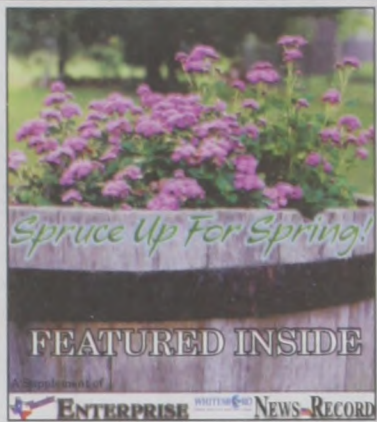


Home Lawn & Garden



Germanfest, Inc. sets park update

Germanfest Inc. has scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, April 8 at 6 p.m. in the KC Hall for all who are interested, including Chamber members, organizations, or any other interested individuals, to come and hear an update on the design and plans for purchasing 92.6 acres as the new home for Germanfest.

For the last few years, a board led by Alvin Fuhrman has diligently worked behind the scenes to purchase and develop a permanent home for Muenster's annual Germanfest. The Germanfest celebration, in its 34th year, is slated for the last full weekend in April of each year.

Held on rented grounds, the annual event has run out of room. Year after year, Chamber Director Margie Starke has been forced to decline new vendors interested in displaying their wares at the Germanfest. The Children's Carnival is also on rented property and is vulnerable each year as is the Bar-B-Que Cook-off which is held on private property which could be sold at any time.

The annual event brings in more than 30,000 visitors to the area each year. More than \$30,000 is lost in parking alone and also in preparation for the event. Tents are rented at a significant dollar amount as well as tables and chairs and other equipment and facilities for the weekend. Also included in the ex-

penses are temporary fencing and labor to prepare the park for the Germanfest.

This event brings in more than one million dollars to Muenster over the three-day weekend. The money is re-spent in the community more than seven times. Many local organizations earn their annual budgets during this weekend including the Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart School, Kiwanis, Muenster Library, Museum, cheerleaders, Boy Scouts, and the Jaycees. Security service is also rented from Cooke County Sheriff's department. The ambulance service and various clean-up services are used. The City of Muenster also benefits from the event through City sales tax plus 5% of the gate proceeds.

Germanfest, Inc., which was incorporated and received its non-profit status in May 2007, has an opportunity to purchase 92.6 acres just west of town from the Bayer Brothers Company for \$5,000 per acre for a permanent home for the Germanfest.

Alvin Fuhrman has offered to fund the building of the Food Pavilion that will cost approximately one million dollars but requires that the land be debt free. The total project is estimated to cost around \$3 million dollars.

The current Germanfest event is in jeopardy each year due to spring rains or storms. On several occasions, the event has been rained out which results in the Chamber having to operate on limited funds.

Aside from the annual Germanfest, the park is planning to hold monthly events to include concerts, trade-days, reunions, meetings, as well as recreational activities. RV hook-ups are in the plans for weekenders to enjoy the area.

Germanfest, Inc. is governed by a Board of Directors. Members of the current Board are Alvin Fuhrman, chairman, Charles Bayer, vice-chairman, Margie Starke, president, Kirk Klement, treasurer, and Carolyn McPherson, secretary.

Other members of the Board include, Matt Sicking, Stan Endres, Annette Walterscheid, and Kathryn Koch.

Endres makes All-State



Muenster's Samantha Endres, senior member of the Lady Hornet Basketball team, earned All-State ranking by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and the Texas Girls Coaches Association for the second consecutive year. She also played in the Texas Roundup All-Star game that takes the top 24 players from Class A, AA, and AAA.

Courtesy photo

KMB prepares for its annual spring activities

As Germanfest approaches, Keep Muenster Beautiful is planning several beautification projects. KMB will weed and plant flowers to help beautify Main Street on Saturday, April 4 starting at 9 a.m. at KMB park.

The BIG clean-up - when they need all the volunteers they can muster - will be Saturday, April 18, with the Don't Mess with Texas city-wide clean-up. Each organization's help is needed in picking up litter along the major highways and streets of Muenster. So, please put this on your calendar TODAY. They'll meet at City Park 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; Muenster State Bank will provide hot dogs and food for all who help. Be sure to wear your Muenster Proud T-shirt for the clean-up, as there will be a representative from Keep Texas Beautiful at this event. Please, be signed in and in place at the pavilion by 8:55 a.m. for a safety briefing and picture of all the volunteers. See you there.

But wait, KMB isn't finished. Want to purchase some beautiful mums and hanging flowers for Mother's Day? KMB is having its annual flower sale on Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. by The Bird Nest on the corner of North Main and Third Streets.

Capricious spring weather inflicts hail damage to area

By Janet Felderhoff
It seems Mother Nature can't make up her mind whether spring has arrived or winter should hang on a bit longer. In the past week, the area has experienced warm, windy March days, snow, tornado warnings, damaging hail, fog, and perfect calm, warm spring days.

Thursday, March 26 brought national attention to Muenster as a tornado was spotted northwest of Muenster and hail pummeled the area. Other formations in the sky looked perilous, but brought no harm. Hardest hit by the hail were areas north and west of town. Montague County took an even harder hit from the weather.

Muenster Volunteer Fire Department Chief Herbie Knabe noted that the windshields were knocked out of three Saint Jo VFD trucks being used by storm spotters around Saint Jo. Muenster called its storm spotters back to the outskirts of Muenster as the hail approached their watch locations to prevent such damage.

Gary Woodall, National Weather Service warning coordinator meteorologist for the Weather Forecast Office in Fort Worth, reported, "There was a tornado in eastern Montague County. According to reports, it was brief and no damage was reported (from the tornado... more substantial damage resulted from the hail). Funnel clouds were reported in Cooke County, but no confirmed tornadoes."

One resident two and one half miles northwest of Muenster confirmed that they had one window in their home broken by the hail. Many of the window screens were also dented or torn. Hail was seen in various sizes up to two inches in diameter. Some hail remained in cattle guards and along buildings the next morning. Revealed in the morning sun were trees stripped of their leaves and or flowers, and cold-hardy plants such as onions and hyacinths

Spring arrived in Texas recently sharing its splendor for all to view as trees send out new green leaves, flowers bloom profusely, many sweetly scenting the air, and the birds all sing happily in anticipation of nature's new life. But, with all this beauty comes a harsher side of nature. The local area saw some of that Thursday night as air from a cold front collided with the warm air here and violent stormy weather ensued. A tornado was spotted in Montague County a few miles northwest of Muenster. There was much rotation and turbulence in the skies. Hail up to two inches in diameter pounded areas north and west of town for about half an hour. It soon covered the ground in a white blanket of frozen ice balls. In town, there was less hail and little damage. The photos at right of a wisteria bush were taken in a yard three and a half miles northwest of Muenster. The top photo was shot Wednesday morning and the bottom on Sunday after the storm.

Janet Felderhoff photos

stripped of their flowers and leaves. Hard-hitting hail left impressions in the earth where there were no plants to soften the blows.

Tornado sirens were sounded in Muenster and Channel 2 was activated to urge residents to take cover from a possible tornado. Sirens ran for about an hour as severe weather continued to threaten. A wall cloud with a hook was spotted west of Muenster early in the evening and another south sometime later.

Chief Knabe remarked that the warning sirens are

sounded any time radars show threatening conditions, spotters report certain threatening conditions, or when an official source reports spotting a funnel cloud or tornado. He explained that the sirens start and stop because they only run for a certain period of time and then have to be reactivated.

Cooke County Emergency Management Coordinator Ray Fletcher said he heard of a Moss Lake VFD truck that got the windshield cracked while spotting, but that's it so far. He added, "As usual, I would recommend that everyone have a weather ra-

dio and here is a good site with more tips: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/skywarn.html>."

Shortly after the hail ended, fog enveloped the area lowering visibility.

Saturday morning brought another surprise. Snow fell sometime before dawn, blanketing the area in a thin layer of white. The day was cold and blustery. Spring peeked its head out again on Sunday, which was warm and windy.

Expect the unexpected and be prepared as spring settles into Texas.



Mother Nature showed her more violent side last Thursday night as thunderstorms rolled through the local area. Hail pounded new spring growth, especially in areas of Montague County and north and west of Muenster. Above is the ground covered in hail just after the worst of the storm had passed. At left, hyacinths and daffodils in full bloom before the storm, now lay shredded from the storm's assault.

Janet Felderhoff photos



Obituaries

Clyde Fisher 1929 - 2009

Mass of Christian Burial for Clyde Donald Fisher of Denton, formerly of Muenster, was held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 26 at Sacred Heart Church in Muenster. Fr. Tim Thompson of St. Mark Catholic Church in Denton celebrated the Mass. Services were directed by McCoy Funeral Home of Muenster. Clyde died at the age of 79 at 9:20 p.m. Sunday, March 22, 2009 in a hospital in Corinth. His death was due to complications of Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS).

Born Oct. 24, 1929 in Muenster, the eldest child of John and Margaret Schmitt Fisher, Clyde grew up and attended Sacred Heart Church in Muenster, graduating from Sacred Heart High School in 1947. Clyde worked while growing up, in his family's store, Fischer's Meat Market. He then attended Gonzaga University until drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps in 1951. Clyde, while in the Marine Corps, met Pauline "Polly" R. Grill, who was also a marine. They were married on June 27, 1953 in Midlothian, Illinois in St. Christopher's Church. After the wedding, they returned to California for six weeks to finish their military obligations. They moved back to Muenster where they lived until just the past few years, moving to Denton to be nearer to his business headquarters.

Shortly after Muenster became wet, Clyde became a wholesale beer distributor. This business continues to the present and was operated by Clyde until his health prevented his efforts. Clyde was a member of the VFW, was a 4th degree Knight with the Knights of Columbus, and was a member of several organizations associated with the distributorship including NBWA, OMBA, and BAT.

Survivors include his wife Polly Fisher of Denton; daughters and their spouses Nancie and Mark Lippe of Muenster, Kathie and Timothy Herr of Denton, Virginia and Karl Kelson of Corinth, Julie and Brett Walford of Corinth, Laurie and David Lawrence of Denton; sons and their spouses Charles and Victoria Fisher of Muenster, Richard and Mary Kay Fisher of Denton, Daniel and Jana Fisher of Wichita Falls, Ronnie and Beverly

Fisher of Wichita Falls; 26 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; sisters Jeanette Galloway of New Braunfels, Ruth Rumelhart of New Braunfels, and Rosemary Lardner of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and brothers Johnny Fisher and Butch Fisher, both of Muenster.

Preceding him in death were his parents; daughter Angeline Fisher; and granddaughter Maggie Fisher.

Assisting during the funeral Mass were altar servers Butch Fisher, brother, Keith Grill, brother-in-law, and Alvin Hartman (Butch and Keith were altar servers for Clyde and Polly's wedding in 1953). The First Reading was given by granddaughter Paige Fisher. The Responsorial Psalm was sung by David Gilmore. Lisa Lippe-Machen, granddaughter, gave the Second Reading. Prayers of the Faithful were read by Sally Hacker and Jody Fisher-Carroll, granddaughters. Grandchildren Drew Fisher, Ann Kelson, Michelle Fisher, and Madison Walford brought up the Offertory Gifts. Eucharistic ministers were granddaughters Brooke Walford and Shelly Herr, daughter-in-law Mary Kay Fisher, and cousins Theresa Walterscheid and JoAnn Pagel.

Denton and Cooke County 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Color Corps formed an honor guard at church. Music ministers were David and Michele Gilmore, pianist Eileen Cloutier, and Glenn Wright, all of St. Mark Catholic Church, and Rodney Moore, an employee of Wichita Beer. Sacred songs included "Be Not Afraid," "On Eagle's Wings," "How Great Thou Art," "Prayer of St. Francis," "Ave Maria," and "Hand of God."

The remarks of remembrance were given by grandson Mitchell Herr and daughter Ginnie Kelson. They said, in part, "...In September of 1959... Clyde became a wholesale-beer distributor in Muenster. For almost 50 years, he immersed himself into his business, building it into three distribution warehouses, servicing more than 38 counties in Texas and Oklahoma... The weekend before Clyde's death, he was honored with the prestigious Miller Legends Award... the video presentation illustrated Clyde's big bright smile,



Clyde Fisher

describing him as a man of honor...

"Flying was a deep passion Clyde enjoyed... Another one of Clyde's passions was traveling. He traveled all over the world... and often to Creed, Colorado with his grandsons camping and fishing..."

"He served as a volunteer fireman for many years... sang in the men's choir at Sacred Heart Church in Muenster and later at St. Mark Church... He loved God, life, his family, his friends, and the beer business..."

Pallbearers were grandsons Reid Fisher, John Fisher, Clay Fisher, Alex Walford, Mitchell Herr, Chad Herr.

A Rosary led by Johnny Fisher, brother, was held Wednesday, March 25, at Sacred Heart Church. The 4th Degree Knights of Columbus from Denton formed an honor guard, and presented Polly with a golden chalice.

Burial followed in Sacred Heart Cemetery where VFW Post #6205 formed an honor guard. Members of the honor guard were Willie Fisher, cousin, Arthur Bayer, classmate, James Hess, and Ben Hesse. Ronnie Weinzapfel played TAPS.

Please consider memorials to: Sister Roberta Hesse SRS, of St. Mary - Rwanda; or Maggie Fisher & Stephanie Huchton Memorial Scholarship Fund.

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DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO March 31, 1944

Hard freeze kills much vegetation in Muenster Tuesday night. Fire damages Meinrad Hesse's wash house. Julius Hermes loses 200 baby chicks in brooder house fire. New Arrivals: Claude to Johnny and Adelaide Bayer. Sun causes school bus, pickup crash; no serious injuries; knocked unconscious was student Clyde Miller; student Theodore Noggler also hurt.

50 YEARS AGO April 3, 1959

Volleyball tournament sponsored by Sacred Heart Alumni has 28 teams entered. Obituary: Joe H. Otto, 78. New Arrivals: Troy to Paul and Bernice Sicking; Glenn to Jerry and Monica Hess; Gary to Arnold and Aileen Knabe. Sacred Heart Tigers will have new uniforms for their next baseball game.

25 YEARS AGO March 30, 1984

Denise Anderle is spelling champ at Muenster Public School. New Arrival: Kelly to Garry and Susan Petsch. Mrs. J.S. Hogan honored on 95th birthday. Feature story highlights Red River Liquor.

A dewdrop does the will of God as much as the thunder storm.

Nothing with God is accidental.



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Highlights...Majestic & sublime, the Canadian province of Alberta is a land of scenic delights. With accommodations as spectacular as the mountains, get set to be pampered in the heart of the Rockies (Jasper, Banff & Lake Louise) with an unforgettable experience aboard the Rail Canada's Snow Train Express. Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to see the mighty Canadian Rockies, undeniably one of the most extravagantly beautiful ranges on Earth, at Christmas time.

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www.F-S-B.com Member FDIC

Easter Egg Hunt

When: Saturday, April 11
 Rain Day: Sunday, April 12
 Time: 2:00 PM
 Where: Muenster City Park
 Three Age Groups: 0-2 years
 3-5 years
 6-10 years

Funded by the Muenster Jaycees
 And
 Sponsored by Muenster High School NHS

The Easter Bunny plans to attend, so don't forget your cameras!

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

Sunday, Apr. 5, 2009	Monday, Apr. 6, 2009	Tuesday, Apr. 7, 2009	Wednesday, Apr. 8, 2009	Thursday, Apr. 9, 2009	Friday, Apr. 10, 2009	Saturday, Apr. 11, 2009
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m.	City Council Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	Muenster Public Library open 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Muenster Public Library open 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. SH Alumni & Supporters Mtg. 7:30 p.m. SNAP rm. Religious Ed Class 7 p.m. Tenebrae grades 4-12 Germanfest Inc. Mtg. 6p.m. KC Hall	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m. Muenster Public Library open 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. C of C Lunch Mtg. Rohmers Muenster Historical Comm. Mtg. 8a.m. Rohmers	Muenster Museum CLOSED AARP Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Stanford House Easter Egg Hunt, St. Richards 2p.m.	Muenster Public Library open 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt, City Park, 2p.m.
Sunday, Apr. 12, 2009	Monday, Apr. 13, 2009	Tuesday, Apr. 14, 2009	Wednesday, Apr. 15, 2009	Thursday, Apr. 16, 2009	Friday, Apr. 17, 2009	Saturday, Apr. 18, 2009
Muenster Museum CLOSED <i>Easter</i>	VFW Mtg. 7:30p.m.	Muenster Public Library open 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Marketing Club Mtg. 7p.m. Gainesville Farm Bureau	Muenster Public Library open 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Religious Ed Class 7 p.m. MISD Board Mtg. 7:30p.m.	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m. Muenster Public Library open 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m.	Muenster Public Library open 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. KMB City Wide Clean-Up 9a.m. City Park Household Hazardous Waste Collection, CC Justice Cntr, 9-1

Sponsored by **MUENSTER ENTERPRISE** 117 E. First Muenster 940-759-4311

Obituaries

Eric Randolph 1939 - 2009

Eric W. Randolph, age 69 of Thackerville, Oklahoma, was born Nov. 23, 1939 in Hartsome, Oklahoma, and died Friday, March 27, 2009 in Presbyterian Hospital of Denton. He was the son of Ellen R. and Pat Smith.

Mr. Randolph was a resident of Love County most of his life. He and Deborah Faye Cler were married in Gainesville on May 13, 1977. Mr. Randolph served in the U.S. Air Force from July 1958 to July 1962. He was employed as a welder at National Supply for 24 years, served as deputy/undersheriff for the Love County Sheriff's Department for 10 years, and most recently worked as a security officer for WinStar. He attended Cooke County College for two years.

His hobbies included playing dominoes, hiking and camping or just about anything outdoors, watching his grandson play baseball, taking motorcycle trips on his Goldwing, and spending time at Red River with his dog "Jake."

Preceding him in death were his parents; sister Lois Nance; brother James Randolph; half brother Billy Dodd; and half sister Mildred Dodd.

Survivors include his wife Debbie Randolph of the home; son and daughter-in-law, Bobby and Connie Randolph of Valley View; daughter, Melissa Randolph and Ryan Weatherly of Sanger;

stepdaughter, Julie Nelson and husband Bobby, of Thackerville; half brother Toy Dodd of Alma, Arkansas; half sisters Joy Weems of Van Buren, Arkansas, Sue Carolina of Moffett, Oklahoma, Wilma Phillips and Rose Bristow of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Carol Parrish of Fort Smith, Arkansas; and three grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Bobby Randolph, Jim Langston, Dutch Langston, Byron Reed, Dean Pearman, and E.O. Moeser. Honorary bearers are Elgie Bratcher, Wesley Liddell, Jr., Charlie Taylor, Bill Wolfe, and members of Family Life Church of Gainesville.

Funeral services were held Tuesday March 31 at Thackerville Church, with Pastor Larry Eberhart officiating.



Eric Randolph

Interment followed in Mt. Zion Cemetery in Thackerville.

Visitation was held Monday, March 30 at Flanagan-Watts Funeral Home in Marietta, Oklahoma.

Helen Nichols 1909 - 2009

Services for Helen E. Nichols, age 99 of Gainesville, were held Friday, March 27 at St. Mary's Catholic Church with the Rev. Jim Pemberton officiating. Services were directed by Geo. J. Carroll and Son Funeral Home.

A rosary with a visitation following was Thursday, March 26 at the funeral home.

Helen was born to Henry and Mary Elizabeth Buescher Albers in Effingham, Illinois on April 2, 1909. Her family relocated to Muenster when she was three years old. She lived the next 97 years of her life in Muenster, Lindsay, and Gainesville. She earned her nursing degree in 1930, and for the next 44 years worked for the Gainesville Hospital and

several local doctors. Helen was a devout Christian and an active member of St. Mary's Church. Her hobbies were gardening and needlework.

Survivors are daughters and sons-in-law Betty and Troy Long, and Cathy and Ron McCormick; sons and daughters-in-law Joe and Sandy Nichols, and James and Sherida Nichols; 10 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband Joe Nichols in 1965, her parents, and seven brothers and sisters.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Association or The American Heart Association in Helen's name.

You may sign the online guest book at geojcarroll.com

J.C. Landers 1923 - 2009

Funeral services for J.C. Landers, age 85 of Watauga were March 29 at Forestburg Methodist Church with Rev. Sam Campbell officiating. Burial was in Perryman Cemetery in Forestburg. J.C. died at 3:19 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2009.

Born Nov. 1, 1923 in Forestburg, one of the 10 children of William Robert and Alma Dixie Galmour Landers, J.C. served in the U.S. Army in the European Theater, on active combat duty in Germany during WWII. He was the recipient of the Purple Heart. J.C. was a long time member of the First Baptist Church in Watauga where he served as deacon.

J.C. married Rama Lee Cook on April 18, 1943. They were the parents of six children and were married some 57 years, separated only by Rama's death in 2000.

J.C. was an electrician and carpenter most of his life. He enjoyed traveling with his wife in earlier life. Survivors include daughter Betty Barrow of Watauga; sons Fred Landers of Watauga, Chris Landers of Weatherford, and Jerry Garland of Watauga; sisters Bonnie Huddleston of Myra, Linda Bell of Saint Jo, Bobbie McClelland of Silsbee; brothers Junior Landers of Forestburg and Micky Landers of Azle.

He was preceded in death by his wife Rama Lee; daughter Carolyn Hart; son Johnny Landers; sister Peggy Nell Finkins; and brothers Jerry, Terry, and L.C. Landers.

Pallbearers were Michael, Matthew, Justin, Dale, and Chisum Landers and Preston Parker.

J.C. Donnell 1913 - 2009

Funeral services for Jacob Clinton "J.C." Donnell, age 95 of Saint Jo, were held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 30 at First United Methodist Church in Saint Jo with Rev. Larry Kruger officiating assisted by Rev. Larry Coleman. Burial was in Mountain Park Cemetery in Saint Jo. J.C. died at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, March 27, 2009 in Muenster.

J.C. was born Aug. 2, 1913 in the Hardy Community to Clifford and Rosie Harris Donnell. He married the love of his life and his "best cook in the world" Mary Nell King on Dec. 21, 1933. They celebrated their 75th anniversary this past year. J.C. was known as a rancher, but had many other interests. His greatest joy was his family, with friends and community being a very close second. He devoted his life to making all things in his life the best they could be.

In his youth, J.C. was an excellent basketball player, and more recently he continued that love of basketball by watching the Dallas Mavericks play on TV. As a grown working man, he planted his first crop at the age of 15. He was on the Hardy School Board by the age of 23. During his life, he served on many boards in Montague County and surrounding communities. He was a founding director of Clear Creek Water Shed Authority. J.C. won a number of awards for his work in the community and for water and land conservation. In 1955, he earned the Master Farm Family of Texas award and was featured in *The Progressive Farmer* magazine. He was involved in getting several farm-to-market roads designated and built, as well as developing programs to control disease in cattle. J.C. was one of the original owners of the For-

estburg Rodeo and was one of the founders of the Blue Bonnet Hills Memorial Cemetery in Colleyville.

Donnell was elected Mayor of Saint Jo in 1976 and served 16 years. While mayor, he received a grant for a baseball field for the city and he put in over 1,100 hours labor to complete the field. He kept score for a long period of time and enjoyed watching their games. Later, the field was named after him in a park dedication ceremony. In 2006, Donnell was honored to be the Saint Jo Rodeo Parade Grand Marshal. He was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church and served as chairman of the Board and Church secretary for many years.

Throughout his distinguished career as a businessman and civic leader, J.C. was known as a fair and "get the job done" man. As a father and grandfather, he was dedicated, supportive, funny, loving, and the rock many leaned on for stability. "Daddy" and "Grandad" never let you down. He was an example of faithfulness, conviction, and integrity.

He is survived by wife Mary Nell Donnell of Saint Jo; daughter and son-in-law Mary Ann and Basil Cunningham of Wichita Falls; two grandsons, three great-granddaughters; two nephews.

Donnell was preceded in death by son Leonard Joe Donnell and sister Vallie Donnell Kirk.

Pallbearers were Donnie Vogel, Joe Young, Charles Steadham, Dick Ellzey, Tom Hartman, and Windell Thompson. Honorary pallbearers were Doug Houchens, Jack Dill, Clyde Yetter, Travis Moore, Julian Walterscheid, and Wesley McMahan.



J.C. Donnell

Just a thought

Little faith will bring your soul to heaven, but great faith will bring heaven to your soul.

Man's idea of eternity may be known by the use he makes of time.

He's a wonderful son!
He's a great brother!
He's a loyal husband & father!
He's a terrific grandfather, and he is all this, and 50!
We love you!
From Mom & Dad, your wife Marsha, Jon and Ginger, Jake, Chasity and Family, Carlee, Tim and Family, Jarod, Gina, Rocky and Family, J.J., Heath and Family

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING DATE - APRIL 6, 2009

The following is the Agenda for the regular meeting of the Muenster City Council to be held at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room on Monday, April 6, 2009.

1. Call meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Opening prayer.
3. Approve minutes of the regular meeting on March 2, 2009.
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 take any needed action in regards to drilling new City Water Well.

NEW BUSINESS
1. Auditor Steve Gilland will present FY2007/08 Audit Report. Consider and act on accepting report.
- 2. Steve Broyles, President of KMB, will present National Beautification Award.
- 3. Consider and act on cancellation of May 9, 2009 election.
- 4. Consider and possibly approve purchase of new lawn mower.
- 5. Discuss and approve Park Board recommendations for upcoming Swimming Pool Season.
- 6. Consider and act on approving Chamber of Commerce's request to close Maple Street during Germanfest, April 24, 25, 26, 2009.
- 7. Consider and act on Chamber of Commerce's request to sell alcoholic beverages in the City Park during Germanfest 2009.
- 8. Receive and act on Muenster Water District's request to use City Employees for minor repairs and maintenance at Muenster Lake.
- 9. Review and act on monthly bills.
- 10. Receive report on City projects and activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Council may enter into close or executive session to discuss the following: Texas Local Government Code 551.074-Personnel Matters.

12. Return to open session. Consider and act on matters discussed in executive session.
13. Adjourn.

Marcie Rennels, City Secretary

MUESTER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MMH FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC MMH HOME HEALTH

Health Fair 2009

Friday Morning, Apr. 3rd: 7:00 - 9:00 A.M.

Saturday Morning, Apr. 4th: 7:00 - 9:00 A.M.

Check in at the Front Entrance of the Hospital

Participants include:

Dr. Edd Advincula, Dr. J. Stephen Jones,
Yvonne Ambrose & Melissa Trubenbach, Nurse Practitioners

Laboratory Discounts on tests done the day of the fair.

Complete Health Panel (Complete Blood Profile including Cholesterol, good & bad.)	\$30.00
PSA (Prostate)	\$15.00
Stool Occult Blood	\$5.00
TSH (Thyroid)	\$10.00

You May Purchase a Voucher for the following Procedures and schedule them at a later date.

Well Woman Exam (Screening PAP only) (Schedule within 90 days)	\$40.00
EKG (Heart check) (Schedule within 90 days)	\$10.00

Prices good day of fair only. Insurance will not be billed.

REGISTER AT HOSPITAL, 605 North Maple • 940-759-2271

Please drink water only after midnight for laboratory tests.

Muenster Chamber of Commerce

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Muenster, TX 76252
(940) 759-2227 / Fax (940) 759-2228
chamber@ntin.net
www.muensterchamber.com

Please help unite our local businesses by joining the Muenster Chamber of Commerce as a business or individual supporter.

Business Chamber Annual Membership is \$60.00.
Individual supporter is \$30.00

Benefits include:

- ❖ Placement in printed Chamber Membership Business Directory
- ❖ Placement in the Chamber Web Site Online Directory
Full contact information, detailed business description listed and link to business website.
- ❖ Networking Opportunities
Invitation and participation in Quarterly "Mixer", and annual "Chamber Dinner".
- ❖ Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- ❖ Business Brochure and Card Display
- ❖ Goodie Bags
The Chamber gives free goodie bags to its visitors. Goodie bags contain give-away products provided by Chamber members, which range from coupons to pens.
- ❖ Muenster Marks
- ❖ Community Promotions
The Chamber works hard to bring visitors to the area by sponsoring and promoting community events. These events include:

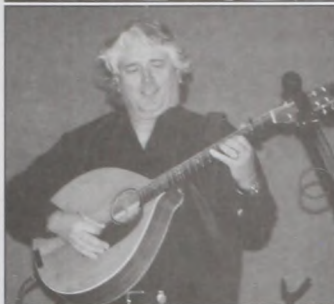
- Germanfest - April 24, 25, & 26 2009
- Germanfest Barbeque Cook Off - April 24 & 25, 2009
- Summer Concert - TBA 2009
- Red River Rumble Motorcycle Event - June 6, 2009
- Community Wide Garage Sale - September 12, 2009
- Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament @ Turtle Hill - September 27, 2009
- Muenster Open Car Show - November 7, 2009 (Rainout Date November 14)
- Christmas Light Up in Muenster - November 18, 2009
- Christkindmarkt & Business Open House - November 28, 2009
- Christmas Parade - November 28, 2009 1:00 PM

Feel free to call or email the Muenster Chamber with any questions 940.759.2227

LIFESTYLE



Kim McKee and Ken Willson and a few of their musical instruments during last week's Muenster performance. Clockwise, starting above - small bagpipes; Celtic harp; Irish bouzouki; hammer dulcimer; and bodhran drum.



Willson & McKee Programs and Concert enrich the community

Ken Willson and Kim McKee of La Veta, Colorado presented two days of Celtic music history, storytelling, and a mixture of traditional and original songs and tunes on all their various instruments.

Monday, March 23, began with an assembly program with Sacred Heart School students in kindergarten and grades 1 through 4. Folk instruments were invented by "folk" people who did not read music, nor have access to expensive classical style instruments. They explained and demonstrated the small bagpipes, accordion, Celtic harp, Irish bouzouki (similar in shape to a banjo), bodhran (drum made from a goat skin), hammer dulcimer, and lap or mountain dulcimer. The word dulcimer means "sweet sound" and the lap or mountain dulcimer originated in the Appalachian mountain area of the United States. Kim McKee played a lap/mountain dulcimer which was awarded to her when she won first place in the national lap/mountain dulcimer contest.

"Folk instruments" are simple, easy to build and to play. In Ireland, all parts of the sheep are used as well as the rib bones, which are dried and become instruments to keep the beat or rhythm of the music. Some instruments, such as the dulcimer and the accordion, are cross-culture, as these are played by both Irish and German musicians.

Ken told the story of the secret of "The King Has Ears Like a Horse" and the story of the magical tree.

The students and teachers of grades five through eight did group drumming on the pizza box bodhran and enjoyed the Ceili (Ceilidh) dance. Ceili dancing is the social dancing of Ireland and Scotland. It is appropriate for all ages, especially at gatherings of families and friends and requires no partner or dancing experience.

Tuesday morning began with participation by the Sacred Heart Preschool children with storytelling and rhythm.

Following a high school assembly, the music stu-

dents of Mr. Clint Kelley had a workshop on culturally specific music theory, the unique folk instruments, and music as a career. The students had hands-on time on the hammer dulcimer, the Celtic harp, the accordion, and the bodhran. They also "stomped" their way through the Ceili dance.

On Tuesday evening, more than 200 were in attendance at the free concert open to the community. They experienced the beautiful lilting voice of Kim McKee and her husband balladeer Ken Willson. A ballad is a narrative poem, often of folk origin and intended to be sung, consisting of simple stanzas and

usually having a refrain. It is set to music and is usually a popular song especially of a romantic or sentimental nature. Requests were made for the bagpipes and bones to be played. The concert concluded with a ballad written by Kim McKee, *When Next We Meet*. They responded to a standing ovation with *Wizened Warrior*. Their music may be heard and videos seen on their website www.jigheads.com.

This opportunity was made possible with assistance from Muenster Drilling Company, Doyle and Debbie Hess, The Center, The DI One Stop, Kountry Korner, and several local families.

When I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me.

Micah 7:8



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Muenster KC Lenten Fish Fry

Friday, April 3rd
5:30 - 9:00 pm
at the KC Hall



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\$8.00 - Adults • \$4.00 - Ages 5 - 12
Ages 4 & under are Free

All Proceeds from the Fish Fry and Raffle go to the Dakota Lamkin family.

New Arrival

Hoffman

Brian and Emily Hoffman of Gainesville announce the arrival of their daughter Heidi Nicole Hoffman. She was born at North Texas Medical Center in Gainesville on Friday, March 13, 2009 at 3:05 p.m. She weighed 8 lb. 1 oz.



Heidi Hoffman

Event

Concert

The North Central Texas Women's Choir will perform a concert of the Music of America on Thursday, April 16 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 315 E. Scott in Gainesville at 7 p.m. There is a \$5 charge for the concert and a pie and ice cream social after the concert.

Keeping older adults healthy

* Involve your friends, family and neighbors in a weekly yard game of bocce ball, croquet, horseshoes, or badminton, to name a few. Not only are yard games good physical exercise, but the competition keeps your mind sharp and social interaction balances out a well-rounded lifestyle.

Courtesy of ARA content

Thank you
to the Muenster and Saint Jo Volunteer Fire Departments for a job well done during last Thursday night's storm.

LAMKIN FAMILY AND EVERYONE ELSE IN MUENSTER

You Are Invited

to a
Germanfest/Fair Grounds
Update

All Chamber of Commerce members, Organizations and interested individuals are invited to hear how the Germanfest, Inc. plans to purchase the land, and pay for the construction of the new facilities, see layout out of the grounds and placement of the buildings, stages, etc. Hear of other events planned to help with the payment and upkeep of this facility.

Any and all donations will be accepted and appreciated.

Finger foods and Drinks provided by Klement Ford, Sicking Custom Digging and the Muenster Chamber of Commerce

Place: KC Hall
When: Wednesday, April 8, 2009
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt



Come One Come All To

Saint Richards Villa to hunt Easter Eggs & take pictures with the Easter Bunny!!!

All Children ages toddler thru 6 years of age are welcome

When: April 10 - Good Friday

When: 2:00 P.M.

Where: Saint Richards Villa
Parking Lot

Cost: Free to Public

For additional information please contact
Becky Newton, Activities Director or Zula
Lawyer, Administrator at 940-759-2219

711 W. Division

Muenster, Texas

Isaac celebrates 1st birthday

A Curious George theme set the scene for Isaac Thomas Fuhrmann's 1st birthday party. The party was held on Saturday, March 21 in the home of his paternal grandparents Pat and Jill Fuhrmann. Isaac's actual birthday is March 16.

Isaac is the son of Kaileigh Hess and Jacob Fuhrmann.

Guests were served hamburgers, hotdogs, cake, and ice cream. Isaac enjoyed his own cake while everyone sang to him. Isaac, with the help of his parents, opened gifts and played with the Curious George piñata filled with candy and prizes.

Celebrating with Isaac and his parents were grandparents Stanley and Tonya Hess and Pat and Jill Fuhrmann; great-grandparents Butch and Eileen Fisher, Jim and Jane Myrick, Marcella Hess, and Marcus and Cathy Fuhrmann; aunts and uncles Connor and Sarah Fuhrmann and Tyler and Mandy Hess; Matthew, Leah, and Natalie Fuhrmann; Corey, Megan, Dawson, and Gavin Anderle; Chad, Alli, and Avery Dieter; Bill Haverkamp and Jenny Schroeder; Steven, Penny, Ashleigh, Mary, and Madeline Fisher; Sandra, Jerry, Jerrad, Jayden, and Jus-

tin Schumacher; Amanda and Andrew Yosten; Amanda Hess, Meri and Becky Bezner; and Cody Anderle.



Isaac Fuhrmann

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Food myth?

Skipping meals will help you lose weight.

False - Skipping meals actually may have the opposite effect. Studies have found that people who skip meals during the day tend to be heavier than people who eat the right foods four or five times a day. When you skip a meal, you may be slowing down your body's metabolism - thus, making your body require fewer calories and converting extra calories to fat.

MMH Board cancels its election

By Janet Felderhoff
With three candidates signed up to fill the three three-year terms up for election, the Muenster Memorial Hospital Board of Directors unanimously canceled the election scheduled for May 9. Expiring terms are held by Dr. Walter Knight, Kenny Klement, and Ronnie Weinzapfel. Klement and Weinzapfel signed up for another term. Dr. Knight did not. Aaron Hess signed up to make a full slate of candidates. The new term begins at the May meeting.

Lengthy discussion centered on the need to improve the remainder of the facility's air conditioning. Recently, the patient wing was re-fitted with new individual room air conditioners. Depending on the method selected, modifications to the roof, electrical system, etc. could become quite costly. No decisions were made.

The financial report presented by MMH Administrator Lynn Heller showed net revenue of \$498,866. There were operating expenses of \$485,060 for a net operating revenue of \$13,806. Ad valorem taxes of \$177,200 and SRV lease of \$2,291 were other revenues added to bring the total of excess revenues over expenses of \$193,297.

Fiscal year-to-date (since July 1), the net revenue totaled \$3,695,365. Operating

expenses totaled \$4,627,244, bringing the net operating revenue to a negative \$931,879. Other revenue, including ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$647,244, brought the excess of revenues over expenses to a negative \$268,022 for the fiscal year-to-date.

Statistics for February include an average daily census of 2.46 acute care patients and long term care patients 7.71 for an average combined daily census of 10.18. The occupancy rate was 56.55% for the month.

There were 110 visits logged to the ER; 478 outpatients; eight observation room days; 560 Family Health Clinic visits; and 672 Home Health visits.

In other business, the MMH Board:

- Approved Bad Debt Write Offs totaling \$42,581.37.

- Approved courtesy privileges to Mark Hamilton, M.D. for the ER.

- Heard that ORCA grant for \$50,000 was not approved. Demographics was listed as the primary reason it was not approved.

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SCHOOL

Muenster ISD students place 7th in State TMSCA Meet

The Muenster High School TMSCA traveled to San Antonio over their spring break to compete among the top students in the state in the four core areas of Mathematics, Number Sense, Calculator Applications, and Science.

The Texas Math and Science Coaches' Association was designed to get as many kids involved in math and science events as possible. In UIL academics, you are allowed to take four students to district competition. This organization grows your younger students and allows

as many as you want to compete. To qualify in the high school level, it is determined by each coordinator.

Muenster High School requires that each student meet a score, comparable to previous state scores, in at least two of the four events. By doing so, the students are eligible to compete for scholarship money their senior year in the top gun spot. The best in state UIL academics also compete in TMSCA. This year, MISD's team placed 7th overall out of 18 1-A schools.

The following students

placed by grade level in the following events:

12th grade - Noel Barnhill 10th in Number Sense; Brandon Bindel 9th in Number Sense; Jeff Schniederjan 9th in Science.

11th grad - Chris Valliere 9th in Science; Lia Heers 6th in Number Sense, 7th in Mathematics.

10th grade - Shane Presnall 7th in Number Sense.

9th grade - Andi Hess 9th in Number Sense, 7th in Math and Science; Rishi Patel 4th in Math, and tied for 1st in Science; Landon Presnall 4th in Number Sense, 3rd in Math, and 6th in Science.

Other students attending were Eric Hellman and Alex York.

Sponsors were Danna Hess, high school coordinator, Dan Hamric, and Tammy Ashley as bus driver.



TMSCA participants were, from left, first row - Andi Hess, Landon Presnall, Rishi Patel; second row - Noel Barnhill, Lia Heers, Shane Presnall, Chris Valliere; third row - Eric Hellman, Alex York, Brandon Bindel, and Jeff Schniederjan. MISD photo

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Lunch Menus

WEEK OF APRIL 6 - 10

SACRED HEART

Mon. - Turkey and ham sandwiches w/trimmings, potato wedges, peach cups.

Tues. - Chicken spaghetti, green beans, fruit salad, garlic bread.

Wed. - Pork roast, potatoes, gravy, peas, apples, bread.

Thurs. - No lunch served.

Fri. - No school.

MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Beef tacos w/cheese, Spanish rice, pinto beans, peaches, cake.

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

Wed. - Chicken patty sandwich, lettuce, tomatoes, chips, apples, cookies.

Thurs. - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, lettuce salad w/dressing, green beans, pineapple, hot rolls.

Fri. - Cheese pizza, lettuce salad w/dressing, pork and beans, carrot sticks, applesauce, ice cream.

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Soft tacos w/trimmings, refried beans, Spanish rice, apple crisp.

Tues. - Beef stew, lettuce salad, peaches, cornbread.

Wed. - Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, carrots, pineapple, bread.

Thurs. - Hamburgers w/trimmings, oven fries, ice cream.

Fri. - Cheese pizza, corn, lettuce salad, pears.

ERA ISD

Mon. - Barbecue chicken, tator tots, fruit mix, chocolate chip cookie.

Tues. - Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, hot roll, applesauce.

Wed. - Corn dogs, chips, broccoli, pears.

Thurs. - Burritos, corn pineapple, Missouri cookie.

Fri. - No lunch.

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SPORTS

Tiger and Tigerette golfers advance to TAPPS Regional

The 2009 TAPPS District 1 Golf Tournament was held Monday at Turtle Hill Golf Course under 75°, windy conditions.

In the girls division, Amarillo Holy Cross took the gold, scoring 430. The Tigerettes of Sacred Heart followed in a close 2nd at 336. Abilene Christian was 3rd at 480 with Granbury Happy Hill scoring 512.

The Tigerettes were led by

Shelby Hess' score of 104. Alexandra Popovich hit 106, Sarah Rathliff 112, Shelby Rathliff 114, and Raynee Hogan 117.

Individual medalist score was 72 by Susannah Grunden of Denton Calvary.

Dallas Fairhill won the boys division with a score of 394. Sacred Heart shot 400 for 2nd place. Amarillo Holy Cross and Dallas Covenant followed with 405 and 417.

Kevin Kulle led the Tigers with a 90 score. Ben Walterscheid shot a 98, and Austin Springer 100. Nick Popovich and John Krawietz both scored 105 and Kirk Felderhoff a 109.

Individual medalist was Collin Gibson of Covenant with an 85.

The Tigers and Tigerettes both advance to the Regional round of competition on Monday, April 6 in Allen.

Muenster golfers prepare for District

Runaway Bay was the scene of action last week March 24 and 25 as Bridgeport High hosted their 12th Annual Invitational.

In the girls match on Tuesday, the Muenster girls saw the best 5A team in Oklahoma run away with the honors as they posted a 325 and took four of the top five individual spots. Olney was a distant 2nd, recording a 408.

The Lady Hornets settled for a tie for 5th place with the Lady Indians of Nocona shooting 449s on a tough

layout. Brandy Dangelmayr led the team with a 103. Other scores were Hannah Weger 110, Jenni Luke 113, Andi Hess 123, and Chloe Schneider 126.

On Wednesday, Old Man Weather took charge with lots of lightning causing play to be suspended with only 13 holes completed.

Taylor McGrew was on his way to a personal best when the alarm sounded. The scores extrapolated out to 18 holes would have seen McGrew at 83, Tanner Herr 89, Andrew Koesler 86,

Jared Flusche 93, and Blake Grewing 105 for a respectable 351.

This week on Monday, both teams traveled to Nocona Indian Oaks and faced the roughest conditions so far this year. Facing 40 plus mph winds and a hard dry course, the Lady Hornets posted their best round of the year, shooting a 3rd place 401. The Olney girls took the honors with 380, followed by the Callisburg JV at 398.

Seniors Jenni Luke, Brandy Dangelmayr, and Noel Barnhill fired 94, 95, and 109 respectively, with Hannah Weger 103, Andi Hess 110, and Chloe Schneider 111. "401 qualified to State last year, so the girls feel like they now can play with just about any class A school in Region III," quoted Coach Dan Hamric. Jenni placed 4th overall and Brandy 5th to bring home individual medals.

The boys found the wind and playing from the very back tees to be a real challenge. Tanner Herr, finishing 4th overall led with a very fine 81. Taylor McGrew, starting with a horrid 48 on the front nine, pulled himself together and recorded a very respectable 88, his low round of the year.

Other scores were Andrew Koesler 96, Jared Flusche 99, and Blake Grewing 105. The score of 364 however, was still good enough for 5th place behind Olney 323, Nocona 333, Callisburg 360, and Henrietta 362.

Next action for both squads will be April 13 at Turtle Hill Golf Course for the District showdown, where 13 schools will compete for the district champ honors.



Champions

The Cutters qualify for the USSSA National Tournament. Team members are: from left, front - Dalton Randolph, Chase Herr, Dillon Aston, Josh Chavez, and Roy Hedgecock; middle - Tag Hammer, Jordan Scott, Lane Peace, John Collins, and Trevor Cheaney; back - Coaches Colby Sparks, Dean Peace, and Darren Cheaney. Courtesy photos

Cutters win championship

On Friday, March 20, the Cutters played two pool games in a USSSA tournament in Celina. In the first game, the Cutters came back in the last inning to beat the 96 Bobcats 6 to 5. Their second pool game against the North Texas Mustangs ended early as the Cutters runned them 21 to 3.

In tournament play Sunday, the Cutters again played the Mustangs, beating them 17 to 2. In their second game against the North Texas Outlaws, the Cutters played perfect ball, beating them 8 to 0.

In the Championship game against the Extreme

Longhorns, the Cutters again played great baseball, beating them 6 to 3. Chase Herr and Trevor Cheaney both pitched outstanding ball on the road to the championship.

The Cutters are now qualified for the USSSA National Tournament.

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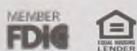


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Softball game change



Muenster Lady Hornets will play the Lindsay Lady Knights this Friday, April 3 at NCTC. Action begins at 3 p.m. The game was scheduled to be played Saturday morning, but was changed to be part of Lily Dieter Day at NCTC.

There will be an admission charge for this game. Proceeds will benefit Lily Dieter.

Lindsay in Saint Jo tournament

The Lindsay Knights golf team finished tied for 4th place with 405 points in the Saint Jo Invitational Golf Meet held Monday.

Blake Hunter tied for 4th place, shooting an 89. Jacob Hall scored 95, Cole Hunter 109, Dawson Holt 112, and Austin Reiter and Frank Cornett 115 each.

The Lindsay girls golf team finished 2nd place with 405 points in the Saint Jo Tournament, Tuesday at the Gainesville Golf Course.

Individual results were: Haley Haverkamp 107, Kayla Davis 115, Anna Hogan 115, Alie Fogle 118, and Rachel Brewer 120.

SACRED HEART BASEBALL NEWS



On Tuesday, March 31, the Sacred Heart Tigers played a non-district game against the Desoto Canterbury Cougars at NCTC. After it was all said and done, the Tigers lost 11-6.

The Cougars scored 9 of their runs on Tiger errors. The Tigers scored their 6 runs on 7 hits. Seven different Tiger players got a hit in the game. Sam Sparkman

pitched 3 1/3 innings, walking 5 and striking out 7 batters. Greyson Evans pitched 3 2/3 innings, walking 1 and striking out 2 batters. Timely errors by the Tigers cost them the ball game.

The Tigers play in Arlington on Friday in a District match-up against Arlington Fellowship. The game will start at 4:30 p.m.

LINDSAY BALL GAMES

The Knights improved their record to 2-2 in District Monday night with an 11-1 win over Saint Jo.

Dean Fleitman got the win on the mound, pitching a complete game three hitter. "Dean pitched extremely well," noted Coach Cody Bounds. "The defense showed up as well and played very good behind Dean."

Travis Skinner led the offense going 4 for 5. Madison Parkhill, Frank Cornett, and Dax Fleitman are credited for a good game at the plate. Dean also got on base 5 times, including a triple.

Lindsay came up short against District leader Windthorst Tuesday, losing 15-8. "Dax Fleitman pitched a great game for us, but we just couldn't avoid the error bug," commented Coach.

Lindsay fought from behind to take a lead 8-7 going into the 6th, but errors and some hits closed the game in the Trojans' favor. Getting hits for the

Knights were Fleitman, Fleitman, Cornett, Parkhill, Austin Hermes, Travis Skinner, and Tyler Hundt.

The Lindsay Lady Knights took a District no hitter victory Tuesday in a make-up game against Saint Jo, played in Muenster. "Base running and four home runs helped with the win," noted Coach Robin Hess on Lindsay's 17-0 win.

Getting runs were Rose Hermes and Alyx Ethington 3 each, Bethani Eberhart, Natalie Rose, Taylor Atkins, and Beverly Knabe 2 runs apiece, and 1 each by Megan Caillier, Kayla Hess, and Haley Hughes.

The JV Lady Knights defeated Muenster JV 6-0 Tuesday. Ranece Morrison was the winning pitcher, facing 12 batters, striking out 5 and walking 5.

Getting runs were Kayla Davis, Erin Copeland, Jessica Thurman, Camille Hale, and Haley Hughes.

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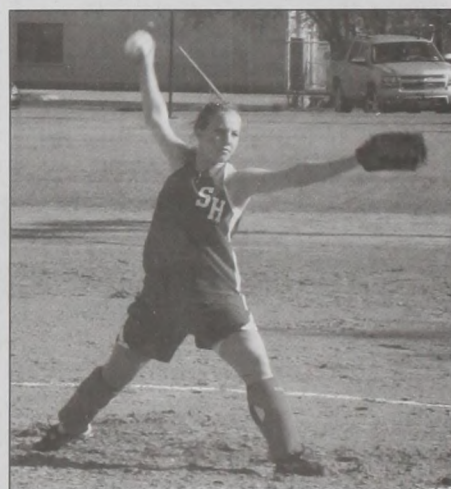
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Muenster Lady Hornets vs Lindsay Lady Knights



Sacred Heart Tigerettes vs Harvest Saints



Photos by
Janie Hartman

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED MUENSTER ISD CAFETERIA WORKER

Muenster ISD has an immediate opening for a part time cafeteria worker, approx. 20 hours per week. Applications can be picked up at the administration office. If you have any questions on this position, please contact Anita Luttmir, cafeteria manager, MISD at 940-759-2282 ext 630.

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 Now hiring for Service Advisor. Apply in person. See Kirk. 1005 E Division Muenster TX. 940-759-2244

The City of Muenster is now accepting applications for the position of City Secretary. Experience in bookkeeping (must be proficient in Quickbooks), payroll, and accounts payable are required. Applicant must have good customer knowledge and skills. This is a full time position with full benefits. Pay is based on applicant's experience and qualifications. Contact Stan Endres at City Hall, 400 North Main, Muenster, TX.

Notice of Opening
 The City of Muenster is now accepting applications for LifeGuard for the 2009 season. Applications are available at Muenster City Hall, 400 North Main. Submit applications as soon as possible.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALBERT WILLIAM LOHBAUER
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 COUNTY OF COOKE

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Albert William Lohbauer were issued on March 20, 2009, in Cause no. PR16510, pending in the County Court at Law of Cooke County, Texas, to Joan Lohbauer, Executor.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:
 Estate of Albert William Lohbauer
 c/o THOMAS L. CLAXTON
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 329
 Gainesville, Texas 76241

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and manner prescribed by law.
 March 20, 2009

Joan Lohbauer
 Executor
 BY: /s/ THOMAS L. CLAXTON
 Attorney for Applicant

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LEGAL NOTICES
 Lindsay ISD is accepting competitive sealed proposals for 10-13 acres of raw land from a 44,492 tract located in the Allen Elston, Abstract # 350. This particular piece of land lies in the northern most part of the tract owned free and clear by the Lindsay ISD. Proposal packets may be picked up at the office of the Superintendent from 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday. The competitive sealed proposals are due to Dennis Holt, Superintendent, 495 W. 6th St., Lindsay, TX 76250 no later than April 17 at 11:00 am. Late bids will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. Lindsay ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to waive any formalities that might be in the best interest of the district. Please contact Mr. Holt at 940-668-8923 x106 for an appointment to view the said property.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT IN A PRODUCTIVE FORMATION

WEST BAY EXPLORATION COMPANY
 204 N WALNUT STREET
 MUENSTER, TX 76252
 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject of oil and gas waste into the Strawn formation, Jones -B- Lease, Well Number 3. The proposed injection well is located 8 miles South of Muenster, TX in the Foamy Mud (Strawn P-9 Sand) Field, in Cooke County.

Fluid waste will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2636 to 2662 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of

the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT IN A PRODUCTIVE FORMATION

WFV PRODUCTION COMPANY, INC.
 204 N WALNUT STREET
 MUENSTER, TX 76252
 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject of oil and gas waste into the Strawn formation, Jackson Lease, Well Number 2. The proposed injection well is located 4 miles Southwesterly of Muenster, TX in the Gatewood Field, in Cooke County.

Fluid waste will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1,775 feet to 1,810 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792)

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Endangered Whooping Crane numbers drop

Public asked to report bird sightings during northward migration

The trumpeting sound of cranes overhead is a cherished sound of spring in Texas, but as endangered whooping cranes depart Texas this spring en route for breeding grounds in Canada, fewer birds will be making the trip.

According to Tom Stehn, whooping crane coordinator with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2008-09 was the worst winter on record in terms of bird deaths for the last remaining wild flock of whooping cranes (*Grus americana*). Stehn is based at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge near Rockport where the whoopers return every winter. The birds spend summers at Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada.

Stehn reported that "...total winter mortality is estimated at 6 adults and 15 chicks, totaling 21 whooping cranes, a loss of 7.8% of the flock that was a record 270 birds in the fall." When added to 34 birds that left Texas in spring 2008 and failed to return in 2009, Stehn said 20% of the flock was lost during the last 12 months. The upshot is that only 249 birds will make the trip north this year. After an encouraging multi-year comeback in which flock numbers have grown each year, this marks the first year bird numbers have declined since 2001.

Stehn attributes the winter losses to poor habitat conditions in wintering grounds on the middle Texas coast. Low rainfall in 2008 resulted in saltier bays and fewer blue crabs, the primary food source for wintering whoopers. In addition, according to Stehn, whoopers are further stressed when cranes must leave the bays to fly inland seeking fresh water. Several emaciated whooping crane carcasses were found, and refuge staff even took the unusual step of providing supplemental feeding over the

winter in addition to burning upland areas to make acorns more available.

Occasional set-backs aren't new to the whooping crane recovery story, a species that numbered only 49 as recently as 1975, according to Lee Ann Linam, biologist in the Wildlife Diversity Program at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.



ment.

"Although whooping crane numbers have experienced an amazing upward climb since conservation efforts began in the 1930s, over the course of their recovery we have occasionally seen short-term dips in the population," Linam said. "The losses this winter do emphasize the important role Texas has in maintaining the health of its bays and estuaries, especially in safeguarding stream-flow during low rainfall periods."

Stehn seconds those concerns, noting poor feeding conditions on the wintering grounds have often been followed by a poor reproduction season in Canada.

Texans can also help safeguard whooping cranes during their migration through Texas in the spring and fall. Migrating cranes usually depart the Texas coast in late March and early April, riding southerly winds on a north-west path encompassing cities such as Austin, Fort Worth, and Wichita Falls.

Citizens are being asked to report sightings of whooping cranes in flight by calling toll-free (800) 792-1112, enter 9 to exit voice mail, then enter extension 4644, or email leeann.linam@tpwd.state.tx.us. If whoopers remain overnight in small wetlands, citizens are encouraged to minimize disturbance at the site.

Whooping cranes are the tallest birds in North America. They are entirely white except for a small patch of black feathers and red skin on the face and black wing tips seen only in flight. During spring migration they often pause overnight to use wetlands for roosting and agricultural fields for feeding, but seldom remain more than one night. They usually migrate in small family groups of two to five birds, but may share habitats with the smaller, more widespread sandhill crane. More information and images of whooping cranes can be found on TPWD's whooping crane Web page.

FARM AND RANCH

COUNTY AGENT REPORT

Pasture management
When considering the economics involved in livestock production, managing pasture so that return to profit exceeds expenditures can be difficult. The key to success is dependent on several factors, including holding down costs and on getting both forage production and successfully converting the forage into pounds of gain by the livestock.

Pasture management is a complex subject. First, a producer needs to protect the capability of the soil and the grass to produce by stocking at a proper rate. Next, research by Texas A&M is conclusive that the most cost effective measure that can be implemented to manage for greater forage production is the control of weeds, which will rob the desired grass of nutrients, sunlight, and water. Beyond that, fertility and pasture rotation are extremely important.

A rule of thumb for pasture fertility has been that you harvest an additional one pound of gain on a calf or yearling for every one pound of nitrogen fertilizer applied to improved grass pastures - assuming the weather cooperates.

Beef Magazine recently reported Nebraska Extension research, suggesting beef

producers use pasture rotation, giving cattle access to no more than 25% of a pasture at one time. The idea behind the utilizing "rest" for certain a section of the pasture is to reduce trampling because of hooves and bedding and to reduce fouling by defecation and urine. With continuous grazing systems, less than one-third of the grass ends up inside your livestock.

It is always important to evaluate weed pressure and manage accordingly. But if you are taking a hard look at expenses this coming growing season, you may want to consider the question, "Is your dollar better spent on fertilization or on development of cross-fencing and additional watering sites?"

Dates to remember
April 14 - Marketing Club Meeting, Gainesville Farm Bureau, 7 p.m.

April 18 - House Hold Hazardous Waste Collection, Cooke County Justice Center, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

April 30 - (3 CEUs) Small Grains Tour, Hwy 82, East of Muenster, 10 a.m.

May 1 - (2 CEUs) Intensive Grazing Tour, Pittman Ranch 7 miles South of Muenster on FM 373, 1 p.m.

May 8 - Southwest Dairy Days, Dublin, 10 a.m. - 3p.m.

Fenoglio visits Washington



R. Chance Fenoglio, CED, Cooke County FSA office, visited U.S. Representatives Mac Thornberry and Michael Burgess on March 18. On behalf of the FSA county employee association, TASCOE, Fenoglio and others from around the state discussed streamlining tasks to cut costs regarding efficiency and employee benefits, the animal ID program, conservation issues, and other ag related subjects. Pictured in Washington D.C. are, from left - Fenoglio, Mac Thornberry, Cody Hughes, and Darwin Collins. Courtesy photo

Cattle numbers down slightly from a year ago

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Texas feedlots with capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 2.82 million head on March 1, down 3% from a year ago.

According to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the estimate was up slightly from the Feb. 1 level. Producers placed 430,000 head in commercial feedlots during February, down 2% from a year ago, and down 2% from the January 2009 total.

Texas commercial feeders

marketed 410,000 head during February, down 7% from last year but up 1% from last month.

On March 1, there were 2.36 million head of cattle and calves on feed in the Northern High Plains, 84% of the state's total. The number on feed across the area was down 4% from last year but up slightly from the February total.

February placements in the Northern High Plains totaled 375,000 head, up 1% from the January total. Marketings were up 2% from last month to 360,000 head.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States in feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 11.2 million head on March 1, 2009. This inventory was 5% below March 1, 2008.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.68 million head, 3% below February 2008. February placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds totaled 320,000 head; 600-699 pounds totaled 385,000 head; 700-799 pounds totaled 538,000 head; 800 pounds and greater totaled 435,000 head.

Texas Department of Ag market recap

For the week ending March 28, feeder cattle prices at Texas auctions were mostly steady to \$4 higher per hundredweight. Fed cattle prices were slightly higher following a modest increase in beef prices.

Cotton and grains were unchanged to lower. Rain and snow on the Plains boosted crop prospects and pushed wheat prices lower.

As for futures markets, feeder cattle, finished cattle, cotton, wheat, and corn ended the week lower, while lumber was higher.

Some parts of East Texas

reported up to six inches of rain for the week and drifting snow fell in the Panhandle. Meanwhile, most of South and West Texas received little to no precipitation.

Wheat is growing well in irrigated fields and areas that have received rain, but additional moisture is needed to fill heads. Overall, the

crop is rated in very poor to fair condition. Corn planting progressed to 51% complete, with 24% of the acreage emerged. Grain sorghum is 35% planted and 3% of the state's cotton acreage has been planted. Pastures have improved somewhat with the recent rains and warm temperatures, but remain dry and in mostly very poor to poor condition.



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- 400-500 lb. \$52 to \$115;
- 500-600 lb. \$52 to \$108;
- 600-700 lb. \$75 to \$80;
- 700+ lb. \$60 to \$94.

HEIFERS

- 0-200 lb. \$90 to \$90;
- 200-300 lb. \$75 to \$125;
- 300-400 lb. \$65 to \$112;
- 400-500 lb. \$75 to \$107;
- 500-600 lb. \$50 to \$105.50;
- 600-700 lb. \$60 to \$87;
- 700-1000 lb. \$35 to \$80;
- 1000+ lb.: NT.

COWS

- Head: \$390 to \$770;
- Pairs: \$530 to \$860;
- Wt.: \$25 to \$75.

BULLS

- 500-900lb.: \$33 to \$107;
- 900+ \$54 to \$65.

CALE

- 0-200: \$110 to \$200;
- 200-400: \$80 to \$125;
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Feeder Steers (per lb.)		Stocker Cows (per head)		Ewes (per lb.)	
200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.11	1.11	8-year-olds Large Frame	\$775-\$950	Medium Frame	\$500-\$775
300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.07	1.07	under 250 lbs. - Large	\$900-\$1140	Medium Frame	\$600-\$900
400-500 lbs. No. 1, 1.05	1.05	1.15; Nos 2 & 3, 804.05	\$35-\$60	Cross Breds	\$75-\$90
500-600 lbs. No. 1, 984.07	984.07	Barrows & Gilts (per lb.)	US #1, 230-270	37-44	
Nos 2 & 3, 85-98; 600-700	85-98	Feeder Heifers (per lb.)	US #1, 230-280	32-37	
lbs. No. 1, 96-106; Nos 2	96-106	200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.13	1.17	Nos 2 & 3, 96-1.13	96-1.13
& 3, 85-96; 700-800 lbs.	85-96	300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.02	1.02	1.15; Nos 2 & 3, 85-1.02	85-1.02
No. 1, 88-1.00; Nos 2 & 3, 70-92	88-1.00	400-500 lbs. No. 1, 98-1.09	98-1.09	Nos 2 & 3, 75-98	75-98
Feeder Heifers (per lb.)		500-600 lbs. No. 1, 93-1.03	93-1.03	Nos 2 & 3, 75-93	75-93
200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.02	1.02	600-700 lbs. No. 1, 88-86	88-86	Nos 2 & 3, 72-88	72-88
300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.02	1.02	No. 1, 76-85; Nos 2 & 3, 65-76	76-85		
400-500 lbs. No. 1, 98-1.09	98-1.09	Slaughter Cattle (per lb.)			
500-600 lbs. No. 1, 93-1.03	93-1.03	Slaughter Bulls: Yield			
600-700 lbs. No. 1, 98-86	98-86	Grade #1-2, 1.200-2.050			
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No. 1, 76-85; Nos 2 & 3, 65-76	76-85	Cows #1&3, 47-54; Cut-			
Barrows & Gilts (per lb.)		ter, 32-47			
US #1, 230-270	37-44				
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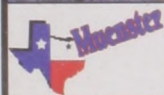
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NEWS RECORD

Safely Turn a Yard Into a Play Area

Yards can add a lot to a home. For gardeners, a sprawling outdoor space can act as a weekend getaway of sorts, allowing homeowners the chance to go outside in the spring and summer sun and escape all of life's other distractions. For parents, a yard can be a great place to let kids play and enjoy themselves, all within viewing distance of Mom and Dad's watchful eyes.

Though backyard playgrounds might not be as prevalent as they once were, that doesn't mean they're still not fun for kids. Of course, a backyard play area is only as fun as it is safe, so parents considering creating one for their kids should consider the following tips before beginning such a project.

* Be mindful of drainage. Building a play area in a spot on the lawn that doesn't have proper drainage is asking for trouble. During winter, such areas are likely to have excess

Leave a mess!

If you hate to tidy up your yard and flower beds in fall, birds will love you for it. If you grow annuals, especially daisy-relatives such as purple cone-flowers, black-eyed susans, and sun-flowers, leave the dead seed heads on them when they fade—goldfinches and other seed-eaters will feast on the seeds. Instead of bagging up fallen leaves for disposal, rake them under your shrubs to act as mulch. They'll harbor insects that ground-dwelling birds will find, too. And, come spring, those dead leaves, grasses, and plant stems will be a treasure trove for birds searching for nest material in your yard.

sive ice, threatening kids' balance and potentially leading to injury. Even in warmer months, poor drainage could result in puddles after spring or summer rains, attracting mosquitoes and other insects and making kids more susceptible to bug bites.

* If possible, build in a relatively shaded area. While it might not be possible to create the play area entirely in the shade, try to keep as much as possible out of the sun. This will protect kids from the sun, particularly during those hot summer afternoons when kids love being outdoors but UV rays are at their most harmful.

Though you'll want kids to be protected from the sun, it's important not to build in areas that are concealed by trees. This will impede parents' ability to watch their kids as they play.

* Build away from patio or barbecue areas. Erect play areas away from patios or barbecue areas. In addition to concrete sidewalks that can hurt children, you won't want kids playing anywhere near charcoal, starter fluid or propane tanks.

* Install a padded surface or sand around swingsets and jungle gyms. Instead of building on grass or hard ground, when building the swing set or jungle gym be sure to install a padded surface underneath, or use sand. Both will help cushion kids in the almost inevitable circumstance that they fall. Sand and padded surfaces will decrease the risk of head injury and broken bones. Recycled rubber pellets and even wood chips can provide more cushioning than the hard ground during a fall.



When building a backyard play area for kids, it's important to consider several safety issues before starting the project.



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Fighting the War Against Fire Ants -- You CAN Win!

(MS) -- When fire ants invade a yard, these aggressive insects can inflict pain on people and pets without warning. Similar to a wasp or hornet sting, the fire ant's wrath can cause pain, itching, swelling, and in some cases, death.

Every year, more than 10,000 people seek medical attention for fire ant stings. Close to 50 percent of those stung by fire ants experience swelling, itching, redness and pain at the site of the sting. In extreme cases, fire ant stings can result in heart attacks or death due to anaphylactic reactions. Anaphylaxis is an allergic reaction, and symptoms may include hives, swelling of the face, difficulty breathing, or loss of consciousness.

The best way to prevent fire ant stings is to eliminate these dangerous insects. Identify fire ants by their reddish-brown-to-black color, their size -- measuring one-eighth to one-fourth inch long -- and their stingers.

These medium-sized ants build mounds of soft soil, which blemish the great outdoors -- from backyards and schoolyards to golf courses and parks. Mounds can be more than 15 inches high, 15 inches in diameter and up to five feet deep. In addition, tunnels can extend several yards out from the mound. Each colony can contain one or more queen ants and between 100,000 to 500,000 worker ants.

Fire ants become very aggressive when anything disturbs their mound. When agitated, they can inflict hundreds of stings in a matter of seconds. Although these fierce ants began wreaking havoc in the South, they have migrated as far west as California and as far north as Maryland.

Homeowners can choose from a few different methods to destroy fire ants and prevent painful stings. Many fire ant insecticides are broadcast products, which cover a wide area and unfortunately kill beneficial insects in addition to fire ants. Local retailers offer several chemicals, including bait compounds and drenches, which are often environmentally unfriendly. Check the labels, since most chemicals may be harmful to pets and children if

ingested.

Some natural alternatives include using dry ice or lye soap to kill ants; however, patience is essential as these techniques may require several applications. These measures also may cause blisters and burns when they come in contact with the skin.

Another option is to choose from a new, eco-friendly generation of insecticides designed not to create a toxic build-up in the environment. For example, Results(R) Fire Ant Killer is an odorless product that kills mounds -- including the queen -- in 15 minutes or less. The active ingredients break down quickly, so there is no reentry wait time. Residents and their pets can enjoy their fire ant-free yard right away.

Applied as a dust or as a wettable powder, Results Fire Ant Killer's ingredients include an extract from the African daisy, a synthetic sassafras oil and diatomaceous earth.

For more information about winning the war against fire ants, visit www.diatect.com.



Easily rid your yard of fire ants, which can wreak havoc on outdoor entertaining.

Going 'native' saves water, fertilizer in beautiful landscapes

By Niki Frances
McDaniel

If you're proud of where you live and are tired of cookie-cutter lawns, consider gardening like a Texan.

Landscaping with native plants not only shows appreciation for the unique flora of your area -- whether it's a colorful prairie in summer, woodland ephemerals in spring, or the spare beauty of a desert -- but also means lower water bills.

Texas plants are already adapted to the sometimes demanding and drought-prone climate of the region. They also are comfortable in native soils and familiar with local insects, meaning they won't need chemical pesticides and fertilizers to protect and feed them.

That's not nearly all that's right with planting native: Texas trees, shrubs, and flowers attract wildlife, too.

Birds use native plants for food (such as seeds and berries) and shelter. Native plants also feed insects, another

important food source for birds. Butterflies rely on specific native plants as larval hosts; many butterfly caterpillars will only eat a few species of plants.

"If droves of butterflies aren't reason enough to put native plant species on your planting list, consider their versatility," said Laura Huffman, state director for The Nature Conservancy of Texas.

"Native plants can be used in any style of garden, from a formal landscape to a country cottage garden. In many parts of the country, you can even replace your lawn with native grasses that hardly ever need to be mowed."

Gardening with native plants also prevents the introduction and spread of invasive species, she added.

To get started, simply take a walk through your community or a nearby park. Bring along a wildflower identification book and consider what is already growing around you. Then pop in on a local nursery that carries native plants.

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Outside is the new inside, home decorators say

(MS) -- "Stay-cation," that clever media catchphrase of 2008, has quickly morphed into this year's mantra for many Americans. Economic woes mean more and more people will be staying put for their annual vacations.

This comes at a time when home-decorating trends have tilted dramatically toward outdoor and outdoor-feeling spaces. Decks, porches, patios, sunrooms, poolsides, courtyards and even lawns are now receiving the kinds of attention from decorators and consumers as was once reserved for sitting rooms and eat-in kitchens. Outdoors has become in.

So with spring on the horizon and thoughts turning to shedding coats and a shining sun, stay-put homeowners are blessed with innumerable, often very economical options this coming leisure season for sprucing up their outside spaces into sterling spots for relaxing stay-cations.

Decorating for the outdoors is hardly as simple, of course, as dragging a couch or a throw rug out into the yard, despite what we might gather from Jerry Springer. Outdoor decor needs to be designed with weather in mind. A true outdoor-leisure product ought to hold up to rain, snow and sleet, rug-

ged wear and dirty feet, even wine and ketchup stains. It should dry quickly, and not rot, mold or mildew. It shouldn't fade from heavy sun.

Yet outdoor durability has too often meant a great sacrifice in attractiveness and style, not to mention comfort. But who wants to sit in a rope swing that makes you itch, or walk barefoot over a rug that insults your feet?

Thankfully, the whole outdoor-leisure landscape is changing. Recent advances in textile synthetics have led to such industrial fibers as WeatherSmart and DuraCord that, when made into (surprisingly soft) yarns for rope or fabric, not only hold up to weather and rot, but also allow for heretofore unthinkable design possibilities.

"Some of the high-quality rugs manufactured now for outdoor use are really so attractive and feel so great that you may end up questioning whether you want to put them outside at all!"

said Jay Branch, president of Sawgrass Mills Outdoor Rugs, which hand-hooks its design-intensive rugs out of DuraCord.

Outdoor rugmakers are hardly alone in embracing this change. Several noted hammock and leisure-furniture manufacturers have introduced WeatherSmart, DuraCord and other newer synthetics into their lines.

"The traditional rope for a hammock is, of course, cotton," noted J.R. Pelletier, manager of TheHammockCompany.com, an international leader in hammock sales. "But when something as promising as a DuraCord is developed, well, we'd have been failing our customers if we hadn't explored carrying those brands that weave with it, y'know?"

"We've never looked back since."

So if there's one upside to this down economy, it may just be better times spent in our own backyards.

Tips for Gardening in an environmentally friendly way

How you maintain your garden or landscape can have an important effect on the health of the soil, air, water, and habitat for native wildlife - as well as the human community nearby. Here are some sustainable gardening techniques that you can use to help conserve resources.

Mulching

Mulch helps keep water in the soil and available to the plant, rather than evaporating into the air. This can help you reduce your watering time. Also, as mulch breaks down, it provides nutrients to the soil. This can help reduce the need for fertilizer. Be sure to use mulches that are from sustainable forestry practices, and that are free from pests.

Reducing lawn areas

Grass lawns often require chemicals and frequent maintenance. Gas-powered lawnmowers produce high amounts of greenhouse gases, which contribute to global warming and air

pollution. Since lawns are often made of only a few types of plants that most animals do not consume, they do not provide a lot of value for wildlife. Replacing grass lawn with native wildflowers, bushes, and trees provide the food, shelter, and cover that help to maintain healthy, natural ecosystems.

Xeriscaping

Xeriscaping is an approach to landscaping that minimizes outdoor water use while maintaining soil integrity through the use of native, drought-tolerant plants. This is a common practice in drier areas, such as the West and Southwest, where water supplies and water quality are at stake.

Rain barrels

Rain barrels are used to collect rainwater for use during drier months. Rain barrel water is a great way to save money, reduce the amount of chemicals used in processing drinking water, and

Continued on Page 7



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KWB's mission - "Educate and involve everyone in Beautification of the Whitesboro community"

By Jaquita Lewter
Whitesboro News-Record

The Keep Whitesboro Beautiful organization had its beginnings in July of 2007 when a group of downtown business people got together to discuss common goals and interests. Spearheaded by Jack Humes, a transplanted Texan retired from the military, the group eventually learned about the Keep Texas Beautiful organization, and became aware of grant money available for community improvements.

Humes and other interested individuals contacted MaryLee Alford of Muenster, who had experience with starting Keep Muenster Beautiful several years ago. Her knowledge and expertise contributed greatly to the local group's fledgling start-up. "We greatly appreciate MaryLee, and all of her wisdom and experience," Humes commented.

Humes headed Keep Whitesboro Beautiful as the organization's first president, and currently sits on the board of directors.

Beautification and revitalization are directly related to the economic well being of any community. They have a major impact on the business, growth, and tourism of the area. The development of these entities requires close interaction and cooperation with the city, the chamber of commerce, the school district, and all other groups and individuals who are willing to invest time and effort in the improvement of the environment.

Whitesboro KWB is comprised of business professionals, civic organizations, and individuals who are dedicated to promoting public interest and support in the general environmental improvement of the Whitesboro community. KWB is a non-profit organization incorporated within the State of Texas, tax free within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and operated within the context of its own by-laws.

KWB's mission statement reads, "To educate and to involve everyone in the beautification of the Whitesboro community." Currently the group has 58 members, and is actively seeking more. Both individual and business memberships are available and are renewable annually.

The list of KWB's community accomplishments during the past two years is impressive. Last year over 3000 tulips were planted in the planter boxes along Main Street, as well as other locations. Two hundred oak trees were given away for planting. They have encouraged and assisted in the clearing of properties. In conjunction with this effort, the Texoma Area Solid Waste Authority 501.(c3) has passed a ruling that the first 20 tons of refuse taken from a structure which has been torn down may be dumped free. The group has provided clean-up campaigns and

recycling programs. Eight tons of old and unused books were collected from the local schools and transported to Dallas where they were then shipped to third world countries. 4,600 pounds of unused and outdated electronic equipment have been collected for recycling and the salvaging of metals and plastics. The group promotes annual, as well as seasonal local and area clean-up days. They also have a work day each year at the Hagerman Wildlife Refuge at Lake Texoma. The protection and conserving of Texas' lakes and streams is also a very high priority.

KWB purchased display bunting and sold them to the downtown merchants to hang during special events and holidays. The brackets for hanging baskets were put in place by Dempsey Sims, KWB member. The group has promoted clean-ups in the downtown area, painted the handicapped rails, the light standards in the center island, and spruced up the old well. They decorated at Christmas.

Keep Whitesboro Beautiful received an over 90 percent excellence award and a plaque from Keep Texas Beautiful for 2007-2008. RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) named KWB their 2008 Station of the Year for Gray County.

"We are only one part of a very large community group," Humes said. "IESI, Texoma Area Solid Waste Authority, the Whitesboro Chamber of Commerce, the city council, the schools, and the entire Whitesboro community --we're all in this together." The Keep Texas Beautiful program is funded in part through Texas Department of Transportation. "We have a good working relationship with TXDOT, as well," Humes said.

Current officers in KWB are Hank Lovejoy, president; Sharron Welch, president elect; Donna Sluder, secretary; Billy Mac Hough, treasurer. Board members include William Charles Welch, Whitesboro Mayor W. D. Welch, Benny Riddle, Toni Keller, and Doug McCool. The organization meets the third Thursday morning of each month at Lovejoy's. Board members meet at 7:00 a.m., with the regular meeting beginning at 8:00.

At the 66th Annual Whitesboro Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet on Friday March 27, Mayor Welch awarded KWB the Mayor Citation Award for excellence in the community.

"I congratulate all of you for your efforts," Welch said to the board members present at the event. "Your hard work is an asset to the community."

"It's surprising the impact that a few people can make in their city," Lovejoy said. "It is very exciting to me personally, and fun to be a part of a community where just a few people can make

Continued on Page 9



Board members of Keep Whitesboro Beautiful accept the Mayor Citation from Whitesboro Mayor W.D. Welch (far right) at the annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet last week. Members present were (from left to right) Jack Humes, William Charles Welch, Sharon Welch and Hank Lovejoy.

Photo by Austin Lewter

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Tipscontinued from page 5

provide a pure source of water for outdoor plants. Depending on the size of your house and the amount of rainfall in your area, you can collect a substantial amount of rainwater with a simple system.

Removing invasives & restoring native plant communities

Native plants are better for the environment than exotic plants, generally requiring less fertilizer and other additives, less water, and less effort in pest control. They are especially important to native wildlife, such as pollinators

that may have coevolved with a particular species. Pollinators often rely on a certain type of flower as a source of food, while the flower depends on the pollinator to transport its pollen to other flowers for reproduction. When non-native plants are used, they oftentimes upset the delicate balance of a local ecosystem and sometimes even out-compete native species to the point of extinction. Wildlife will benefit more when native plant communities remain intact, or are restored to their natural habitats.

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Maintaining a Green Lawn Doesn't Require a Green Thumb

Particularly in today's economy, homeowners are looking for inexpensive ways to add value to their homes. Perhaps nowhere is that more possible than out in the yard, where the landscape can be a blank palette just waiting for homeowners to add their individual touches. The following easy and inexpensive tips don't require a green thumb, just a little elbow grease and dedication.

* **Aerate:** When kids and pets play in the yard, it's not only the grass that can take a pounding. The soil beneath that grass can become compacted, resulting in poor air circulation, drainage problems and possibly even causing nutrient depletion in your yard. Aerating the lawn will loosen the soil underneath, allowing for better circulation and ensuring your grass and soil get all the water and nutrients they need to stay green and healthy.

* **Mow at the correct height:** Busy homeowners understandably want to cut their lawn as low as possible to minimize the number of times they

need to cut the grass. However, different grasses require different cutting heights, and homeowners could be doing significant damage to their lawn by cutting too low or too high. Homeowners should first determine what type of grass they have, and then consult a professional to determine the best height at which to cut.

* **Consider composting your grass:** The benefits of composting grass clippings are numerous. Composting helps give grass a greener look, and is also beneficial to the environment by cutting down on waste. In addition, composting stimulates root growth while preventing topsoil erosion.

* **Water at the right time:** While it might seem ideal to set sprinklers in mid-afternoon when the sun is shining brightest, mornings are actually the ideal time to water. Because it's cooler in the morning, the water will not evaporate as much as it will during the midday heat, and watering in midday will draw the hot sun to a lawn, potentially burning the grass as a result.

Did You Know??????

Mosquitoes are among the most common uninvited guests at backyard barbecues and other outdoor gatherings. But warding off these hungry and intrusive insects can be done in a number of ways. One of the ways in which homeowners can minimize the likelihood of mosquito infestations is to ensure gutters are clean and clear of debris. Mosquitoes are attracted to decaying leaves, so ridding the gutters of such debris can reduce the risk of mosquito infestation. Another, though probably less popular, way to reduce the risk of mosquitoes wreaking havoc on a backyard barbecue is to ask guests to refrain from wearing perfumes, aftershave or other products

that have strong aromas. Such items attract mosquitoes and can increase the risk of guests getting bitten. Wardrobe can also play a role in a person's susceptibility to mosquito bites. Tight-fitting clothing can be bitten through by hungry mosquitoes, while more loose fitting clothing can be more efficacious when it comes to protecting partygoers. Finally, maintaining any areas where water can gather is also an effective means to ward off mosquito attacks. Turn over a dog's water bowl when not in use or throw sand or dirt in any rain puddles to make the property less attractive to pesky and problematic mosquitoes.

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ENTERPRISE

Bayer perfects flower garden with color, layers, and texture

By Janet Felderhoff
Muenster Enterprise

Denise Bayer has some beautiful flower beds around her home and she enjoys experimenting with various plants and looks. "I like to elevate pots inside my beds," she commented, "so that I can get some different heights and use the annuals in those pots for color." She uses cement blocks, bricks, or pavers for risers. These can be covered by the plants growing in the bed.

The first year that Denise started her flower bed, she had very hard soil to deal with. "I really tilled it and worked it a lot and put a lot of potting soil and mulch and just really tried to loosen it and mix a lot of things in there to add some other dynamics to it," she recalls. "I try to loosen it up as deep as possible. If you just try to superficially plant things in otherwise pretty awful soil that really hasn't been turned, it is just not going to do well."

Last year, Denise planted an African Lily bulb and had especially good luck with it. "It's just beautiful," she proclaimed. "It's a very succulent leafed

flowering out lily. It makes these purple flowers. They are lots of fun to watch open because they start in a pod. When the pod opens, you have all these small little purple flowers that will individually start opening. The flower stems grow from the base of the lily up two or three feet. In the beginning of the spring, you might see three or four of those sprouting out. In a week or two, you might see the pod and then it might take another week for that pod to open and display." She said the flowers last a couple of weeks. New shoots come up and make more flowers. "It did that over four or five cycles over the summer last year," she said.

Yarrow is a perennial that Denise enjoys. She said, "What's nice is the pink flowers are beautiful in the summertime, but all winter it stayed green. It was a beautiful fern."

Dwarf mock orange bushes give her flower bed color with their variegated green and yellow leaves. They are slow growing, but have small white flowers for a short period.

"Dianthus is another perennial that



Denise Bayer draws more interest in her flower bed by using pots placed on risers to achieve a variety of heights. Some plants shown here are Blue Daze, Bluebells, Lantana, and Coleus. Courtesy photo



Orange and pink hibiscus grown by Denise Bayer.

Courtesy photo

I love," said Denise. "My Dianthus bloomed all winter!" At another place where she lived, she didn't like them because they didn't thrive possibly due to poor soil conditions she said.

Hostas grown under a tree are another of her favorites. "Last year when they came back, the very first thing that happened when they got nice and pretty was we got a hail storm," she said. "They had hail holes beat in them. They were damaged and cut the whole summer." She uses day lilies around her trees and some in her beds.

She planted Texas Sage near her back door and it is doing very well.

Annuals that come back are always welcome in flower gardens. Denise enjoys Bluebells that are available at garden centers later in the spring. "They bloom all summer," she noted. "I've planted them three or four years now and each year, I'll have one or two out of five or six that won't make it over the winter. I'd say 75% of what I plant makes it over the winter. This is me not putting a good mulch around it or protecting it over the winter. When

they do come back, they come back bigger, stronger, fuller. They are the best beautiful buttercup flower. I always plant the blue color. There are other colors. They do better in the bed. In pots they seems to get too dry."

Lavender returns in Denise's beds. She planted Sweet Lavender. "I love my lavender. It's just a good, fragrant thing to have," she said. This year she plans to try rosemary in her beds. It isn't doing well in her flowerpot.

Golden Creeping Jenny is a ground cover that stays green all winter in Denise's garden. Moneywort is another name for the plant that has small round leaves in bright lime green color. "I love it because one whole section kept that bright green all winter," she said. "I don't like my beds to look completely naked all winter." The plant can be stepped on, so it is good to plant between rocks on rock paths and similar areas.

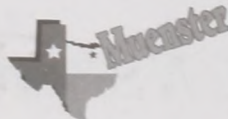
"One of my favorite plants is Blue Daze," Denise remarked. "It is a great

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Collinsville Parks Board revives city park on Hughes Street

By Austin Lewter
Whitesboro News-Record

About two years ago, a group of people in Collinsville came together with little means but big ideas and one common goal in mind; to bring back to life an all but forgotten about city park at the end of Hughes Street.

"There was nothing down here," said Parks Board President Carol McKnight referring to the once remote piece of property that has, in recent years, been swallowed up and all but taken in by a sea of housing additions on all sides of it.

McKnight assembled a small group and they soon began calling themselves the Collinsville Parks Board. She said the first item of business was to lobby the Collinsville Economic Development Committees to redirect some State funds for the use of the board to begin work on the park.

"They allocated \$50,000 from their Schedule A fund into a Schedule B," McKnight said. "Which means the money could go towards the park... we started by putting some real swings down here for the kids. The old ones that were here were in bad shape."

McKnight claimed that ideas started swirling and it soon became evident that the \$50,000 wouldn't last long. "We are constantly fundraising," said Parks Board Treasurer Gina Smith.

To date, the board has poured the foundation for and erected a basketball court; installed a maze of new playground equipment; revitalized two baseball diamonds with new lights, scoreboards, bleachers and dugouts; dabbled in a little landscaping and poured a walking track around the perimeter of the park.

"We have been busy," McKnight said. "But the bulk of the work that has been done here has been on a volunteer basis... people have showed up out of the woodwork to help out."

McKnight said that the baseball scoreboards that have been installed were bought used from the City of McKinney and installed for free by Board member and Collinsville Softball Commissioner Todd Cavin.

"We have a diverse group, each bringing something unique to the table," McKnight said. "This park was built by volunteers. Our community is full of wonderful and caring people who bestow their talents to the park."

She says that the board is currently planning to install a new merry-go-round and seesaw. "We also want to renovate the old bathrooms across the road from the park," McKnight claimed. "But we are trying to get the City on board to install speed bumps on that road to slow down traffic before we encourage children to cross it."

In addition to Smith, Cavin and McKnight, the Collinsville Parks Board includes Keith Byrom, Beth Cavin, T.J. Smith, and Brent Cantrell. Melody Graves, Tabatha Polley and Bobby Zimmerman.

Any one interested in the park board can contact Gina Smith at 940-300-8441.



The Collinsville Parks Board is (top row left to right) Melody Graves, Tabatha Polley, Todd Cavin and Beth Cavin, Standing middle (left to right) Carol McKnight, T.J. Smith and Keith Byrom. Sitting front (left to right) Bobby Zimmerman and Gina Smith. Not pictured is Brent Cantrell.

KWB
.....continued from page 6

a difference."

Among the group's long range plans are downtown growth and revitalization.

KWB's most recent project is scheduled for April 22-25, 2009. "Whitesboro In Bloom", is a spring cleanup and downtown festival featuring varied activities and vendors as well as the promotion of a community wide garage sale. On Sat., April 25, KWB will be offering 300 red oak bare root trees for planting. A composting demonstration will be held, master gardener, Debbie Perry, will be on hand to answer questions, and Kevin Harris from TXDOT will be present.

"We want to encourage everybody to plant and to clean up," Lovejoy said. Individuals who wish to participate in the community garage sale may have their sale listed on the locator map. Stop by Lovejoy's, Computer Plus Unlimited, Kaleidoscope Quilt Shop, or Butterfield Stage Stop Antiques for more information.



Two Collinsville mothers take advantage of the stroller-ready cement walking path recently installed by the Collinsville Parks Board at the City Park.

Photos by Austin Lewter



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Color, layers, and texturecontinued from page 8

filler for your beds for color and good foliage. It blooms every day and it does spread." It is an annual that likes at least a half day of sun. Denise said she won't do without it.

Non-Stop Begonia is one plant that Denise always likes to plant in one of her shady area pots. "It makes the most beautiful rose flower," she said. "I don't think they'd do very well with a lot of sun."

Fiber Optic and Ponytail grasses are two of several grasses that Denise likes to include with her flowering plants.

For texture in a pot, Denise selected a Foxtail Fern. "It did so well in my pots and I just couldn't stand to let them go, so I actually put them in my Mom's sun room over the winter and they've done great. That's been a really fun texture. I like different textures."

Pentas are a flower that Denise plants in her flower beds. She feels they get taller and fuller in the bed rather than in a pot.

Many flower gardeners keep a garden diary or journal. Denise saves plant tags and takes photos to help her remember what previous flower beds looked like, where the perennials are planted, and what thrived and what didn't do so well.

Denise's home is near a lake and she waters her flowers with lake water, which she thinks helps. Three or four times over the summer, she sprinkles out time release plant food.

"Find what you can grow, and then for some height and color, think about using pots in your beds," Denise recommends to gardeners with poor soil or other problems growing plants in beds. "Pots bring variety."

Asked about her favorite combinations of plants, Denise said she just uses common sense. She said, "Like for a pot, for example, I just try to use something with a little height in there whether it be the Spike Plant or a Foxtail Fern or a Coleus. I try to use something of medium height like a moss rose depending on how tall the other plant is, maybe a begonia. I love begonias in pots. Then I'll use, depending on where I'm putting the pot, some of the shade

tolerant, trailing plants. I try to think in three levels when I plant pots and try to lay things out that way."

Denise likes a lot of color in her flower beds. She said she picks plant colors similar to how you would put an outfit together. "I like to plant things in color groups I like put some pinks together, plant some reds together," she commented. "I wouldn't wear an orange shirt with a pair of pink pants, and I might not put orange next to pink. I like to think about how the color is going to look when you stand back. I also like to make sure that my perennials go throughout so that when I come in the spring and want to put some annuals in for fun, things that I enjoy like Pentas and Coleus, that I'm really just filling in gaps between my perennials. I think of my beds the same way I think of my pots in thinking about things that are going to grow taller in the back and things that are going to grow closer to the ground in the front."

Denise warned that if you plant something like Lantana that grows well, be prepared to cut it back or have some favorite plant covered up by it unless you take care about how close you plant things. "When I first started gardening, I used a lot of annuals in my beds," Denise said. "Then I learned not only is that expensive, it's also a lot of work! While it is fun to enjoy those plants, it's not always fun to spend an entire weekend in the heat planting them. So, I've tried to do my research and experiment enough to the point where I feel comfortable about what's going to come back and work well for me and just pop a few things in there for annuals, but make it more of a perennial bed."

She said she places about 10 pots around her patios and has another eight pots in her beds. Denise finds that choosing different pots lends interest to the garden and patio areas.

Watering plants can be an almost daily commitment in the summer, especially for potted plants. Denise believes in watering deeply and will lay the water hose down and let it run for about five minutes in her flower beds.

The best advice Denise can give

those who want to be flower gardeners, "Trial and error, we all have different things to work with - soil, you have to deal with sun or shade. I think you just have to experiment and see

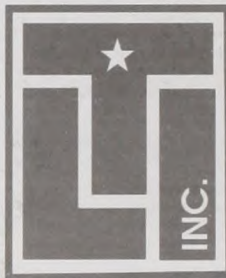
what works for you. Don't be afraid to try something. You don't have to go out on a limb and buy a whole flat of something if you've never tried it before. Just buy a few and see."



Denise Bayer enjoys checking out garden containers at The Bird Nest. She likes a variety of containers to bring more interest into her garden and patio areas.

Janie Hartman photo

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WILLIE JOE MATTHEWS

Schneiders' teamwork produces delicious table fare

By Janet Felderhoff
Muenster Enterprise

Ed and Ginny Schneider have grown a garden and canned its yield for many years. They raised a family of seven children, so home grown food helped with the budget. That is something that Ginny suggests young couples struggling in today's economy try, to cut back on grocery expenses. She said it doesn't take much space to put in a vegetable garden. It could be a family project with children learning to help grow and harvest vegetables. "If families like fresh vegetables and fruit and want to have their children to learn how to do it, that would be a nice thing," she suggested. "Your canned goods and everything are getting so expensive, this is something for young couples to think about to begin a garden with their children."

Ed said he's had a garden most all of his life. "I hadn't missed a year, even when I had a hip replaced," Ed remarked. He learned a lot about gardening from his dad. They live in town, but have a large back yard and use part of it for the garden. Ed said that they have cut back on the size now that their children are grown and no longer living at home.

They also cater for events under the name Ginny's Catering. Some of the garden produce is used for catering, including Ginny's canned pickles.

Plants found in Ed's garden include onions, tomatoes, squash, pickles, lettuce, carrots, beets, radishes, okra, corn, beans, potatoes, bell peppers, and jalapeños. "We always plant the bush beans; we don't like the pole beans," said Ed. "Tomatoes I kinda go with the old traditional ones. Early Girls - I don't like the Big Boys because they don't produce very much." Celebrity is another favorite. They plant Kandy Korn, a spineless okra, yellow squash, and Black Beauty zucchini squash. "It doesn't take many hills (of squash plants) to make a lot of squash," Ed advised. "I plant some marigolds in my squash to keep the squash bugs out." This year's assortment of seed packages waiting to be planted included the varieties Cross Country Cucumber,



Ginny Schneider shows some of the pickles, beets, and relishes that she canned from last year's garden produce. Janet Felderhoff photo

Sparkle radish, Emerald Okra, and Black Seeded Simpson lettuce. Ginny said her mom always planted Black Seeded Simpson and that is one reason that she prefers it. They plant California Wonder and Kentucky Wonder varieties of bell peppers.

"We've even had grapes and raspberries," noted Ginny. "The grapes did real well until these last couple of years. The vines just died." They used the grapes to make wine. The vines came from Ed's sisters who live in Arkansas.

Asked what he does to make a good vegetable garden, Ed said, "Till it good and deep and I always put about a sack of fertilizer out on it and plow it in." His garden is 100' x 50'. Fruit trees take up some of the space. He tries to till the soil at least two times prior to planting.

Ed said that this year he will probably wait until after Easter to plant most of his garden. "Last year we had that hard frost the 19th of April and it seems like you always get one of those stinkers," Ed said. "I planted my corn already, but beans and stuff, I wait until after the first of April at least. Some things you can plant early like lettuce, radishes, and beets. The earlier you can get them in, the better it is. The frost doesn't really hurt them." Ginny said that potatoes are always planted on St. Joseph's Day (March 19) or around that time. They haven't planted a fall garden for the last few years. "You have to get them in in the middle of August and that's so darn hot."

When Ed buys his tomato plants, he

gets them early when they are small and puts potting soil in a styrofoam cup (Be sure to use drainage holes). He plants the tomatoes in the cups and lets them grow until the danger of frost is past and the soil is warm. Then he digs a good size hole that is pretty deep and fills it with about 1/2 sack of manure purchased at a garden center and adds Miracle Grow fertilizer. He mixes all of that together and plants the tomatoes in it. "I'll have tomatoes until frost gets here," he said. Ed ties his tomato plants up to cattle panels as they grow. "I try to keep the suckers off the bottom," he said. "It takes a lot of time to do that. It's something I've always done. It's the way my dad did it. Dad would drive fence posts and then string wire. When they would grow, he'd tie them up."

For those considering a garden for the first time Ed said, "It's a lot of work. You can't just go out there and plant it and forget about it! You've got to keep gettin' after the weeds and stuff. You've got to have the time to keep your garden clean. That's the main thing to keep the weeds and grass out. You've got to stay after it."

Ginny said that she cans most of the produce from their garden. She does freeze the corn. They freeze it on the cob rather than cutting it off. When their kids were living at home, Ed said they would freeze 150 to 200 ears of corn. Ed said that Ginny cans a lot of pickles still because she uses them in her catering business. She puts up

Continued on Page 12

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Schneiders' table fare

.....continued from page 11

around 150 quarts of pickles and about 50 pints of beets and relishes and piquante sauces.

There is a large workroom off of their house where Ginny does her canning and prepares the food for catering.

Gardening and cooking are only some of what keep the couple busy. Ed worked for Cooke County Electric Co-op and retired in 1991 after 45 years of service. "I've been working ever since," Ed laughed. He has remodeled their home, built cabinets and special pantries for his home and his daughters' homes, builds Martin boxes (two or three a year), assists Ginny with her catering, and keeps busy in his workshop.

Ginny doesn't have much idle time either. She spent many years as office manager for Dr. Martin Kralicke, retiring in 1997. Besides her catering, she sews and does alterations for people. "That's better than sitting in a rocking chair," she remarked.

Most of Ginny's favorite recipes are in a cookbook, *Recipes from Home* by Ginny Schneider. She collected the recipes over a span of more than 50 years. She also invited her children and grandchildren to submit some of their favorites. Ginny uses many of the recipes in her catering business. All proceeds from the cookbook are donated to the Muenster Volunteer Fire Department. It can be purchased at Fischer's Market in Muenster.

A few of her favorites made with garden produce:

Garlic Dill Pickles

- 10-20 cucumbers
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1 dill flower head
- 3 slices of jalapeno
- 1 cup distilled vinegar
- 3/4 cup pickling salt
- 3 quarts boiling water

Wash cucumbers. Pack enough cucumbers to fill a warm, clean quart jar. Add spices to each jar. To boiling water add vinegar and pickling spices. Fill jars with boiling water mixture. Process in water bath for about 15 minutes.

Green Tomato Relish

- 2 cups onions, coarsely chopped
- 2 cups green peppers, chopped
- 1 T. salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup white vinegar
- 1 tsp. mustard seed
- 1 tsp. celery seed
- 6 cups green tomatoes, coarsely chopped
- 5 jalapeño pepper, chopped and seeded

In a large saucepan, combine onions, green peppers, salt, sugar, vinegar, mustard seed, and celery seed. Bring to a boil. Add tomatoes and jalapeno peppers. Cook just until they begin to look "transparent." Pour into hot sterilized pint jars and seal. This tastes a lot like the relish served in catfish restaurants.

Red Beets

- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups vinegar
- 2 cups water
- 1 gallon beets, cooked and sliced
- 1 tsp. whole allspice
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. whole cloves
- salt to taste

Boil ingredients together with spices in a cloth bag and pour over beets. Simmer until thoroughly heated - about 15 minutes. Pack in hot jars and seal.

Picante Sauce

- 3 quarts ripe tomatoes, peeled and chopped
- 4 bell peppers, diced
- 8 large jalapeños with seeds, chopped
- 2 T. chili powder
- 1 1/2 T. canning salt
- 1 cup white vinegar
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 1 T. garlic powder
- 1 (12-14 oz.) ketchup

Cook all ingredients for about 40 minutes. Process in water bath for 20 minutes. Makes 6-8 pints of sauce.



Ed Schneider demonstrates how he plants tomatoes next to cattle panels so that he can tie the plant up as it grows, keeping it off the ground.

Janet Felderhoff photo

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The ABCs of Polymeric joint sand

(MS) -- "Whatymeric huh?" That's the typical response Rick DeMarchi received when he first explained his marquee product -- polymeric joint sand for concrete pavers to prospective clients.

DeMarchi is the Vice-President of Sales for Techniseal, the leading manufacturer of treatment products for the North American concrete paver industry. Techniseal invented polymeric sand over a decade ago and as a result solved the major drawbacks associated with interlocking concrete paving stones in the eyes of consumers and contractors -- joint sand erosion, weed growth and ant infestation.

"Ironically, the joint sand that is one of the key structural components in the flexible pavement can also be its biggest aesthetic downfall," explained DeMarchi. That's because over time, the sand becomes a fertile bed for airborne weed seeds and ants. Eventually, wind, rain and traffic help migrate the sand out of the joints and everywhere else but in between the pavers.

This issue is magnified, he said, by today's popular "tumbled" pavers, which tend to have wider joints than the more industrial looking pavers of the past. "Given enough time, a loss of joint sand can even result in uneven

settling of the pavement," DeMarchi added. What was required then was something to stabilize the sand in the joints without sacrificing the structural benefits of a flexible pavement.

Enter polymeric sand, a high-tech mix of graded sand and binder. Activated by a misting of water at installation, the polymeric molecules form a strong yet flexible bond with the sand. Polymeric sand has more than a decade of stellar performance in one of the most extreme freeze-thaw climates in North America.

Not only has it stayed in place that long without cracking, but it has virtually eliminated weed problems and ants have moved on as well, while the sand is set in place to do its job.

According to DeMarchi, these benefits are available for only about a 3 percent increase in the total material cost of a paver project, and installation is easy. Swept into the joints like regular sand, polymeric sand hardens in 24 hours after a simple three-step wetting process. The result is a new pavement that you can enjoy for years without the trouble of eliminating weeds and continually re-brushing joint sand.

Available in both tan and grey, polymeric sand can even enhance the aesthetic appeal of your paver project. Be

sure your contractor is aware of the benefits of polymeric sand and select pavers with confidence as the foundation for your gracious outdoor living

spaces. More information on polymeric joint sand is available at www.techniseal.com.



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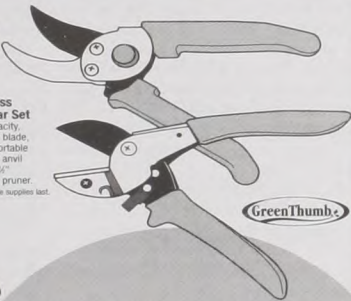
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Groceries from the backyard: a bountiful harvest of savings

Food gardening will jump 19% this year over last year, according to a new survey by the National Gardening Association (NGA). Homeowners with shrinking household budgets are looking for help in their own backyards.

Can planting a veggie patch really save you money? Government agencies and gardening organizations say yes.

Every \$100 spent on vegetable gardening yields \$1,000 to \$1,700 worth of produce, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates. That's a serious hedge against skyrocketing food prices, expected to jump another 5% this year.

You'll get a half-pound of edibles from every square foot of ground devoted to backyard crops, NGA experts say. Even a modest garden (15-by-15-feet) can produce more than 100 pounds of garden-fresh tomatoes, salad greens, vegetables, and herbs.

Smart food gardeners appreciate the tried-and-true. Bonnie Plants, available coast to coast, are time-tested varieties selected to suit regional conditions. For best results, you'll need to choose veggie and herb varieties suitable to your geographical location. Because Bonnie's varieties are distributed regionally, you will automatically have suitable varieties available to you at retail in your area.

Look for plants in eco-friendly biodegradable pots that not only save tons of plastic pots from ending up in landfills, they also reduce transplant shock. Just tear off the bottom, set the pot in the ground, and water.

For gardening tips and to learn about herb and vegetable varieties, visit www.bonnieplants.com.

How Does a 'Green' Garden Really Grow?

Whether you're a gardening guru who has acres of perfectly landscaped greenery, or you're short on space and potted petunias on the patio are your idea of gardening bliss, it's possible to change your habits and really embrace a 'green' thumb.

Gardening green involves using all-natural products and nixing those chemical-laden ones that are commonly relied upon. Here are some tips and techniques to have you seeing more green in the garden.

* **Au natural:** Think natural products and strategies for your landscape. One of the best ways to promote strong roots, stimulate growth, aerate the soil, and encourage water retention is with the application of compost. Compost can easily be made from kitchen scraps, such as remnants of vegetables, egg shells and coffee grounds. In fact, this nutritional powerhouse is often referred to as "gardener's gold." Why send it to the landfill when you can create a small compost pile and turn leftover dinner into rich fertilizer?

* **Don't be bugged by bugs:** There are many insects that are very beneficial to your landscape. Earthworms are shy fellows that do a great job of aerating the soil by burrowing through the ground. Butterflies and bees can pollenate flowers. Certain spiders and centipedes can eat harmful insects that may prey on your greenery.

* **Use recycled products:** Today there's a bevy of gardening materials made from recycled products. From rubber tires turned into mats and mulch to flower pots made from recycled plastic, you can embrace your eco-friendly sensibilities.

* **Find an alternative to lawn:** Did you know that an estimated 40 million acres of the 48 contiguous American states are covered in lawns? That pretty much makes grass the #1 irrigated "crop" of this country. Instead of spending countless hours mowing, edging and trimming your lawn, devote some grass space to other plants -- even a vegetable garden. Then you get more bang from your gardening buck, including vegetables you can bring to the dinner table.

* **Be water-responsible:** Conserve water by harvesting rainwater to use for your lawn and garden. If you must haul out the hose, water in early morning when there's less chance of the water evaporating in the hot sun before it quenches plants' roots.

With a few easy strategies you can truly have a green garden in no time.

Choose new countertops for economical kitchen facelift

(MS) -- Outdated cabinets, faded countertops, tired appliances, stained flooring and tiles. Does this remind you of your kitchen? If you have not remodeled your kitchen in years, then the answer is probably a disheartened yes. But is it time for a complete kitchen makeover, or just a facelift?

The answer depends on your budget. The bad news is that a total renovation project can be very costly.

The good news is that you can replace your countertops and feel as though you have a brand new kitchen.

That's because your countertop is your most visible source of color in the kitchen. If your cabinets are white or wood, then what immediately catches your eye is the surface you use the most, your countertop.

Countertops are no longer merely a work surface, but a key element in the



design and luxury of your home. Much like the clothes we wear, the fashion statement of the environment we live in can either reaffirm the latest colors and styles or showcase the looks of the past. If your current countertops are dusty rose or lime green, you are long overdue for something new.

If you look at what's available you will be amazed at the selection not only of colors but textures and finishes as well. The primary goal now is to find a durable, stain-resistant and easy to clean surface that will also bring style, elegance and beauty to your kitchen.

For the past few years, the fastest growing category of premium countertops, and the one with the most allure, has been quartz because it provides the best balance of beauty, durability and style.

"Quartz countertops have the deep beautiful colors of granite without the problems and high-maintenance of porous stone," explained Mark Hanna, President of Leeza Distribution Inc., distributor of HanStone Fine Quartz Surfaces. "Through superior strength

and incredible beauty quartz countertops are rapidly becoming the choice for discerning homeowners."

Quartz countertops, such as the industry's top rated HanStone surfaces, offer a sophisticated elegance and timeless beauty. They are stronger than granite and because they're non-porous they require no resealing, are highly resistant to scratches, stains, and bacteria growth and come in a huge variety of colors. Also of great importance, HanStone is accredited with Greenguard environmental certification.

In fact, HanStone quartz surfaces, a favorite of designers and developers, boasts 32 dramatic colors and patterns and can be used in virtually any indoor surfacing application in kitchens, bathrooms including floors, countertops, island tops and backsplashes.

With beautiful, elegant premium countertops garnering the envious looks of your guests, your kitchen will have a fresh new look for a fraction of the cost of a complete renovation. More information on quartz surfaces is available at leezadistribution.com.



How To Create More Space In Rooms Without Moving Walls

(HIT) - Bulky space-consuming furniture is on its way out. Beautiful space-saving wood cabinetry is in, taking its rightful place throughout the home, from formal dining rooms to mud rooms. In fact, cabinetry is fast becoming the new furniture of choice. From floor-to-ceiling wall spaces to nooks and crannies, cabinetry can fit just about anywhere, such as bathrooms, foyers and hallways, and kids' smaller bedrooms.

"With busier lifestyles, growing families, gourmet kitchens, home offices, and diverse hobbies, consumers are purchasing more items than ever before. As a result, people are discovering more creative uses for cabinetry, such as lockers in mudrooms where kids can store "their valuables" after school, sports, and other activities," said Laurie Galbraith, Design Manager at HomeCrest Cabinetry.

Another popular trend is replacing old dressers and other unwieldy bedroom furniture with standard and custom cabinets that line walls or fit snugly into closets. Especially in smaller homes, closed-door cabinetry or open bookshelves placed strategically as room dividers between living and dining areas, and all along walls, can generate new space by increasing storage options.

Not only does cabinetry utilize space

better than furniture throughout the home, it helps you get organized and stay that way. With cabinetry, everything has its own home so there's less clutter and chaos in your life. For example, you can create a beautiful wood wall-hugging credenza to showcase everything from your family heirlooms and framed photos to knick-knacks using shelves and glass-door display cabinets, while organizing a multitude of items that would otherwise be clutter, inside credenza drawers and closed cabinet spaces. As a result, you're much freer to relax and enjoy your time at home without feeling crowded by too much furniture or overwhelmed by clutter.

When using cabinetry instead of furniture, the design and storage possibilities are as rich as your imagination. To create a cozy country look and feel, you can choose closed cabinets and open bookshelves surrounding a mantel and fireplace in a den or living room. A window seat with built-in storage and marble-topped cabinetry on both sides creates a comfortable nook for reading and relaxing anyplace in the home where there's a window with a view. You can even divide rooms using a beautiful wooden china hutch that combines closed solid-wood storage cabinets stretching floor-to-ceiling at one end with elegant glass-door china

display cabinets lowered to kitchen island-height at the other end, achieving an airy, open feel between rooms that doesn't block light or conversation.

You can find creative cabinetry solutions like these from HomeCrest Cabinetry, a premier manufacturer of home cabinetry. To provide even greater flexibility, HomeCrest offers Custom Choice, an innovative program that lets homeowners add modified options to standard cabinetry to achieve custom looks and functionality-without custom pricing. Using standard doors

and drawer fronts, Custom Choice can accommodate wider cabinets, deeper drawers, additional panels or doors, and many other options for a perfect fit anywhere. It brings creative, custom-quality cabinetry to every corner of the home-dining and living areas, bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchens, pantries, offices, laundry and utility areas, and beyond.

For more information about HomeCrest Cabinetry, or to locate a dealer, visit <http://www.homecrestcab.com>



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