



MUENSTER ENTERPRISE

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DECEMBER 17, 2004

MMH Board "roasts" outgoing administrator

Sunday, Dec. 12, the Muenster Memorial Hospital Board took time to reflect on the bumpy road that has been traveled by the Hospital District over the past few years, the many transitions gone through, and the successes accomplished. The occasion was a party held in the honor of current administrator Richard Arnold who is retiring this month. They also introduced Lynn Heller, the current chief financial officer, who is expected to become the next administrator.

MMH Board Secretary John Aytes opened the formalities by telling how Richard Arnold came to be the MMH administrator. At the request of the Board and MMH administration, a Covenant consulting group from Lubbock came to assist the Hospital.

Aytes related, "The big question at that time was, 'Can we keep a viable

operation in this hospital without raising taxes to the extent that the residents of our District would rebel, and if we keep them at a level that they will be satisfied with, will we have enough revenue from all sources to keep the Hospital open?' The Covenant Groups responded with a resounding, 'Yes, we can keep it open, but there are several things you've got to do.'"

The ship has sailed in the right direction and there are a lot of things in place that will keep it going in the right direction.

Lynn Heller, CFO of Muenster Hospital

The recommendation included getting a Critical Access designation, which was already being considered by the Board. It would get cost reimbursement from Medicare (about 70% of the District's business). Also to do better in billing and collection in the office, and a change in attitude."

Covenant said the Hospital could do it if they believed they could do it. That sent Aytes in search of an administrator who knew and believed in the steps that they would be taking to survive as a hospital. The search led him to Richard Arnold who was in Linden and getting ready to go into semi-retirement.

When the administrator resigned, Aytes suggested Arnold for the position and negotiations began. "It took a lot of convincing to cut his salary, make a move up here where his wife would not be able to follow because she's tied to a job where she's spent many years as a teacher and would have a hard time getting employment due to her high pay and years of seniority."

Aytes noted that Arnold gave up a lot of domestic home life to take the job. He then thanked Janice Arnold

for the sacrifice she made to allow her husband to accept the position.

The new administrator was presented a list of priorities and warned that he was coming into a strained situation. Arnold was asked to stabilize the work force, which had already experienced a 40% turn over because employees had been led to believe that the facility would close down. Before

the same problems. "We have accomplished what was set in that first Strategic Planning Session the summer of '02 and we just now completed the update of that Strategic Plan into '04 and on in to '05. If you fail to plan, then you're really planning to fail. You folks have been planning and planning and executing and planning. If you find something works, you stay with it and if it doesn't work, you change it and go on. And that is what it is going to take. You deserve the best care or the best hospital that this community is willing to support. I thank you for allowing me to be a part of it for these past two and a half years."

Board President Kenny Klement referred to the Board that Arnold walked in on. There were four members who had been on the Board for a time, and five who had just gotten on and didn't know a lot about what was going on. He joked that he didn't even know what the initials ER stood for. "We were blindly following for the first six months," said Klement. "We had no idea and he kept us all together and he educated us."

"Several of us have seen the fire in Richard's eye, but Richard's a real good man about it. He's got his point, he gets to it very quick, and then it's over with. It's settled and everybody goes about their way. He always let you know where he stood."

"When we started this, we figured the good Lord would provide for us what we needed. You can ask John, you can ask just about anybody around here, it's always happened. How and why we don't know, but we're here and we intend to stay."

See ROAST, Pg. 2



Muenster Memorial Hospital Administrator Richard Arnold and his wife Janice at his retirement party Sunday, Dec. 12. Janet Felderhoff photo

Party to honor retiring Cooke County officials

By Janet Felderhoff

At the end of 2004 a number of long-time Cooke County officials and employees will be retiring from their positions. To recognize their years of service, a party has been planned for Tuesday, Dec. 28 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Gainesville Civic Center, 311 South Weaver Street. Everyone is invited to attend the come and go event. Presentations will be made at 6 p.m. After the presentations, refreshments will be served.

Those being honored have a total of 167 years of service to the County's

citizens. Retiring are 235th District Judge Jerry Woodlock, Precinct #3 Commissioner Jerry Lewis, County Auditor Gloria Parrish, 235th District Court Reporter Ginger Herrmann, and Chief Adult Probation Officer Sandy Russell.

A special presentation will be made to Tom Woods honoring his wife, the late Ann Woods, who was the director of the Cooke County Library.

Commissioners Court unanimously approved resolutions honoring these people at the Monday, Dec. 13 regular meeting of Commissioners Court.



Justin Wolf, offensive lineman for the 2004 Muenster Hornets, was named to the class 1A All-state high school football team, honorable mention, as voted by the Associate press Sports Editors. Lindsay and Valley View also made placements on the tams.



The Muenster Elementary 3rd graders perform a play in front of a packed audience. Elfis and the Sleighriders were a big hit. Clint Sidwell (above) did an unforgettable performance as "Elfis". Along with the play, 2nd and 4th graders sang songs and the 5th grade played their recorders. There will be a repeat performance this morning at 9 am for all those who did not get to attend or just want to see it again! Deborah Wood photo

Melissa Williamson hired as compliance officer

By Janet Felderhoff

Melissa Williamson was hired during the regular meeting Monday, Dec. 13 by the Cooke County Commissioners Court to fill the new position of compliance officer for the court systems in the County. This is a pilot program that has six months to prove that it is financially beneficial to the County. Its purpose is to achieve better compliance with Court orders. Many people are not paying their fines. County Judge Bill Freeman said that only about 50% of the fines levied by the Courts in Cooke County are being collected.

Williamson brings three years experience in fine collection from Randall

County where she is currently working through the District Clerk's office. She and her husband Travis plan to move to Cooke County in two weeks. She begins her job Jan. 3.

When warned that this is a pilot program and that she might not have a job in six months, Williamson replied, "As much money as you all have outstanding here, in six months you'll be tickled to death with me."

Cooke County Emergency Management Director Ray Fletcher showed Commissioners Court a brochure that his office would be using in conjunction with talks given by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) to social organizations, schools, and

any other group in the community who requests it. "It pertains to residents of Gainesville and the County as a whole," said Fletcher.

The LEPC provides local governments and the public with information about possible chemical hazards in their communities. It has two main goals. One is to provide a basis for each community to develop and tailor a chemical emergency planning and response program to suit the community's needs. The second is to provide the public with a right-to-know attitude to identify, quantify, locate, and determine the physical and chemical properties of hazardous substances in the community.

Included in the brochure

is a guideline of what to do if a hazardous matter spill is suspected.

Fletcher predicted that in two months his group should be prepared to accept appointments to make public presentations when requested.

Cooke County EMS Director Bob Harbin presented a proposed plan for an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) sub station for Cooke County EMS. The architect said that the plan could be used as many times as needed around the County. This sub station is to be built in the eastern part of the County.

Judge Freeman said that it appeared to be a very good plan, and he saw no reason to change it from one

See EMS PLAN, Pg. 2

Muenster ISD Board meets in called meetings

By Janie Hartman

The Muenster ISD Board of Trustees met in two called meetings this month in preparation for Wednesday's (Dec. 15) regular Board meeting.

On Dec. 1, the Board met and discussed capital outlay items and improvements to the District. A representative from Arnko Industries, Inc. delivered the roof repair specifications for the vocation building, shop area, library, cafeteria, and walkways. Bids are being received and were presented at the Dec. 15 meeting. It was recommended that the four heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems serving the library be replaced when the roof is renovated. The systems are 15 to 20 years old.

A representative from Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Inc. presented information on the Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN), a Region IV Education Service Center cooperative purchasing program. Participation by government entities such as Muenster ISD, can provide the legally required competition for contracts for commonly purchased items, thereby saving the individual entity the cost of going through the competitive process. TCPN-awarded contracts provide the best pricing, terms, and conditions available to the customers.

Also at the meeting was a representative from Nouvean Technology Services to discuss the

proposed intercom, paging, and communications systems. An option to upgrade the current phone system instead of installing a new system was also discussed.

The Board approved the HVAC system bid from York Cooling for \$4,265.00 to complete Phase I of the weight room facility. Also approved was the installation of lights, electrical wiring, and plumbing in the weight room office, dressing room, bathroom, and laundry area.

Scott Johnson, retired McKinney ISD superintendent, discussed the job responsibilities of an interim superintendent. The Board then went into executive session to discuss

superintendent résumés received, but no action was taken.

The Muenster School Board met again on Dec. 8. The Board set a closing date for applications on Dec. 31. At the Dec. 15 meeting, the Board developed a time line for interviews. After a motion to go into executive session to discuss the superintendent résumés and interview for an interim superintendent, no action was taken.

The Board also discussed future property needs of the District. No action was taken.

Due to Wednesday newspaper deadlines, the Dec. 15 School Board story should appear in next week's paper.

ARNOLD cont. from pg. 1

Lynn Heller was then introduced as potentially the next administrator. He joined the administration staff of MMH in December 2003 as the chief financial officer.

"I've gone back and looked at the financials over the last five years and the net revenues since Richard came that first fiscal year, were up 19%," Heller noted. "Over a million dollars, so Richard has done a whole lot to get this hospital going in the right direction. We got a good audit report this year - the best audit report this hospital has seen in more than five years. The ship has sailed in the right direction and there are a lot of things in place that will keep it going in the right direction. The number one thing that does that is good people and we have good employees, a good board, good physicians, and we've got good community. I'm very proud to be here and looking forward to the future."

Klement then presented Arnold with a plaque. It was inscribed, "In recognition of superior administration."

Aytes said that Fay Hamric was probably the most responsible person for getting the Hospital Auxiliary going again. He said, "She did a heck of a good job and then along came Darlene, Mary Ann's (Hess) daughter. She's been a ball of fire." Darlene Williams, president of the Muenster Hospital Auxiliary, was presented

the outstanding leadership of the Hospital Auxiliary." Arnold remarked, "The Auxiliary is just as an important a department of the hospital as anything else. Without them the hospital is a little bit short. All the ladies and men who worked on that through the years are to be commended. Those who brought it out of retirement last year and then passed it on to you."

Members of the Muenster Hospital Auxiliary hosted the reception. They served cake and punch to guests, with a plaque inscribed, "Thank-you Darlene Williams in appreciation for



Darlene Williams



Guests attending a party in honor of Richard Arnold, retiring MMH administrator included Thelma Trubenbach, John Aytes, Tony Trubenbach, Adelia Wilson, Mary Ann Hess, and Brianna Bayer. Janet Felderhoff photo

Legislative changes allow Texas' small employers to join together to reduce health insurance cost

Over 5 million Texans live without health insurance. About 26% of Texans are uninsured. 66% of uninsured adults work, but either work for a firm that

doesn't offer insurance or they can't afford the employee contribution. While the problem is being debated on national campaign platforms, Texas Legislators have taken action!

Business owners can now utilize a new Texas law that enables them to provide insurance for their

See Insurance Pg. 9

EMS PLAN cont. from pg. 1

sub station to another. "We cannot build anything in the County that costs more than \$2,500 without an architect's seal on the print," noted the Judge.

The plan is for a small metal building with one bay, male and female living areas, and a small kitchen.

Judge Freeman suggested going for straight bids rather than RFP, which requires less legalities. He asked input from the Commissioners. They agreed with him and approved advertising for bids on building the sub station.

Kenneth Arterbury of Dexter questioned Commissioners Court on the new correction center/EMS building. He wanted to know what it had been used for before. The northwest corner was used as an asphalt plant and the remainder was pasture, said Judge Freeman. Arterbury then asked about a soil sample test.

Arterbury then noted that on Dec. 6 there were no silt screens in place on the site as Precinct #4 Commissioner Virgil Hess' crew cleared the site. Judge Freeman said, "We were not clearing the site. There was some fill left there by the old asphalt plant. Commissioner Hess said he could use it in placement of a bridge and asked if he could move it. It belonged to the County. It was a good place to use some of that old fill. The County didn't have to buy it from anybody."

Arterbury said that anytime you clean a site over one acre, you must put up a silt screen. Judge Freeman said he is now aware of that and has hired an engineer to take care of some of the paperwork on it.

"I've had a hazmat study done and I'm not concerned," remarked Judge

Freeman. "The man who did it is bonded."

Arterbury then brought up how the County would clear that site and how long it would take and how it would be done. He said a contractor should be hired since it would take a long time out of the County employees' work for other things. "I'll go on record right now and tell you that if these gentlemen cannot do the job, we will hire a contractor and do the job. We will get the dirt in there," stressed Judge Freeman. Arterbury again said that the County wouldn't be able to clear the site in a reasonable amount of time.

In other business Commissioners Court:

- Approved request by Woodbine Water Corporation to bore a fresh water line across CR 2117 at the location of 520 CR 2117 in Precinct #2.

- Approved purchase of office furniture in the 235th District Judge's Office from Judge Jerry Woodlock for a cost not to exceed \$3,500. The desk, office chair, credenza, and chairs belong to him. He would rather sell than move them. Incoming judge, Janelle Haverkamp, said she is happy with the purchase.

- Approved request by Cooke County Electric to install a two-inch electrical line across Neely Trail just south of the intersection of Bryant Road and Neely Trail, located in Precinct #2. Precinct #2 Commissioner said that the contract stipulates that the line be buried at least five feet deep with a caution tape one foot down.

- Approved Public Employee Honesty Bonds for employees of the County Clerk's office.

- Called a special meeting for Monday, Dec. 20 at 10

a.m. to discuss new jail/EMS plan with the architect and possibly approve printing them and getting them out to the bidders.

- Approved bonds for County officials, Sheriff's Office, and Constable for the following: Gary Hollowell, Mike Compton, Jody Lyons (deputy sheriff), David Province (jail administrator), Jeremy Holler (jailer), Carter (chief deputy), Charles Owen (reserve deputy), Michael Lacey (deputy), James Mask (deputy), Billie Jean Knight (tax assessor-collector), Tanya Davis (county attorney), John Roane (JP Precinct #4), Tony Ward (Precinct #4 constable), Terry Gilbert (constable Precinct #1) Gary Hollowell (commissioner Precinct #1), Al Smith (commissioner Precinct #3).

- Approved indigent burial of Delton Eugene Grimes.

- Approved bids for Sheriff's Department vehicles from Klement Ford totaling \$40,298.60 with trade in for two patrol cars and to Brown Motor for two SUVs for a total of \$37,336.60 with trade in. These bids were opened at the previous meeting, but not awarded since the Sheriff was not there to approve the specs.

Holidays hard on families affected by Alzheimer's

The Holiday Season is supposed to be joyous and filled with family memories, traditions, and gatherings, good will to others, and hope for a prosperous, healthy, happy New Year. For families coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease, the holidays may be fraught with increased stress, depression, guilt, agitation, and fatigue. These feelings are normal. For the person with Alzheimer's, depending on the stage, the holiday activities can be confusing and/or emotionally volatile, can be a scary reminder of their incapacity, or can lead to increased repetitive questioning and other behaviors.

Mary Dotson, whose mother suffers with Alzheimer's disease said, "The Holidays are just not the same, being from a large family (10 siblings) you can imagine the excitement in our family from Thanksgiving through Christmas. This is our third Christmas since Mom has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. This year will be especially hard. Mom no longer remembers our wonderful family holidays. She now finds a large family gathering frightening and confusing. She clings to my father like a child to a security blanket."

What can you do as a caregiver to reduce these unpleasant reactions? How do you enjoy the holidays? How do you cope with the Holiday Blues? The Alzheimer's Association, along with professional geriatric care manager Geri Sams, have put together some suggestions to help families affected by Alzheimer's disease enjoy the Holiday Season.

Review your expectations, plans, and set your limits. Discuss with your family past holiday traditions, make sure all family members understand the situation with your loved one with dementia, then develop a plan to celebrate the holidays perhaps in a different manner. The primary caregiver might need "permission" to do less this year. It is OK to shorten your Christmas card list, get an artificial tree instead of a real one, give cash, or shop through catalogs/internet instead of trawling through the malls, and ask for help and support. If your loved one is at home or you decide to bring him/her home from the assisted living residence, you may want to have a potluck dinner rather than the usual big spread.

Alzheimer's Association/Holiday Suggestions Inform/educate your guests about your loved one's current condition. Send an e-mail or note in advance describing your loved one's unpredictable behavior, repetitive statements, and the likelihood that he/she won't remember them or their name. It might be helpful to arrange for one or two people to visit with your loved one in a quiet area, without as many distractions. Encourage reminiscence by providing old photos or sharing family stories from long ago. Help your guests by encouraging simple interaction and enjoyment of the moment...don't focus on what the person will remember.

Adjust your traditional holiday plans. If a change See ALZHEIMER'S, Pg. 9



Members of the Muenster Chamber of Commerce gathered last Wednesday for their quarterly mixer. It was held in the newly renovated Muenster Memorial Hospital Family Health Clinic. Shown visiting in the foreground are, from left, Joe Bright, Anna Brazier, Jewel Otto, and Margie Starke. Scott Wood photo

We just want to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, and visits while Nolan was sick. Special thanks to Dr. Edd and the nurses at Muenster Memorial Hospital. Nolan is recovering well, and we appreciate all the support and concern.

Nolan Hartman and family

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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR To list your event, call 759-4311 BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY!

Sunday, December 19, 2004	Monday, December 20, 2004	Tuesday, December 21, 2004	Wednesday, December 22, 2004	Thursday, December 23, 2004	Friday, December 24, 2004	Saturday, December 25, 2004
Muenster Museum Open 1-4PM		Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Deadline for applications to be received for Master Marketing Program MMH Board meeting, 7 PM, Administration Office		Muenster Museum CLOSED	Muenster Museum CLOSED	Merry Christmas to All!
Sunday, December 26, 2004	Monday, December 27, 2004	Tuesday, December 28, 2004	Wednesday, December 29, 2004	Thursday, December 30, 2004	Friday, December 31, 2004	Saturday, January 1, 2005
Muenster Museum CLOSED		Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Marketing Club meeting, 7 PM, Gainesville Farm Bureau		Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Happy New Year

K G A F / N C T C Holiday Classic

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

We'd be remorse not to take the time to share something good after taking the time to share the shameful, anonymous act that occurred on our drive. The number of phone calls, letters, and expressions of love after the despicable act has been overwhelming! We even had offers to add to the \$500 reward to bring the reward amount to \$1,250 if we accepted their generousities.

These offers came from people who were so angry that someone would "shame the community" they also want the culprit caught and prosecuted. We know who threatened to burn our house down because people in the community who heard the threat and his expressions of hate toward us have informed us of his verbal threats and expressions of hate. Please don't ask us who this person is because it's only important that the Sheriff knows his name just in case he follows through with his threat. We still don't know who sent the hate mail or who left the bloody skeletons on the drive and the reward is still offered for the illegal dumping of

the skeletons on the drive. We can only respond by saying, hate us if you want but please leave us alone. The hatred you harbor in your heart is between you and God.

We wish to reassure the community that we believe with all of our hearts that 99% of the people of this community are genuinely warm, loving, caring people. This community has embraced us and we have never been made to feel like "outsiders". We certainly don't judge the entire community by its village idiot(s) and would disagree with anyone who does. We've made more loving, better quality friends here than anywhere we've lived. We believe Muenster is an exciting and beautiful place to live with the best schools, youth, and people in Texas! There are "little minded" people in every community. Let's not let their acts overshadow what a wonderful place Muenster really is, because the overwhelming majority of people in Muenster truly are wonderful people!

Carl & MaryLee Alford
P. O. Box 604
Muenster, TX 76252

Sen. Estes declares war on methamphetamine scourge

AUSTIN -- State Senator Craig Estes, R-Wichita Falls, has declared war on the methamphetamine epidemic by filing a package of bills for the 79th Texas Legislature aimed at limiting the essential ingredients for producing the drug while providing stiffer penalties for the criminals who manufacture, deliver, or possess it.

"Today I am declaring war on the methamphetamine epidemic that plagues North Texas and, indeed, the entire state. It is critical that the Texas Legislature do all we can to eradicate this terrible drug that destroys lives, ruins families, and ravages communities. This is a package of tough, new laws that address this issue with the seriousness it deserves," Estes said.

Estes said he has been working with law enforcement officers and criminal prosecutors, who helped him craft his package of legislation that seeks to prohibit over-the-counter sales of certain forms of pseudoephedrine, enhances the penalty for manufacture or delivery of methamphetamine, strengthens conspiracy laws for persons associated with the manufacture or distribution of methamphetamine, and increases the punishment for manufacturing methamphetamine in the presence of children.

Wichita County District Attorney Barry Macha said the cornerstone of Estes' legislation is limiting access to the drug's key ingredient, pseudoephedrine.

"This is why I strongly support the legislation introduced by Senator Estes. Any inconvenience to the pharmaceutical industry, retailers, and consumers pales in comparison to the insidious damage methamphetamine causes to our communities, families, and most especially our children," Macha said.

The one single ingredient that "meth cooks" must have is pseudoephedrine tablets which are ground into powder in the manufacturing process. Pseudoephedrine is an ingredient in many over-the-counter products, Estes said. Senate Bill 107 proposes to prohibit over-the-counter sales of single entity forms of pseudoephedrine, but would still allow for liquid, gel capsule, and liquid capsule form in which pseudoephedrine is not the only active ingredient.

This law would not apply to a product dispensed or delivered by a pharmacist according to a prescription issued by a physician, Estes said. Any establishment caught selling or dispensing pseudoephedrine in its single entity form by any means other than a pharmacy would be subject to monetary penalties as per the number and seriousness of violations discovered.

Senate Bill 108 filed by Estes would enhance the penalties for manufacture or delivery of methamphetamine. Current law punishes the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to deliver less than one gram of methamphetamine with a mandatory state jail felony which, in most cases translates into automatic probation.

"My proposed legislation is much tougher and would redefine these offenses as third degree felonies punishable by prison sentences served in the state penitentiary," said Estes.

Senate Bill 110 is aimed at punishing anyone associated -- not just the "meth cooks" -- with the manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs including methamphetamine.

"This is targeted at any conspirators who are involved in cooking a batch of meth. It covers everything from people helping collect the ingredients to someone who rents a motel room where meth is being cooked in a makeshift lab. We need to enlarge the net to catch and punish anyone playing any part in these criminal activities," Estes said.

Senate Bill 109 proposes enhancing penalties for the manufacture of methamphetamine by one full degree if there is a child younger than 18 years present on the premises.

"We, as a society, must get serious about eradicating methamphetamine and the toll it continues to take in our homes, in our schools, and in places of work. It continues to play a major role in child abuse and neglect, and it fuels property and identity theft crimes," Estes said.

"The methamphetamine drug culture is, without question, the most pressing crime problem facing our state, and it's time for the Texas Legislature to pass some tough, new laws to fight this serious war," Estes said.

Obituaries

George Thelston Clements 1926 - 2004

George Thelston Clements, age 78 of Nocona, formerly of Saint Jo and Gainesville, died at 10:38 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2004 in Nocona. Visitation was held at McCoy Funeral Home on Friday from 7 - 8 p.m. Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. in McCoy Funeral Chapel in Saint Jo, C.E. Cole officiated. Burial followed in Dye Mound Cemetery.

Born May 6, 1926 in Wingate, Texas to Jesse Dow and Lola Maud Childres Clement, George grew up and worked in the oil fields most of his life. He married Agnes Leona Miller on Aug. 21, 1949 in Odessa. They traveled around the oil fields, finally settling in the Montague and Cooke County areas. He served in the U.S. Army for a short while during World War II.

George was a member of the First United Methodist

Church in Gainesville. He was a family man, who enjoyed his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. His chief hobby was carving walking canes.

Survivors include a daughter Betty Thompson of Kennesaw, Georgia; sons George Dale Clements and Johnny D. Clements of Gainesville; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; three sisters LaVene Hale of Odessa, Jessie Mae Curtis of Odessa, and Dorothy Faye Shaines of Baytown, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his wife Agnes Leona Clements; sisters Anna Smith and Serena Myers; and a brother John and his wife Pearl Clements.

Fullbearers were Doug Gaston, David Gaston, James Huckaby, Kelly Barker, Mac Parker, and Louis Pickett.

DAYS GONE BY.....

by Elfreda Fette

65 YEARS AGO

December 15, 1939

Obituaries: Frank Loerwald, 89; Mrs. Joseph Phillips, 81. Local mutual hospitalization group begins plans for introduction to this community. Besides reduced rates, it would contribute toward the community's best opportunity to build an adequate hospital.

Muenster turkey packing market revives after poor start. Foundation for new bank is completed. Another test oil well is begun on the Peery and Fields Ranch, in an attempt to extend the South Muenster oil field.

Henry Luke and Al Walterscheid caught 30 lb. of fish at Lake Bridgeport. Mmes. John Fette, Ben Seyler, and Herbert Meurer spent Tuesday in Fort Worth.

Mmes. J.M. Weinzapfel, Tony Gremminger, and P.W. Hellman of Gainesville spent Tuesday in Dallas.

Mrs. Wm. Wieler, Mr. and Mrs. John Wieler and little daughter Juanita Wieler spent Sunday in Ardmore, Oklahoma with relatives Mr. and Mrs. Homer Billingsley.

Rufus Henscheid was honored on his 10th birthday with party. Richard Fette, driving his ancient Model A "puddlejumper" spent two months driving in the Middle West, Iowa, and

Wisconsin. Frank Sicking of Bakersfield, California has returned home after visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ben Sicking.

50 YEARS AGO

December 17, 1954

No paper was available the week of Dec. 17, 1954.

25 YEARS AGO

December 14, 1979

Big crowd cheers Christmas Parade. Feast of Saint Nicholas observed by the CCD bringing surprises for students and lovely, religious event for their families.

Bishop Dangelmayr portrayed St. Nicholas. Obituary: Dr. Alfredo R. Antonetti, Sr., 90. Forestburg opens a moccasin factory. Wedding: Pamela Ehrsam and Ricky Swirczynski. First Holy Communion for 38 held for little second graders of Sacred Heart Parish.

Graduating from Officers Basic U.S. Marine Corps, Development and Educational Command at Quantico, Virginia is 2nd Lt. Raymond T. Bright of the U.S. Marine Corps, and son of David and Juanita Bright Muenster Hornets get trophy in Slidell

Tourney; Tigerettes win trophy at Sanger Tourney. New Arrivals: a daughter, Robin Linzee to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Voth; a son, Jason Andrew to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Stockard.

From My Side of the Fence

by Ed Cier

Here it is almost Christmas, and we have had only a light freeze or two. Predictions are for colder weather this week.

We have received a few Christmas cards, and I have taken note of the ones wishing us Happy Holidays, and the ones wishing us "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

It's a shame that almost all of the cards coming from commercial sources have left "Christ" out of Christmas, and are using the words "Happy Holidays".

The American Civil Liberties Union and "The Americans United for the Separation of Church and States", has been doing a pretty fair job of indoctrinating a lot folks to keep Christ out of Christmas. The members of the aforementioned organizations have managed to get a lot of public entities to ban Christmas trees, Nativity scenes, and the singing of Christmas carols, etc.

To think that a minority of Christianity haters could have so much effect on the

American public (when 85% claim to be Christians, according to polls) is almost unbelievable.

Wouldn't it be nice if these anti-Christians just believed the things they do, and granted the majority the same right?

Then we could all have a "Merry Christmas", which is my wish for all, and a "Happy New Year".

Betty Jean Neu dies

Betty Jean Neu, wife of Freddie William Neu of Gainesville, died Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004. Rosary was held in St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lindsay at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 16. Funeral Mass was set for Friday, Dec. 17 at St. Peter's Catholic Church at 10 a.m. Complete obituary will be in next week's Muenster Enterprise.

Holiday safety tips - Christmas trees

Always unplug tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.

Courtesy of Muenster VFD and Chief Herbie Knabe



Gaylon Thompson Insurance Agency

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Lifestyle

Gifts for soldiers suggested by Red Cross

The Texoma Chapter of the American Red Cross has announced a holiday project for American troops who will not be home for Christmas due to injuries received in the Middle East.

"Many soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines will not be able to travel home for Christmas due to the extent of their injuries," a Red Cross spokesman said. "These young warriors have significant wounds and thus will be in the hospital undergoing treatment and then rehab for quite some time."

Due to the nature of their injuries, these men and women can't check out and go home for the holidays, but they can make long

distance calls to their families and loved ones.

The local Red Cross chapter is urging area residents to purchase domestic phone cards in denominations from \$5 up and drop them off at the Red Cross office in Denison at 2527 Hwy. 69, or in Gainesville in the basement of the **Cooke County Courthouse**. Cards will then be shipped to a military liaison in Bethesda, Maryland. **Deadline is Dec. 17.**

Additionally, cards would be welcomed for distribution to Texoma Area National Guard members who may soon be deployed, Sharon Watson, local Red Cross

director said. This type card would need to be a prepaid GLOBAL phone card to be used overseas.

Domestic cards may be purchased at local retail outlets. Global cards may be purchased by visiting a special page on the Army Airforce Exchange web page: www.aafes.com. When logged onto this page look for the message that says support our troops and get information from "Help Our Troops Call Home."

The gift of a card is far more portable and usable than bulk items, Watson said. It is also a gift that can be used year-round. For more information, call the Red Cross at 903-465-1330.



Bob and Diann Hultstrand of Frisco announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Lacy Paige Hultstrand, to Shawn Lee Wooley. The groom is the son of Charles and Cathy Wooley of Fort Worth and the late Betty Wooley. The bride-elect attended Texas Christian University and is currently employed by Ann Taylor Loft. The prospective groom attended Kilgore College and is employed as the head tennis pro at Mira Vista Golf Club in Fort Worth. The couple plans to marry Jan. 1, 2005, in the Grand Lobby of Bass Performance Hall, Fort Worth. Lacy is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Felderhoff of Muenster and Mr. Wally Hultstrand of Rockford, Illinois.

New Arrivals

Dudley

Lorene and J. S. Dudley of Gainesville joyfully announce the arrival of twin daughters. Anna Malyn and Hallie Blair Dudley were born Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004 weighing 4 lb. 9 oz. and 5 lb. and measuring 18 1/2 inches in length. Grandparents are Walter and Celine Bartel of Muenster and Jane Dudley and the late Don Dudley.

Fisher

Steven and Penny Fisher of Muenster announce the birth of their third child, a daughter. They named her Madeline Rose Fisher. She was born Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2004 in Muenster Memorial Hospital. She weighed 6 lb. 13 oz. and measured 19 1/4 inches in length. Dr. Karla Davidson Cox delivered Madeline. Welcoming their new baby sister are Ashleigh Margaret, age 4, and Mary Elizabeth, age 2. Grandparents are Roy and Connie Purcell of Gainesville and Butch and Eileen Fisher of Muenster. Great-grandparents are Paula Bush of Edna and the late George Bush, William and Dorothy Purcell of Gainesville, the late John and Ruth Ward, and the late John and Margaret Fisher.



Luke and Abby Walterscheid

Abby and Luke celebrate together

Abby and Luke Walterscheid, children of Kenneth and Tina Walterscheid, celebrated their third and first birthdays together on Sunday, Dec. 12 at their home. Abby requested a Lady Bug cake, made and decorated by her mother. Luke's cake, also made and decorated by Tina, was a

caterpillar. They enjoyed hot dogs, and cake and ice cream with their parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins. Unable to attend were: grandfather Dale Klement; uncle Keith, aunt Christine, and cousins Caleb and Hannah Klement; and Luke's Godmother Julie Kendrick and family.

Holiday safety tips - Smoke alarms

Replace the batteries at least once a year or as soon as the alarm "chirps", warning that the battery is low.

Replace any smoke alarm that is 10 years old or older. *Courtesy of Muenster VFD and Chief Herbie Knabe*

TWC helps young adults get a "Reality Check"

The Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) Labor Market and Career Information Department (LMCI) has developed the "Reality Check Budget Calculator," a brand new no cost Web site designed with young adults in mind. This online budget planner features a multimedia flash player introduction with vivid colors, graphics, and messages to give young adults a clear understanding of what it takes to survive on a real-life budget.

Reality Check offers a quick glimpse of a realistic budget scenario. Young people can benefit instantly from the realistic comparison of various careers, salaries, and expenses found on the Web site. With Reality Check, the seeds are planted in their minds to start planning for their futures. "Getting young people to see the link between the lifestyle they desire and the education needed in order to make that happen is the goal of the Reality Check Budget Calculator," said TWC Executive Director Larry Temple. "TWC's Labor Market and Career Information Department is

committed to helping young adults make smart career choices through a range of career guidance and mentoring programs designed to help them succeed."

Reality Check offers users three real-life budget scenarios:

- **Get a Reality Check** - Users make lifestyle choices to determine what standard of living they want to achieve, including monthly expenses such as rent, utilities, car, clothing, and more. Reality Check determines the necessary annual income, as well as sample careers matching this salary.
 - **Future Salary** - Users enter a dollar figure of the salary they want to earn and Reality Check offers suggested career fields and education levels needed to meet that salary.
 - **Career Direct**: Users choose a career, and Reality Check estimates a salary depending on the city. The program then lets users pick lifestyle-related expenses and arrive at a balanced budget.
- For more information on the "Reality Check Budget

Calculator," visit www.texasworkforce.org

Santa visits VFW children and grandchildren

Santa made his appearance to VFW children and grandchildren on Wednesday, Dec. 8 in the Post Home.

The small children gathered around the red, white, and blue decorated tree of buddy poppies, flags, and candy canes. They sang Christmas songs while waiting for Santa. After his arrival, each child took their turn sitting on Santa's lap, telling him their Christmas wishes, and taking pictures. Presents were given to the children by Santa.

Assisting Santa was Frances Bayer. Ethel Hesse served coffee and soda. Agnes Hesse provided and served cookies.

On Monday, Dec. 13, the Ladies Auxiliary held their regular meeting in the Post Home. A Health and Happiness Award certificate was on display. The VFW Children's Home is celebrating their 80th

birthday, and members were asked to send birthday cards and gifts.

Rehab Chairman Rose Marie Sicking and Chaplain Hilda Sicking gave their report on Christmas baskets for veterans' families, special children, and sick members. Members signed cards to be sent to the veterans.

In lieu of Christmas cards is still accepted until early Monday morning, Dec. 20.

Sandra Hennigan won the door prize. Members brought covered dishes to share with VFW members who furnished the fried chicken.

Holiday safety tips - Christmas trees

When purchasing an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled as fire retardant. *Courtesy of Muenster VFD and Chief Herbie Knabe*

Health Tips

Don't put a damper on your holidays by mixing medications. When your doctor asks what medicines you're taking, mention every single one.

"Your physician needs to know about all medications - including over-the-counter drugs and home remedies - to assess for possible drug interactions and overdosing," says Dr. Craig Rubin, a specialist in geriatric medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Seniors with several medical problems are especially vulnerable because they may see more than one doctor. Each physician must be made aware of other doctors' treatments, including prescriptions, to avoid exposing the patient to potential complications, says Dr. Rubin.

He says a common scenario is the patient who has been prescribed a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and is mistakenly taking another drug from the same class, like ibuprofen or Aleve. Such patients, regardless of age, would increase their risk of complications from gastric ulcers or kidney failure.

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MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS GLOW!

- Check your Christmas lights, plugs, outlets, and extension cords. Don't overload a circuit or start a fire with a frayed and damaged cord.
- Keep trees and flammable decorations a safe distance from open flame heaters, fireplaces, and wood stoves.
- Check children's new toys for potential safety hazards.
- Buckle up and be careful on the road. Out-of-town travelers, drinking drivers, and weather conditions all pose special risks this time of the year.

COOKE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The wisdom of Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States

"The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

"Of the four wars in my lifetime none came about because the U.S. was too strong."

"I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandment's would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress."

"If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

"The nearest thing to eternal life we will ever see on this earth is a government program."

"Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed there are many rewards, if you disgrace yourself you can always write a book."

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Andi and Mardi Wisdom celebrated birthdays on Nov. 4 and Oct. 14. Family and friends attended parties at their home in Thalia. Andi is 13 and Mardi is 7. They are the daughters of Rocky and Gina Wisdom of Thalia, and granddaughters of Norma Clifton and Denis Hofbauer of Muenster, and Jake and Dorothy Wisdom of Thalia.

Courtesy Photo

Holiday at Dallas Arboretum opening for public enjoyment

The Dallas Arboretum once again enchants visitors during Holiday at the Arboretum with a variety of Yuletide festivities. Holiday at the Arboretum has something for everyone each day of the week from Nov. 26 to Dec. 31. The acclaimed Artistry of the Nativity exhibit returns this year. The Arboretum also features a new Christmas Tree Maze and Family Fun Weekends.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors 65 and up, and \$4 for children aged three - 12. Admission is free for Arboretum members and children two and under. The Arboretum is wheelchair accessible and tram service is available for the mobility impaired. For information about reservations or group tickets call 214-515-6512. For more information, call 214-327-4901 or visit www.dallasarboretum.org.

The art of growing things

Holiday Houseplants

By Pat Almand, Cooke County Master Gardener

It's time to think of Holiday decorating with living plants. Christmas Cactus, Amaryllis, and Poinsettias make great holiday decorating statements. I would like to offer some easy shopping tips and care of these beautiful plants. First, don't shop for them on really cold days. All of them are tropical plants. They really hate cold drafts. This includes the trip from the store to your house!

Try a Christmas cactus for something out of the ordinary. The 1 to 3 inch long festive blooms look like flirtatious extra-thick eyelashes. They can have bright red, pink, white, or salmon colored blooms that persist for about six weeks. Flat, segmented branches form an arching, cascading mass as the plant matures. New segments form on the tips of existing ones. These segments can be stuck in the soil to start new plants. There are no spines or stickers on a Christmas cactus. Place your Christmas cactus in bright indoor light, but not in direct sun. It likes humidity; so during periods of peak growth and bloom, keep the soil consistently moist. Set the pot on a water-filled tray of pebbles or glass beads. Do not re-pot it as soon as you bring it home. It could drop all of its buds. Wait until it finishes blooming, then use a lightweight potting soil high in organic matter. Reduce water and fertilizer until spring when it begins to grow again. To make it bloom next year, it needs at least 12 hours of darkness each night beginning in very early October. Cover it with a box each night. NO PEEKING! Even short bursts of light, if frequent enough, will throw off the bloom cycle. Uncover it about Thanksgiving. This is a very house-friendly plant and can last for many years, looking better each year.

It is too late to order Amaryllis and force them to bloom in time for Christmas. It takes six to eight weeks. That said, shop locally, and look for ones at the store or nursery that are already sending up a bloom stalk. Don't worry if the stalk is bent over, it will straighten up and lean toward a light source such as a window. Plant each bulb in a rich, well-draining potting soil. The pot should be only about 1 to 1 1/4 inches larger than the bulb (they like it crowded) and heavy enough to support the weight of the tall bloom spikes. Plant the bulb so that two-thirds of the bulb is in soil and one-third is above the soil line. Pointy end up! Place the pot in a warm, sunny location and it will send up a bloom stalk that will have three to five trumpet shaped flowers in red, white, or pink, or combinations of these, and grow 18 to 24 inches tall. When blooming begins, you can move the plant to a shadier location, as this will help prolong the bloom. It will also grow some long strap like leaves at this time. Once it has finished blooming cut off the bloom stalk, and continue to water and fertilize your amaryllis until about mid-July. Store indoors in a dark spot with the pot on its side to prevent accidental watering. In late October, bring the pot out, cut off the dead foliage, refresh the soil, and give the plant a drink to start its growth cycle again.

Now for the most popular, prettiest, and most finicky plant, the poinsettia. The color range has moved far beyond the traditional Christmas Red. They are now available in an incredible variety of colors from red to white, pink, and beautiful combinations that are marbled or spotted, all the way to a purple one called "Plum Pudding". Check at the nurseries or florists for the most unusual varieties. Poinsettias are not as finicky as they used to be. They had a bad habit of dropping their leaves at the slightest stress and they are still easily stressed. Usually from too much or too little water. (Standing in a saucer of water is really bad.) There has been much improvement in their ability to co-exist with people. They are grown in controlled environment greenhouses and our homes are still an adverse condition for them, not to mention getting from the greenhouse to our house.

It pays to be selective when you go shopping for your poinsettia. Make sure the foliage is crisp and dark green all the way to the bottom, no yellow leaves. Check the soil, if it's wet and the plant is droopy, root rot may be a factor. Also plants that are displayed too close together or in plastic or foil sleeves can deteriorate rapidly. Look for plants that are not displayed too near the entrance to the store. Cold drafts from constantly opening doors are not good for them either. If we have nothing but cold days, make a separate shopping trip for your poinsettia. The car needs to be warm (not hot). Ask the person packaging your plant to cover the tops as well as placing it in a shopping bag. Don't run the heater in the car on high. Try not to place them in the front seat with you, but not in the far back of an SUV or in the trunk of a car or the open bed of a pickup truck.

Once you get your poinsettia home remove the plastic sleeve or poke holes in it for drainage. Place the plant on a tray filled with pebbles so you can water it thoroughly, yet the plant won't stand in water. Water when the surface soil is dry to the touch. This may be twice a week. Don't let them dry out and wilt. Position them away from heating vents and where they can get some sunlight. They prefer a temperature range of 60 degrees at night and 72 degrees during the day. Avoid cold drafts and protect from cold winds. You can place them anywhere for a party or Christmas day, but return them to their preferred location or you could have bare stalks long before you put up the Christmas tree. Unless you buy a really expensive variety, it is not worth trying to keep them for another year.



Cooke County Electric employee Gus Ashley shown with Tiger Cubs Justen Nasura, Zachary Klement, Dalton Williams, Zane Kemp, and Dalton Bartel. Courtesy photo

Tiger Cubs learn electrical safety

Tiger Cub Scout Group of Muenster met at Cooke County Electric Cooperative (CCEC) on Monday, Nov. 22. CCEC Member Services Representative Kathy Boone presented an electrical safety program to the group. CCEC Lineman First Class Gus Ashley took them on a tour of the Cooperative.

Group Leaders and parents also in attendance were Melinda Klement, Katina Bartel, Joell Kemp, and Randy Williams.

If your organization or group needs a program for their upcoming meeting, please contact Kathy Boone at Cooke County Electric Cooperative at 759-2211 for more information.

Perry encourages parents to enroll their children in program

Gov. Rick Perry recently encouraged Texans to help protect their children by enrolling them in the National Child Identification Program. Perry was joined by University of Texas Head Coach Mack Brown, Ed Smart, father of Elizabeth Smart; Kenny Hansmire, executive director of the National Child ID program, and Johnny Veselka, executive director of the Texas Association of School Administrators.

"There is no greater responsibility than ensuring the safety of our most precious and vulnerable citizens: our children," Perry said. "As governor, I believe that government must do all it can to help parents to protect their children. That is why I am proud to support a visionary effort such as the National Child Identification Program that is empowering parents, supporting law enforcement, and helping protect our children."

The National Child Identification Program was created under the leadership of the American Football Coaches Association in 1997 to provide identification kits that allow parents to collect their child's fingerprints, DNA, and other vital information. The information is stored in the privacy of the home and provided to law enforcement

should the need arise.

"Just a few years ago, Texas became the first state in the nation to partner with the Child ID program and today we renew our commitment to this worthy cause," Perry said. "Starting in November, the Texas Association of School Administrators will begin distributing information on the Child ID program to millions of parents and legal guardians of children attending our public schools. I encourage every parent to take advantage of this important program."

The FBI-approved kits will be made available to thousands of Texas families for a nominal fee of \$7.50. The process is simple, lasts just five minutes, and could directly lead to the safe recovery of a missing child. Since 1997, the program has distributed more than 14 million Child ID kits at schools, football games, churches, and community events.

"When a child goes missing, every minute is critical. Each piece of identifying information that parents can provide will help law enforcement officials find their child and bring them home safely," Perry said. "By participating in the National Child Identification Program, we can ensure that many of these terrible stories have a happy ending."

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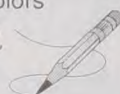
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School

Junior High District 14A holds academic meet in Era

The 2004-05 Junior High District 14A (East Zone) Academic Meet was held on Friday, Dec. 3 at Era Junior High. There were five schools competing and Lindsay (L) claimed 1st place with 966.3 points. Muenster (M) was 2nd with 499.8, followed by Valley View (V) 281.5, Era (E) 208.0, and Collinsville (C) 119.3.

Individual results are as follows:

7TH GRADE

Art: 1, Muenster; 2, Lindsay; 3, Valley View.

Calculator

Applications: 1, Dillon Hanson, L; 2, John Block, L; 3, Dax Fleitman, L; 4, Lia Heers, M; 5, Daniel Berkley, C; 6, Levi Trubenbach, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster.

Dictionary Skills: 1, Alex Cooney, L; 2, Haley Hughes, L; 3, Amber Case, V; 3T, Brooke Swindle, C; 5, Chris Valliere, M; 6, Abby Anderle, L. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Collinsville; 3, Muenster.

Editorial Writing: 1, Dillon Hanson, L; 2, Jodi Abner, M; 3, Colton Hermes, L; 4, Nicholas Cook, E; 5, Adam Krebs, L; 6, Ryan Neal, M.

Impromptu Speaking: 1, Andie Faulkner, L; 2, Haley Haverkamp, L; 3, Jodi Abner, M; 4, Austin Reed, C; 5, Cody Comer, E; 6, Daniel Berkley, C.

Listening Skills: 1, Cody Comer, E; 2, Austin Reiter, L; 3, Nicholas Cook, E; 4T, Alex Cooney, L; 4T, Matthew Bain, M; 6, Colton Hermes, L. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Era; 3, Muenster.

Maps, Graphs & Charts: 1, Dillon Hanson, L; 2, Colton Hermes, L; 3T, Eric Hellman, M; 3T, Haylee Hamilton, V; 5, Patrick Cox, C; 6, Matthew Bain, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Valley View.

Mathematics: 1, Dillon Hanson, L; 2, Shirley Hess, L; 3, Austin Reiter, L; 4, Tyler Pagel, M; 5, Eric Hellman, M; 6, Justin Miller, E. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Era.

Modern Oratory: 1, Emily Copeland, L; 2, Austin Reiter, L; 3, Ryan Haverkamp, L; 4, Jodi Abner, M; 5, Zach Hughes, C.

Number Sense: 1, Dillon

Hanson, L; 2, Colton Hermes, L; 3, Austin Reiter, L; 4, Lia Heers, M; 5, Nathan Bayer, V; 6, Tyler Pagel, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Valley View.

Oral Reading: 1, Charlie Graves, E; 2, Natalie Valliere, M; 3, Dax Fleitman, L; 4, Katie McAden, M; 5, Marissa Lyons, E; 6, Cammi Neu, L.

Ready Writing: 1, Sara Walterscheid, M; 2, Jodi Abner, M; 3, Spencer Whitney, C; 4, Lia Heers, M; 5, Colton Hermes, L; 6, Abby Anderle, L.

Science: 1T, Blake Hunter, L; 1T, Levi Trubenbach, M; 3, Josh Hall, V; 4, Nicholas Cook, E; 5, Haley Hamilton, V; 6, TJ Acuna, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Valley View.

Social Studies: 1, Matt Hagemann, E; 2, Shirley Hess, L; 3T, Eric Hellman, M; 3T, Steven Valliere, M; 5, Dax Fleitman, L; 6, Bethany Stockton, V. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Valley View.

Spelling: 1, Abby Anderle, L; 2, Dillon Hanson, L; 3, Zohaib Anwar, L; 4, Courtney Harville, C; 5, Andrea May, C; 6, Gabriela Saiza, C. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Collinsville; 3, Muenster.

8TH GRADE

ART: 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Valley View.

Calculator

Applications: 1, Nick Bezner, L; 2T, Beverly Knabe, L; 2T, Amber Nordman, L; 4, Abigail Davidson, V; 5, RJ Metzler, E; 5, Justin Holt, V. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Valley View; 3, Era.

Dictionary Skills: 1, Jordanne Hellman, M; 2T, Kelly Laux, L; 2T, Abigail Davidson, V; 4, Brandy Dangelmayr, M; 5, Amber Nordman, L; 6, Emily Duvall, V. TEAM - 1, Muenster; 2, Lindsay; 3, Valley View.

Editorial Writing: 1, Kendall Neu, L; 2, Michael Buchholtz, E; 3, Samantha Endres, M; 4, Haylee Andrew, V; 5, Caleb Anderson, E; 6, Lorena Downey, V.

Impromptu Speaking: 1, Kelsey Hawkins, L; 2, Elizabeth Martin, L; 3, Pooja Patel, L; 4, Mason Kieninger, M; 5, Brandy Dangelmayr, M; 6, Emily Duvall, V.

Listening Skills: 1,

Rhiannon Robinson, L; 2T, Derek Hundt, L; 2T, John Rohmer, M; 4, Abe Fuhrmann, M; 5T, Ethan Teel, C; 5T, Kyle Bezner, L; 5T, Jared Flusche, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Collinsville.

Maps, Graphs & Charts: 1, Nick Bezner, L; 2, Jon Sweeney, L; 3, Mustafa Hweidi, L; 4, RJ Metzler, E; 5, Joey Neff, V; 6, Michael Buchholtz, E. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Valley View; 3, Muenster.

Mathematics: 1, Nick Bezner, L; 2, Abigail Davidson, V; 3, Amber Nordman, L; 4, Justin Holt, V; 5, Derek Hundt, L; 6, Levi Trubenbach, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Valley View; 3, Muenster.

Modern Oratory: 1, Rhiannon Robinson, L; 2, Nichole Metzler, L; 3, Pooja Patel, L; 4, Summer Simmons, V; 5, Candice Bowling, E; 6, Haylee Andrew, V.

Number Sense: 1, Nick Bezner, L; 2, Derek Hundt, L; 3, Justin Holt, V; 4, Joey Neff, V; 5, Sam Sparkman, L; 6, Brandon Bindel, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Valley View; 3, Muenster.

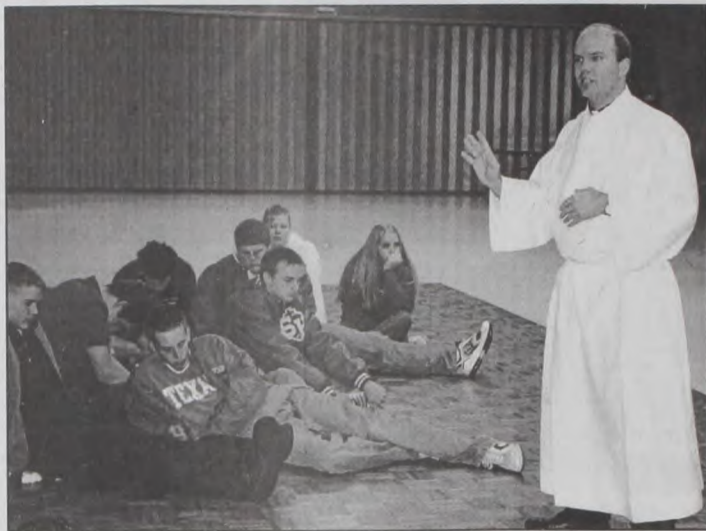
Oral Reading: 1, Kendall Neu, L; 2, Rhiannon Robinson, L; 3, Sam Sparkman, L; 4, Holly Rohmer, M; 5, Molly Williams, V; 6, Kelsi Mata, C.

Ready Writing: 1, Trevor Trigg, E; 2, Rhiannon Robinson, L; 3, Brandy Dangelmayr, M; 4, Jordanne Hellman, M; 5, Amber Nordman, L; 6, Michael Buchholtz, E.

Science: 1, John Rohmer, M; 2, Rhiannon Robinson, L; 3, Nick Bezner, L; 4, Mollie Williams, V; 5, Tyler Alexander, V; 6, Colt Castner, C. TEAM - 1, Muenster; 2, Lindsay; 3, Valley View.

Social Studies: 1T, Michael Buchholtz, E; 1T, Zachary Bentley, E; 3, Mindy Sandmann, V; 4, Trevor Trigg, E; 5, Tori Wright, M; 6, Corey Reynolds, M. TEAM - 1, Era; 2, Muenster; 3, Valley View.

Spelling: 1T, Rhiannon Robinson, L; 1T, Lorena Downey, L; 3, Chris Valliere, M; 4, Pooja Patel, L; 5, Kelly Laux, L; 6, Paul Crabtree, M. TEAM - 1, Lindsay; 2, Muenster; 3, Valley View.



Father Kyle Walterscheid and Sacred Heart High students at a retreat in Lindsay.

Holiday safety tips - Christmas trees

Never use candles to decorate a tree.

Courtesy of Muenster VFD and Chief Herbie Knabe

Zaner-Bloser announces national handwriting contest

Zaner-Bloser Educational Publishers, the premier publisher of handwriting curriculum for grades K-8, announces its 14th Annual National Handwriting Contest.

Zaner-Bloser has sponsored the National Handwriting Contest since 1991 to emphasize the importance of developing good handwriting skills.

This year for the first time, Zaner-Bloser will judge entries in two separate categories: public schools and private/non-public schools. Schools select one winner in each grade to submit to Zaner-Bloser for consideration. State and national winners will be selected in each category. One student will be selected as the Grand National Champion.

National Champions in grades one through three will win a Fisher-Price PowerTouch Learning System that features Zaner-Bloser Handwriting National Champions in grades four through eight will win a Zire 21 Handheld PDA. Winners' schools receive gift certificates from Zaner-Bloser. The Grand National Champion is awarded prizes valued at more than \$1,000. The Grand National Champion's school receives a computer with Zaner-Bloser Handwriting software. To be eligible, schools must use Zaner-Bloser Handwriting as their handwriting program.

For more information about the 2004-05 National Handwriting Contest, including how to enter, visit www.zaner-bloser.com/html/HWcontest.html. All entries must be postmarked by March 1, 2005.

Holiday safety tips - Christmas trees

Follow the manufacturers instructions on how to use tree lights. Any string of lights with worn, frayed, or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used.

Courtesy of Muenster VFD and Chief Herbie Knabe

Father Kyle holds retreat for Sacred Heart Junior and Senior Classes

The Junior and Senior classes of Sacred Heart High School recently went on a retreat held at the Lindsay Centennial Hall. The retreat was titled "Answer Your Baptismal Call" and was ministered by Father Kyle Walterscheid, who was assisted by his sister Elaine Schilling. Sacred Heart's theology teacher, Father Pat Murphy said, "The purpose of this retreat was to get the students out of the classroom, and even the church, so they can understand their faith should follow them everywhere they go."

All the students agreed that this retreat was very fulfilling. They participated in many different activities, their favorite being a timed, mime competition. Here each team had to mime several situations relating to faith as fast as possible.

It wasn't all about games though. The students also put on an actual Mass, and took time to meditate about their baptismal call.



Sacred Heart Duke's qualifiers, from left, Kristin LeBrasseur, Isaac Davis, John Nystrom, Ian Barnhill, Samantha Barnett, and Elizabeth Marshall. Courtesy photo

TIP qualifiers named at Sacred Heart 7th Grade

Six of Sacred Heart's 21 seventh graders have qualified for the Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP). Samantha Barnett, Ian Barnhill, Isaac Davis, Kristin LeBrasseur, Elizabeth Marshall, and John Nystrom all scored in the 95th percentile or above on the Stanford 10 Achievement Test, qualifying them to participate in the Talent Search.

Those who choose to participate in the program must go on to take the ACT or SAT college entrance exam. Students achieving a

score of 510 or higher on their SAT Math or Verbal, 21 or higher on their ACT Math or English, or 22 or more on their ACT Reading or Science Reasoning will be recognized as Duke Scholars, receiving a medal at a special ceremony to be held at the University of North Texas in April. Last year, 12 out of 22 SHS seventh graders qualified for the Talent Search, with six electing to participate in the program by taking the ACT or SAT, four of whom went on to be honored and awarded medals as Duke Scholars.



The Muenster High School ag class did a presentation on milk production and invited the elementary students to participate. Kristin Rietler and Kenzie Hess are taking their turns brushing the cow while Kaleigh Hennigan and Kyla Haverkamp with the others wait their turns. Scott Wood photo

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December Entertainment Schedule
Fri. 17 ~ Oliver White (GREAT Blues Guitarist)
Sat. 18 ~ Cliff Temple Band w/ Curtis Goff on guitar (Country & Texas Folk music)
Call for more info

Sports

Muenster Hornets and Lindsay Knights battle in Chico tournament last weekend

Teams participating in the Chico basketball tournament last weekend included the Muenster and Lindsay varsity teams. When everything was finished Saturday night, the Alvord Lady Dogs and the Lindsay Knights took home the championship trophies, while the Hornets and the Lady Knights settled for 2nd. A plague of injuries sent the Lady Hornets home without a prize.

"It's been a rough couple of days for Lady Hornet basketball," noted Coach Jeff Presnall. "Rebecca Grewing tore her ACL, and our senior star, Joanna Felderhoff, broke her arm at Chico Friday night."

Muenster 54 Tolar 57
The Lady Hornets had a poor night at the free throw line, 38% in Thursday's first round game. The loss, the second for Muenster, moved them to the consolation bracket.

Joanna Felderhoff led the Lady Hornets with 24 points. Megan Felderhoff added 13, with Alison Teafatiller getting 9, Sandy Endres 6, and Laura Heers 2.

Rhodes of Tolar scored 29. Tolar was given 3 "mysterious points."

M 11 9 13 21 54
T 12 18 15 12 57

Muenster 63 G. Faith 33
Three Lady Hornets hit double digits to lead Muenster to victory in game two. J. Felderhoff and M. Felderhoff both scored 16, while Teafatiller dropped in 10.

Also scoring were Heers with 6, Endres 5, Tara Swirczynski 4, and 3 apiece by Kallie Gerstberger and Whitney Watson.

The Lady Hornets hit 16 of 22 free throws compared to Grapevine Faith Christian's four of nine.

M 18 18 13 14 63
G 11 9 10 3 33

Muenster 26
Windthorst 46

Muenster was not "team ready" in the consolation game Saturday. "We played Windthorst, one of the best teams in the state," Coach Presnall explained, "with only six players, as three seniors were taking the ACT exam. But our freshmen and sophomores have really stepped up and gained some valuable playing time."

Teafatiller led Muenster with 16 points. Heers added 6 (two 3-pointers), with M. Felderhoff and Endres each getting 2. The Lady Hornets did not go to the free throw line the entire game.

M 4 6 6 10 26
W 16 9 9 12 46

Muenster 88 Tolar 75
The Hornets got win seven in a high scoring first round game. Four Muenster players scored double digits, with Sean Fuhrmann leading the pack with 33 points. Russell Endres

added 21, Chase Cain 11, and Dustin Felderhoff 10.

Derek Felderhoff put in 8 points, Justin Wolf 3, and Derek Endres 2 to round out the Hornet score. Muenster hit nine of 11 free throws.

M 31 15 16 26 88
T 17 17 19 22 75

Muenster 62 Prosper 50
The Hornets got a win in game two to advance to the final championship game Saturday night.

R. Endres led the Hornets under the basket with 20 points. Fuhrmann added 15, Cain 6, D. Endres 5, Clint Miller 4, De. Felderhoff 4, Du. Felderhoff 4, Wolf 2, and John Fredrick 2.

M 8 17 20 17 62
P 10 10 23 7 50

Lindsay 86 Windthorst 27

The Knights dropped in 27 points to the Trojan 8 the first quarter, then went on to take a 32 point halftime lead, before totally blowing Windthorst off the boards.

All nine Knights put points on the scoreboard, led by Josey Kyle with 22, Cody Anderle added 19, Trinity Otto 16, and 6 apiece by Levi Hermes and Dustin Hughes.

Brandon Huckaby put in 5 points, with Christopher Creed, Jacob Fuhrmann, and Bradley Anderle each scoring 4. The Knights hit five of seven free throws.

L 27 25 14 20 86
W 8 12 3 4 27

Lindsay 51
Lake Country 42

In game two on Friday, Lindsay earned another win against Lake Country. Three Knights scored double digits. They were Brandon Huckaby with 15, Trinity Otto 13, and Cody Anderle 10.

Others putting points on the board for Lindsay were Levi Hermes with 7, Bradley Anderle 3, Josey Kyle 2, and Dustin Hughes 1.

Lindsay was 50% at the free throw line.

L 20 4 18 9 51
LC 7 11 12 12 42

Lindsay 69 Muenster 61

It was a hard fought, close scoring, zigzag leader championship game Saturday night in the battle for the championship trophy. When all was said and done, the Knights left the court with an 8 point victory.

C. Anderle and Huckaby led Lindsay on the scoreboard with 21 and 19 points. B. Anderle added 9, Hermes 8, Otto 7, Kyle 3, and Creed 2.

Scoring for the Hornets were Fuhrmann with 17 points. R. Endres added 13, Cain 11, Wolf 7, Fredrick 6, De. Felderhoff 5, and D. Endres 2.

M 15 20 12 14 61
L 18 12 21 18 69

Lindsay 52 Windthorst 44

The Lady Knights took a first game victory after a 21-7 2nd quarter gave them a big enough lead to get the win.

Six Lindsay girls scored, four in double digits. Chelsea Hermes, Mallory Block, and Cheryl Knabe each scored a

dozen points, while Brittany Anderle scored 10, Stephanie Metzler 4, and Allison Hundt 2.

L 9 21 8 14 52
W 11 7 9 17 44

Lindsay 54 Ponder 44

The Lady Knights also won round two Friday night. Knabe and Anderle each scored 16 points. Block added 11, Hermes 9, and Kaileigh Hess 2. The Lady Knights hit eight of 11 free throws and advanced to the championship round.

L 14 23 4 13 54
P 15 7 8 14 44

Lindsay 55 Alvord 57

A 37-26 halftime score in the Lady Dog's favor, made a 2nd half come-back difficult for the Lady Knights. Lindsay did outscore Alvord 29-20 the 2nd half, but came up 2 points short, settling for 2nd place.

Knabe led Lindsay in points with 20, Anderle added 15, Block 10, Hermes 5, and Stephanie Metzler 5. The Lady Knights were 20 of 28 in free throws.

L 9 17 14 15 55
A 12 25 8 12 57

All Tournament Team

The All Tournament Team included Muenster Hornets Russell Endres and Sean Fuhrmann, and Lindsay Knights Bradley Anderle, Cody Anderle, and Trinity Otto.

On the girls side, Lady Knights Cheryl Knabe and Mallory Block made the team.

Sacred Heart Alumni plans Holiday Basketball

The annual Sacred Heart Exes Basketball Game will be played on Saturday, Dec. 18. The ladies will begin at 5 p.m. and the men will begin immediately following the ladies game (approximately 6:30 p.m.). All alumni and anyone who currently has children in Sacred Heart School are invited to attend.

The participation fee is \$5 to cover the cost of the officials. A social will immediately follow at the home of Doug and Vickie Fleitman. Hope to see you there. Contact Vickie (736-1041) or Neil Hesse (736-4764) for more information.

Game Warden Field Notes

Flooding Accidents

* Game Wardens Chris Amthor, Pecos County, and Fernando Cervantes, Terrell County, and retired Game Warden Don Jackson assisted the Terrell County Sheriff's Office in locating motorists on Highways 349 and 2400 who were stranded in high water. Sudden rain storms in the area caused flooding on these highways, leaving motorists stranded between low water crossings. In one case, water caused extensive damage to a bridge, causing it to be closed until repairs can be made. In addition, the wardens received a report of a travel trailer and truck being washed away by flooding on the Pecos River.

* On July 29, a big rain averaging 12 inches hit southern Dallas and northern Ellis County,



These 3 Sacred Heart Tigers participated in the TAPPS All-Star game last weekend. LEFT TO RIGHT: Coach Dale Schilling, #72 - Clayton Truebenbach, #43 - Chris Hoedebeck, #15 - Paul T. Bartush, and Coach Charles Boles

Tigerettes win one, lose one

The Tigerettes of Sacred Heart took a big win at Callisburg last week, then came up short Tuesday night in Valley View.

Four Sacred Heart players hit double digit scores at Callisburg, led by Stephanie Henscheid and Hannah Hess with 14 points apiece. Shannon Hartman added 11, and Maggie Farrell 10.

Also scoring were Whitney Wimmer with 7, Stephanie Krawietz 4, and 2 apiece by Brittany White and Diana Knabe.

SH 13 21 19 11 64
C 8 7 2 7 24

Tuesday night the Tigerettes traveled to Valley View. "I didn't do a very good job tonight," commented Coach Jon LeBrasseur. "Hats off to the Valley View girls, as they played hard the entire game."

Nine girls scored for Sacred Heart, with Farrell scoring 9, Wimmer 8, Katie Flsueche 6, Hartman 6, Krawietz 6, Hess 4, Nicole Bayer 3, and 2 apiece by Knabe and White.

SH 10 16 12 8 46
VV 9 9 13 18 49

Muenster splits wins with Petrolia

Muenster traveled to Petrolia Monday night for pre-semester test ball games.

The Lady Hornets improved their season record (13-3) with a 56-34 victory, despite the loss of two key players to injury. The Hornets scored the points, but not quite enough to get a win, falling 61-59.

In girls action, Alison Teafatiller was Muenster's leading scorer with 14 points. Megan Felderhoff added 12, Laura Heers 9, Whitney Watson 8, Sandy Endres 5, Kallie Gerstberger 4, and 2 each by Tara Swirczynski and Stevie Kliment.

The girls hit only five of 19 free throws, and five 3-

pointers, two by Watson, and three by Heers.

M 18 14 12 12 56
P 4 6 14 10 34

The Hornets and Pirates battled to a see-saw score with Muenster having a 3 point lead at halftime. Muenster's free throws hurt the Hornets as only two of 11 shots swished through the basket.

Russell Endres was the game's high scorer with 21 points. Sean Fuhrmann added 16. Also scoring were Derek Felderhoff with 7, Clint Miller 6, Justin Wolf 5, and 2 each by Chase Cain and John Fredrick.

M 15 21 8 15 59
P 16 17 12 16 61

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Howell

15 teams this year between boys & girls

Bulldozer Hate Crime

Grayson and Denton County Game Wardens, along with a federal agent, investigated a criminal mischief incident that occurred at the Hagerman Refuge, where equipment had been damaged. After a series of interviews, two young men living next to the refuge gave statements admitting to the crime. More than \$2,000 in damage was done to a bulldozer with an axe.

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Bringing Good Things To Light

2004 ALL-DISTRICT FOOTBALL TAPPS DIVISION IV DISTRICT I

Offensive MVP
Ryan Hayes, RB, LC

Defensive MVP
Clayton Truebenbach, DL, SH

OFFENSE

Quarterback - 1st Team
Paul T. Bartush, Sr., SH

Running Backs - 1st Team
Ryan Hayes, Sr., LC
Chris Hoedebeck, Sr., SH
Andy White, Jr., FWC
Nick Quigley, Sr., LC

Receivers - 1st Team
Braden St. Clair, Sr., LC
Jerrell Norman, Sr., WHC

Tight End - 1st Team
Trent Langford, Jr., LC

Linemen - 1st Team
Clayton Truebenbach, Sr., SH
Nick Johnson, Sr., LC
Jacob Rangel, Jr., LC
Andy Davis, Sr., SH
Bobby Waters, Sr., WHC

KICKER - 1st Team

Hayden Hohnrnie, Sr., FWC

DEFENSE

Linemen - 1st Team
Clayton Truebenbach, Sr., SH
Jacob Rangel, Jr., LC
Trent Langford, Jr., LC
Matt Robinson, Sr., WHC

Linebackers - 1st Team
Andy Davis, Sr., SH
Nick Quigley, Sr., LC
Harrison Hanvey, Jr., WFND
Nick Johnson, Sr., LC
Jon Ambrose, Jr., SH

Secondary - 1st Team
Josh Hill, Sr., LC
Paul T. Bartush, Sr., SH
Braden St. Clair, Sr., LC
Blake Roberson, Jr., LC

PUNTER - 1st Team

Chris Hoedebeck, Sr., SH

OFFENSE

Quarterback - 2nd Team
Kevin Dickerson, Sr., FWC

Running Backs - 2nd Team
Aaron Krahl, Jr., SH
Hayden Hohnrnie, Sr., FWC
R.J. Buckner, Jr., WHC
Trey Dennis, Sr., WHC

Receivers - 2nd Team
T.D. Huett, Jr., WHC
Theo Otto, Soph., SH

TIGHT END - 2nd Team

Jason Jaster, Soph., WHC

LINEMEN - 2nd Team

John Diaz, Sr., FWC
Jon Ambrose, Jr., SH
Michael Deshefy, Jr., FWC
Bryan Daniel, Sr., WHC
Jeremy Neeb, Jr., WFND

KICKER - 2nd Team

Ryan Hayes, Sr., LC

DEFENSE

Linemen - 2nd Team
Ben Hill, Soph., LC
Robert Meyer, Jr., FWC
Chris Fuller, Sr., WHC
Bobby Waters, Sr., WHC

Linebackers - 2nd Team
Kevin Dickerson, Sr., FWC
Bryan Daniel, Sr., WHC
T.D. Huett, Jr., WHC
Lonnie Seigers, Fr., WHC
Josh Yosten, Fr., SH

Secondary - 2nd Team
Chris Hoedebeck, Sr., SH
Andy White, Jr., FWC
Brad McCurry, Soph., WHC
Nic Yorston, Sr., WHC

PUNTER - 2nd Team

Nick Quigley, Sr., LC

SACRED HEART

Honorable Mention
Stephen LaChance, Sr., Receiver
Tim Otto, Jr., Receiver
Arlie Bayer, Jr., Offensive Line
Aron Krahl, Jr., Defensive Line
David Walterscheid, Jr., Offensive Line

Watch Next Week for All District pictures and All State Team & Pictures

This is the year for a trophy whitetail

by Thompson Temple
 Exceptional rainfall this year is responsible for the largest antlers that we have seen in a long time. The big bucks are out there! Will you get one? I hope so.

You can read in many publications about the favorable predictions for this year. There has been a lot of prime deer food out there. This is great for producing big antlers.

There are however disadvantages for the hunter with this situation. Abundant vegetation means that deer can eat all they want without traveling far. They might not be eating corn at your stand. They might not even come into the vicinity of your stand! What are you going to do?

I have been a guide for deer for 30 years. What will I do to get my hunters that trophy buck this year?

I will encourage my hunters to hunt in December. We usually have a good freeze by then that will kill a lot of the summer type vegetation. Then the deer will begin to travel farther to fill their stomachs. Also corn produces body heat. Deer

like it better when they get cold. Corn makes body fat that can help keep a deer



warm. All this means that your trusty stand might produce that trophy buck in December!

But what about November? Our forefathers harvested deer without a nifty automatic corn feeder. What did they do? They walked slow and hunted. They scouted for fresh deer sign and sat in the bushes. They sat downwind from the deer trail. They waited.

I feel like it is very difficult to walk and harvest a trophy buck. Everything



happens too quick. I need a moment or two to decide if it is a good buck with no broken points, etc. A quick shot can yield an immature buck.

I do like the tripod stands you can buy. You can move them around. Push them up against a tree just downwind from where you find fresh droppings and tracks. This is what I would do in November!

Also the breeding season or rut can make those bucks move around. The exact time will vary some. This is a great time to be in your stand!

One thing is for sure. You can not get a big buck if you do not go hunting! If you don't already have a good place to hunt, then give me a call. I can locate a hunt for you at a reasonable price. My number is 1-830-234-4120. Keep the wind in your face, the sun at your back, and the Lord in your heart!

Game Warden Field Notes

The following are excerpts from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports:

Foiled Scheme — Recently, Palo Pinto and Wise County Game Wardens, along with Federal Wardens, went onto a ranch that had been suspected of being baited in years past. Upon entry, there were 15 hunters in the field. The area in which the hunters were hunting was a wheat field that had been shredded. A careful examination of the field showed it to be baited. Two hundred twenty-three doves were seized, and a federal citation was issued to the landowner.

A Freestone County Game Warden responded to an 'Operation Game Thief' hunting call in Navarro County. The warden found five students shooting skeet on a lighted range. To enhance their shooting ability, the men were drinking beer and smoking marijuana. One of the subjects attempted to ditch his stash of dope by throwing it out of his vehicle. The warden easily identified the owner of the marijuana since the subject's name was written on the bag. Cases are pending.

The Fish Gave Them Away — A Nueces County Game Warden responded to a call concerning undersized trout. Upon contact with the individuals, all were license-compliant and when asked if they had caught anything all replied, "No, but we are trying real hard." As the conversation continued, the warden questioned what the thumping from the ice chest was, at which time the individuals hung their heads. When all were counted and measured, 12 undersize trout were located and appropriate charges are pending.

Wardens Didn't Come 'Down the Shoot' Yesterday — Recently, a Cooke County Game Warden filed a hunting case where the subject made a u-turn in front of the warden and shot dove off the highline wires from the road. When stopped, he had freshly killed birds in his truck and empty shotgun shells caught in his windshield wipers; yet he insisted he was not road hunting.

Caught in the Act — Galveston County Game Wardens working off of a 65-foot patrol boat caught two gulf shrimp boats pulling four nets within two miles of the beach. A total of 12,288 pounds of shrimp were confiscated and sold for \$15,000. Charges for shrimping in a closed area are pending.

Daily Limits Means ONE DAY — A Taylor County Game Warden was checking an evening dove hunter who was cleaning his birds. He thought he had killed a limit but only had 11. The warden commented that the birds were flying really well in that location. The man commented that they were even better that morning. The warden asked if he had gotten any that morning. He advised that he had taken a limit that morning. The warden advised that 12 was the "daily limit." It took a minute to sink in, and then the man said, "I don't guess I will be seeing the wife and kids tonight."

Big Bust — Pecos and Reagan County Game Wardens assisted Department of Public Safety officers in a vehicle pursuit, which led to two vehicles being stopped and 350 pounds of marijuana being recovered.

You Can Plan but You Can't Hide — A Hale County Game Warden learned that a bull elk had possibly been killed from the roadway. He suspected it was the same elk that had been spotted a couple of weeks back. After a lengthy investigation, several charges were filed on two subjects who admitted to killing the elk after they

had learned the warden was going out of town for a few days. They learned the hard way that just because the game warden can't be seen doesn't mean the suspects will get away.

Experience Is Not Always the Best Teacher — A Montgomery County Game Warden and a U.S. Forest Service official were patrolling in the Sam Houston National Forest recently and came across two hunters, and one had received five citations last year from the same officers. Apparently he did not learn his lesson. The hunting group had entered the forest by boat and taken an 8-point buck. Once the investigators rounded up all the hunters and completed their investigation, the violations included: one for no public hunting lands permit, four for hunting on a Wildlife Management Area without wearing hunter orange, one for hunting on a WMA with buckshot, one for no hunting license, three for no hunter education, two for hunting from a permanent stand on a WMA, one for expired boat registration, one for failure to transfer the title of a boat, one for giving false information, and one for possession of marijuana. Cases are pending.

Herbivore Hunter — Freestone County Game Wardens checked a suspect recently who was leaving a deer camp. The person did not have his hunting license with him so they returned to the camp. After being confronted about his extreme nervousness, the person handed over a bag of marijuana. A search of the camp revealed more marijuana and a bag of cocaine. The suspect was already on probation for distribution of marijuana. His probation officer's business card was found in the same container as the cocaine. Cases are pending.

Junior High Action

Sacred Heart 26 St. Mary's 16
 In action Nov. 29, the "B" Lady Cubs took a 10 point victory. Sydney Hoedebeck led Sacred Heart in scoring with 10 points. Rebekah Hesse added 6, Victoria Endres and Jessica Krahl 4 each, and Megan Hesse 2 points.

SM 2 14 6 4 26
 SH 0 2 7 7 16

Sacred Heart 32 St. Mary's 12
 Seven 7th Grade Cubs put balls in the basket to give Sacred Heart a win. High scorer was Garrett Berend with 8 points. Ian Barnhill added 6, Ryan Felderhoff 4, and 2 apiece from Aaron Flusche, Chad Walterscheid, John Krawietz, and Jake Bayer.

SH 4 6 6 10 26
 SM 2 2 6 2 12

Sacred Heart 43 St. Mary's 24
 Kristin LeBrasseur scored 14 points and Sam Wimmer 10 to lead the "A" Lady Cubs in scoring in their Nov. 29 contest in Gainesville. Kaitlyn Felderhoff scored 8, Lisa Miller 4, Kalysa Pollard 4, and 2 apiece by Raney Hogan and Samantha Barnett. The Lady Cubs were zero of 10 from the free throw line.

SH 8 18 6 11 43
 SM 2 4 8 10 24

Sacred Heart 41 St. Mary's 55
 Hitting three 3s, four of six free throws, and 14 baskets was not enough for the 8th Grade Cubs to get a victory. Ben Walterscheid scored 10 points, Matt Flusche 9, Dylan Flusche 8, and Mitchell Hesse 6 points. Also Kirk Felderhoff put in 4, and Michael Whitecotton and Nathan Berend scored 2 points apiece.

SH 11 10 10 10 41
 SM 18 12 10 15 55

Muenster 5 Lindsay 42
 The Lindsay 7th Grade Lady Squires took a decisive victory over the Muenster 7th Grade Lady Stingers Monday evening. Scoring for Muenster were Shelby Hess with 3 points and Erin Endres with 2.

Katie Dieter was high scorer of the game with 17 points for Lindsay. Others from Lindsay who scored were Kristin Martin with 8 points, Haley Hughes 5, Cammi New 4, and Alex Cooney, Andrea Faulkner, Abby Anderle, and Shirley Hess, all with 2 points apiece.

M 1 3 1 0 5
 L 11 13 10 8 42

Muenster 31 Lindsay 11
 Muenster's 8th Grade Lady Stingers were victorious over the

Lindsay 8th Grade Lady Squires Monday night in Lindsay. High scorer of the game was Sam Endres, putting in 20 points for Muenster. Lia Heers added 6, Brandy Dangelmayr 4, and Leah Smith 1.

Making points for Lindsay were Natalie Rose with 5, Amber Nortman 4, and Kayla Hess 2.

M 11 5 5 10 31
 L 4 0 3 4 11

Muenster 18 Lindsay 39
 The Lindsay 7th Grade Squires took a victory from the Stingers Monday night. Scoring for Muenster were Jeremy Lutkenhaus with 7, John Rohmer 4, 2 apiece by Stephen Valliere, Christopher Valliere, and Chad Henschel, and a free throw by Andrew Koessler.

Putting in points for Lindsay were Ryan Haverkamp 12, Colton Hermes 9, Austin Reiter, and Dax Fleitman 7 each, Blake Hunter 2, and Clay Mueller 2.

M 4 5 6 3 18
 L 12 7 6 14 39

Muenster 29 Lindsay 20
 The Stingers' "A" team took a win from the 8th Grade Squires. Tanner Herr was the game's high scorer with 14 points. Corey Reynolds added 8, Brandon Bindel 3, and 2 apiece by Jared Flusche and Eric Hellman.

Jon Sweeney led Lindsay with 12 points. Nick Bezner added 5, and Sam Sparkman 3.

M 2 16 3 8 29
 L 9 4 3 4 20

Sacred Heart 9 Era 18
 The Lady Cubs "B" team lost a low scoring game Monday night. Three Sacred Heart players scored, led by Laura Sweeney with 6 points, Jessica Krahl 2, and Megan Hesse 1.

SH 2 1 0 6 9
 E 1 6 8 3 18

Sacred Heart 22 Era 43
 The 7th Grade Hornets outscored the 7th Grade Cubs of Sacred Heart. Garrett Berend led the Cubs with 10 points. John Krawietz added 8, Ian Barnhill 3, and Matt Hesse 1. The Cubs were eight of 31 at the free throw line.

SH 8 8 5 1 22
 E 14 8 12 9 43

Sacred Heart 48 Era 6
 Two Lady Cubs scored double digits in the "A" girls big one-sided victory over Era Monday night. Sam Wimmer and Kristin LeBrasseur dropped in 19 and 13 points. Kaitlyn Felderhoff and Natalie Endres each added 6, and

Lisa Miller got 4 points. Endres hit two 3-pointers, while the team hit 48% of their free throws.

SH 25 3 14 6 48
 E 0 0 6 0 6

Sacred Heart 26 Era 30
 The 8th Grade Cubs were handed a defeat in a close contest that Era took away in the final period. Matt Flusche led the Cubs under the basket with 14 points. Nathan Berend added 6, with Dylan Flusche and Tom Torcellini each getting 3. The Cubs hit only four of 15 free throws.

SH 7 11 6 2 26
 E 8 6 8 8 30

J V Action

Muenster 47 Petrolia 22
 The junior varsity Lady Hornets evened their record to 4-4 with a Monday night win. Danielle Bindel was high scorer with 18 points. Jenna Felderhoff and Jacé Koelzer each added 7. Lindsay Watson and Hillary Swirczynski both scored 4, with Jordan Ledbetter getting 3, and Kelly Endres and Cassie Hale scoring 2 apiece.

M 16 20 7 4 47
 P 3 8 4 7 22

Sacred Heart 45 Valley View 40
 Behind by 12, the Tigerettes came back to take the win. Jessica Schilling was high scorer with 14 points, all made in the 2nd half. Kara Felderhoff added 10, Taylor Torcellini 8, Lauren Krahl 6, Paige White 4, and Lauren Sepanski 3.

CCYC League

ABC Home Health 26 Lindsay 5
 CCYC 6th grade boys defeated Lindsay 26 to 5. The only scoring for Lindsay came in the 4th quarter. Leading scorer for Muenster was Shane Presnall with 10 points. Garrett Walterscheid scored 6, Blake Grewing 6, and 2 apiece by Tanner Silmon and Landon Presnall. Spencer Nielsen played great defense.

Fischer's Meat Market

We will close at 4:00 PM on Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve and will be closed on Saturday, December 25th, Christmas Day, so our employees can spend time with their families. Merry Christmas to all our customers from Johnny & Louise, Butch & Eileen, and The Gang at Fischer's Market. Sale Prices from Last Week's Ad are still good.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM J. REITER, DECEASED
Notice is hereby given that the original Letters of
Administration for the Estate of William J. Reiter were issued
on December 6, 2004, in Cause No. 15,877 pending in the
Probate Court of Cooke County, Texas, to Kenneth Russell
Fomby, who resides in Cooke County, Texas, and whose mailing
address is: Kenneth Russell Fomby, 7214 S FM 372, Gainesville,
Texas 76240.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is
currently being administered are required to present them within
the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 6th day of December, 2004.
Respectfully submitted,
/s/ KENNETH RUSSELL FOMBY

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Card of Thanks

The family of Leona Hamilton expresses their appreciation
for the prayers, cards, flowers, food, and donations.
Special thanks to Father Doi, Brennan, O.S.A. for the
comforting and spiritual service and for the beautiful music and
songs by Ruth and Christy, to those who provided the food, to the
Catholic Daughters who prepared the meal, and the Knights of
Columbus for the use of the hall.
Thanks also to Saint Richard's Villa and the doctors and
nurses at Muenster Memorial Hospital and Mac McCoy.
Leona Hamilton family

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Off the Net and hear-about

This is a poem passed on to me by a relative of the 21-year-old female who lost her life while addicted to crystal meth. This is a true happening. A 21-year-old female was addicted to crystal meth, overdosed, and lost her life.
After her death, they were cleaning out her apartment and in her top dresser drawer, found a poem she had written.
Meet Mr. and Mrs. Crystal Meth.
I destroy homes - I tear families apart.
I take your children and that's just a start.
I'm more valued than diamonds, more precious than gold.
The sorrow I bring is a sight to behold.
If you need me, remember, I'm easily found.
I live all around you, in school and in town.
I live with the rich, I live with the poor.
I live just down the street and maybe next door.
I'm made in a lab, but not one like you think.
I can be made under the kitchen sink,
In your child's closet, and even out in the woods.
If this scares you to death, then it certainly should.
I have many names. But there's one you'll know best.
I'm sure you've heard of me, my name is Crystal Meth.
My power is awesome, try me, you'll see.
But if you do, you may never break free.
Just try me once and I might let you go.
But if you try me twice, then I'll own your soul.
When I possess you, you'll steal and you'll lie.
You'll do what you have to do, just to get high.
The crimes you commit for my narcotic charms,
Will be worth the

pleasures you feel in my arms.
You'll lie to your mother; you'll steal from your dad.
When you see their tears, you must feel sad.
Just forget your morals and how you were raised.
I'll be your conscience, I'll teach you my ways.
I take kids from their parents; I take parents from their kids.
I turn people from God, I separate friends.
I'll take everything from you, your looks and your pride.
I'll be with you always, right by your side.
You'll give up everything, your family, your home.
Your money, your true friend, then you'll be alone.
I'll take and take till you have no more to give.
When I finish with you, you'll be lucky to live.
If you try me, be warned, this is not a game.
If I'm given the chance, I'll drive you insane.
I'll ravage your body; I'll control your mind.
I'll own you completely; your soul will be mine.
The nightmares I'll give you when you're lying in bed,
And the voices you'll hear from inside your head.
The sweats, the shakes, and the visions from me.
I want you to know these things are gifts from me.
But then it's too late, and you'll know in your heart
That you are now mine and we shall not part.
You'll regret that you tried me (they always do).
But you came to me, not I to you.
You knew this would happen.
Many times you've been told.
But you challenged my power,
You chose to be bold.

You could have said no and then walked away.
If you could live that day over now, what would you say?
My power is awesome, as I told you before.
I can take your life and make it so dim and sore.
I'll be your master and you'll be my slave.
I'll even go with you when you go to your grave.
Now that you've met me, what will you do?
Will you try me or not? It's all up to you.
I can show you more misery than words can tell.
Come take my hand, let me lead you to H---.
Written by Alicia VanDavis

Tough Question

Can you imagine working for a company that has a little more than 500 employees and has the following statistics: 29 have been accused of spousal abuse; seven have been arrested for fraud; 19 have been accused of writing bad checks; 117 have directly or indirectly bankrupted at least two businesses; three have done time for assault; 71 cannot get a credit card due to bad credit; 14 have been arrested on drug-related charges; eight have been arrested for shoplifting; 21 are currently defendants in lawsuits; 84 have been arrested for drunk driving in the last year.
Can you guess which organization this is?
It's the 535 members of the United States Congress. The same group that crank out hundreds of new laws each year designed to keep the rest of us in line.
It is impossible to lick your elbow.



ALZHEIMER'S cont. from pg. 2

in routines would be too disruptive for the person with dementia, or progression of the disease would not allow either you or the person to participate in a meaningful way, you might want to schedule the regular family gathering, then later do a smaller lunch or brunch (to avoid sundowning issues) at the facility/residence with your loved one.
Protect the person with Alzheimer's. Attempt to avoid situations that add greater confusion or frustration like crowds, excessive noise, and different surroundings. It is helpful to play familiar traditional holiday music and hymns or to find a repetitive activity from their "old memory" the person could do like cracking nuts or folding napkins, hanging decorations, or setting the table. Try to keep your loved one's routine and sleep patterns as close to normal as possible.
Remember that the holidays are meant to be times of sharing with those you love. Make it easy on yourself and your loved one so you can experience those moments of joy and closeness.
When Alzheimer's disease touches your life, the Alzheimer's Association is there to help. They can provide you a warm, knowledgeable voice on the phone, face-to-face counsel and support, accurate information, the safe return of a loved one, or first-rate professional education. To contact the Alzheimer's Association 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 800-272-3900.

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INSURANCE cont. from pg. 3

employees at lower rates. House Bill 897 allows small employers to form coalitions and apply for health insurance as a larger group. This October, seven small employers formed a coalition and obtained an employee health benefit plan from a major national insurance carrier. The combined premiums for the employers in the coalition were 31% lower than if each had purchased their own group health insurance plan.
Michael Lee, an insurance agent in Austin, working with First Texas Health Coalition, Inc. stated, "Rate comparisons from major insurance carriers illustrate that most employers can obtain lower premiums by joining a coalition instead of purchasing their own company plan. The greatest savings seem to be for the employer with two to nine employees. A large percentage of the uninsured are employed by firms with two to 24 employees and employers this size generally benefit the most from HB 897.
"We began providing information to small employers about this new legislation at the first of the year, and the response has been tremendous. With group health insurance rates increasing at the highest levels since the '80s, it seems everyone is searching for solutions. In the past few months we have been contacted by everyone from the neighborhood CPA with two employees to business organizations with hundreds of small employer members."
Information for employers or business groups is available at the Texas Coalitions, Inc. website: www.employercoalitions.com
E-mail: txpr@texascoalitions.com
Phone 512-447-9853.

Farm & Ranch

Holidays a time for thanks and celebration

By John Cowan
As you gather with family around a food-laden table this holiday season, take a moment to think about who brought you the food you enjoy not only for the holiday feast, but year-round.

Thanks to our nation's farm families, most of us have plenty to eat. We also have access to a wide variety of foods at relatively affordable prices. That isn't the case in all parts of our world, unfortunately.

On behalf of the dairy industry, the Texas Association of Dairymen wishes to say "thank you" as 2004 draws to a close. We'd like to thank the consumers who support our industry by buying milk, cheese, ice cream, and other dairy products.

But TAD also would like to thank its members, the dairy farmers who work so hard to supply the butter for the dinner rolls, the scoop of ice cream for the pecan pie, and the milk put out for Santa to enjoy with his cookies.

In Texas, about 800 dairy farmers in the State produce more than 656 million gallons of milk a year, ranking Texas 12th in milk production nationwide. Those same producers (and their cows) also help make Texas the fourth leading producer of ice cream in the country.

These dairy products - as well as other food and fiber products - are produced largely through the labor of individual farmers and their families. Farming in Texas isn't a corporate endeavor - an estimated 92 percent of Texas' agricultural operations are still run by individuals or families.

These families make a lot of personal sacrifices to stock the nation's grocery store shelves. Farming is

not an easy profession. Those whose only exposure to the farm life is through television or the movies are getting the Norman Rockwell, romantic view of this existence.

The reality is tough work, plenty of dirt, early mornings, late nights, financial worries, the rising cost of feed and equipment, broken machinery, sick cows, keeping up with ever-changing rules regulating the industry, and countless other concerns. Yet these

families wouldn't choose any other way of life.

Farming in the 21st century will present even more new challenges and demands. The Texas Association of Dairymen will continue its mission to support and assist our State's dairy farmers so that they can continue to pursue a way of life they love and to put food on Texas tables.

Happy holidays!

John Cowan is the executive director of the Texas Association of Dairymen, Inc.

Texas Crop and Weather Report

If good things come in small packages, then this year's pecan crop should be great, according to a Texas Cooperative Extension expert. Larry Stein, Extension horticulturist at Uvalde's Texas A&M Research and Extension Center, said, "Although small, the quality of this year's crop is simply outstanding; best it has been in years."

The crop started out small, but "light crops always get smaller," he said. "Just recently several thousand pounds went down the Guadalupe River." Cindy Wise, executive vice president of the Texas Pecan Growers Association, said Texas was predicted to produce 50 million pounds of pecans, but due to flooding, that number was lowered to 40 million pounds.

"The flooding occurred primarily around Seguin," she said. "That's where most of the loss occurred because they had pecans on the ground."

The rain may have caused problems, but it also helped create the outstanding

quality of the crop, Stein said.

"All of the rain helped to fill the nuts; plus the crop was light and easier to fill," he said. "The trees were not in stress for the most part."

John Begnaud, Extension horticulturist in Tom Green County, said West Central Texas was not as fortunate as the rest of the state.

"We had good moisture in Sept. and Oct.," he said, "which is great for filling of nuts, but the weeks of cloudy, cool conditions have affected photosynthesis. Many trees which were heavily loaded have produced lower quality nuts than expected."

Disease also lowered quality, he said.

"Some scab disease was also recorded in orchards that (are) never sprayed. This was due to increased humidity over prolonged periods. This affected kernel quality."

According to "Texas Pecan Orchards," co-written by Stein, disease is a serious problem in Texas, and pecan scab disease was the worst it has been in years.

Landowner program

A program has been designed with the landowner in mind. This will be a two-part program. The first part is to be about "best management" practices, especially for those who like to take a holistic approach to land stewardship. This portion of the program will be worth 1.5 CEUs for those needing the credit. The second part will look at issues that concern maintaining or obtaining agricultural or wildlife exemptions for property tax owners. This program will be held Friday, Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. in the NCTC Little Theatre.

Walt Davis is the speaker for the first section. He is a fifth generation rancher and is past president of Holistic Resource Management and HRM of Oklahoma. Walt was raised on a Texas ranch; he became manager of the family's Oklahoma ranch in 1962 and promptly established a "best practices" operation based upon use of fertilization, weed control, and supplemental animal nutrition. The result was high production but low profits and obvious land

degradation. In 1974 he decided to shift to a lower input, more ecologically sensitive management paradigm. The 30-year track record demonstrates that working with nature is both more profitable and more stable than the former "best practice" approach. The health of the soil-plant-animal complex has increased, pesticide use has been almost eliminated, and soil productivity continues to increase even though no fertilizer has been purchased for twenty years. Perhaps the greatest change is in the quality of life; both the people and the animals of the Davis Ranch enjoy their lives.

The second portion of the program will feature Doug Smithson, Cooke County's Chief Appraiser. He will have a presentation on agricultural and wildlife exemptions for property tax purposes. After his presentation, much time will be allowed for questions.

Dates to Remember:
Dec. 21 - Deadline to Sign up for the Master Marketing Series - Begins Jan. 5.

Dec. 28 - Marketing Club Meeting; 7 p.m., Gainesville Farm Bureau Building.

Jan. 7 - Landowners' Tax Issues and Best Management Practices; 1 p.m., NCTC Little Theatre - 1.5 CEUs offered.

New landowner brochure offers advice

The Private Lands and Public Hunting Program at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has a new brochure available - primarily for new owners of rural land.

"A Place in the Country - Guidance for New Landowners" offers advice and recommendations for the growing number of people purchasing land for recreational use.

Topics include what to consider when purchasing recreation land, understanding the habitats

and wildlife found on your land, wildlife management as an agricultural tax option, being a good neighbor, and technical/financial assistance available from TPWD and other agencies.

The new brochure is being distributed to Wildlife Regional and District offices, urban biologists, and wildlife field staff assisting landowners.

For more information or to obtain copies, contact Marla Bays at (512) 389-4959.

Ag Briefs

Hispanics make up 18% of all restaurant employees.

U.S. pet owners spent \$32.4 billion on their pets last year.

Store brand products sales grew 2.2% last year, while national brands rose 1.4%.

One out of every 10 U.S. food dollars is spent on organic and natural foods.

One in 25 Americans have one or more food allergies.

Since 1998, sales of vegetarian foods have doubled, reaching \$1.6 billion last year.

81% of consumers believe a healthy diet should include meat.

Beef production per head of cattle in the U.S. has increased by more than 80% over the past 50 years.

Because of technological improvements the past 50 years, the total herd required to produce the 2004 beef supply would number more than 180 million animals instead of the current 95 million.

Last year's corn harvest totaled 10.1 billion bushels. The national yield is estimated to top 11.6 billion bushels.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.11 billion bushels, a new projected record of 42 bushels per acre.

Approximately 69% of visitors to Agriculture Online™ in a pre-election poll favored Bush. The same amount wanted Ag Secretary Ann Veneman out of office.

SWCD offers tree and seed programs

The Upper Elm-Red Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is sponsoring its annual seedling tree program for area land users. The purpose of the program is to encourage the planting of trees for conservation and wildlife benefits.

Hardwood and conifer trees are available. Adapted hardwood species include Red oak, Redbud, Green ash, and Aromatic and Smooth sumac. Conifers available include Afghanistan pine, Red cedar, and Italian stone pine. Wildlife packets are also available to enhance wildlife habitat and provide food and cover for quail, deer, turkey, and squirrels.

The cost of the seedlings is \$25 for a bundle of 50

bare root hardwoods or \$50 for a bundle of 100. The conifers range from \$1.75 to \$2.50 per tree depending on the number ordered. The wildlife packets are \$50 for 100 trees. The last day to order trees is Feb. 11, 2005. The trees will be delivered on Feb. 25.

In addition to the trees, the SWCD also sells a wide variety of grass and wildflower seed.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the technical agency that assists the Upper Elm-Red SWCD in carrying out its programs. For information on the tree and/or seed programs, contact the SWCD or the NRCS Gainesville office at 940-668-7794 ext. 3.

United States exports to be equaled by imports

The value of agricultural imports into the United States is anticipated to equal agricultural exports from the U.S. during 2005, according to recent projections from the Agriculture Department.

The value of U.S. farm exports is projected to decline to \$56 billion during the government's 2005 fiscal year, down from \$62.3 billion in 2004. Meanwhile, the value of imports of agricultural products into the United States is expected to increase from \$52.7 billion to \$56 billion. The projections are for the fiscal year that started Oct. 1.

If projections hold true this would be the first time since the late 1950s that the value of U.S. agricultural exports has not exceeded the value of U.S. agricultural imports. The increasing appetite for foreign foods, ingredients and beverages is suggested as a contributing factor to the swing in import/export dollars.

Send us your news - births, baptisms, achievements and celebrations!

MUENSTER ENTERPRISE



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To all of those who've passed by our way, we extend our best wishes for a grand holiday!

To show appreciation for ALL MY CLIENTS,

We will hold a drawing at the Farm Bureau Office in Muenster

before Christmas.

We will give away

Five \$50⁰⁰ Gift Certificates!

All current policyholders of mine are automatically entered.

You do not need to be present to win.

Come by and pick up a 2005 Calendar and THANK YOU for trusting

us with your insurance needs.

AUTO • HOME • LIFE

Helping You is what we do best.

John S. Bartush

Muenster • 940-759-4052

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE

MUENSTER LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
15560 Hwy 82, West
940-759-2201
CATTLE AUCTION MEDIA REPORT
Sale Date: December 9, 2004
Market Steady on Better Cattle. Planer Cattle \$3 to \$7 Cheaper. Packer Cows & Bulls \$2 to \$4 Cheaper.

STEERS
300-400 lb. \$144 to \$160;
400-500 lb. \$120 to \$144;
500-600 lb. \$105 to \$120;
600-700 lb. \$98 to \$105;
700-800 lb. \$94 to \$98.

HEIFERS
300-400 lb. \$135 to \$151;
400-500 lb. \$117 to \$135;
500-600 lb. \$104 to \$117;
600-700 lb. \$97 to \$104;
700-800 lb. \$92 to \$96.

PACKER COWS
Utility Boning: \$48 to \$51;
Canner/Cutter: \$47 to \$50;
Bulls: \$62 to \$68.

BRED COWS
Choice: \$825 to \$875;
Medium-Good: \$725 to \$800;
Medium-Poor: \$600 to \$700

COW-CALF PAIRS
Choice: \$1025 to \$1125;
Medium-Good: \$925 to \$1000;
Medium-Poor: \$850 to \$900.

Gainesville Livestock Market, Inc.
Website: www.gainesvillelivestock.com

Light Weight Steers - \$3 to \$4 LOWER. Light Weight Heifers - \$1 to \$2 LOWER. Packer Steers & Heifers - \$1 to \$2 LOWER. Packer Cows & Bulls - STEADY to \$1 LOWER. Pans & Bred Cows - STEADY. Sold at Friday's sale were: 927 compared to 941 head of cattle the previous week. Tuesday, Dec. 14, the Market conducted the sale of 362 goats, 161 sheep, and 230 hogs. The numbers from last week were 438 goats, 81 sheep, and 174 hogs respectively. Results of both sales follow:

Feeder Steers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.30-1.45; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.10-1.30; 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.25-1.47; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.25; 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 1.16-1.38; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.16; 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 1.08-1.22; Nos. 2 & 3, 90-1.08; 600-700 lbs. No. 1, 1.01-1.08; Nos. 2 & 3, 82-1.01; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, .95-1.07; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-95.	Stocker Cows (per head) Pregnancy-tested, 3 to 9-year-olds - Large Frame: \$800-\$940; Medium Frame: \$550-\$800; Cow/Calf Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - Large Frame: \$1000-\$1080; Medium Frame: \$750-\$1000; Holstein Baby Calves: \$35-\$105; Crossbreds: \$65-\$225.	Ewes (per lb.) Stocker: 60-68; Thin 20-45; Fat: 60-70.
Feeder Heifers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.20-1.29; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.05-1.20; 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.14-1.26; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.14; 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 1.08-1.16; Nos. 2 & 3, 95-1.08; 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 1.01-1.10; Nos. 2 & 3, 90-1.01; 600-700 lbs. No. 1, .92-1.00; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-92; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, .84-98; Nos. 2 & 3, 70-84.	Barrows & Gilts (per lb.) US #1, 230-270: \$5-62; US #2, 220-280: 50-55.	Yearlings (per head) 25-120 lbs.: \$70-\$135 Nannies (per head) Stocker: \$65-\$100; Milk Type: \$35-\$85; Slaughter: \$75-\$95; Thin: \$20-\$45; Fat: \$74-\$105.
Slaughter Cattle (per lb.) Slaughter Bulls, Yield Grade 1-2, 1.200-2.050 lbs.: \$7-6750 Slaughter Cows, #1-3, 48-55; Cutter: 35-48.	Sows (per lb.) Feeder: 400 or less: 38-48; Light wt.: 400-500: 40-47; Med wt.: 500-600: 40-47; Heavy wt.: 600+: 40-47.	Bulls (per head) 1/2 Nanny: NT; 3/4 Nanny: \$65-\$118; Full Nanny: \$90-\$145.
	Boars (per lb.) 300 lb. up: 94-157.	Breeder Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny: NT; 3/4 Nanny: \$125-\$180.
	Sheep (per lb.) Feeder lambs: 40-60 lbs. 1/0-1/24; Light lambs: 60-90 lbs. 1/00-1/20; Fat lambs: 90-120 lbs. 95-1/05.	Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny: NT; 3/4 Nanny: \$125-\$180.

(940) 665-4367