

Group gears up to oppose Trans Texas Corridor location

By Janet Felderhoff
Some say it is a done deal and opposing the Trans Texas Corridor 35 (TTC-35) with one of its preferred locations coming into the east side of Cooke County would be time wasted. Kenny Klement is trying to educate area residents on the potential impact it could have on this area and ways to oppose it if desired.

A meeting was held Tuesday, June 27 in the Muenster ISD Auditorium. People from Muenster and Lindsay attended along with residents from the east side of Cooke County.

Speakers included Klement, Sheila Cox of Lake Kiowa, William Baldwin of Sivells Bend, County Judge Bill Freeman, and Wayne Bell of TxDOT. Also present were Cooke County Commissioners Virgil Hess of Precinct #4, Al Smith of Precinct #3, and Bill Cox of Precinct #2.

Klement opened the meeting by giving a history of the

TxDOT sponsored meetings held in Cooke County. "The only reason for this meeting was to get people on this side of the County as excited as the east side is because there are two other roads proposed to come through this side," Klement explained. He said that the TxDOT map showing proposed preferred routes has two colors. Roads in green will wait a while to begin construction, while the ones in orange get attention first.

"There's a green one comes in right behind Muenster and Lindsay to 35 behind Saint Jo, all the way to Amarillo," Klement said. "It's gonna follow the divide to the Red River." Also of concern to many in Cooke County is an amber circle on the TTC map. It indicates areas that may be taken for a warehouse zone that could be designated duty free. That possible proposed zone comes to within a few miles of Muenster, crossing to the west side of FM 2739 in places, and takes in all areas

surrounding Lindsay and Gainesville.

Klement noted that from what he heard, some of the "businesses" that spring from such an area could be undesirable. Also, the impact on entities is unknown since the taxes paid and what happens to surrounding land values isn't known.

"Start looking, start talking. Don't let yourself fall in a deal that's not going to be good," urged Klement.

Klement noted that many people think that will never happen. He referred to Sen. Rick Hardeste who said that he didn't think that he would see the construction of the TTC-35 happen in his lifetime. Now Klement said Hardeste is saying that he thinks he may see it completed.

"This is not an eastern Cooke County problem and this is not a western Cooke County problem; this is a Cooke County problem," remarked Judge Freeman. "We all need to worry about it because I have seen the maps and there are plans on both sides of the County. Right now the primary line is coming out on the east side of the County."

Judge Freeman said that on I-35 right now there are only about four crossings to get from the east to the west side of the County. He expressed great concern for those who have a farm or property that would be divided with the construction of TTC-35. He said you wouldn't be able to get across until you came to a crossing.

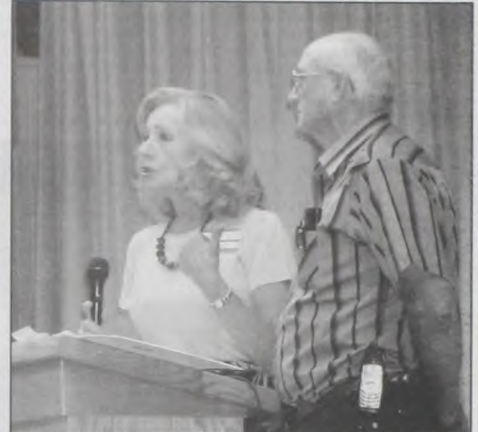
Freeman said, "My best guess is that there might be a crossing on 902, there might be a crossing on 922, and then

a crossing on Hwy. 82 and that would be it. The concerns I have as your County Judge is police protection, fire protection, and EMS protection." He referred to the problems the EMS had when trying to cross the railroad tracks at certain times for emergency calls. He said that problem was recently fixed with the opening of the new EMS substation on Rice Avenue.

Should the County be divided due to the TTC being placed here, Freeman said that getting those services to residents on both sides of the County would require spending a lot more money. Driving to a cross over could take time for the Sheriff's department or EMS that could mean life or death.

Judge Freeman also advised, "TxDOT is not our enemy. TxDOT has been a friend to Cooke County for many, many years. The farm to market roads that we drive on were built by TxDOT. Highway 82 was built by TxDOT. I-35 is maintained by TxDOT, and TxDOT has built many bridges across Cooke County, and has supplied the county commissioners with a lot of raw materials including guard rails, posts, asphalt."

Freeman read the resolution passed on May 8 by



Sheila Cox of Lake Kiowa and William Baldwin of Sivells Bend share their knowledge on the proposed Trans Texas Corridor during a meeting held Tuesday evening in the Muenster Auditorium.

Janet Felderhoff photo

TxDOT sets Gainesville TTC-35 Public Hearing

Making your opinion known to the Texas Department of Transportation will be easier than ever at the upcoming Trans Texas Corridor meeting in Gainesville. A public hearing is scheduled for July 10 at the Gainesville Civic Center.

The night will start out with an open house from 5 to 6:30 p.m. During this portion the public will have a chance to look at displays and talk with TxDOT employees about the project. This will also provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions about TTC-35.

While you're at the open house, you can officially register your comment even if you don't have time to stay for the public hearing portion of the evening.

Elected officials will be invited to speak first and then those who registered will be called upon to make their comments. A three-minute time limit will be imposed on speakers to ensure all registered speakers receive an opportunity to comment.

Court reporters will be on hand during the open house to take your comments. Laptop computers will be available to register your statements for the record, written comment cards can be turned in immediately or sent in later, and www.keeptexasmoving.org will accept comments on line.

The public can submit written comments at the hearing, by mail, or over the internet. Laptop computers will be available for written comments. For those who prefer a non-public comment setting, a court reporter will be available in an area outside the hearing room. All comments sent via mail and the internet will be accepted until Aug. 21.

The Open House period is a great opportunity to get your voice heard. This will also allow TxDOT employees to answer your questions. Comments taken by any of the methods described will carry equal weight.

At 6:30 p.m., the public hearing will start. A formal presentation will take about an hour to complete. After a brief break, testimony from the public will begin. The court reporters will be taking down all testimony just as they did during the open house.

During the testimony all comments will be recorded, however, due to the formality of the proceedings no answers will be immediately provided. The best time for questions and answers will be during the open house session.

Muenster hires more teachers

By Janie Hartman
The Muenster ISD Board of Trustees met in a called meeting June 21 to hire more staff and approve a construction consultant.

For the cafeteria project, the Board picked Cody Wilson and Nay Co. as construction consultants. The Board also discussed the budget and ag barn, but no action was taken.

In executive session, the Board accepted the resigna-

tion of Amy Villanueva and hired three new teachers. Deanna Hellman has re-joined the Muenster district as a special ed teacher in elementary. Daniel Waneck will be the agriculture teacher, with his wife Cecil teaching elementary science.

On Thursday, June 29, the Board met again to hire Justin Bell to direct the Hornet Band. Also at the meeting, the 2006-07 budget was discussed and passed by a vote of 7-0.

Cheerleader Lock-in



Katie Bezner cheers front and center at the Sacred Heart Varsity Cheerleader Lock-in held last Friday. Background support includes, from left, Sam Wimmer, Avery Truebenbach, Lisa Miller with Leah Knabe, Kalyssa Pollard, MacKenzie Mason, and Kate Springer.

Janet Felderhoff photo

By Janet Felderhoff

Who would have ever thought wind could cause so much controversy? It has more than breezes stirring in Cooke and Montague Counties as some residents take sides for or against the possible installation of 65 to 100 wind turbines in the area.

Florida Power & Light (FPL) Energy has leased property, and is seeking to lease more, for the purpose of erecting these electricity-generating machines. Wolf Ridge Energy Center is the name for the proposed project in Cooke and Montague Counties. Construction could begin this year and could be completed in late 2007.

FPL Energy is a subsidiary of FPL Group, which is one of the largest producers of electricity-related services. FPL Energy leads the nation as developer, owner, and operator of wind energy. It has 46 projects in 15 states.

The huge wind turbines have towers that stand 262 feet tall from foundation to the hub in the center of the blades. The turbine has three blades that measure up to 153 feet in length. Sitting at the top of each wind turbine is what is called a nacelle. The nacelle houses the generator that makes the electricity. Each turbine requires about 1/4 acre of land, including access roads.

According to information provided by FPL Energy, the project will have a total capacity of up to 150 megawatts, enough electricity to power about 44,000 homes.

Estimated economic benefits, as provided by FPL Energy:

- Property taxes (county and school) \$35 - 45 million;
- Landowner payments \$20-30 million;
- Construction payroll \$1-2 million;
- Payroll \$7-10 million;
- Goods and services \$2-5 million;
- Total \$65-92 million.
- Other benefits include clean, affordable energy for the region, wind energy places no demands on local schools or services, and compatible land use, preserves existing rural nature.

Opponents, of course counter many of these

claimed benefits, particularly the one on nature. They claim it will harm wildlife and cattle, be noisy and ruin the much-sought scenic views of this area of Texas. Another often voiced concern is how long the company will keep the turbines operating and what happens with them after they are no longer being used. Wind farms in places in the United States and overseas have closed down and the huge wind turbines remain.

North Texas Wind Resistance Alliance, a group organized to oppose the Wolf Ridge project met on Sunday, June 25 at Doc's Bar & Grill. Interested people filled the room to standing room only. Houston attorney Steve Thompson was guest speaker.

Thompson is representing a client in Abilene who is upset about wind turbines built near his property. He purchased the property for its scenic rural setting.

"These people specifically purchased property to live a ranching lifestyle," said Thompson. "They wanted to get away from the city to enjoy the stars, wildlife, and scenery. These turbines were in particular an affront to them as opposed to a guy like me

who lives in a high-rise with windows that look down over the city. I'm use to the noise and the lights."

The lawsuit he filed is called Private Nuisance, which is when your neighbor does something that interferes with the enjoyment of your property, said Thompson. The lawsuit was filed in April of 2005. Thompson turned his law practice over to other lawyers and began studying wind turbines.

Thompson refuted some of the things that were given as positives for wind turbines. Thompson said that his analysis found that wind turbines would not reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Only 4% of the energy in the State of Texas is generated by oil. Nationwide he said it something less than 3%.

Reduction of emission is not true, said Thompson. This is because they are not a steady source of electricity and alternative sources must be available. "You have to have dispatch able plants ready to be called upon to make up for when turbines aren't turning," said the attorney. "The State is already planning to build more traditional fossil fuel plants in order to support wind turbines.

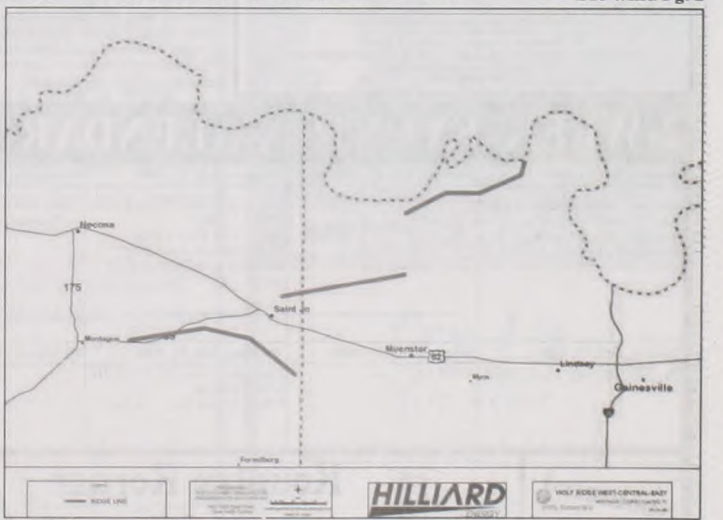
He explained that when turbines aren't producing the electricity the fossil fuel plants have to ramp up and are ramped down when the turbines are turning. The ramping up and down is inefficient and causes excessive emission of pollutants. He said that he has experts who will testify that the net affect of pollutants is worse with turbines than without.

A member of the audience inquired why this area. Thompson replied, "That's a complicated question, but I think the short answer is that the State of Texas has taken steps to encourage this to happen. There's no regulations that deal with the siting of wind turbines in the State of Texas." Texas has the right wind conditions, he added. They require winds of eight to less than 30 m.p.h.

According to Thompson there is a State mandate in Texas requiring power and light companies to sell a certain amount of power from renewable sources. So they either have to have their own wind turbines or contract with another company.

"Florida Power and Light doesn't have any financial risks in putting these things

See Wind Pg. 2



Lack of information in the past weeks has led to much speculation regarding the proposed windmill locations around the Muenster area. The map (above), provided by Florida Power and Light, shows the proposed Wolf Ridge Windmill lines.

TTC

courage you to think about, 'What do you feel deep in your heart?' She said emotion is not what will keep the TTC from being put in Cooke County.

William Baldwin said that an article in the Dec. 6, 2004 issue of *Time Magazine* addressed the TTC. He said that the article raises the issue of whether the TTC is an innovative solution or a Texas size boon dock. He said it notes that the Texas Republican Party urged the Legislature to repeal it. Texas is losing more land through sprawl than any other state, it said. He said the article also brought attention to the \$1 billion in donations to Gov.

Perry who proposed the Corridor.

"The Governor had a dream and he had a vision and I think he needs to change his glasses because I think his vision was bad," commented Baldwin. "This is the worst thing, in my opinion, that's ever happened to Texas. It's a shame folks and it is because we set on our cans and let our politicians do as they want."

Cox said that other groups in Cooke County have passed resolutions with concerns over the TTC. They include Callisburg ISD, Cooke County Historical Society, Muenster Hospital Board, and City of Callisburg.

"We encourage everyone to take an active role," stressed Cox. "Think about what you feel in your heart and that's what you need to write in your letter." She said that Rep. Hardcastle said that they have two stacks of letters that come into a big office. One is personal letters and the other is form letters. Hardcastle said they read the personal letters. A list of officials who have anything to do with the TTC was supplied to those present. This is available to any who ask.

Calls are being tracked of those who call the offices of Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and Senator John Cornyn. Cox said that your zip code is

from Pg. 1 requested and whether you are for or against the TTC. "You, as citizens, were not given the privilege of voting yes or no and this isn't an official ballot, but at least your vote is being recorded," remarked Cox. She encouraged those who write to get copies of the resolutions passed by all entities in their areas. That includes the one from Cooke County.

"Time is short and of the essence," said Cox. "Our window of opportunity to voice our position is growing shorter with every day that passes."

What to do if you oppose TTC-35

- Write AND call your elected state, county, and federal officials.

- Write AND call TxDOT's Joe Pensock, director of Turnpike Corridor Systems, and Larry Tegtmeier, TxDOT's Wichita Falls district engineer.

- Include your printed name, signature, and address on all correspondence.

- Go to www.keeptexasmoving.com (TxDOT site) and enter your position on TTC-35 under the "comments" tab.

- Call U.S. Senator John Cornyn at (512)469-6034, and U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison at (202)224-5922. State your position on TTC-35 and give your zip code.

- Remember your elected officials' positions on TTC-35 when election time rolls around.

- Educate yourself on TTC and TTC-35. Check out any of these sources: www.corridorwatch.org; www.keeptexasmoving.com; TxDOT's four-volume Tier One Environmental Impact Statement at the Cooke County Library.

- Educate your family and friends.
- Have governing boards adopt resolutions regarding TTC and send it via registered mail to the officials named above. Also bring it to the July 10 TxDOT Public Hearing.

Attending the July 10 meeting and voice your opinion, ask questions, and give your official statement.

Addresses and other information are available from any of the people who spoke at this meeting. The *Muenster Enterprise* also has them if you wish to stop by and look at them.

Remember now is the time to take action regardless of whether you are for or against this corridor. After decisions are final, it is too late to do anything and regrets don't change history.

THANK YOU FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS!

We have enjoyed our time here in Muenster, and regretfully it is time for us to go. We have made many friends along the way as well as many memories. We have been blessed with having the opportunity to teach and coach your children in one of the best schools in Texas! You will forever be our Muenster Family.

*Thank you for the love and support,
Kenny & Kyra Mann*

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

MEETING DATE - July 10, 2006

The following is the agenda for the regular meeting of the Muenster City Council to be held at 7:30 pm in the City Hall meeting room on Monday, July 10, 2006.

1. Call meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
2. Opening prayer.
3. Approve minutes of the regular meeting on June 5, 2006.
4. Recognize visitors and invite them to attend the entire Council meeting and to discuss their business.
5. Consider any other business to come before the Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Consider and act on amending ordinance outlining charges for retail food inspections.
2. Consider and act on TXU Ordinance regarding quarterly payments of yearly franchise.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider and act on renewing property tax collection contract with Attorney Jim Robertson.
2. Review bids for 2005 TCDP Drainage Improvements - Mesquite Street. Award bid to lowest qualified bidder.
3. Consider and act on Inter-jurisdictional Mutual Aid Agreement presented by TCOG Governing Body.
4. Consider and act on approving 4 attendees going to Fire School and approving expense payment.
5. Consider and act on approving sale of alcohol in City park by Muenster Volunteer Fire Department for their BBQ on August 12, 2006.
6. Schedule FY 06-07 budget workshop meeting date.
7. Receive quarterly activities report from Police Department.
8. Receive update from Ald. Walterscheid on Community Emergency Response Team.
9. Review budget summary report.
10. Review and act on monthly bills.
11. Receive status report on city projects and activities. Take action as necessary on items of discussion.
12. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Council may enter into closed or executive session to discuss the following: Texas Local Government Code 551.074 - Personnel.
13. Return to open session. Consider and act on matters discussed in executive session.
14. Adjourn.

NOTES:

1. The Council may vote and/or act upon each of the items listed in this agenda.
2. The Council reserves the right to retire into executive session concerning any of the items listed on this Agenda, when it is considered necessary and legally justified under the Open Meetings Act.
3. People with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need assistance should contact Micallee Matson at 759-2236 two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

This is to certify that I, Micallee Matson, posted this agenda on the outside bulletin board by the front door of City Hall at 9:30 am on July 3, 2006.

Micallee Matson
Micallee Matson, City Secretary

Wind

up," commented Thompson. "They are getting their money back in other areas and they've got electricity produced basically cost free that we, as taxpayers, paid for the project. We have the privilege of paying for the electricity also."

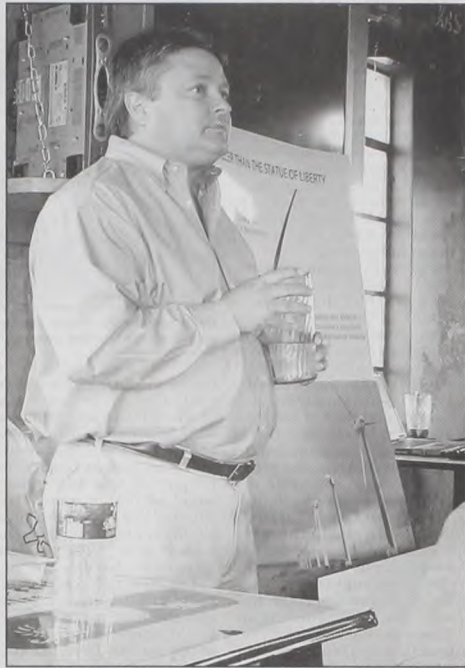
A concern voiced by some who had been asked to lease their property was the dismantling of the wind turbines if they are no longer used. Thompson said that FPL doesn't have to put up any surety bonds until 15 years after the lease agreement is signed.

Last Thursday County Judge Bill Freeman and Precinct #4 Commissioner Virgil Hess accepted FPL Energy's offer to tour its project in Weatherford, Oklahoma. Commissioner Hess said that the wind turbines were very quiet.

"Most people up there don't care if they (wind turbines) are there," he noted. "There are 98 of them. It is kind of neat to watch them all turning in the wind. People stop along the road just to watch them."

Hess said that he did learn some positive things. Each turbine has a \$1.7 million valuation. "The Muenster School and Muenster Hospital District could use that extra tax money," Hess commented. He said that he also learned the FPL donated a large amount of money to the Weatherford school district.

Hess is gathering land value studies dealing with the wind turbines. He plans to share that information with Cooke County Tax Appraiser Doug Smithson to evaluate how Cooke County might be impacted.



Houston attorney Steve Thompson answers a question from the audience during a recent meeting in Muenster.

Janet Felderhoff photo

At the June 25 meeting, Thompson said, "The tax appraiser for Taylor County, which is down by Abilene, has said from the witness stand that it (wind turbines) is going to devalue the surrounding properties and devalue the area. He gave his appraisers the approval to give a 10% reduction in the appraised value of people's properties. Not that that is all they can

get, but he's saying that without batting an eye. So you are reducing the tax base of the other properties in the area."

Even if a majority of the area residents are against the project, it may not matter. There are no laws in Texas currently that would regulate such facilities. Now it is a contract between a company and the landowners.

DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO July 4, 1941

Lambert Bezner had four minutes to claim a slack suit party; he was on the job at First State Bank, and in his rush to the courthouse, caught his trousers on a banister - causing him to be very much in need of his new slack suit. Paul Endres has loose teeth and a cut chin for his attempt to save a horse that

was being strangled by a rope; the horse not only kicked Paul, but also kicked "the bucket." Obituary: Della Bernauer, 58. Wedding: Ray Swirczynski and Marguerite Alta Decker. Emil Rohmer is new worker at Ben Seyler's. Tony Hess sustains broken arm. Leonard Hartman breaks ankle.

50 YEARS AGO July 6, 1956

Rain fizzes, drought con-

tinues. New Arrivals: Janie to Hugh and Dora Weinzapfel Jackson; Gayle to Harold and Rita Corcoran; Lyle to Ray and Irene Klement. Wedding: Doris Krebs and Henry Kuhn, Jr. Obituary: John Huddleston, 46. The James Eckart family moved from the Felderhoff farm to the Stoffs Estate place.

25 YEARS AGO July 3, 1981

The L.B. Bruns home chosen for "Yard of the Month." College graduate: Pat Hennigan, Jr., NTSU. Weddings: Janice Krebs and Pat Endres; Tracey Pilcher and Mike Cox. Victor Hartman observes 78th. Laura Sicking completes tour of Europe along with her sister Joyce Dostart. Boating accident on Moss Lake results in injuries to Joe and Lola Kindiger and their friends Roy and Mike Blair. Ernie and Doris Hellman, Peggy Gobble, and Queenie Walterscheid return from vacation to New York area.

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(USPS 367660) is published weekly except the last week in December for the entire year by The Muenster Enterprise, Inc. Post Office Box 190, Muenster, Texas 76252-0190

Periodicals postage paid at Muenster, Texas
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE, P.O. Box 190, Muenster, Texas 76252
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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR To list your event, call 759-4311 BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY!						
Sunday, July 9, 2006	Monday, July 10, 2006	Tuesday, July 11, 2006	Wednesday, July 12, 2006	Thursday, July 13, 2006	Friday, July 14, 2006	Saturday, July 15, 2006
Muenster Museum Open 1-4pm North Texas Wind Resistance Alliance - Mtg. - Center Restaurant - 6 pm	Texas Trans Corridor - I-35 mtg City Council Mtg 7:30 pm VFW Mtg 8 pm	Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30 SNAP Center Cooke City Beef Cattle Improvement Asso Mtg- NCTC-Little Theater 6:30 pm	MISD Board mtg 7:30 pm CoC Breakfast mtg 7:30 am	Muenster Museum Open 1-4pm	Muenster Museum Open 1-4pm AARP Membership luncheon 11:30 am Stanford House	
<i>Red Cross Swim Lessons</i>						
Sunday, July 16, 2006	Monday, July 17, 2006	Tuesday, July 18, 2006	Wednesday, July 19, 2006	Thursday, July 20, 2006	Friday, July 21, 2006	Saturday, July 22, 2006
Muenster Museum Open 1-4pm	VFW Mtg 8 pm	Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30 SNAP Center MMH Board Mtg. - 8 pm		Muenster Museum Open 1-4pm Kiwanis Family Swim Night - 7-9 pm - Muenster Pool	Muenster Museum Open 1-4pm	Sharon Gaston benefit concert - Cooke City Fairgrounds - 5:30 pm

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OBITUARIES

Mary Ivins 1907 - 2006

Graveside services for Mary Lorene Browning Ivins, 99, of St. Richards Villa in Muenster were held Monday, July 3 at Union Cemetery in Montague County with C.E. Cole officiating. Services were under the direction of McCoy Funeral Home of Saint Jo. Lorene died on Friday, June 30, 2006 in Muenster.

Born Jan. 13, 1907 in Illinois Bend to Will H. and Fannie Whaley Browning, Lorene lived most of her life in Montague County. She married Walter Leroy Ivins on Jan. 27, 1926 in the Spencer community. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ. She was a partner to her husband as a farmer in Montague County. Her family was very

important to her and she was devoted to her children grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. She enjoyed doing the chores associated with the farm and family. She loved gardening, sewing, baking, quilting, and in general, all homemaker duties.

Survivors include a son J.W. Ivins of Benbrook; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her husband; daughter Betty Thweat; a great-grandson; sister Vera Dodgin, Ethel Pinckert, and Gladys Dowd; and brothers Henry and Harold Browning.

Honorary pallbearers were Johnny Dowd, J.C. Ivins, Marshal Ivins, Jim Ivins, Steve Geray, and Billy Fain.

CAPITOL COMMENT



U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Protecting our children online

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

The expansion of the Internet has ushered in a world of unlimited opportunity. Nearly 80% of Americans are online, and almost two-thirds use the Internet at home. The Internet provides businesses access to new markets, students access to new ideas, and friends and family members access to one another. The ease and speed with which information travels today is unprecedented - and is getting faster everyday. Along with the many advances offered by the Internet, however, we must confront the new and daunting challenges it brings.

As our children are exposed to the Internet at an early age, predators are a dangerous threat to their safety. There are thousands of predators prowling online at any given moment, and each year, one in every five children receives an unwanted sexual solicitation online.

This is a frightening reality which we must confront as explicit material becomes increasingly available online. Since 1996, the FBI has documented a 2,000% increase in the amount of child pornography on the Internet, and 25% of all children have been exposed to unwanted sexually explicit

material, according to a study conducted by the Department of Justice. These numbers are alarming, and we must act to protect our children so they can safely use the Internet as an educational tool without being in danger.

I am currently co-sponsoring the Internet SAFETY Act to shield our children from these aggressive predators. This legislation provides law enforcement officials with additional resources to prosecute adults who create and distribute child pornography. Under this bill,

it will become a federal crime to produce or knowingly facilitate transmission of child pornography and to financially support or operate child pornography sites. It will also increase existing penalties for child pornography, child prostitution, and sex trafficking.

The Department of Justice's Project Safe Childhood Report, published in May, outlines the most dangerous ramifications of the increasing child exploitation via the Internet. In addition to posting offensive graphics and vulgar videos, Internet predators are now attempting to lure children into face-to-face meetings. Each year, one in 33 children receives a sexual solicitation to meet the predator in person. Unfortunately, only one out of four targeted children reports such an advance to their parents.

The Internet SAFETY Act creates an Office on Sexual Violence and Crimes against Children within the Department of Justice to further support the protection of our children.

The Department of Justice will also provide over \$14 million this year to support regional Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces. This national network of 46 ICACs, which includes a unit in Dallas and a newly created unit serving South Texas, cooperatively targets online child pornographers.

Prosecuting Internet pornographers not only reduces the amount of sexually explicit material currently available online but also prevents countless children from being exploited as the subject of future images. Clearly the children forced to participate in such despicable acts suffer great physical, emotional, and psychological harm.

There can be no higher priority than ensuring our children's safety. The opportunities offered by the Internet are great, but so is our responsibility to maintain a safe and secure environment for our children, who are growing up in an age of unprecedented technology. In protecting them, the Internet SAFETY Act also protects our future.

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MAC THORNBERRY

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2457 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515-4313 (202) 225-3706

Thornberry supports bill to boost U.S. refineries

With the backing of Congressman Mac Thornberry (TX-13), the U.S. House of Representatives approved legislation to help speed the construction of new oil refineries. H.R. 5254, titled "The Refinery Permit Process Schedule Act" was approved by a 238-179 vote.

"We have neglected our energy needs for too long. We must produce more energy of all kinds here at home, and we must get it to consumers," Thornberry said.

On an average daily basis, American consumers use more than 21 million barrels of refined products. But, U.S. refineries produce just 17 million barrels of refined products a day. Relying on imports to cover the shortfall can contribute to wide price swings.

"There are lots of reasons for the higher energy prices for consumers. But, even if we produce all of the oil we need, we still have to turn it into gasoline, diesel, and other useable products. Not having enough refineries is one of our biggest weaknesses," said Thornberry. "We need to encourage the construction of new refineries."

Currently, there are 148 refineries operating in the United States, less than half the amount that was active 30 years ago. No new refineries have been built in the U.S. since 1976. Industry officials say interest in building new refineries is often discouraged by a lengthy permitting process that can last as long as 10 years. Helping drag things out is the fact that proposed refineries must meet the requirements of multiple federal and state regulatory bodies.

To streamline the process, H.R. 5254 calls for appointing a federal coordinator to oversee the permitting process. The coordinator would monitor the efforts of the federal and state

regulatory entities involved and help establish a timetable for completing their reviews.

"Hopefully, this coordination will speed up the program. If we can get to where applicants only have to wait a year or two to get a permit, there may be a lot more interest in building the new refineries we need," said Thornberry.

Other highlights of H.R. 5254:

- Make available to states federal financial and technical assistance during the permitting process.
- Instruct the President to designate at least three closed military installations

as potential sites for new refineries. At least one such site must be designated for refining biomass to produce biofuel.

Maintain strict environmental standards. The Environmental Protection Agency will be given priority in scheduling coordination. All applications will be subject to environmental laws such as the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Do not prevent citizens from using existing legal options to appeal the permitting process.

H.R. 5254 now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

House approves Bill providing relief on Estate taxes

The U.S. House of Representatives approved H.R. 5638, the "Permanent Estate Tax Relief Act of 2006," by a vote of 269 to 156. Congressman Mac Thornberry (TX-13) voted for the bill.

"In some ways, this was a bitter pill for me to swallow. I believe that the death tax is wrong. It is wrong for estates of \$100, and it is wrong for estates of \$100 million. This tax should be eliminated, and along with a majority of my colleagues here in the House, I have voted to do so many times," said Thornberry.

However, Thornberry said it is clear that the present U.S. Senate cannot deliver a full repeal.

"Even though a majority of Senators have voted to eliminate the death tax, they cannot get the 60 votes needed to end the filibuster. The uncertainty of the current situation makes planning for farmers, ranchers, and small business owners impossible. Time is running out, and we need to let people know what the law

will be. Therefore, somewhat reluctantly, I voted for this compromise. I continue to believe that this tax should be eliminated," Thornberry said.

Estate tax relief approved by Congress five years ago is set to expire in 2010. If Congress does not act before that expiration date, the estate tax exemption will fall, and the maximum estate tax rate will return to 55%.

H.R. 5638 will take effect on Jan. 1, 2010. Under the bill:

• The estate tax exemption increases to \$5 million per person (indexed for inflation).

• The tax rate for estates up to \$25 million is set at 15%. (That rate will rise to 20% in 2011 if Congress does not act to extend the lower rate.)

• The tax rate for estates of more than \$25 million is set at 30%. (That rate becomes 40% in 2011 if Congress does not act to extend the lower rate.)

The Senate is expected to vote on H.R. 5638 before its fourth of July recess.

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LIFESTYLE

Bayer and Adair exchange vows in Sacred Heart Church



Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bayer

Leonard Bayer and Pat Adair of Muenster were married in Sacred Heart Church on Saturday, June 17, 2006 at 2 p.m. Father Kyle Walterscheid officiated at the Nuptial Mass and double ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of the late Theo and Marie Vogel. She graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1958, and from St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in 1961 in Fort Worth.

The groom is the son of the late John and Adelaide Bayer. He graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1958 and is employed by J.H. Bayer & Sons.

Presented at the altar by her son, Mike Adair, the bride wore an ivory suit and carried a bouquet of carnations.

Allison Bayer, daughter of the groom, served as maid of honor. Charleen Adair, daughter-in-law of the bride, served as bridesmaid. Kayla Adair, granddaughter of the bride, served as flower girl.

They wore long gowns in burgundy, made by the bride and Tillie Otto. They carried

bouquets of carnations.

Johnathon Bayer, son of the groom, was best man. Mike Adair, son of the bride, was groomsman.

Ushers were Deano Bayer, nephew of the groom, and Craig Aye.

Altar servers were Jacob Bayer, and Benjamin and David Walterscheid. Music was provided by Christy Hesse and Ruth Felderhoff. The readings and petitions

were given by John Bezner, friend of the couple.

Offertory gifts were presented by Kalyssa Pollard, niece of the groom, and Roman Vogel, nephew of the bride. Eucharistic ministers were Mary Bayer, Ethel Bayer, Charles and Carolyn Bayer, Alvin Hartman, and Christel Vogel.

A reception and catered dinner followed in Sacred Heart Community Center.

Shannon Hagar and Ashlee Pike presided at the guest book. The three-tiered wedding cake and chocolate groom's cake were made by Betty Rose Walterscheid. Music was provided by Lambert Hess, "The Entertainer."

The rehearsal dinner was held on Friday evening at The Center Restaurant.

The couple took a wedding trip to Florida and are making their home in Muenster.

Wind farm meeting set

There will be a meeting for people who want to learn more about the Proposed Wind Farm for Cooke and Montague Counties. It will be held at 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 9 at The Center Restaurant at 603 E. Division in Muenster.

The North Texas Wind Resistance Alliance will present their opposition to the Florida Power & Light Plan, NorthTexasWindResistance.com. At the end of the meeting, there will be a question and answer time.



Greg and Sue Immel of Richardson announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Erin Immel of Sanger to Jacob Luke of Sanger. Mr. Luke is the son of Melvin and Terri Luke of Muenster. Miss Immel is a 1998 graduate of J.J. Pearce High School and a 2002 graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in Accounting. She is employed with Peterbilt Corporate. The future groom graduated from Muenster ISD in 1997 and from Texas Tech in 2001 with a Mechanical Engineering degree. After serving two tours of duty in Iraq, he is currently a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and is employed as a supervisor for Peterbilt. The couple plans to be married on Saturday, July 22, 2006 at 2 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church in Denton with a reception following at Merit Bois - D'ARC - Ranch in Denton.

Turn around, don't drown

Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.

NEW ARRIVAL

Walterscheid

Owen Reed Walterscheid came into the world in a big way, weighing in at 10 lb. 9 oz. and measuring 23 1/2 inches long. He was born to Brandon and Blaine Walterscheid on May 9, 2006 at 6:24 p.m. in Denton Presbyterian Hospital. Grandparents are Gary and Brenda Walterscheid of Muenster and Rash and LeVita Barrett of Ryan, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents are Ray and Angie Barnhill and Flo Walterscheid of

Muenster and the late Earl Walterscheid, Berma Thomas, and the late Glen Good. Great-grandparents are the late Oolucha and Rash Barret.



Owen Walterscheid

Are artificial sweeteners safe?

To sweeten or not to sweeten - for those contemplating limiting their sugar intake, that is the real question.

Sugar is a favorite food. According to a federal study "Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals", the average American consumed about 20 teaspoons of sugar a day during the mid-1990s. About 60% of that sugar was from corn sweeteners (often found in sodas and other drinks) and 40% from table sugar and other sweeteners such as honey, said the Sugar Association.

Although loved, sugar isn't a good source of nutrients. That's why sugar is one of the first foods to be limited when dietary changes are made, said Texas Cooperative Extension experts.

Still, that sweet flavor is hard to give up. Sugar substitutes and artificial sweeteners can be alternatives to sugar, but that leads to the second question: Are they safe?

"Eating sweeteners is safe as long as you do not eat too much of them," said Dr. Mary Bielamowicz, Extension nutrition specialist.

"There are currently five low-calorie (non-nutritive) sweeteners approved for use in the U.S.," said Dr. Carol Rice, Extension health specialist. "Extensive scientific research has demonstrated the safety of these five sugar substitutes."

These sweeteners are:
- Acesulfame-K (often marketed as SweetOne, Sunette, Sweet and Safe, and Ace-K).

- Aspartame (NutraSweet, Equal).

- Neotame.

- Saccharin (Sweet 'N Low, Sugar Twin, Necta Sweet).

- Sucralose (Splenda).

Although three other low-calorie sweeteners - alitame, cyclamate and steviol glycosides - are available in other countries, they are not legal in the U.S.

"The only U.S.-approved sugar substitute that requires a label for safety is

aspartame," Bielamowicz said. That's because this ingredient contains phenylalanine, an amino acid that is dangerous for individuals with phenylketonuria, or PKU, a rare - and hereditary - metabolic condition, she added.

"People with PKU know they have it since babies are tested for this shortly after birth," Rice said.

For everybody else, consuming sugar substitutes in reasonable amounts shouldn't be a problem, she said.

"Claims of adverse behavioral, neurological, carcinogenic, allergic, and other adverse effects have been made against sugar substitutes, particularly aspartame," Bielamowicz said. "These claims are often highly circulated through e-mail and Internet sites, but they have not been supported by scientific research. In fact, numerous studies have been conducted that have found aspartame to be safe, and these claims to be unfounded."

However, some factors might limit a sugar substitute's usefulness in some situations, Rice said. Some sweeteners break down under high heat and cannot be used in cooking. Some are so much sweeter than ordinary sugar that they must be used in small amounts.

For more information about each sweetener's characteristics and uses, download a free copy of the April 2006 Health Hints Newsletter on sugar substitutes, said Janet Pollard, Extension associate for health. For a copy, visit Extension's Family and Consumer Sciences Web site at <http://fcs.tamu.edu/> and click on the link to "Health." And don't forget, the experts advised, before making any dietary changes, seek the guidance of a medical professional and/or nutrition expert.

BAPTISM

Walterscheid

Emma Rose Walterscheid, daughter of Kenneth and Tina Walterscheid, received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, June 18. Godparents are Erik Walterscheid and Vickie Green, both of Muenster. In attendance at the Christening ceremony and at a meal and celebration held at grandparents Dale and Charlotte Klement's home were: Emma's parents; her sister Abby; brother Luke; Emma's Godparents; grandparents Dale and Charlotte

Klement and Alice Walterscheid; great-grandparents Julius and Marie Sandmann of Lindsay, Irene Klement, and Tony and Sis Klement, all of Muenster. Also in attendance were Deano and Jeannene Bayer, Dillon, Kendi, and Nolan; Jayna Biffle; Scott, Will, Ben, Grace, and Joseph Green; Cody Klement and Dana Dittlinger; and Emma's great-great-aunt Margaret Koerner of Lindsay. Unable to attend were Flo Walterscheid, and Keith, Christine, Caleb, and Hannah Klement.

Bards poetry contest offers \$1,000 prize

Poets, listen up! The Bards of Burbank are hosting their annual free poetry competition, and everyone is welcome. There are 50 prizes in all, totaling almost \$5,000, and the grand prize is a whopping \$1,000.

The deadline for entering is July 22. Your poem may be written on any subject, using any style, and must be 21 lines or less.

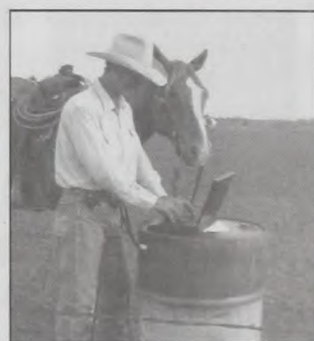
Send one poem only to: Bards of Burbank, 2219 W. Olive Ave., #100, Burbank, California 91506. Or enter

your poem online at www.bardsofburbank.com. You may enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope to receive a winners list.

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SH Varsity Cheerleaders offer fun, food, and cheering class



Learning fun cheers are, from left, Kyla Haverkamp, Claire Schneider, Victoria Endres, Ashley Cowan, and Madison Hofbauer.



From left, Allie Walterscheid, Cassie Dangelmayr, Kenzie Hess, Kyla Haverkamp, Teresa Boles, Karleigh Reeves, Brooke Jones, Kylie Hess, Bailey Walterscheid.

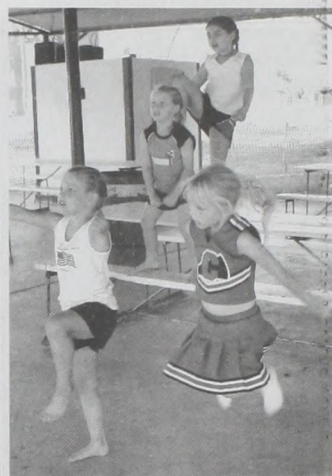
Photos by Janet Felderhoff



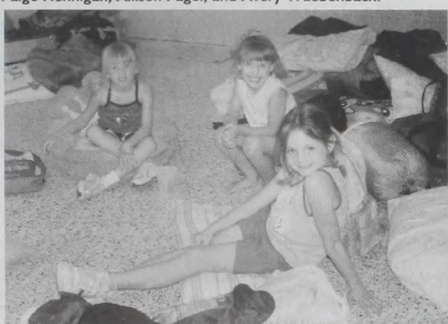
Practicing new moves are, from left, Kylie Hess, Kalyn Dangelmayr, Shelby Dangelmayr, Lana Heers, Paige Hennigan, Allison Pagel, and Avery Truebenbach.



Young cheerleaders, from left, Zoe Klement, Macie Pagel, and Leah Knabe.



Sacred Heart Varsity Cheerleaders held their annual Lock-in last Friday. It was a fun time for learning cheers, eating pizza, watching movies and spending the night with girls of all ages Above photo - from left, front - Avery Truebenbach and Mackenzie Mason; middle Kate Springer, and top Macie Pagel.##



Above - Sterling Walterscheid; At left, from left ?, Zoe Klement, and Samantha Muller check out the sleeping quarters.



PIZZA TIME! From left, Briana Bindel, Cassie Dangelmayr, Claire Schneider, Logan Cheaney, and Brianna Klement take time for pizza.

Go teams!

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SPORTS

What's in a name?

A name can mean a lot - to an individual, a team, a school, or a community. In Texas, UIL has 149 class A football teams. Each team has their mascot, with animals the number one choice. Eagles and Bulldogs are the most popular, then Longhorns, Mustangs, Hornets, Yellowjackets, and Cats - Bobcats, Wildcats, Bearcats, Cougars, Panthers, Lions, and Tigers, and Polar Bears? Oh my!

There are also Angoras, Beavers, Badgers, and Sharks, Owls, Elks, Bucks, and Swifts. Being in Texas, you will find Indians, Chiefs, Braves, Kiowas, and Comanches, along with Cowboys, Roughriders, Roughnecks, Plowboys, Oilers, Jack Rabbits, Rattlers, Blizzards, Cyclones, and Skyrockets.

And let's not forget Pied Pipers, Moguls, Blue Devils, Yellowhammers, and Sandies. And this is just the smaller schools.

Shifting to the 5A city schools, there are 245 varsity

football teams. Favorite mascots are Eagles, Mustangs, Panthers, Tigers, and Cougars. Though animals take the lead, the big schools have characters represent their team: Spartans, Troopers, Buccaneers, Aztecs, Knights, Rebels, Westerners, Plainsmen, Rangers, Patriots, Colonels, Raiders, Titans, Warriors, Farmers, Texans, Pirates, Toros, Vikings, and more.

There are also more unusual ones, like Ganders, Marlins, Skeeters, Marauders, Bruins, Gophers, Matadors, Cavaliers, Brahmas, Kangaroos, and Maroons. And being Texas, we have Rattlers, Longhorns, Colts, Wolves, Coyotes, Bison (and Buffalo), Mavericks, Hawks, Deers, and Yellowjackets.

So if you're a Bear or Bearcat, Cowboy or Indian, Tiger or Hornet, football season is just around the corner, so be ready, and go out and support the team of your choice.



The Muenster team, Walterscheid Meat Company (WMC) had a winning season of 7-2 and won the Muenster League. They also played all 12 year olds from the other teams on June 30 and won. Members of WMC are: from left, front - Josh Biffle, Clayton Rohmer, Darrell Hermes, C.T. Beecham, Austin Hennigan; middle - Austin Aldridge, Steven Flusche, Blayne Styles, Trevor Hess, Clayton Hess; back Coach Ryan Hess, Blake Voth, Andrew Flusche, Coach Neal Flusche, and Coach Shawn Flusche.

Courtesy photo

Avoid pesky wildlife

Remove temptation: Besides easily-tipped trash cans, there may be other food sources luring wildlife to your door. Make your yard unattractive to hungry raccoons, coyotes, bears, and others by removing bird feeders during the summer, feeding pets indoors, and keeping barbecue grills clean. Even non-food products such as candles, sunscreen, and insect repellent may attract some animals, so keep those items indoors when not in use.

Humane Society

Lawnmower safety tip

Use caution when mowing hills and slopes. Never use a riding mower for steep hills, and mow across a hill with a push mower instead of upward and downward.

Yard care notes

What can I do about lawn damage caused by my dog?

Unfortunately there is no quick fix when it comes to brown spots caused by dog urine. But you can help to avoid this damage in the future with heavy watering and baking soda. Watering will help to dilute the concentration of nitrogen in your yard, and using a full watering can mixed with baking soda will help to neutralize the area.

How do I deal with mushrooms?

There are no chemical treatments available for the control of mushrooms or toadstools, although there are some temporary options available. You can try to dig up the decaying organic matter from which the mushrooms are growing. Another option is to destroy the mushrooms with a rake or lawn mower and wait out the problem (that is, until the buried organic matter fully decays and disappears).

Yardcare.com perly watering and fertilizing. Once moss is actively growing, however, you can try chemicals that will kill it. *Yardcare.com*

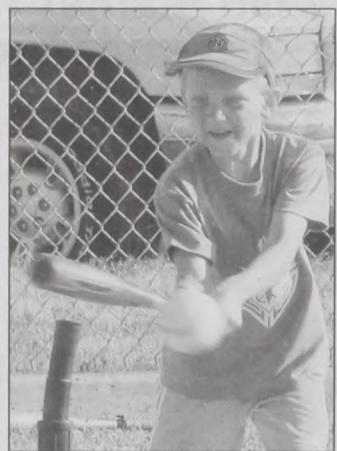
Safety tip

Monitor NOAA Weather Radio or your favorite news source for vital weather related information.



Above, Nicole Bayer, pitcher for the white team. At left, Red team member Anne Walterscheid is ready to swing, but was walked.

Janie Hartman photo



At left, Green team player Katie Springer is safe at first as Blue baseman Roy Endres waits for the ball. Above, Andrew Stoffels gets a hit for the Blue team.

Janie Hartman photos

Lawnmower safety tips

Wear proper gear while mowing the lawn, including protective boots, clothing, safety eyeglasses, and shoes. Ear protection may also help protect against hearing damage due to prolonged noise exposure.

Make sure that you and other adults and children around you are never barefoot when the lawn mower is operational.

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Happy Birthday U.S.A.!!!

Janet Felderhoff photos



It was a traditional 4th of July celebration hosted by the Muenster Volunteer Fire Department Monday evening. There were hot dogs and hamburgers, fireworks sparkled in the sky, there was time to visit with neighbors, family, and friends, and it was topped off with great country music by Tim Cooper and the Midnite Ride. This was the Department's third annual July 4th event co-sponsored by Hoss Knabe and Weldon Vogel. The crowd swelled to well over 2,000.



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Very unique layout! Must see this home to appreciate this well maintained home in the picturesque community of Muenster. 4 bedroom & 2 bath. Features include elegant dining area with French doors, closed in porch, an added room for work space with work bench & cabinets, & nicely landscaped yard. **BONUS** includes an upstairs 2 bdrm, 1 Bath apt (2nd Income)! What are you waiting for?

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LEGAL NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CONTRACT CONDITIONS FOR THE 200 BUILDING REMODEL AT THE GAINESVILLE CAMPUS FOR THE NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE DISTRICT
Single lump sum sealed bid for general construction will be received at the North Central Texas College, 1525 West California Street, Administration Building Room 109, Gainesville, Texas, addressed to the attention of Mr. Robbie Baugh, Director Administration Services. Each bidder shall identify his sealed bid by typing on outside envelope. 200 BUILDING REMODEL. Bids received by hand delivery or mail after 2:00 p.m. (local time), 14 July 2006 will be returned unopened. (No Facsimiles). The time/date stamp in the College Administration Building, Room 109 shall serve as the official time of receipt for all bids. Sealed Bids will be opened and read in public in the Board Room, immediately following. Project Site is located at 1525 West California Street, Gainesville, Texas. Entire Work will be awarded under one, single prime general contract. Beginning Thursday, 05 July at 2:00 p.m. General Contractor bidders may obtain three sets of Contract Documents from Lanier at 501 Elm Street, Suite 100, Dallas TX-75202, upon deposit of a refundable deposit check in amount of \$150.00 for each set of three payable to NCTC. Deposit check will be returned if Contract Documents are returned to the Architect, in good condition, within 10 days of date of bid opening; otherwise, no refund will be made. Deposit is a prerequisite for obtaining Contract Documents. Bidders will not be allowed to pick up Contract Documents without first depositing deposit. Contract Documents will not be mailed unless deposit check has been received in advance. Additional complete sets of Contract Documents may be obtained upon payment of cost of reproduction. Partial sets of Contract Documents will not be available. Contract Documents will be furnished to established Plan Rooms without charge. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held Tuesday, 11 July 2006, at 2:00 P.M. in the Board Room, Administration Building, Room 103, Gainesville Campus. Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all Bids. Each bidder must deposit, with his bid, security in amount, form and subject to conditions provided in Instructions to Bidders. Security amount shall be five percent of total amount of bid. Bidder may not withdraw his bid within 60 days after actual date of opening. In accordance with Section 176.006 of Local Government Code; Effective January 1, 2006 any vendor that "contracts or seeks to contract for the sale or purchase of property, goods, or services with a government entity, or is an agent of a person in the person's business with the local government entity", must have a Conflict of Interest Questionnaire on file with the North Central Texas College Administrative Office. North Central Texas College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

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HOUSE FOR SALE
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814 N. Mesquite, Muenster
5-3-2 Approximately 2 acres
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Classified Deadline is Tuesday at 5pm

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF MUENSTER
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
The City of MUENSTER will hold a public hearing at 9:00 AM, on JULY 15, 2006, in City Hall, 400 N. MAIN ST., MUENSTER, TEXAS. The public hearing is in regard to the submission of an application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) grant. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TxCDBG funding available, all eligible TxCDBG activities, and the use of past TxCDBG funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TxCDBG application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to The Honorable Henry Weinzapfel, Mayor, at City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting and need assistance should call Ms. Micallee Matson, City Secretary, at 940/759-2236, to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the City Secretary at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Invitations
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Don't forget to turn in your Muenster Mystery Match entries to the Muenster Enterprise by 5 pm on July 11. Winner will be announced in next weeks issue of the Muenster Enterprise

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FARM & RANCH

New Phorid Fly released in the fight against fire ants

There's a new phorid fly in town, and this one could be even deadlier to fire ants than other species, said a Texas Cooperative Extension entomologist.

"We've been releasing a different type of phorid fly in New Braunfels to see how effective it will be in controlling fire ants," said Molly Keck, Extension entomologist for Bexar County. "We're hoping this one will be even more deadly to them than the other species of phorid fly we've been using throughout the state for fire ant management."

If the release is successful, additional releases of the new phorid fly species will likely be forthcoming, she said.

Phorid flies kill fire ants by "dive-bombing" them in order to lay their eggs in the ant's thorax, Keck explained. Once hatched, the fly larvae migrates into the head of the ant, eating the contents. Eventually, the ant's head falls off.

The new fly, *Pseudacton curvatis*, is imported from South America and has been acquired through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Inspection Service, Keck said.

An initial release of about 75,000 of these flies was completed over three days - June 14, 20, and 23 - in the southeastern part of the city.

"This type of phorid fly is different from the *Pseudacton tricuspidus*, which is already being used in several counties as a biological fire ant control," Keck said. "It's more robust and prefers the smaller-sized worker ants. It also handles cold weather better than *tricuspidus*, so it's less likely to die out during fall or winter."

The new fly's aggressiveness toward smaller worker ants is especially useful in eliminating fire ant colonies with multiple queens, Keck said.

"Those colonies usually have large numbers of the smaller worker ants in and around them," she said. "So they provide more targets for this fly. And these types of

colonies are abundant throughout the state."

A similar release of the new species has already taken place near Denton, but this is the first in the South Central Texas, Keck added.

"We're also trying to keep the release of the new fly far enough away from where we have released or plan to release the *Pseudacton tricuspidus*," she said. "That way the two species won't be competing with one another. And although it's likely the two can survive in the same area, the *curvatis* would be likely to out-compete the *tricuspidus* in a given area, so it just makes more sense to release them far enough apart."

After the initial release, Keck will revisit the release area about every six months to check the progress of the

new species in controlling fire ants. However, it may be two years before any significant evidence of the fly's effectiveness in killing fire ants and adapting to the area is visible, she said.

"We may see tangible evidence as little as a year, but sometimes it takes longer," she said.

Even if the fly proves highly effective in controlling fire ants, it should not be viewed as a "golden bullet" for killing them, she warned.

"The new species should be seen as another weapon in the fight against fire ants in the state," she said. "But we hope it will be a strong addition to the existing arsenal of chemical and biological controls in the management of fire ants, which include its predecessor: *Pseudacton tricuspidus*."

From campfire to gas tank, mesquite energy may be harnessed for ethanol

The dense mesquite-covered mid-section of Texas could provide fuel for about 400 small ethanol plants, according to one Texas Agricultural Experiment Station researcher.

Dr. Jim Ansley, Experiment Station rangeland researcher at Vernon, is determining the feasibility of developing a bio-energy industry in rural West Central Texas. The industry would be based on the harvest and use of rangeland woody plants, such as mesquite and red berry juniper, as an energy source.

"We've had so much more interest in this since gas prices went up last summer," Ansley said. "That's going to be a real driving variable. If gas prices continue to go up, I think we could very well see a first generation refinery built in Texas to handle mesquite within five years."

The vision is to build as many as 400 refineries around the state based on

mesquite wood. If other woods are considered, the number could go as high as 1,000, he said.

Working with an Aberdeen, Mississippi company, Ansley is studying the supply, harvest technologies, ethanol conversion rates, and ecological effects of mesquite-to-ethanol production.

One ton of mesquite wood will yield about 200 gallons of ethanol, he said. An acre of the densely populated mesquite standing 10 to 12 feet tall will yield about eight to 10 tons of wood.

A commercial refinery producing five million gallons of ethanol per year will require about 30,000 acres to sustain it, an approximate four- to five-mile radius if the refinery is located near the middle of the mesquite stand, Ansley said.

"The thing that will make this fail is if people think a bigger refinery in the big cities is better," he said. "That's where it will fail. The transport costs to get the feedstock to the refinery will kill you."

Building smaller refineries in the rural regions where the mesquite is located is the key to making this work, he said. Each refinery would support about 30 jobs and enhance rural economies.

"One aspect of mesquite that makes it an attractive renewable fuel is once the above ground growth has been harvested, it sprouts back pretty vigorously," Ansley said. "We're looking at how long it takes before it can be economically harvested again."

A State Energy Conservation Office grant has allowed his team to study harvest of different regrowth rates, as well as develop a mechanized system of harvesting mesquite.

Working with private cooperators, Ansley has helped design a harvester that is in the patent-pending stages.

Pressure builds for the WTO agreement

Pressure continues to build for completion of the WTO Doha round, which would include an agreement that provides new markets for U.S. farmers in return for reduction of domestic support.

New United States Trade Representative Susan Schwab said earlier this month that the U.S. would be willing to improve or scale back its current offer depending on the willingness of other countries to improve their market access offers.

The European Union (EU) has continued to exert pressure on the U.S. to improve its offer, while at the same time refusing to improve their own.

A study by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) came

to the conclusion that, "Government support, measured as the overall Producer Support Estimate (PSE), varies widely across OECD countries. The PSE in the European Union was 32% of farm receipts in 2005 (compared with 33% in 2004). In Australia it was 5% (unchanged from 2004), and in the US 16% (unchanged). The largest proportions of government support are found in Japan (56% in 2005), Korea (63%), Norway (64%), and Switzerland (68%)." Schwab said that an agreement is needed in the next month. Europe is a strong market for U.S. sorghum because of the leadership and participation of U.S. sorghum producers in past GATT negotiations. The key to expanding sorghum exports will be side-letter agreements with countries that agree to import sorghum for use as a feed grain.

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HEIFERS
300-400 lb: \$135 to \$145;
400-500 lb: \$120 to \$135;
500-600 lb: \$110 to \$120;
600-700 lb: \$105 to \$110;
700-800 lb: \$100 to \$105.

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Medium-Good: \$650 to \$750;
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Feeder Steers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs. No 1, 1.35-1.77; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.35; 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.31-1.55; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.31; 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 1.22-1.40; Nos. 2 & 3, 95-1.22; 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 1.14-1.26; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-1.14; 600-700 lbs. No. 1, 1.07-1.15; Nos. 2 & 3, 70-1.07; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, .95-1.14; Nos. 2 & 3, 70-95.	Stocker Cows (per head) Pregnancy tested, 3 to 9 year-olds - Large Frame: \$700-\$920; Medium Frame: \$500-\$700; Cow/Calf Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - Large Frame: \$975-\$1090; Medium Frame: \$800-\$975; Baby Calves: Holstein: NT; Cross Breeds: \$100-\$280.	Ewes (per lb.) Stocker: 22-35; Thin: 15-25; Fat: 20-35. Bucks (per lb.) Thin: NT; Fat: 25-35. Barbados (per head) Lamb: \$10-\$45; Ewes: \$15-\$45; Bucks: \$30-\$90.
Feeder Heifers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.15-1.31; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.15; 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.16-1.29; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.16; 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 1.16-1.28; Nos. 2 & 3, 95-1.16; 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 1.10-1.21; Nos. 2 & 3, 85-1.10; 600-700 lbs. No. 1, 1.05-1.10; Nos. 2 & 3, 70-1.05; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, .92-.99; Nos. 2 & 3, 50-82.	Barrow & Gilts (per lb.) US #1, 280-270: 45-52; US #2, 220-280: 40-45.	Goats (per head) Kids: 20-35 lbs. \$15-\$50; 35 lbs. \$25-\$65; 65-75 lbs. \$45-\$80. Yearlings (per head) 120 lbs-up: \$80-\$120. Nannies (per head) Stocker: \$60-\$105; Milk Type: \$20-\$50; Slaughter: \$35-\$75; Thin: \$15-\$45; Fat: \$50-\$75.
Slaughter Cattle (per lb.) Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade #1-2, 1.200-2.050 lbs.: 53-65; 6500 Slaughter Cows #1-3, 47-53; Cutter: 20-47.	Boars (per lb.) 300 lb. up: .05; 200-300 lbs: 10-15; Light wt.: 15-25; Sheep (per lb.) Feeder lambs: 40-60 lbs.: 65-85; Light lambs: 60-90 lbs.: 60-75; Fat lambs: 90-120 lbs.: 50-60.	Billies (per head) 120 lbs-up: \$80-\$120; Broilers: \$85-\$120; Slaughter: \$60-\$85; Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny: \$15-\$50; 3/4 Nanny: \$40-\$75; Full Nanny: \$80-\$145; 1/2 Billy: NT; 3/4 Billy: NT; Full Billy: \$80-\$210. (940) 665-4367

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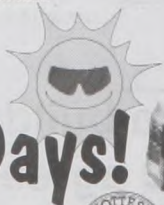
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HORMEL JUMBO CAN	2 for \$4		
Tamales..... 28 OZ.			



24 PACK, 12 OZ.
Coors or Coors Light

\$17.99

FROZEN & DAIRY

ASSORTED FLAVORS	2 for \$5	ASSORTED FLAVORS EXCLUDING ORIGINAL AMERICAN	2 for \$5
Blue Bunny Ice Cream		Kraft Singles	
1/2 GAL. SQR. CTN.		12 OZ. PKG.	
ASSORTED VARIETIES	10 for \$10	RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT OR ASSTD. ORANGE JUICE	\$2.99
Banquet Meals..... 6.7-12 OZ.		Florida's Natural..... 64 OZ.	
PATIO ASSORTED	3 for \$1	SOFT SPREAD	
Burritos..... 5 OZ.		Parkay..... 48 OZ.	2 for \$4
CORN, GREEN PEAS OR MIXED VEGETABLES	2 for \$4	ASSORTED FLAVORS	
VIP Vegetables..... 32 OZ.		Yoplait Yogurt..... 6 OZ.	2 for \$1
KRAFT ASSORTED GRATED OR SHREDDED	2 for \$6		
Parmesan Cheese..... 7-8 OZ.			

GARDEN FRESH PRODUCE



FRESH
Red Ripe Tomatoes
LB. **69¢**

CELLO WRAPPED	79¢	JUICY	10 for \$1
Iceberg Lettuce..... EACH		Limes.....	
WASHINGTON	\$2.99	EXTRA FANCY GOLDEN DELICIOUS OR GRANNY SMITH	99¢
Cherries..... LB.		Washington Apples..... LB.	
GREEN	99¢	GLOSSY BLACK	99¢
Leaf Lettuce..... EACH		Eggplant..... LB.	
FRESH BUNCH	2 for \$1	EXTRA LARGE	2 for \$4
Green Onions.....		Cantaloupe.....	
YELLOW OR ZUCCHINI	99¢	FARM FRESH	3 for \$1
Squash..... LB.		Yellow Corn.....	
CRISP STALK	69¢	JUMBO ITALIAN SWEET	79¢
Celery..... EACH		Red Onions..... LB.	
CELLO PACK PEELED	99¢	LARGE SNO-WHITE	\$1.99
Mini Carrots..... 1 LB.		Cauliflower..... EACH	
AMERICAN, HEARTS OF ROMAINE OR BUTTER LETTUCE	2 for \$5	CELLO PACK	2 for \$3
Dole Salad Blends..... 7-10 OZ.		Spinach..... 9 OZ.	
TANGY	5 for \$1	WHITE ROSE	69¢
Lemons.....		Potatoes..... LB.	

HEALTH & BEAUTY CARE

SELECT GROUP BANDAGES	\$2.39	ALWAYS ASSORTED 34-40 CT.	
Band-Aid BRAND..... 10-80 CT.		Pantiliners	\$2.99
ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT	\$3.79	OR ASSORTED 16-24 CT.	
Neosporin..... 5 OZ.		Maxi Pads..... YOUR CHOICE	

THRIFTWAY

Since 1927
We Wouldn't be 79
Without You!

SENIOR CITIZENS: No Amount of Purchase
Necessary On Limited Sale Items!
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PICTORIAL OR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS.

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www.fischersmeatmarket.com

DOUBLE COUPONS EVERY DAY



PRICES EFFECTIVE JULY 10 - 16, 2006