on Dec 20

\$1715 per person

includes: all airfare, transfers, fully escorted daily tours, all meals and a beautiful river view stateroom on a lovely new ship

Must book before August 30

Contact Brad or Marcia Scarbrough 800-336-9733 759-2104 in Muenster



Jesse Monroe Shields 1902 - 2003

Jesse Monroe Shields of Saint Jo reached the venerable age of 100 and passed to his eternal reward on Aug. 18, 2003 at 10:45 a.m. at River Valley Health and Rehab in Gainesville. Funeral service was held Thursday, Aug. 21, 2003 at 2:000 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Saint Jo, with Rev. Sam Campbell, Rev. Larry Krueger, and C.E. Cole officiating.

Jesse Monroe Shields was born on Sept. 22, 1902 in Blackjack, Texas to Jake Shields and Lula May Belle Dotson Shields. On May 29, 1927 he married Frankye Burks in Litton Springs, Texas. A member of First United Methodist Church, he lived in Saint Jo since 1926. He was a member of the Saint Jo Masonic Lodge #483 AF & AM for 73 years, and also a member of The Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter #17 since 1944.

Jesse Monroe Shields started at the bottom of Kewanee Oil Co. in 1926 and worked his way up to District Supt. until his retirement in 1967. He also owned and operated a farm for many years, starting in

Gov. Rick Perry recently announced a pair of grants totaling \$136,730 for victim service programs in Cooke County

County.

"It's important that we support programs that bring justice to offenders and healing to victims," Perry said. "These Cooke County programs help provide the resources and support to build stronger communities."

resources and support to build stronger communities."

The awards, funded by the Governor's Criminal Justice Division through federal grant programs, include:

\$70,150 for CASA of North Texas to recruit, train, and monitor volunteers who serve as court-appointed special advocates for children who have been victimized.

\$66,580 for Cooke

1931; and was also Mayor of Saint Jo for two terms in the early 1960s. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and shop

sant vo for two terms in the early 1960s. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and shop work.

Survivors are his wife, Frankye Shields of Saint Jo; a daughter Gloria Dickerman of Saint Jo; and a son Donald Gene Shields of San Angelo. There are seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, one son Ronald Dean Shields; one sister Evelyn Clevenger; two brothers Wesley and Arna Shields; and three great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held at McCoy Funeral Home on Wednesday from 6:00 p.m.

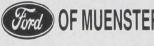
Burial in Mountain Park Cemetery was directed by McCoy Funeral Home of Saint Jo.

Pallbearers were Jerry Shofner, Dexter Dennis, Roy Lawler, J.C. Donnell, Deward West, and John Eastwood. Honorary pallbearers were Leonard Bayer, Claude Bayer, Charles Bayer, Clint Bayer, Danny Bayer, and Earl Ray Garrison.

County Friends of the Family to provide crisis counseling, information, and referral services and other support for victims of violent crime.

KLEMENT Ford OF MUENSTER

1



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"No Hail

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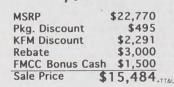
Plus Ford Credit Matching Down Payment Up To \$1,000 Cash Or Trade



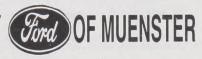
2003 FORD F-150 FLARESIDE REG. CAB



\$7,286 Off MSRP



KLEMENT Ford OF MUENSTER





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counseling, information, and referral services and other support for victims of violent crime.

"I truly appreciate Gov. Perry's choice of Cooke County to distribute these much needed funds," Rep. Rick Hardcastle said. "I am also proud that Gov. Perry has again proven to be a friend to rural Texans by providing us such important funding during times of record budget shortages."

Each year, CJD provides more than \$130 million in grants to help Texans at the forefront of the fight against crime. CJD funds a variety of programs for juvenile justice, crime prevention, and victim services grants a safer place. Low/moderate cost measures for good payback in energy savings
"Tune up" your air conditioner and keep the filters

Governor Perry announces

grants for Cooke County

www.klemfordmuenster.com

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Ford Credit. Other Rebates May Apply.

Consumers warned trees and power lines make a dangerous duo

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) and the American Public Power Association (APPA) are reminding homeowners about dangers associated with trees planted too close to power lines. Power outages can occur and dangerous electric shock hazards can develop if tree limbs touch electric wires or if branches fall on the utility line.

"Trees can also hinder utility repair work and recognition of a hazard," warned ESFI Executive Director Michael G. Clendenin. "Recently in Indiana, a landscaper was killed and a responding police officer was severely injured after accidentally contacting a downed power line hidden in the branches of a tree, Utility workers had repaired a downed line around the corner the night before but did not realize there was a second downed





Keep the Permanent School Fund permanent vote no on Amendment 9

By Gail Lowe, District Board of Education

In the early days of Texas, our state's leaders saw the need to set aside funds for the perpetuation of a free public school system for Texas children. Originally, some \$2 million in assets was dedicated to this purpose. Later, income from gas and oil royalties on state land was added to the fund.

After the Texas Legislature made some initial raids of the school fund to build railroads, construct prisons and pay Civil War debts, spending safeguards were added to the Constitution of 1876. These safeguards were to the Constitution of 1876. These safeguards were to ensure the corpus, or principal, of the fund was protected from such diversions so future generations of Texas schoolchildren would benefit from the monies, and the fund was renamed the Permanent School Fund. Due to its investment success, the fund began providing free textbooks to the state's schoolchildren in 1918, and earned the reputation as the "children's textbook fund," which persists today.

Investment safeguards have been in place now for more than 125 years, and the Permanent School Fund has grown in value to more than \$18 billion. It is the best-performing public fund in Texas and one that is virtually unrivaled in the United States.

The ability of the Permanent School Fund to provide textbooks and meet the needs of an ever-growing school population is put at risk, however, by Amendment 9 on the Sept. 13 ballot. In a raid reminiscent of the 1860s, legislators want to get their hands on the untapped treasure of the Permanent School Fund - not to put more resources into public education, but instead to cover a budgetary shortfall. The amendment would make a fundamental change to the long-standing investment protections of the state's constitution and siphon off the trust fund's principal. Such an action threatens the Permanent School Fund's long-term sustainability.

Amendment 9 would take a whopping \$331 million directly from the corpu

Idea Exchange By Don Rohmer

Not everyone agrees that the media have a liberal bias. One reader sent the Idea Exchange an ad for a book called What Liberal Media? by Eric Alterman. Here's a paragraph from the full-page ad:

Arch-Conservative Patrick Buchanan couldn't identify liberal media bias during his first Presidential candidacy. "I've gotten balanced coverage, and broad coverage—all we could have asked for. For heaven sakes, we kid about the 'liberal media,' but every Republican on earth does that." Even Weekly Standard editor William Kristol, perhaps the leading Republican publicist in America today, has come clean. "I admit it," he told a reporter. "The liberal media were never that powerful, and the whole thing was often used as an excuse by conservatives for conservative failures." (Of course this doesn't stop Kristol from complaining in a subscription pitch for his magazine, "The trouble with politics and political coverage today is that there's too much liberal bias....") As Richard Bond, veteran media basher and former chair of the Republican Party admits, "There is some strategy to it (bashing the liberal' media)...If you watch any great coach, what they try to do is 'work the refs.' Maybe the ref will cut you a little slack on the next one."

If you want to read more, the ad mentions a Web site at

If you want to read more, the ad mentions a Web site at www.whatiberalmedia.com. I didn't make any attempt to verify the accuracy of the quotations in the above paragraph. You can contact Alterman if you want to check out his references. For me, the most interesting sentence in the ad points out that "the number of corporations that control most of what we see and hear is down to just six and shrinking." It is an indisputable fact that just a few corporations literally own most of the media. Seems like the media would have, if anything, a pro-business bias. (Of course, that wouldn't prevent them from supporting the "liberal" position on issues like "reproductive rights." In fact, it's not hard to think of economic reasons for supporting abortion. Imagine the potential profits from unrestricted use of fetal stem cells.)

The most revealing material yet received by Idea Exchange came from Muenster native Jason Gehrig He sent an editorial by someone named Bob Herbert apparently published just after the July 2 decision by the FCC to change media ownership rules. The editorial begins with:

The latest government giveaway to big business came Monday when the Federal Communications Commission eased a number of media ownership restrictions that had been designed to enhance competition, foster independence and provide the public with a wider variety of news and perspectives....

with a wider variety of news and perspectives....
What we will get instead is a further consolidation of news and entertainment outlets under the control of a handful of giant corporations.

It goes on to describe a "study by the Center for Public Integrity on the 'cozy' relationship between F.C.C. officials and broadcasting industries they are supposed to be regulating." The study reported that, "over the last eight years, commissioners and staff members have taken 2,500 trips costing \$2.8 million that were reprimarily paid for by members of the telecommunications and broadcast industries...The top destination was Las Vegas." The editorial also says:

The Center for Public Integrity reported that there were more than 70 closed-door meetings in recent months between F.C.C. officials and representatives of the nation's top broadcasters, including very powerful chief executives, to discuss the relaxation of media ownership restrictions, the key issue that was voted on Monday.

The two major groups that represented the public on this issue were Consumers Union and the Media Access Project. Representatives of these groups met just five times with F.C.C. officials.

Along with the editorial, Jason sent an ad, dated May 30, placed by Common Cause and other organizations urging people to contact FCC commissioners and Congress about the then approaching FCC decision. The ad states:

Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, together with four other conglomerates (Disney, Viacom, GE, and AOLTimeWarner), already control 75 percent of the total U.S. television audience and 90 percent of the TV news audience. That's local and national, broadcast and cable.

Isn't that enough? Isn't that too much?

This ad and other appeals to the public seem to have been effective, because Congress was so deluged with protests that it apparently is rescinding the changes.

protests that it apparently is rescinding the changes. Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, by the way, seems to have supported the conglomerate-friendly rule changes. In June, I sent her an email asking her to oppose them. She replied that she hoped the FCC would make the right decision. Then I learned that the Senate Commerce Committee, on which she sits, has jurisdiction over the FCC, so I sent an email asking her to call a hearing on the matter. My email came back undelivered. I checked the address and resent it on several occasions, but each time it came back undelivered. The Commerce Committee did, however, hold a hearing. I watched it on CSPAN, and looked in vain for Senator Hutchison.

Jason included a comment on the ad he sent. Below the list of companies that own the media, he wrote that corporate control of the media is the issue, and that it involves an obvious conflict of interest. For example, GE owns NBC, and GE is also a defense contractor.

Now the news is starting to make sense contractor. Now the news is starting to make sense. And I haven't even mentioned the most revealing thing Jason sent. It's a small paperback titled Media Control: The Spectacular Achieuements of Propaganda, 2nd edition, by Noam Chomsky. But it will have to wait for a future Idea Exchange article.

From My Side of the Fence Ed Cler

Kudos to Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore, who, upon being ordered by U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson, to remove the 5,300 lb. monument of the Ten Commandments said he would be guilty of treason if he didn't fight to keep it in the Rotunda of the Alabama Capitol.

ne didn't fight to keep it in the Rotunda of the Alabama Capitol.

If the airheads who made the decision to have the monument removed, would think about what they were doing, they would realize that if people would read and heed the Ten Commandments, there would be no need for the thousands and thousands of laws that have been written since. The Ten Commandments have been around for thousands are off-shoots of them.

Just think, if the Ten Commandments were kept by all of us, there would be no need of the thousands of police, patrolmen, and investigators, and, Yeah! judges.

There would be no need of

the judges are really sincere about getting rid of the Ten Commandments, they could go to our Supreme Court, and have them declared unconstitutional, 5 to 4.

Many of our judges are of the opinion that everything that has the word "God" in it is an "Establishment of Religion" by the State.

Nowhere can one find that the Constitution forbids the mention of God in our laws or in our Courts. The judges don't seem to mind hearing His name used in vain, in cursing and swearing, or in calling on God to damn something or someone.

thousands and thousands of laws that have been written since. The Ten Commandments have been raround for thousands of years, and all other laws are off-shoots of them.

Just think, if the Ten Commandments were kept by all of us, there would be no need of folice, patrolmen, and investigators, and, yeah; judges.

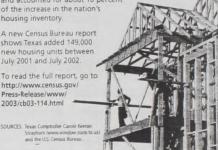
There would be no need of jails or prisons. I suppose if



Texas Housing Leads Nation

In the last year, Texas led all other states and accounted for about 10 percent of the increase in the nation's housing inventory.

A new Census Bureau report shows Texas added 149,000 new housing units between July 2001 and July 2002.



"SAVVY SENIOR"

YOU ASK THE SENIOR QUESTION - WE FIND THE SAVVY ANSWER

Dear Savvy Senior, Help! My mom is 82 years old and still driving and it makes me very nervous. She thinks she's still a good driver and says that she can't stand the idea of depending on her kids to take her everywhere, so she just keeps on going. What can I do to convince mom to STOP driving, and do you know of any age limits for senior drivers? Thank you Nervous Back Seat Daugh

Dear Nervous,

Be gentle with your mon! Keep in mind that lots older parents and adult children
view driving issues quite differently. For most of us, especially seniors, driving is
often linked to feeling independent, competent, and being a part of society.

Speed Limits YES - Age Limits NO
Age alone does not predict fitness behind the wheel. Driving skills vary en
among individuals. It's poor eyesight, bearing loss, slower reaction times,
reduced muscle strength and flexibility that can affect driving ability.
Savvy Fact: Older drivers have a lower frequency of accidents and fataliti
overall, but a higher rate of accidents and fatalities per mile driven (second
that of drivers aged 16 to 24).

Savy Tips

Instead of telling your mom she can't drive anymore, include her as an active part of the driving decision. Ask her to take a senior driving course, like the AARP 55-ALIVE driver safety program for seniors to assess her driving skills (see other senior driving resources listed below). She needs to feel that she is still in control and that you respect her ability to direct her own life.

Involve others if her driving is dangerous and she refuses to make changes to stop driving. A doctor, a member of the clergy, or a family friend may be able to help. As a last resort, you can contact the local Department of Motor Vehicles and report unsafe driving. Most states will contact older adults, have them take a driving test, and, if necessary, revoke their license.

Finding Alternative Transportation

- Work with your parents to identify what public, private and community transportation services are available. Contact you Area Aging Agency for community transportation information.
 Consider how your parents might get rides and pitch in when it's possible. Talk about what they might do for someone else in exchange for transport.
 Find out about any discount or reduced rate programs for older adults.

- AARP 55-ALIVE Driver Safety Program: Call 888-227-7669 or visit
- The National Transit Hotline: Provides the names of local transit providers who receive federal money to provide transportation to the elderly and people with disabilities. Visit www.ctaa.org and click in the Information Station or call 800-527-8279.



MEMBER 2003

Gary L. Droll
Classified Manager, Graphics & Printing

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State Rep. Phil King P.O. Box 2910 Austin, TX 78768-2910 (512) 463-0738 or (817) 596-4796 2110 Fort Worth Highway Weatherford, TX 76086 (ax (817) 596-4760 Dist. 61

State Sen. Craig Estes (R) Box 12068. Austin, TX 78711. Email: Craig Estes @ serale state x.u.s (512) 453-0130 fax (512) 463-8874 4245 Kemp Blvd., Sutte 306. Wichita Falls, TX 76308 (940) 689-0191 fax (340) 689-0194

District 30

The districts below do not include Muenster, but do include part of Cooke or Montague CC

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (R)
2457 Raybourn House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515
(202) 225-3706 fax (202) 225-3486
(2426 Kemp. Sulte 315, Wichila Falls, TX 76308
(940) 592-1700
905 South Fillmore, Sulte 520, Amarillo, TX 79101
(806) 371-8844
Dist.13

District 30

State Rep. Rick Hardcastle (R)
P.O. Box 2910. Austin, TX 78766
(512) 463-0526
1930 Fannin St.
Vernon, TX 76384
(940) 553-3825
Dist. 68

State Rep. Rick Hardcastle (R)
P.O. Box 2910 Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0526
1930 Fannin St.
Vernon, TX 76384
(940) 553-3825 Dist. 68

117 E. First Street • P.O. Box 190 Muenster, TX 76252 940-759-4311 fax 940-759-4110 cont

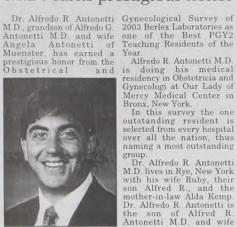
- Now In Our 67th Year -

MUENSTER ENTERPRISE

ibuting Writers: Ed Cler, Don Rohmer, Martha McCool

Lifestyle

Dr. Alfredo R. Antonetti, M.D. earns prestigious honor



naming a most outstanding group.

Dr. Alfredo R. Antonetti M.D. lives in Rye, New York with his wife Ruby, their son Alfred R., and the mother-in-law Alda Kemp. Dr. Alfredo R. Antonetti is the son of Alfred R. Antonetti M.D. and wife Judy of Irving, Texas.



Keily M. Stillman of Muenster and Gary D. Grewing of Muenster have announced their engagement and approaching marriage. They plan to be married on Oct. 11, 2003 at C Quarter Circle Ranch in Gainesville. Kelly is the daughter of Mike and Judy Stillman of Ridgefield, Washington. She graduated from Apollo College in Portland, Oregon in 1998 and is now employed as a medical assistant for Cook Children's Pediatrics in Denton. Gary is the son of Doris and Henry Grewing Jr. of Gainesville. He is a lineman for Cooke County Electric Co-op.

New Arrivals

Koelzer
Helmuth and Christy
Koelzer of Hurst proudly
announce the birth of their
daughter Amanda Rose
Koelzer. Amanda was born
on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003 at
10:54 a.m. at Baylor
Medical Center in
Grapevine. She weighed 6
lb. 15.5 oz. and was 19:25'
inches long. She is a sister
to Scott Koelzer.
Grandparents are Wilfred
and Pauline Koelzer of
Muenster, and Marvin and
Sharon Sulak of Mansfield.
Great-grandparents are
Elenor Rusnak of Irving and
the late Ervin Rusnak.

Kendrick Lance and Julie Kendrick Lance and Julie Kendrick of Denton proudly announce the birth of their second child, a daughter. Anna Kathleen Kendrick arrived Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003 at 12:48 p.m., weighing 7 lb. 13 oz. and measuring 21 inches long. Anna is

welcomed home by her older brother, Nathan. Proud grandparents are Dennis and Kathy Hess of Muenster, Sandy Kendrick of Gainesville, and Judi Worthington of Ben Wheeler. Great-grandparents include Clara Walterscheid and Antonia Hess of Muenster and Sam and Darleen Kendrick of Lockhart.

Anderle
Kevin and Darla Anderle
are proud to announce the
birth of their third son,
Trent Andrew Anderle.
Trent was born Thursday,
Aug. 14, 2003 at 2:29 p.m.
in Gainesville Memorial
Hospital. He weighed 7 lb.
14 oz. and measured 19"
long. Welcoming him are his
brothers Tyler age 9 and
Trey age 6. Grandparents
are Harold and Sug Bindel
and Johnny and Annette
Anderle. Greatgrandparents are Marcus
and Cathy Fuhrmann.

Museum of Science and History presents third annual Mindfest event

Do you hear it? It's the sound of MindFest, a day of playful invention and exploration, coming to the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History on Saturday, August 23.

What exactly is MindFest? It's a daylong festival where you can build, invent, explore, create, dance, paint, reflect, or just play alongside some of the country's brightest, most creative minds. This year's MindFest will offer a time the country's brightest, most creative minds. This year's MindFest will offer a spent over 5000 hours tutoring elementary and high school students, removed 19123 tress or

Home Hospice recruits caring volunteers

Home Hospice of Cooke County needs caring individuals to train as Patient and Family Services volunteers for terminally ill patients and their families as they make their way through the final stage of life. Volunteers enrich the lives of those they serve through companionship. They provide services much like those a good friend or neighbor might provide during just a time - often for people who have no one in their life.

Can you give some of your time to sit with a lonely patient, or drive a caregiver to the store, or listen to a lifetime full of stories, or to drive a patient to the doctor or out to his/her favorite hamburger joint, or to simply hold a hand? If so, call the Home Hospice

office, 940-665-9891 to register for the Life and Death Awareness Seminar beginning Friday, Sept. 12 at 1002 E. Broadway Street in Gainesville. The training continues with sessions every Saturday throughout September, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Seminar is free and open to anyone interested in learning more. Experts from throughout the community along with Home Hospice professionals will provide information on hospice philosophy and care, active listening, grief and how to respond, HIV/AIDS, spiritual aspects of care, end of life issues, and much more. If you are interested or if you just need more information call Yvette Richardson-Ellis at Home Hospice at 940-665-9891.



Family & friends gathered to celebrate the 89th Birthday of Hazel Flusche. The party was held Saturday evening, Aug. 16 at the home of Tom & Judy Flusche. A fajita feast was served and the younger generation enjoyed swimming. On Hazel's actual birthday, Aug. 20, the family gathered at Rohmer's Restaurant for a lunch celebration.

Now Available

for check-out at the Muenster Public Library LARGE PRINT

BOOKS

lic Service Announcement The Muenster Enterprise

Dana Miller named to Dean's List

Dana Miller has been named to the Dean's List at Texas Woman's University. She maintained a perfect grade point average of 4.0 throughout her junior year, carrying 19 hours per semester. Majoring in Biology, she will again carry a heavy student load, including research in the Biology Department in this, her senior year. Dana is a graduate of Sacred Heart High School and the daughter of Glenn and Stacie Miller.

News of the Sick

Good news for Maggie Krahl and her family. Maggie is doing well after an accident in her home. She should be coming home from the hospital soon. Cards can be sent to Damian and Lucy Krahl, 5434 FM 1199, Gainesville, TX 76240.

Valerie Bartush honored at Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC

Shawnee, Kansas resident Valerie Bartush, daughter of John and Lanie Bartush, graduated from the AmeriCorps*National Community Corps (NCCC) Capital Region Campus after a ten-month community service. The teremony took place at the reflecting pool steps of the Lincoln Memorial at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 31. Dr. Patch Adams, founder of Gesundheit! Institute and Tommie Duncan, Vice Chair of the DC Commission on National and Community Service addressed the Corps, Capital Region staff, and graduation guests.

Bartush was one of 134 AmeriCorps*NCCC members honored. Divided in the residue of the provided disaster relief efforts at the Red Cross headquarters in Falls the Red Cross headquarters in Falls with the Red Cross headquar

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Tuesday, September 9 (Results September 16)

Tuesday, September 23 (Results September 30)

7 a.m. - 10 a.m.



Gerald Culwell Conference Center Gainesville Memorial Hospital 1016 Ritchey Street Gainesville, Texas

For more information & to schedule an appointment, call 940.665.1751

NCTC pinning ceremonies honor 59





Felicia Reiter at NCTC pinning ceremony for LVN Program graduates. Courtesy photo

Energy saving measures

Unplug rarely used other appliances.

Dane celebrates third birthday with western theme party

Dane Joseph Huchton, son of Tommy and Dyan Huchton, celebrated his third birthday on August 3 at his home. Dane's party had a western theme, where the kids enjoyed playing with stick ponies his parents made, and were excited to take home western hats and bandannas. The adults enjoyed playing a game of horseshoes. Everyone enjoyed barbecued chicken and sausage prepared by Tie Block, along with potato salad and baked beans. A pony cake was served that was decorated by his mother, along with cupcakes Dane made with his sitter Valerie Huchton. Dane opened his gifts with the help of his cousins. All the children enjoyed playing on the swing set and trampoline.

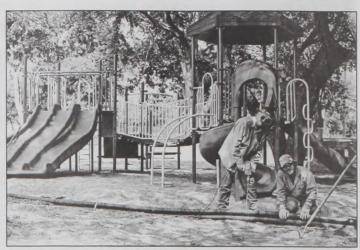
Those attending Dane's party were his parents; his brother Dylan; grandparents Jack and Debbie Brittian, David and Helen Fisher, and David and Margie Huchton; greatgrandmothers Trudy Felderhoff and Billye Huchton; great-aunts,

uncles, and cousins Janie Hennigan, Michelle and Meredith; Roy and Carol Klement, and Kimberly; Brenda Simpson, Shelby and Grant; aunts, uncles, and cousins Bradley and Brandy Fisher; Greg Fisher; Kevin and Terri Klement, Kyle and Kolby; Kent and Melynda Rivers, Ashlyn and Makenna; Rachel Pentico and Sophie; Pat and Tammy Bezner, Sabrina, Kyle, and Bradley; Troy and Amy Huchton, Ryan and Alyssa; Jennifer Huchton, Dustin, Sadie, and Ashlyn; Travis and Elizabeth Huchton and Madison; Hank Huchton, and Calvin Huchton. Friends attending were Tic, Sonya, Joey, John, Travis, and Matthew Block; Ashley Klement; Duncan Campbell; Billy Hamilton; George, Bernice and Geordan Spaeth; Cyndee and Michael Tanttari. Unable to attend but sending wishes were: Mike Felderhoff; Lynn, JoAnn, Dana, Valerie, and Kaitlyn Huchton; Al Pentico; Tracy Huchton; Jenny Huchton, Mike, Mindy, and Megan Hennigan; Ryan Klement; and Brandon Klement.

GMH childbirth classes now enrolling

It's back-to-school time..for soon-to-be parents!
Gainesville Memorial Hospital is now accepting enrollments for its next series of childbirth classes. The four-session series will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, and continue each Thursday evening through Sept. 25. Classes will be held in the Gerald Culwell Conference Center at GMH.
The childbirth series covers the basics of childbirth, as well as provides instruction in newborn care. Tammy Puckett, LVN, is instructor for the course.

The size of the class will be limited to 10 couples. Pre-enrollment is required, and it is recommended that women be in their third trimester of pregnancy.
Classes are not limited to parents delivering at GMH. Call 612-8322 between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays for information and to enroll.



Muenster City employee Terry Stewart, left, and David Dittfurth install 4x4 Rumber bord material around the new playground equipment in the municipal park Tuesday. Rumb Material, Inc. donated the border beams. The area around and under the play set is covere with eight inches of pea gravel.

Dave Fette photo

First birthday celebrated by Riley

Riley Matthew Stewart, son of Ray and Shirley Stewart, turned one year old on Thursday, Aug. 14. He celebrated with a party on Friday, Aug. 15. The theme of his party was Noah's Ark 1st Birthday. Hamburgers, hot-dogs, cake and ice cream were served.

Those attending were his parents; grandparents Red and Carol Henscheid, Rick and Darlene Stewart, and George and Laura Gould; and great-grandmother Evelyn Koesler. Also Alyssa

Stewart; Sabrina and Jaxson Truebenbach; Brenda and Jimmy Green, Colby Richey and Tiffany Richey; Doris and Chuck Koesler and Kristina and Tony; Shaw and Kyla Henscheid, and Jordan and Stephanie; and Mike and Kim Hesse and Jacob.

Unable to attend were Rhonda, Randy and Chance Rhoades; Doris, Butch, Dain and Derek Schmidlkofer; Kody Truebenbach; and Johnny and Florence Rohmer.





Lane celebrates first year of life

Lane Silas Warren, son of Brenton and Jennifer Warren of Hurst, celebrated his first birthday at home with family and friends on Aug. 3. His actual birthday was Aug. 5. The guests enjoyed hamburgers for lunch, ice cream and a cake decorated with Noah's Ark. Guests included his grandparents Mark and Linda Fuhrmann and Eddie and Teresa Warren; his aunts and uncles Sara

Warren, Matthew and Leah Fuhrmann, Kyle Fuhrmann, Chris Fuhrmann, and Clint Fuhrmann; greatgrandparents Marcus and Cathy Fuhrmann and Ray and Lou Voth. Other family and friends attending were Jan Fox; Joel Fox; Jackie and Caren Spain; Kylie, Amanda, and Rylie Hajek, and Russell. Everyone enjoyed watching Lane eat his cake and play with his gifts.





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with hot, dry weather

High fire danger returns



Members of the Muenster Historical Commission watch as Henry Weinzapfel presents two donations to the Ben and Aggle Seyler Muenster Museum. In memory of Museum member Shelly Hoedebeck, on her birthday, August 14, the Muenster State Bank donated \$1000 and Henry and Janie

Weinzapfel \$500 toward the Museum's breeze way project.
Members accepting the donation include, at left, Juanita
Bright, Celine Dittfurth and Jewel Otto.

Wildfire danger is expected to rise in the northern half of Texas this weekend as hot, dry weather settles back over the region. "We've had several days of cooler temperatures, higher humidity and scattered rain showers due to the low pressure system that's been dominating our weather pattern for the last several days," said Tom Spencer, fire risk assessment coordinator for the Texas Forest Service. "That gave us a temporary reprieve from high to extreme fire danger we'd experienced the previous week. "As high pressure moves back into the region and the rain chances diminish, vegetation will dry out quickly and become vulnerable to wildfire starts," he added. While the northern half of Texas is preparing for the return of summer heat, South Texas is bracing itself for Tropical Storm Erika, which may reach hurricane strength before reaching landfall. "With a high pressure ridge in North Central Texas and a possible

Get close to Mars during Mars Day

To get a close-up look at the planet Mars, you could hitch a ride aboard one of NASA's Mars Exploration Rovers. Or you could visit the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History on Mars Day, Wednesday, August 27.

Mars can be found in the evening sky, continuing its orbital dance with Earth that will lead to some of the best viewing opportunities since Neanderthals looked skyward. On August 27, Mars will be within 34,646,418 miles of Earth.

This will be the closest that Mars has come to our planet in over 60,000 years! To celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event, the Museum's Noble Planetarium will offer special programming during the evening and will partner with the Fort Worth Astronomical Society to provide free telescope viewing.

At 8:15 and 8:45 p.m., the Planetarium will present Mars at its Best, a live

discussion about the planet's approach. Visitors can learn about the ongoing missions studying Mars and the latest launches scheduled to reach the planet at the end of 2003. The Fort Worth Astronomical Society will then set up their telescopes and video monitors on the Museum's north lawn beginning at dusk. The Museum will also have its new "Noble One" 13-footlong, 16-inch telescope available for an even closer view of the planet.

This astronomical event

This astronomical event could be the most dramatic and spectacular Mars apparition you or any of your ancestors will ever see. The Red Planet has progressively been getting closer to Earth with each passing night. By late August, the reddish point of light in our night sky will appear more than six times larger and shine some 85 times brighter than normal.

On August 28, Mars will be at "opposition," the moment when the Sun,

Earth, and Mars will form a straight line. Mars comes to opposition about every 26 months. But because of the elliptical orbits of Earth and Mars, this one will be superior. When it arrives at opposition, Mars will be very near its closest point to the Sun, called perihelion. Such perihelic oppositions themselves are somewhat rare, occurring every 15 to 17 years. (Though Mars' opposition comes on August 28, it will be closest to Earth on August 27). At the close approach, the Red Planet will be brighter than Jupiter and all the stars in the night sky, outshone only by Venus and the Moon.

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History is located at 1501 Montgomery Street in Fort Worth's Cultural District. Tickets for Mars at its Best are \$3.50 per person (\$2 for Museum members). The telescope viewing is free to the public. For more information, call \$17-255-9300 or go to www.fortworthmuseum.org.

landfall.

"With a high pressure ridge in North Central Texas and a possible hurricane affecting South Texas, we could experience some strong winds where the two weather systems collide," Spencer said. "Firefighters need to be aware of the possibility because the winds could be

If there's any artistic endeavor Marty Kobuck enjoys more than playing trombone in a jazz band, it's teaching young musicians how to shine while performing this distinctly American style of music.

"I'm really happy to be here," said Kobuck, recently hired to direct the jazz bands and teach brass instruments at North Central Texas College. "This is the job I've trained and prepared myself for."

Already hard at work now recruiting musicians and putting together the Monday Night and Tuesday Night Jazz bands, Kobuck says he can still find scholarships this year for the right kind of artists who want to attend NCTC.

Kobuck said it's encouraging that NCTC's jazz bands and jazz combos have been used in a variety of settings to promote the college and have developed The set up or simulate in the background when others artists are featured.

Kobuck received his, master's degree in music at the University of North Texas, where he played in the Three O'clock Lab Band.

Time College is very supportive of the volume when it's their time to be featured or to soften in the background when others artists are featured.

Kobuck received his, master's degree in music at the University of North Texas, where he played in the Three O'clock Lab Band.

very dangerous if their department happens to be fighting a wildfire when the winds hit. The best option is to keep a close eye on your local fire weather forecast."

Firefighters can access the fire weather forecast by 10 gg in g on to www.tamu.edu/ticc/weather

Texans can do their part by remembering the following fire prevention tips:

"Postpone any outdoor burning until burn bans have been lifted and cool, wet weather returns.

"Be alert when driving. A flat tire, a dragging tow chain or a worn wheel bearing can spark a wildfire, so can parking or driving on drygrass.

"Prepare for welding or grinding by clearing vegetation, posting a spotter and keeping water handy;

"Use mowers, dozers and other spark-producing equipment early in the morning before the heat of the day;

"Be sure coals from barbecues are cold defore disposing of them;

"Make your home more resistant to wildfires by keeping the yard mowed and flammable vegetation away from the house. To learn more, log onto www.firewise.org.said.

Submitted by the Texas Forest Service New instructor passionate about teaching jazz

Legal advice offered for sexual assualt victims

behavior."
Recognizing the recent public awareness of the legal problems faced by rape victims, Texas Access to Justice Commission Chair John R. Jones applauded

Additionally, she arranged for training for the hotline attorneys and developed educational material in English and Spanish explaining victims' rights. Ms. Cheaney said, "Victims of sexual assault need a complex blend of services to address their rights, their short and long-term care needs, and their recovery. The Legal Hotline



Expanding medical services to the people of North Texas is a priority for Gainesville Memorial Hospital, and we are happy to announce the addition of Amy Klein, D.O.,

to our staff of obstetricians/gynecologists.

Doctor Klein will be officing with Doctor Roane McLaughlin in Gainesville. For additional information or appointments, call (940) 665-6679.

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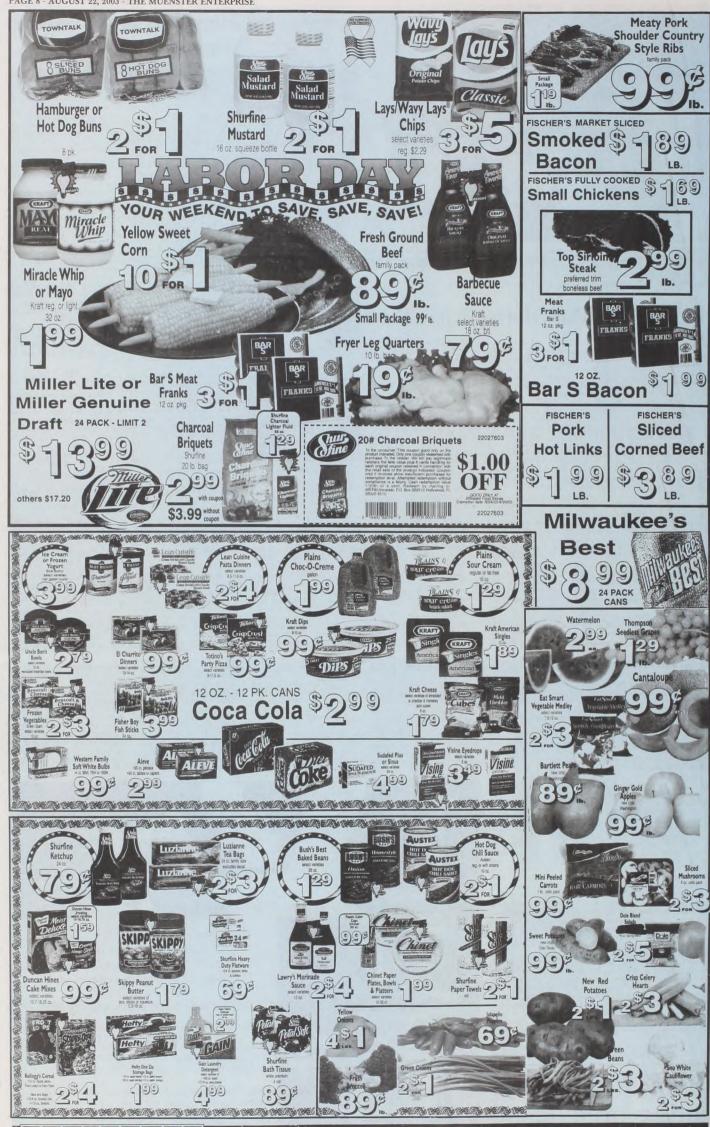
eating breakfast

If you're trying to lose weight, skipping breakfast may not be such a good idea.

"Breakfast gets the metabolism going for the day," says Lona Sandon, assistant professor of clinical nutrition at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. "Research shows that people who eat breakfast tend to maintain their weight and are able to meet nutritional needs."

One example of a healthy breakfast includes cereal, skim milk, nuts and fruit.
"Cereals are fortified with multiple vitamins and minerals including B vitamins, iron and calcium," Sandon adds. "Skim milk is a good source for calcium, which builds strong bones.

New research shows that getting three to four servings of low-fat calcium foods per day may aid weight loss efforts. Nuts provide protein, fiber, magnesium and healthy fatty acids for maintaining good cholesterol levels."





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School

Lunch Menus

WEEK OF AUG. 25 - 29 MUENSTER ISD

MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Corny dogs, potato
wedges, pinto beans, pears,
peach cobbler.

Tues. - Steak fingers,
creamed potatoes w/gravy,
corn, peaches, hot rolls.

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

Thurs. - Baked ham,
creamed potatoes w/gravy,
green beans, pineapple, hot
rolls.

Fri. - Hamburgers
w/cheese, lettuce, tomatoes,
pickles, onions, French fries,
applesauce, ice cream.

SACRED HEART

SACRED HEART

Mon. - Taco salad,
Mexican rice, oranges,
wheat crackers.
Tues. - Turkey w/rice
pilaf, green peas, chocolate
pudding, bread.
Wed. - Barbecue
sandwich, potato salad,
pickles, onions, apples.
Thurs. - Sausage,
potatoes, sauerkraut,
pineapple chunks, cheese
biscuits.
Fri. - Hamburgers

Fri. - Hamburgers w/trimmings, chips, layered

dip, fruit jello.

LINDSAY ISD

Biogra 8

dip, fruit jello.

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Fiesta salad, applesauce, mixed fruit, bread.

Tues. - Steak fingers (K-6), chicken fried steak (7-12), creamed potatoes, green beans, pears, bread.

Wed. - Corny dogs, lettuce salad, beans, pineapple, bread.

Thurs. - Pizza, salad, corn, peaches, bread.

Fri. - Hamburgers w/trimmings, French fries, ice cream.

ERA ISD

Mon. - Chicken spaghetti or mini corn dogs, green beans, pear halves, tossed salad, hot roll.

Tues. - Frito chili pie, shredded cheese, corn, tossed salad, applesauce, chocolate chip cookie.

Wed. - Turkey pot pie or egg roll, broccoli and cheese, tossed salad, peaches, rice krispy treat.

Thurs. - Crispy tacos, trimmings, pinto beans, cornbread, chocolate pudding.

Fri. - Barbecue sandwich, tator tots, pickle spears, ice cream.



Sacred Heart Preschool students, Logan Wann and Dean Walterscheid, enjoy a morning snack. Janie Hartman photo

Take a helicopter spin at the Omni

Audiences who delight in the helicopter-driven preshow "flyover" at Fort Worth's Omni Theater will want to climb aboard for the theater's newest adventure in flight. Beginning Sept. 5 the Omni will take audiences out for a spin of a different sort with the new large-format film STRAIGHT UP: Helicopters in Action.

Narration guides the audience through a series of heart-pounding missions, each one requiring the unique maneuvering and lifting abilities that make tool.

STRAIGHT UP will show daily at the Omni Theater is located at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History in Fort Worth's cultural District. For show times and more often-unheralded role helicopters play in a 9300, 888-255-9300; or go to turbulent world. Sheen's

Just for the Fun of It

Successful container gardens should be sources of pride equal to any. Europeans have a centuries-old tradition of balcony and terrace gardening. And though traditional American yards and gardens are often thought of as large, sprawled across spaces of a quarter to half an acre or more, not all are big. Fabulous gardens exist in tiny townhouse yards, urban terraces, balconies and rooftops. Each is a testament to the pleasures, challenges and joys of turning a space, however tight or towering, into a personal paradise.

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The Sacred Heart Kindergarten class welcomed the returning pre-k students Thursday morning, the first day of school. The kindergarten kids also wanted to show off their new school uniforms. Janie Hartman photo

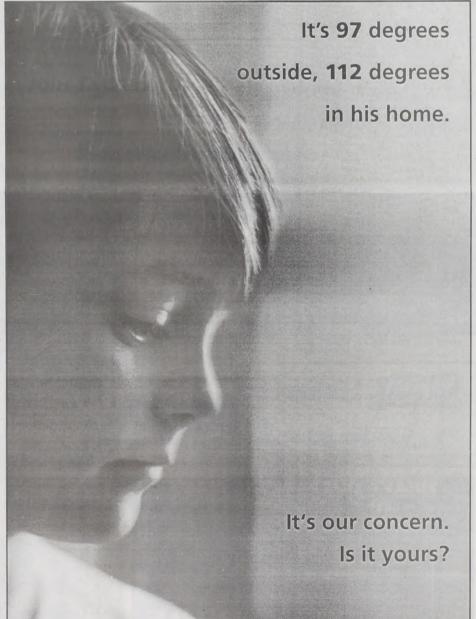
Healthy, easy snacks
Snacks are usually associated with high-fat, highcalorie treats that provide little or no nutritional value.
But you can provide your children with what nutritional
experts Judith Levine, RD, MS, and Linda Bine call
"Smart Snacks." In their book Helping Your Child Lose
Weight the Healthy Way: A Family Approach to Weight
Control, they define Smart Snacks as those that are lowfat, timed properly (not too close to a meal), provide good
nutrition and may include some strategically placed
protein for staying power.

According to Levine and Bine, snacks for children need
to be "snart" because as many as one-third of a child's
daily calories may come from snacks. For this reason,
snacks should be planned so there aren't too many or too
few snacks in a day.

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Join TXU Energy Aid in giving heat relief.

The summer heat jeopardizes the health of many Texans, mostly children under five and adults over 50. To help provide heat relief, TXU Energy Aid offers financial assistance through social service agencies to customers who are temporarily unable to pay their electric bill. TXU Energy matches, dollar for dollar, each donation to TXU Energy Aid up to \$1 million. See the back of your TXU Energy bill for information. Donations will directly help those in your community who are in need of assistance. If someone you know needs energy assistance, call the TXU Cool Line at 1-800-818-6132

Cool a home with the warmth of your heart.





Hands-on kits make science fun for Muenster Elementary

TXU Energy Safety
Tips: After a storm:
Stay away from standing
water. It may be
electrically charged from
underground or downed
power lines.

Muenster Elementary School is teaming with activities and basic instruction. District Hands-On Center. Muenster rents science kits from the Hands-On Center. The hands-on kits provide the kindergarten through grade six students with fun and interesting activities that increase their understanding of the science processes and concepts. Muenster uses their understanding of the science processes and concepts. Muenster uses their understanding of the science processes and concepts. The kits include laboratory services and basic instruction. This school year Muenster students will complete the following kits: Mysterious Chemicals, Motion, Design, Flight and Space, Ecosystems, Food Chemicalstry, Electric Circuits, Weather, Changes of State, Balancing and Weighing, Magnets, Seeds to Plants, Measurement, Senses, and Environment.

Interested boys can join

the Cub Scouts

August 26

Interested boys, Grades 1 through 5, are invited to Cub Scout Pack 6d4 sign up on Tuesday, Aug. 26 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the VFW Hall of Muenster. Parents are asked to bring their child's current immunization record and health/accident insurance carrier with policy number. The 2003 prorated registration fee and insurance is \$6:35. Optional Boys' Life magazine is \$4:50. Please make check payable to Pack 6d4.

For more information call Adam Schniederjan at 940-759-4815 or 940-736-3093.

Texas school children are facing a health crisis

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs

Far too many Texas school-children are beginning the school day with a sugary soda and candy bar from a vending machine. This is happening for breakfast- and in too many instances for lunch - in high schools, middle schools and even elementary schools all across Texas.

When students - some who receive 60 percent of their daily meals at school-choose snacks instead of more nutritious foods from school cafeterias, they are not only short changing themselves in learning development, but they are also setting themselves up for serious health life-threatening conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke, high blood pressure and certain cancers.

Our children are facing a health crisis in Texas and the United States, one we can help solve by providing more nutritious food choices in school menus and in vending machines on school campuses.

Legislation filled this session would require school

campuses.
Legislation filed this session would require school vending machines to offer healthier choices and restrict

access to vending machines during meal hours. These competitive foods, high in sugar, sodium and fat, have little nutritional value and help contribute to poor eating habits that are usually carried over to adulthood.

This legislation would also encourage school menus to include more fresh fruits and vegetables and whole grains and require that only 2 percent or lower fat milk be offered.

In addition, school district employees, trustees or members of the school board would be prohibited from making money from the sale of vending machine snacks or other food sold at schools. Finally, the legislation would establish a task force to report back to the Legislature in two years on the effectiveness of these changes.

Childhood obesity has doubled during the last 20 years, and now our children more than ever are at risk for serious life-threatening conditions. Some 62 percent of all deaths in Texas can be attributed to heart disease, and healthcare experts say the most effective ways of preventing these chronic

conditions are healthy eating and exercise habits established in childhood. The Texas Department of Agriculture recently conducted a statewide survey to determine the accessibility of competitive foods at Texas schools. Fifty-one percent of the school districts responding provided access to vending machines during lunch, and food selections in all the responding districts ranged from healthy choices to high fat and sugar selections. In Texas, we have already started work to improve school cafeteria selections. Texas recently received \$200,000 in federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a program to purchase fresh Texas fruits and vegetables for selected school districts. The pilot Farm to School Program is a collaborative effort among state and federal agencies to bring Texas produce to school cafeteria menus and our schoolchildren. Healthy selections. Healthy menus. Healthy children. As parents, that's what we want. By providing healthy food choices we can help our children live long and healthy lives.

TILF awards

scholarship to Brady Howell



A visit to the school cafeteria was just one stop the Sacred Heart Kindergarten class made or their first day of school tour. Students pictured are, from left, Katle Luttmer, Kathering Fleitman, Allie Walterscheid, Michael Flietman, Grant Springer, Hope Inglish and Jacob Janie Harman photo

You rarely succeed unless you have fun doing it.

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Eddie Yetter

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recording the properties of different objects.

TOP - LEFT TO RIGHT: Kendall Reiter, Alison Pagel, Lana Heers, Jamie Salisbury

Fourth Grade students studying and

Duane Knabe. C.P.A.

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STUDENTS

Brady Dillion Howell, a graduate of Muenster High School, has been awarded a scholarship by the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation.

Howell received a Spalding Sports Worldwide award in the amount of \$1,000, payable \$500 each semester of the first year. The Spalding Sports award was awarded to 40 students who have participated in the University Interscholastic League Academic State Meet and who have compiled an outstanding record of a cade mic and extracurricular achievement.

Howell was a member of the first place mathematics team at the 2002 UIL Academic State Meet, and the first place number sense team at the 2003 State Meet. He also participated in UIL accounting, cross examination debate, basketball, football, golf, track, and cross country throughout his high school career. He was involved in Student Council, FFA, and TCEA.

Howell plans to attend Baylor University and major in business.

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Sports



Muenster Hornet quarterback Sean Fuhrmann gets chased around the backfield in Saturday's scrimmage with Alvord.

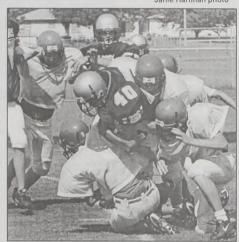
Janie Hartman photo

Gun control with a twist

"Oh what a tangled web we weave..." begins the old saying about deception. And it seems no matter what the deception, the truth almost always finds a means to come out. The anti-handgun lobby is finding themselves scrutinized when they start cackling about the need to get handguns - all handguns - off the street. Especially when several notables among their group seem to think it's fine for them to be 'packing heat' or for their bodyguards to be armed to the teeth.

Take our politicians. The Fort-Wayne (Indiana) Journal-Gazette recently published a report that one in six legislators in the Indiana legislature was carrying a concealed weapon - some of them even carried them on the floor of the legislature. One pol, Rep. Matthew Whetstone, was quoted as saying "if someone opens fire from the balcony, I want all the guns I can shooting back." Ever the politician, Whetstone quickly added, "unless there are school children up there." Since the New York City shooting incident recently, many lawmakers are finding that the idea of the right to keep and bear arms might not be all that bad after all.

And speaking star power, let's go to the Big Apple: NYC is notoriously antihandgun, but that doesn't mean lots of star-power isn't packing lots of firepower. The New York Post is reporting that a recent examination of the city's concealed weapons permits (a public record) shows many big names are "carrying" their own personal firearms. So, when Barbara Streisand invites Robert De Niro, Harvey Keitel, shock-jocks Howard Stern and Don Imus, or "The Donald" Trump to liberal fundraisers, she should be warned they, along with Tommy Mottola and local TV anchor John Roveland, might all set off the metal detectors. It's understandable that Imus and Stern feel the need for personal protection. The things they say about others-including De Niro, Keitel, what a journalism professor once called "a blinding glimpser of the obvious": the firme and will continue to do so until they are controlled. Until that time, it is still better to be



The Muenster Hornet Junior Varsity defense gave the you'Dogs a good beating at the Saturday scrimmage.





Turtle Hill Golf Course



2:00 Shotgun start \$65.00 per person Call Tommy Felderhoff to enter 940-759-4884 home 940-736-4791 cell



The Sacred Heart coaching staff, including Michael Becker, far left, Charles Boles and Dals Schilling, far right, discuss the next play in a scrimmage against Gunter. Janie Hartman photo

Hornet soap and towel night

On Friday, Aug. 22 at 5:00 p.m. the Muenster Hornets will scrimmage State School. This night has been designated as soap and towel night. Please bring bar soap, laundry detergent, and inexpensive white towels. There will be boxes located at the entrance gates for your convenience.

GAME WARDEN NOTES

--A Mitchell County game warden responded to an emergency request for assistance on July 26, while he was patrolling Lake Colorado City. A 22-year-old woman was thrown from a tube and suffered head injuries after she struck the water. The warden met the boat at the boat ramp and began first aid. The woman stopped breathing several times before the ambulance arrived. The woman was taken to a hospital in Colorado City and later transferred by helicopter to Lubbock, suffering from a severe concusion.



A Tiger running back makes a good run against Gunter in

MUENSTER GOLF ASSOCIATION SCRAMBLE Sunday, August 24, 2003 2:00 pm Shotgun Start Call the Turtle Hill Golf Shop, 759-4896 to sign Must sign up by 10am on Sunday.



Gainesville Memorial Hospital

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Donald R. Dolezalek, Jr., D.P.M., to the medical staff



Donald R. Dolezalek, Jr., D.P.M.

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Gainesville Memorial Hospital is pleased to welcome Dr. Donald R. Dolezalek, Jr., and the expertise he brings to our patients. For more information on services available through Gainesville Podiatry, or to make an appointment, please call today.

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Gainesville Podiatry







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UNG GOLFERS – Pictured, from left, Tanner Herr, Dylan sche, Chad Walterscheid, and Nolan Hartman. During the nmer these youths competed in six junior golf rnaments in Grayson, Fannin, and Cooke Counties.





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Gainesville airport director Quick describes operations, future plans

Matt Quick, the new Airport Director for the City of Gainesville recently gave an update on some of the things going on at the Gainesville Airport and some plans for the future during his recent presentation to the Gainesville Lions Club.
Quick, who referred to himself as a farm boy from Missouri, graduated from Central Missouri State University (CMSU), where he received both his Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Aviation Management; at the same time, he worked at the local airport 4-5 years, where he also completed an internship.

The week after receiving his Masters Degree in May, 2002, Quick attended the Annual American Association of Airport Executives Conference, which happened to take place in Dallas. While attending that conference, Quick met with Jeff Bilyeu and Mike Shahan, the two previous airport managers in Gainesville. Quick applied for the position, was interviewed, and was offered the job. He moved to Gainesville Airport is a Municipal Airport, hence he and his staff of three (Matt, his secretary Leslie Greer, and his maintenance worker, Ronnie Schumacher) are city

employees. Although the business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week, because Gainesville Airport is a public use airport it is open 24 hours a day to the flying public.

Because the Gainesville Airport, Matt pointed out that it has an Airport Management Office (AMO), as well as being a Fixed Based Operation (FBO). Many airports divide these two roles up; an AMO consists of a manager, a secretary, and maintenance workers, and the separate FBO entities deal with fueling the aircraft, he said.

Some of the responsibilities of the AMO include lease negotiations



years ago).

Some of the other responsibilities of the FBO include selling pilot supplies such as charts, oil, and anything of that nature that the pilots may need. The FBO is also responsible for maintaining the fuel form. There are two 12,000-gallon fuel tanks and two types of fuel are sold.

"We maintain those tanks; we have two fuel trucks, and we also maintain a self-serve fuel pump, which is unique and very handy for us, especially with the small staff that we have at the airport. A credit card machine and a self-serve fuel island enable those who fly at any hour of the day, whether it be during business hours or after business hours, access to the fuel pump by simply swiping their credit card."

One of the current businesses at the airport that Quick mentioned is Excel Aviation, which does maintenance on Falcon Corporate Jets, As a result of their fairly large business (20-30 employees), Quick said that there is a lot of jet traffic going in and out of the airport.

Tomlinson Avionics and Maintenance, which also provides flight training, is also vital to bringing in a lot of traffic. They do a wide range of work on all kinds of planes, from small one-seater Piper cubs to the Citation jets.

Other businesses include circuit Breaker Sales, an air cargo company called Air Tejas, Inc., a charter business at the airport, Petroflex, Parsons Corp., North Texas Dusters and Sprayers, and Tuttle Aircraft Painting and

Maintenance.
Due to the wide variety of businesses that accommodate a lot of people's needs, Quick observed that there is quite a bit of traffic corresponding with those businesses.

with airport tenants, ground leases, and t-hangar leases with the aircraft kept there. Quick also mentioned that they are in charge of the Capitol Improvement Projects (CIP), that is, the upkeep of the airport grounds, making sure that the facility is in good shape and in good working order. They maintain the budget in accordance with the city hall, city manager, and the finance director.

Stating that the majority of the responsibilities of the FBO includes fueling aircraft, Quick noted that this year they anticipate selling 325,000 gallons of fuel, which is a huge step for this airport (in contrast to the 50,000 gallons to the 50,000 gallons they were selling three or four years ago).

Some of the other

Another source of funding that our airport is eligible for is "non-primary entitlement funding, he said. "Each year we usually Treceive a \$150,000 grant from the state of Texas and the federal government, and sa long as we can match that 10% (\$15,000), then we can receive that grant for any type of construction work at the airport, such as improving runways, the taxi way, or anything like that. TxDOT also has a Routine Airport Maintenance Program (RAMP) grant. If the city can provide \$30,000 to do to construction work at the with \$30,000 of their fuel, which is a huge step for this airport (in contrast to the 50,000 gallons they were selling three or four years ago).

Some of the other

airport," Quick added.

A 3 million dollar Capitol
Improvement Project will
include a 1,000 -foot runway
extension. "Right now we
have two runways at the
airport. The main runway
is 5,000 feet long; with this
extension, the main runway
will be 6,000 feet long and
that should be able to
accommodate any type of
business jet, except for the
commercial airliners.

"We are also going to rehabilitate all of our active runways and taxi-ways and we're going to put a new overlay surface on them (there will be black asphalt with white lettering). It will look really sharp," he said

with white lettering). It will look really sharp," he said.

Other plans include the improvement of a ramp apron (where the aircraft come in and park after landing). A radio controller will be installed, thus allowing pilots coming in at night to control the intensity of the lighting.

Some of the electrical work that will be done at the airport includes the installation of precision approach path indicator lighting on the main runway, which serves as a glide-slope for pilots coming in to land; these will be very good accommodations for arriving pilots.

Some runway end identifier lights (a bright light enabling pilots flying at night to see the Gainesville Airport) will also be installed, and some of the runways will also be upgraded, as will the taxi signage and markings.

Quick said that the Gainesville Airport plans to install security fencing and totally enclose the airport. Electric gates, he said, will also be installed on security fencing so that only authorized personnel can enter. Overhead ramp and terminal lighting will also be included.

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Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Tammie Sue Caldwell, Deceased, were issued on August 18, 2003, in Cause No. 15660, pending in the County Court of Cooke County, Texas, to: Jeff Leon Caldwell. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 18th day of August, 2003

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BERTHA M. THRASHER, DECEASED

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'Death by chocolate' not a likely problem

By Lynne Finnerty

If you've sent chocolates to your sweetheart or your mom recently, you may want to let them know that, although you meant well, you've inadvertently poisoned them. At least, that's what a group called the American Environmental Safety Institute wants people to think.

The group has filed a lawsuit alleging that chocolates contain enough carcinogenic, or cancer causing, cadmium and lead to require a warning on the wrapper. "Au contraire," say candy manufacturers, who note their chocolate products contain only trace amounts of the two naturally occurring metals. A person would have to eat a mighty heaping helping of chocolate to consume an amount that could be deemed dangerous. And, people have been safely and happily eating chocolate for eons with the only downside being expanded waistlines if they eat too much of it.

Who is right and who is wrong about the alleged dangers of eating chocolate? It doesn't even matter because it's cheaper for the manufacturers to settle this type of lawsuit than fight it in court, according to Jeffrey Margulies, a California attorney who reviewed the anti-chocolate lawsuit for the Washington Legal Foundation. You see, California's Proposition 65 allows citizens of that state to sue manufacturers if there is any detectable exposure, however small, to a

chemical that the state has identified as cancer causing or toxic. Once a detectable exposure is shown, the burden shifts to the defendant to show that the level of exposure does not require a warning, according to Margulies.

Plaintiffs in these lawsuits know that they have the manufacturers in a bind. The environmental and food scare groups don't have to be right. All they have to do is make the charge, and take credit when the defendants cave in and settle. What does all this contribute to public health? Nothing, because there was no real risk in the first place. Other states and the U.S. Congress should take heed of this absurdity before designing similar laws.

The anti-chocolate lawsuit is just the latest in a string of attempts to make people afraid of their food. A similar thing is happening with bread, potato chips and other starchy baked or fried foods. A group of Swedish scientists in April announced their discovery that a chemical reaction occurs in baking and frying, which results in small amounts of acrylamide, another carcinogen, in foods. Should we stop eating bread now? Of course not.

Don't we have more important things to worry about, America? Rather than fret over something that has an infinitesimal risk, we should be defending our right to choose which foods we want to eat, against the attacks of the food nannies.



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