

Muenster Hospital breaks ground for new rehab center

By Janet Felderhoff
Temperatures below freezing, made more intense by biting wind, did not dampen the excitement Tuesday morning outside Muenster Memorial Hospital. A crowd gathered as members of the Hospital's Therapy Department and Board of Directors manned shovels to break ground for the building of a new rehab department.

MMH Administrator Lynn Heller remarked, "This marks a new day for Muenster. We are very excited about this opportunity to bring more and better services to our people. I have asked our Therapy Department to break ground, they have made our Rehab Program what it is today and what it will be tomorrow. They very much have a heart of service and take great pride in taking care of our patients. We are blessed to have the quality and quantity of therapists in our program."

Therapy Department staff include Department Director and Speech Pathologist Bekki Jones, Office Manager Karamie Graves, Occupational Therapist Teresa Harrison, OTR, Tim Pembroke, PT, PhD, Casey Ediger,

PTA, and Amy Haverkamp, COTA. Mary Del Olma, PT is expected to join the staff soon.

Administrator Heller said of the building project, "We are enhancing our rehab services to our patients, expanding our patient base, and will be providing what may be the best wellness center in the County. There may be others no doubt, but this one will be first class with first class equipment."

MMH Board of Directors in attendance were Kenny Klement, John Aytes, James Walterscheid, Danny Walterscheid, Ronnie Weinzapfel, and Paul Becker. Architect Mike Hale and Mages Group Project Manager Michael Goff were also present.

Other Hospital staff at the ground breaking were Dr. Edd Advincula, Jenny Huchton, administrative secretary, Billy Hogan maintenance supervisor, and Adelia Wilson, swing bed coordinator.

Representatives from Muenster State Bank attending were President Robert Weinzapfel, John Bartush, and Pam Sidwell. Precinct #4 Commissioner Leon Klement was also present.



Taking part in Muenster Memorial Hospital Groundbreaking Ceremony Tuesday were Hospital staff and directors, along with Muenster State Bank staff, and other guests, from left, front - Pam Sidwell, Dr. Edd Advincula, Kenny Klement, Paul Becker, Bekki Jones, Teresa Harrison, Amy Haverkamp, Precinct #4 Commissioner Leon Klement; back - Administrator Lynn Heller, Jenny Huchton, Architect Mike Hale, John Aytes, Billy Hogan, Contractor Mike Goff, Ronnie Weinzapfel, Danny Walterscheid, Adelia Wilson, John D. Bartush, James Walterscheid, and Robert Weinzapfel.

Area attractions make magazine destination list

RIDE TEXAS Magazine recently announced its 9th Annual BEST IN TEXAS Readers' Choice Awards in its latest issue that was mailed to subscribers in mid-January and hit newsstands Feb. 2. The 2010 do-everything-ride-everywhere riders' almanac features readers' TOP 10 picks in various categories.

Red River Motorcycle Trails, Inc. (RRMT, Inc.) in Bulcher, the town of Muenster, and Weinhof Winery were all on favorites' lists. RRMT, Inc. was honored to be voted the #1 Best Off-Road Destination in the Lone Star State. Other off-road destinations that took home top honors were Big Bend National Park, Mud Creek Offroad Park (Jacksonville), Sam Houston National Forest, Barnwell Mountain Recreation Area (Gilmer), Big Bend Ranch State Park, Cross Creek Cycle Park (Paige), Hidden Falls Adventure Park (Marble Falls), Lake Whitney MX Park (Whitney), and Pinto Canyon Road (Marfa). More information about **RIDE TEXAS** Magazine can be viewed online at www.ridetexas.com.



Saint Jo natives Rebecca Harris and her late husband, Van, opened RRMT, Inc. in August 1972. Now Harris and her daughter Holly Harris-Bayer manage the day to day operations of the 2,700 acre premier riding facility. More information regarding RRMT, Inc. can be found online at its website www.drivermotorcycletrails.com.

Muenster drew number 10 on the TOP 10 Best Small Towns list. It referred to Muenster's German heritage and German food. Also mentioned was the annual Germanfest with its polka tunes and beer. It stated, "The town is along a popular motorcycle road, FM 373, and it's near the Red River Motorcycle Trails, the hot destination for dual sport and off-road riding. So, go and ride your wheels off and head back through Muenster for the required meat-fix after a long day of riding." The Center Restaurant earned a place on the list of food in the Muenster area.

Larry and Brenda Thompson of Weinhof Winery drew an honorable mention for producing some of the best fruit wines in Texas. It named the Blackberry Wine as being one of their favorites.

NTGC District reports to County Commissioners Court

By Janet Felderhoff
With three meetings under its belt, the recently formed North Texas Groundwater Conservation District (NTGCD) gave its first report to Cooke County Commissioners Court on Monday, Feb. 8. Representing the NTGCD were president Eddie Daniel, vice president Ronnie Young, and Cooke County member Kenny Klement.

NTGCD is comprised of Cooke, Collin, and Denton counties. The group first met on Oct. 28. They hired Brian Sledge, a prominent groundwater attorney out of Austin, elected officers, and did other things necessary to become a working district. At the November meeting, they set up committees including Rules and Bylaws, Budget Finance, Policy Personnel, Building Facilities, Conservation and Public Awareness, and Groundwater Monitoring Data Base.

Young remarked, "What we are trying to do is to protect the groundwater that exists, both the Trinity Aquifer and the Woodbine Aquifer, and make it last as long as possible through whatever means that the State allows us to do in order to do that."

Currently, they are striving to get their working documents, bylaws, and some temporary rules set up. They hope to have them ready to be adopted at the next meeting. He said that until those documents are in place they cannot do anything.

Young commented on the Board, "We all seem to be on the same page. We're all trying to save the water as long as we can and do it as cheap as possible. To a man, I think everybody is wanting to make sure that we don't waste any money."

Daniel is allowing them to use some of his office space for a temporary office with a temporary phone number, at no cost. There only cost so far is attorney fees and required insurance.

Daniel observed, "Their are going to be some things that we are required to do and that's to set some rules in place. It's going to entail spacing of water wells, some charges for water usage, a lot of data base monitoring and gathering. One of the primary reasons for a groundwater conservation district is to gather data and set an annual limit about how much can be pumped so that the aquifers are preserved."

Daniel observed, "Their are going to be some things that we are required to do and that's to set some rules in place. It's going to entail spacing of water wells, some charges for water usage, a lot of data base monitoring and gathering. One of the primary reasons for a groundwater conservation district is to gather data and set an annual limit about how much can be pumped so that the aquifers are preserved."

"So, this groundwater conservation district won't be without some controversy along the way because anything you try to limit anything, it's going to make somebody unhappy."

Daniel promised to keep Commissioners Court informed and noted that they serve at the pleasure of the County Commissioners Courts.

Permitting and fees will not be required for some time since rules must be in place first.

According to Daniel, NTGCD is a part of a larger organization called Groundwater Management Area #8. He said, "What's required of Groundwater Management Area #8 is that they set some pumping guidelines for the entire aquifer. The reason they are set up like they are is that they cover an entire aquifer area. Trinity and Woodbine are within the Groundwater Management Area #8, as well as a couple of aquifers that are less important." Some rules have already been set by Area #8, which has been active for about three years. NTGCD will now have a voice in the decisions of that group.

See NTGCD, pg. 3

Lawson and Gilmer contend for County Clerk position

By Janet Felderhoff
There are two candidates seeking the Republican nomination to the position of County Clerk. Incumbent Rebecca Harris would like to serve another term. Also hoping to be elected to that job is Rheta Gilmer. There are no candidates seeking the Democratic nomination for County Clerk, therefore, the person winning the Republican nomination will be uncontested in November and will be elected as County Clerk.

Rebecca and her husband Jerry Lawson are residents of Gainesville. They have two grown daughters and three grandchildren. She serves as the County Clerk.

Rheta resides in Lindsay with her husband Billy and their daughter Elizabeth, age seven. Rheta and Billy have been married for almost 15 years. She currently is employed by the County as the County Judge's assistant, notary public, and public information officer for Cooke County Emergency Management.

Each candidate was given a set of written questions with a designated time to return their responses.

What do you feel qualifies you for this position?

Lawson - My experience would qualify me, as I've been employed in the County Clerk's office for 15 years. Served as County Clerk for 7 1/2 years. This position takes years of working and being involved in the day to day activities in order to be able to perform the job. To this day, it's still a learning opportunity for me.

Gilmer - I have worked for the County Judge and the Commissioners' Court for nearly nine years. I work closely with elected officials, and non-profit organizations to assist in the preparation and submission of budget requests to the Court. I prepare orders, resolutions, and agendas for the Commissioners' Court. I prepare Election Orders and Notices and I maintain our County website. The County Judge's Office is the records management office for the entire County and I attend school yearly regarding records preservation and retention schedules. I am the Public Information Officer for Cooke County Emergency Management, and as such, I provide information



Rebecca Lawson



Rheta Gilmer

to the media and to citizens regarding emergencies or disasters that affect our county. Prior to working for the County, I was a manager at Brooks Brothers and at Guess Jeans, supervising 8-10 employees, which gives me the experience needed to manage the multiple employees of the Clerk's Office. I am also currently working on my Bachelor's Degree in Business Computer Information Systems. This is a mix of a computer science degree and a business degree that will allow me to run the

Clerk's Office like a business and save taxpayer money.

Describe what you see as the duties of the County Clerk:

Lawson - The duties cover a wide area. I am the keeper of all land records of the County. I hold all death and birth certificates of the County. We issue marriage licenses and record them here. We handle all Probate, Civil up to \$10,000, and Criminal Misdemeanors cases for the County. The County Clerk's Office also acts as the local registrar of vital statistics

for State of Texas. Which includes doing AOP's, birth and death amendments. We also handle DBA forms, and cattle brands, and all plats of subdivisions. I also serve as Cooke County's Election Administrator. I secure locations, secure judges, and provide their training, issuance of ballots and supplies. (Primary election ballots are ordered by the party chairman, not the County Clerk's Office.) Submit all election returns to the Secretary of State's office on election night. The County Clerk also records all Commissioner Court minutes.

Gilmer - First and foremost the Clerk is the servant of the citizens of this County and as such, should provide a professional, friendly, and efficient office. The County Clerk serves the County Court at Law, Commissioners' Court, County Attorney, and the Court Compliance Office. We must be certain that all of our records for the courts are accurate, updated, and complete.

The Court at Law handles the juvenile, criminal, civil (over \$10,000), probate, and mental cases filed in the County. The Clerk must accept payments from criminal

cases, file all records of the court, and keep them organized and accurate.

The Clerk is also responsible for the minutes of the Commissioners' Court and any document that is approved by the court. That includes resolutions, proclamations, contracts, and interlocal agreements. These minutes must be a complete and accurate account of court proceedings according to Texas law.

The Clerk is also the steward of all birth and death records, deed records, marriage records, cattle brands, and election records.

The Clerk performs many of the election duties in the County. Training of employees, election judges, and clerks is of the utmost importance. Not only do we need to understand and abide by the laws governing elections, we must also know how to run our election equipment.

Is there an area of the County Clerk's office that you feel needs improving, and if so what and how would you improve it?

Lawson - Maybe a larger office and more secure for

See CLERK, pg. 3

Obituaries

Fr. Victor Gillespie, OSB 1928 - 2010

Father Victor Gillespie, OSB, monk of Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, Arkansas, strengthened with the Sacraments and the prayers of his brother monks, died on Feb. 9, 2010. At the time of his death, Fr. Victor was 81 years old. He had been a professed monk for 58 years and a priest for 53 years.

Fr. Victor served at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Muenster from 1982 until 1994, first as assistant pastor and then as pastor. He was well respected in the parish as a very kind and compassionate person, who took his responsibilities as a priest very seriously. He had the ability to comfort those who were hurting, while possessing a good sense of humor.

The Christian Wake Service is set for 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 12, in the Abbey Church. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13.

Born March 5, 1928, in Atkins, Arkansas, he was the youngest of seven children. He was christened Anthony Joseph. Anthony Gillespie attended Assumption Parochial School in his hometown before going to Morris School in Searcy, Arkansas, for his freshman and sophomore years of high school. Brother Cyriac Hill, CFP, who taught for 66 years, said that Anthony Gillespie was the best math student he had ever had in the classroom. For his junior and senior courses of study, Anthony transferred to Subiaco Academy, graduating with the class of 1945.

For one year following graduation, he was employed at Subiaco in the *Abbey Press* before joining the United States Air Force in 1946. Stationed in Japan, Anthony served as a photo lab technician before his honorable discharge in 1948.

Anthony returned to Subiaco in 1950, and professed his vows as a monk on Sept. 14, 1951, receiving the name Victor. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Albert L. Fletcher at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in Little Rock, Arkansas, on May 26, 1956. "Two religious who greatly influenced my vocation," said Fr. Victor, "were Brother Cyriac Hill, CFP, of Morris School and Father Christopher Paladino, OSB, of Subiaco Academy."

Apart from his teaching for one semester in 1958 at Lanier High School in Fort Worth, Texas, Fr. Victor spent a quarter-century teaching in the Subiaco Academy math and physics departments from the late 1950s to 1982. In addition, he was the school photographer and gave unstintingly of his time and talent in taking thousands upon thousands of pictures through the years for yearbooks, calendars, ad infinitum: including shooting game films for the coaching staff who always boasted that they had the best in the land.

For many summers, after teaching the academic year in the academy, Fr. Victor studied in Missouri at St. Louis University earning a B.A. in math and physics in 1961, and then at Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee, where in 1965 he completed his M.A. in math and physics. He also attended Dominican House of Studies in River Forest, Illinois, and the University of California in Berkeley.

Fr. Victor was Master of Novices and Formation Di-

rector from 1958-60, and thereafter served for one year as assistant vocation director in the Academy. Fr. Victor had the expertise of making learning an enjoyable and fascinating experience. High standards of learning set in the classroom were tempered with his friendly and jovial personality; students knew they had an empathetic mentor in Fr. Victor. He was very proficient in balancing his daytime hours in the classroom with nocturnal photo development in the darkroom. Later, recalling his career as a photographer/developer, Fr. Victor said, "That was pretty rough work; sometimes it meant taking 1500 pictures in six months and spending a few hours each night in the darkroom developing them."

Fr. Victor was an avid sports fan. He once commented that he always read the sports section of the paper first because he wanted to hear about the successes of people before reading of their failures.

Following his years of teaching in the academy, Fr. Victor received his first permanent pastoral assignment in 1982 when he became assistant pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster. In 1989, he was named pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Muenster which, at that time, was the largest parish staffed by the Benedictines of Subiaco Abbey.

Fr. Victor was recalled to Arkansas in 1994 to become pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish in Clarksville, where he directed the renovation and expansion of the church. Following this, he received his last pastoral assignment in 1999, namely pastor of St. Benedict Parish in Subiaco, a position that he held until 2005, when he was diagnosed with lung cancer and retired to the Abbey Health Center, where he was residing at the time of his death.

"I have never regretted making my religious vows," commented Fr. Victor. "Sometimes religious life is difficult, but there are always friends and classmates to support you and share your burdens. There's nothing quite like community living."

He is survived by sister-in-law Louise Gillespie of Salem, Oregon, and many nieces and nephews.



Fr. Victor Gillespie OSB

Sr. Dorothy Zimmerer, CDP 1910 - 2010

Sister Dorothy Theresa Zimmerer, 99, entered eternal life on Jan. 19, 2010 in McCullough Hall Nursing Center in San Antonio with her Hospice nurse by her side. Rosary was held on Friday, Jan. 22, with Wake and Mass of Resurrection on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m. in Annunciation Chapel at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center in San Antonio. A Rosary was offered in Lindsay

on Jan. 21 at St. Peter's Conrad Hall.

Sister Dorothy Theresa was born in Lindsay on Nov. 28, 1910, one of seven children born to Ignatius and Helena Kubis Zimmerer. Her baptismal name was Hedwig Victoria. Raised in Lindsay, Sister Dorothy Theresa answered God's call to become a Sister of Divine Providence, making her first profession of vows at 20 years of age.

Devoting her ministry to education, Sister Dorothy Theresa began her ministerial life at St. Edward's School in Texarkana, Arkansas in 1930. She taught at schools in Arkansas, California, Oklahoma, and Texas. Sister taught at St. Thomas in Pilot Point from 1952 to 1956 and in St. Peter's Parish in Lindsay from 1974 - 1998. Sister always looked forward to the annual "Homecoming," when the Sisters of Divine Providence would return home from their ministries to spend time praying, visiting, meeting, and enjoying recreations together.

One of Sister Dorothy Theresa's all time loves was tanning, and she always ensured that her nieces and nephews were gifted with her creations. Sister always expressed her hope in being able to live as long as her father, who was 104 when he passed away. In 1998 Sister Dorothy Theresa retired at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center.

Sister Dorothy Theresa enjoyed life, and up to the last few months of her life, she faithfully played SCRABBLE to help keep her mind alert. She loved her family immensely, and they, in turn, surrounded her with their love and care. She will be remembered for the twinkle in her eye and the joy in her life.

Survivors are her sisters-in-law Frances, Dorothy, and LuElla Zimmerer, numerous nieces and nephews, and



Sr. Dorothy Zimmerer

numerous grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and her brothers, Rev. Francis, Henry, Paul, Bruno, Vincent, and Leonard Zimmerer.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Sisters of Divine Providence, 515 S.W. 24th Street, San Antonio, TX 78207-4619.

Hans Huston 1947 - 2010



Hans Huston

Scouts. Hans was a member of the Dixie Primitive Baptist Church, just north of Whitesboro.

Survivors include his wife Mary Ann of Myra; daughters Krisynthia Huston of Allen and Robin Dickerson of Gainesville; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild; sisters Hoelga Seldnam of Dallas, Enge Kirby of Mesquite, Tilly Buchanan of Arlington, and Susan Mayer of California; and brother Rudie Hoess of the Middle East.

He was preceded in death by his parents Robert and Kietzentzia Huston.

Pallbearers were Bryan Bennett, Sam Smith, Jim Collins, M.J. Waincott, Jody Russell, Robbie Dickerson, and Toby Watson.

Funeral services for Hans Dieter Huston of Myra were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at the Myra Baptist Church with Elder Thomas McDonald officiating. Burial was in Reed Cemetery near Myra. Services were directed by McCoy Funeral Home of Muenster. Visitation was held Tuesday evening.

Mr. Huston died at the age of 62 at 3:35 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010 at Muenster Memorial Hospital.

Hans was born June 19, 1947 in Germany. The family moved to the United States when he was just a small child. He had begun school while in Germany and continued after coming to the U.S. He later became a U.S. citizen.

Hans lived in Denton for several years where he worked for about 20 years and retired from Denton State School. He then worked at the University of North Texas for six years. He married Mary Ann Sherrill on Sept. 18, 1998. They lived in Myra since marriage and Hans worked for Winstar Casino in Oklahoma for the past several years. He was a cook at all the above mentioned facilities.

Hans really enjoyed cooking. He also enjoyed playing games, selling goods at his flea markets, and greatly enjoyed working with the Boy

Weather definition

Advisory winter weather conditions are imminent or occurring. These conditions will cause significant inconvenience, and may become life threatening if safety tips are not followed.

Heavy snow - a snowfall which accumulates to a depth of at least four inches in 12 hours or six inches in 24 hours. *National Weather Service*

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Friends of Muenster
 FFA, 4-H, FCCLA, & Homemaking

Dear Friends and Neighbors:
 As the Youth Fair approaches (Feb. 24-27), it is time to be thinking of the youth of our community. The Friends of Muenster are once again asking for your support.

Last year, the Friends of Muenster paid \$16,050 out of the total \$22,400 that went to the youth of our community. We want to compensate every youngster, even those who do not make the sale, for their hard work. Last year there were 26 participants. This year there are 49. WOW!!! We need your help!

One hundred percent of what you donate goes directly to the premiums paid to the students. Your help with a donation of \$1000, \$500, \$250, or an amount of your choice, helps make the premiums possible.

Take the time this year to visit the Youth Fair and see first hand how your donation helps our youth. You may send your contribution to the address below or pass it to any of the names listed.

Thanks for your support!

Jack Flusche
 Damian Hellman
 Jeff McAden
 Gus Ashley
 Mary Dangelmayr

Darren Bindel
 John Dangelmayr
 Bert Walterscheid
 Ronnie Felderhoff
 Cathy Dangelmayr

Richard Dangelmayr
 Daniel Waneck
 Joni Sturm
 David Skeans
 Katherine Putnam

Friends of Muenster P.O. Box 691, Muenster, Texas 76252

2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR To list your event, call 759-4311 BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY!						
Sunday, February 14, 2010	Monday, February 15, 2010	Tuesday, February 16, 2010	Wednesday, February 17, 2010	Thursday, February 18, 2010	Friday, February 19, 2010	Saturday, February 20, 2010
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m. Valentine's Day	Presidents' Day - FLY FLAGS SHCS NO classes VFW Aux. Mtg. 7:30 pm	Library open 10am-6:30 pm MMH Board Mtg. 7 pm	Library open 1:30 -5:30 pm Religious Ed Mass 7 pm Kiwanis Mtg. noon, Center, speaker Leon Kleiment Ash Wednesday	Library open 10 am-6:30 pm Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m. Tri-County Farm & Ranch Symposium-NCTC 8:15-3	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m.	Library open 10:30 am-2:30 pm
Sunday, February 21, 2010	Monday, February 22, 2010	Tuesday, February 23, 2010	Wednesday, February 24, 2010	Thursday, February 25, 2010	Friday, February 26, 2010	Saturday, February 27, 2010
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m.		Library open 10am-6:30 pm	Library open 1:30 -5:30 pm Religious Ed Class 7 pm Kiwanis Mtg. noon, Center speaker Kathy Bauer	Library open 10 am-6:30 pm Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m.	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m.	Library open 10:30 am-2:30 pm
				Cooke County Youth Fair		Youth Fair Sale 1 p.m.

Sponsored by **M S B Muenster State Bank** Your Locally Owned Bank that has continuously served and supported the individuals, organizations, schools and businesses of Muenster and the surrounding area since 1923 - "Where others have their branches, we have our roots."

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Questions put forth by members of Commissioners Courts were answered by the NTGCD members.

Until NTGCD can generate funds for operation from sources such as permit fees, they will depend on the three counties to assist with finances. County attorneys are now studying the proposed funding agreements. They don't anticipate being able to bring in any money until some time in 2011. They said the NTGCD will need to have employees and an office some time in this fiscal year.

The group concluded by promising to make at least quarterly reports to each Commissioners Court involved.

Bryan Gann, interim director of Cooke County EMS, came before the Court requesting approval for funding the purchase of a new ambulance. He said that there are five ambulances in the fleet. The newest was purchased this year and is a 2009 model in excellent shape with 7,800 miles. The 2008 Ford ambulance has about 52,000 miles, is in

good shape, and still under warranty. The 2006 Ford F-150 has 124,000 miles on it and has recently had to be equipped with a new rear end, but has no major issues. The 2005 F-350 has 140,000 miles and has been causing expenses with repairs. It is a front-line ambulance in use daily. The back-up ambulance is a 2001 with over 200,000 miles. It has an estimated trade in value of \$3,500. It needs mechanical repairs estimated at \$6,258. The box portion needs repaired and would cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Gann said that he felt they should replace the 2001 model. "We don't want anybody to break down, especially with a patient in the back," he remarked. "That's kind of where we are with that ambulance. It rides really rough. You have to stop when you're driving this thing just to take vital signs because the ride is so rough."

Gann had a quote of \$120,300 for a new ambulance. A second ambulance had been requested at budget time, but not approved.

Instead, County Judge John Roane recalled that the money was put in the Contingency Fund with hopes that they could get through without the purchase.

After weighing the situation, Commissioners charged Gann to work with the purchasing department to find the cost of a new ambulance and the cost of repairing the two current ambulances. No action was taken.

Paula Lowe of the audit firm Patilla, Brown, and Hill, presented the annual financial report for Fiscal Year 2008. She said that the report says that they audited the company financial statements and found them in accordance with government auditing and general auditing standards. They rendered an unqualified opinion. "An unqualified opinion is the highest opinion that can be rendered, also known as a clean opinion," Lowe said.

Cooke County Emergency Management Coordinator Ray Fletcher explained a proposed interlocal agreement with North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council for a teleconferencing center. "The Texas Department of State Health Services approached us," said Fletcher. "They got a

grant to provide teleconferencing capabilities to regional area that cooperate with them. What it will include is the teleconferencing system itself that will be installed in the Emergency Operations Center out of the Justice Center that will be available for anybody who wants to do training through the teleconferencing, attend meetings or conventions through that, there's a lot of different ways. But, the primary focus is that it's there for disaster teleconferencing if we need it for that. The opportunity to use it for any official business, it will be there for us."

Fletcher noted that according to what he saw in the contract, it covered installation, hook-up, etc., and should not cost the County anything. Commissioners unanimously approved the agreement.

In other business, Commissioners Court:

- Approved 2010 Cooke County Investment Policy as submitted by County Treasurer Judy Hunter.
- Approved interlocal agreement with Rosston Volunteer Fire Dept.
- Approved electronic voting machine rental service agreement with the City of Gainesville for the May 2010 election.

Lindsay VFD geared up for annual Truck Dance

By Janet Felderhoff

Lindsay's Volunteer Fire Department stands 23 members strong serving the fire fighting and first response need of the Lindsay area, and, when needed, other parts of Cooke County and Saint Jo. LVFD responds to between 75 and 100 calls per year, including medical calls. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Department's needs have outgrown the current fire station and they are hoping to earn sufficient funds to build a new fire station. They also need new personal protective gear including coats and boots.

Lindsay Fire Chief Adam Arendt noted that they applied for a grant for a new fire truck, but were turned down because their fire station is too small to accommodate the larger new fire trucks. Thus the quest for a new home for their current fire fighting equipment and the new that will be needed.

For the ninth year, they are sponsoring their Truck Dance fundraiser. It will be this Saturday, Feb. 13 in the Lindsay Centennial Hall with dinner from 6 - 8 p.m. and dance until 11 p.m. Highlight of the evening will be a drawing for a 2010 F-150 truck donated by Klement Ford of Muenster at their cost. The winner is responsible for paying taxes, title, and license. Many other prizes will be awarded.

Tickets sales are limited. The cost is \$100 per couple and a few are still available. If interested in buying a ticket or making a donation, contact Adam Arendt (940)727-8336, Clifford Lutkenhaus (940)641-0564, Lambert Hess (940)736-4884, Marcus Dennis 736-1303, Tanner Henry (817)913-4572, Jeff Arendt 736-0235, Jeff Neu 736-0250, Nick Schroeder (940)768-8929, Matt Dieter, (940)634-7363, or Mitch Dieter 634-7376.

False history gets made all day, any day, the truth of the news is never on the news.

Adrienne Rich

CLERK

.....continued from pg. 1

our vital records. When we have a lot of customers and we do certified copies, we must walk around the customer and it seems to be a little crowded, but we make do with our limited space. Our work area in general is not large enough to accommodate the customer plus the researcher trying to make copies. But we've been here a year now and we are adapting.

Gilmer - I would start right out front with customer service. We must give our citizens the best service possible when they enter our office.

We must be open during the lunch hour when citizens need us most. There is no excuse for being closed during regular business hours. Citizens already have a tough time finding our new locations, they should not have to wait for us to be open as well.

We must preserve and protect our priceless and irreplaceable records. We cannot continue to allow unsupervised access to our vaults. Some of our records are over 100 years old, what happens when they are stolen or destroyed? We must find a solution to this problem.

I suggest that we contract with one of several companies that already have our records scanned into a searchable system. We can simply pay a monthly or yearly fee and set up county surplus computers so that records can be accessed at the touch of a button. This will cost taxpayers very little money.

I do not believe we need to spend over \$262,000 on a new computer and scanning system. Why spend a quarter of a million dollars to do what has already been done?

Commissioners' Court minutes will be posted on our website so that they are more easily accessible to the public. All postings made in our office will be placed on the website as well.

The County Clerk oversees elections for the County. Do you think they run smoothly? If not, what changes would you like to see to make them more efficient?

Lawson - No, not always, there are some unforeseen circumstances that arise, however, we handle these situations to the best of our ability. We have all of our machines, computers, ballot scanner, HAVA machines, ballot boxes stored in the old county jail. We have had to make various accommodations to train judges, and provide supply pick up through the jail. Our judges are very understanding about our situation.

Gilmer - No, our elections do not run smoothly. As Clerk I will administer changes that will allow elections to run much more smoothly and efficiently.

As County Clerk I will fully understand and implement any and all laws governing elections. I will make certain that every member of my staff is fully trained and prepared to use our electronic voting equipment including voting machines, counters, and the \$45,000 in ballot printing equipment that we currently have in storage. We have 100,000 ballots sitting in storage, why are we paying for ballots when we could be printing them?

I would also be certain that each polling place is provided with the correct number of ballots, so that our Sheriff's Department isn't running all over the County on election day delivering ballots when they should be patrolling our streets.

The State gives the County money for archiving old records. What is being done with that, and do you think more should be done?

Lawson - This is a misconception because the State of Texas does not give the County money to archive old records. All of this money is collected as real property records are filed. All of the records that have been restored and kept for security was implemented several years ago. I was able to continue where this was left off and now I'm able to scan records and they can be retrieved on work stations here in our office. This work is done as Commissioners Court approves it to be done. Plans are in place to continue with the digitizing of all records and providing more public work stations.

Gilmer - The State of Texas does not give us money for archiving records. There are actually two separate fees charged, one is the Archive Fee and the other is the Records Preservation Fee. The money actually comes from fees collected through the filing of civil cases and the payment of court fines and fees. The Clerk is required by Texas Law to file a plan of action for the use of this money with the Commissioners' Court prior to spending the funds. This has never been done and the money is all but gone. At last check, very little money remains in the County Clerk's funds.

Is the County Clerk's office sufficiently dealing with the influx of land lease researchers who are seeking names of property owners since the success with Barnett Shale wells, and do you have suggestions in that area?

Lawson - Yes, the County Clerk's office has moved records to the storage facility at the old jail and we have provided work space for the public to work. Our intention is to have two more public terminals to ease the flow of looking up the records, however this request was denied until further money is available in the budget. In order to have records available on the internet for our researchers to view requires money to be allocated and at this time that is simply not available.

Gilmer - As I stated before, I believe that an online system would protect and preserve those records. I think with very little cost we can set up a system to allow researchers to view our records and never actually touch the original documents. The records are searchable, printable, and can be emailed. Wasting taxpayer dollars is never the answer. We can't throw money at a problem and hope it will go away. We have to find real solutions that benefit the taxpayers and the researchers.

Tuesday, March 2 is the day of the Primary Election. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Early voting begins on Tuesday, Feb. 16 and ends at 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26.

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LIFESTYLE

Hatten, Fisher pledge vows at Hidden Oak Ranch



Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Ray Fisher ... 'nee Lisa Marie Hatten ...

Lisa Marie Hatten and Bobby Ray Fisher were united in marriage on Sept. 5, 2009 at six o'clock in the evening at Hidden Oak Ranch in Gainesville. Jake Freeman officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Clifford and Teresa Hatten of Walnut Bend. She is the granddaughter of Loveta Reasor and the late Roy Hatten. The groom is the son of Herbie and Sue Fisher of Muenster and Debra Fisher of Muenster. He is the grandson of Dorothy Fisher and the late Paul Fisher and the late Denton and Marie Williams.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents. She and her father arrived at the ceremony in a horse-drawn carriage. The bride wore an Alfred Angelo ivory, floor-length, strapless gown with an ivory sash that tied in a bow under the bodice. She carried a bouquet composed of red and yellow gerber daisies accented with hypericum berries and raffeta.

Under a wooden pergola decorated with red and yellow flowers, ivory tulle, and greenery is where the couple was married. It was surrounded by oak trees adorned with ivory tulle bows. Red and yellow rose petals covered the aisle.

Music for the ceremony included various Texas country music as guests were seated. "Freeze Frame Time" by Brandon Rhyder played as the bridal party walked down the aisle. "Exactly Who I Am" by Wade Bowen was played as the bride was escorted down the aisle by her father.

Bridesmaids all arrived by a horse-drawn carriage and then were escorted down the aisle by the groomsmen. Maid of honor was Chasity Forsen, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Sarah Hatten, sister-in-law of the bride, Jill Hatten, cousin

of the bride, and Lyndsie Eggenburg, Rachelle Wimmer, and Brenda Green, all friends of the bride. They wore Alfred Angelo red teal-length, strapless chiffon dresses with a yellow sash that tied in a bow under the bodice. They carried bouquets of red and yellow gerber daisies accented with hypericum berries and raffeta. All of the bridal party flowers were made by Barbara Jones, bride's friend.

Jaycee Hatten of Winter-set, Iowa, niece of the bride, served as flower girl. Alyssa Huchton of Muenster, niece of the groom, was bell girl.

Jake Fisher, son of the bride and groom, was the ring bearer. He carried a satin ivory pillow adorned with a single red gerber daisy. He wore a white, button up shirt with cinch jeans, his cowboy belt and cowboy boots. His boutonniere was a single yellow gerber daisy. He held his father's hand as he walked down the aisle.

The groom, groomsmen, and ushers wore long-sleeved button up, white cinch shirts with Circle S khaki pants with brown belts and brown boots. The groom wore a single red gerber daisy boutonniere. Groomsmen and ushers each wore a single yellow gerber daisy boutonniere. Chisam Cain, friend of the

groom, served as best man. Groomsmen were Cliff Hatten, brother of the bride, Casey Forsen, brother-in-law of the bride, and Paul Swirczynski, Tye Foster, and Jon Reed, all friends of the groom. Steven Fisher, groom's brother, and groom's friends Josh Freeman, Marcus Dennis, and Toby Walterscheid ushered guests.

RECEPTION

Following the ceremony, a fajita dinner catered by Rohmer's Restaurant and a dance were held at the outdoor riding arena at Hidden Oak Ranch. The bride and groom arrived at the reception by horse-drawn carriage. Music for the evening was provided by Bois D Arcs.

The bride's cake was a two-tiered butter cream confection adorned with red and yellow gerber daisies and raffeta draped throughout.

For the groom's cake, a two-tiered chocolate butter cream cake was in the shape of a Harley Davidson emblem. It was topped with chocolate-covered strawberries.

Angela Vanbeber, sister of the bride, and Barbara Jones, friend of the bride, cut and served the cake.

After a honeymoon trip to Puerto Morales, Mexico, the couple resides in Muenster.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church's Confirmation Class of 2010 with Bishop Kevin Vann.

Courtesy photo

32 receive Confirmation

Bishop Kevin Vann conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on 32 youth on Saturday, Jan. 30, at a 10 a.m. Mass. Also present were Father Ken Robinson, Deacon Don Werner, and the Knights of Columbus.

Those confirmed were Catherine Aston, Dillon Bayer, Brianna Bindel, Ashley Cowan, Victoria Endres, Ryan Felderhoff, Aaron Grewing, Jordan Henscheid, Michelle Henscheid, Hayley

Hess, Matthew Hesse, Megan Hesse, Rebekah Hesse, Sydney Hoedebeck, Madison Hofbauer, Brianna Klement, Taylor Klement, Devon Kubis, Jason Luke, Kelsey Pagel, Shane Presnall, Taylor Reiter, Sam Riney, Tanner Silmon, Alley Trubebach, Lacey Trubebach, Sarah Strother, Alexander Turner, Phillip Vogel, Chad Walterscheid, Garrett Walterscheid, and Calvin Wimmer.

Were there no God, we would be in this glorious world with grateful hearts and no one to thank.

Christina Rosetti

DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO

Feb. 9, 1945

New water well to be drilled for Muenster; west site will be in block 39, west of Fisher's Market. Sacred Heart Church is getting a new metal roof. New Arrivals: Rosalie to the Johnny Mosters; LaChrista to Hugo and Gladys Lutkenhaus. Joe Fisher, Sr. and Henry Fette were on the sick list this week.

50 YEARS AGO

Feb. 12, 1960

Mrs. Willard Hartman is new Homemaking teacher at Muenster High School. Obituary: Mrs. Adam Bayer, 74. New Arrivals: Donald to Joe and Theresa Grewing; Brenda to Ray and Angie Barnhill; Kenny to Al and Sis Felderhoff; Gary to Ur-

ban and Viola Rohmer; Jackie to the Bob Reiters. Mrs. Joe Moster is new company nurse at National Supply Co. Wedding: Stella Bengfort and Anton Hess.

25 YEARS AGO

Feb. 8, 1985

Snow and ice play havoc in area; City drivers slide into mishaps. Obituary: Sr. Frances Helen Mosser, 86. New Arrivals: Mandy to Ricky and Sherry Wimmer; Amelia to Mary Lou and Harry Reinwald; Tyler to Terry and Dianna Walterscheid; Joseph to David and Sharon Arendt. Frank Felderhoff is the new president of the Muenster Public Library Board. Tigarettes earn State tourney playoff berth. Jan Cain gets Oldsmobile from Mary Kay.

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BAPTISM

Hellinger

On Sunday, Jan. 17 after 12:15 Mass, Cecilia Clare Hellinger received the Sacrament of Baptism by Deacon Randy Engel in St. Joseph Church in Richardson. Cecilia is the daughter of Garret and Julia Hellinger of Richardson. Cecilia's Godparents are uncle and aunt Douglas and Vickie Fleitman.

Cecilia wore the traditional Flusche christening gown. The gown, made by her great-grandmother Anna Loerwald, was first worn by her maternal great-grandmother Mrs. Cecilia Flusche Hermes and then worn by her mother, Julia Fleitman. Cecilia also wore the gold cross and chain that was worn by her mother and was a gift of Julia's Godmother Marcella Zimmerman.

Cecilia's parents celebrated her baptism with a lunch following the ceremony. The table centerpiece was a deco-



Cecilia Hellinger

rated christening cake. Attending the ceremony and celebration were grandparents John David and Patsy Fleitman and James and Clara Hellinger, and uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends of the family.

St. Paul's to hold Annual Pancake Supper on Feb. 16

St. Paul's Church in Gainesville is sponsoring their Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, Feb. 16. The meal is \$5 per person and will be served in St. Paul's Parish Hall on Jefferson Street from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are available from members of St. Paul's or at the door.

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For additional information, or to schedule an appointment, contact Bekki Jones, Speech Language Pathologist at Muenster Memorial Hospital • 940-759-6198

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Cooke County Electric employees and their families participated in a hike on Storybook Mountain. Courtesy photo

Hike enhances CCE employee health

On Saturday, Feb. 6, Cooke County Electric's employees traveled to the Bartush Land & Cattle Company's ranch for a guided hike up Storybook Mountain. The outing was planned as part of the wellness program that is in place for the employees of the Cooperative, along with their spouses and children.

Twenty-five eager participants gathered at the log cabin for a healthy snack prior to the hike. John D. and Bob Bartush led the

group on the trek. Following the hike, lunch of grilled burgers and hot dogs, along with all the trimmings, was served.

Employees and guests participating included: Neil, Kaitlyn, and Sam Hesse; Andrew Nasr; Shane and Karen Wiley; Herbie Fette; John D. and Malony Bartush; Danny and Janet Voth; Brad and Stephanie Schilling; Adam Taylor; Lauren Creed; Carl, Diane, Delana, Michelle, and Brandon Sicking; and

Troy, Tina, Josh, and Devon Lutkenhaus.

In the ongoing effort to keep health insurance premiums as low as possible, Cooke County Electric encourages health and fitness among the employees. A fitness center is available to all employees and their eligible dependents.

Plans are already being made for upcoming outings to promote a healthy lifestyle and exercise program for the employees.

KMB learns positives of planting native

Katie Grassman of Katie's Nursery and Texas Perennials and Bedding Plants captured the attention of Keep Muenster Beautiful (KMB) members at the monthly meeting held Monday, Feb. 8 in the Muenster Library. Katie spoke of various native Texas plants that are drought and heat tolerant and thrive in this area. They survive without copious amounts of water during parching Texas summers.

Katie will be giving a seminar titled Texas Wildscapes Backyard on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Cooke County Electric Cop. This will teach a different way to landscape using Texas native plants. For those wishing to acquire certification as a Texas Wildscape Backyard, she will show which plants have been chosen and the preferred plants and quantities to acquire this certification.

North Texas Organics and Wormery will also be present.

This event is free and all are welcome attend, she said.

KMB members learned

that the Governor's Community Achievement Award application was completed and mailed in for the 2009 contest.

Options for Muenster's recycling program, now in jeopardy of being suspended, were discussed. KMB has been charged with bringing possible solutions to the

Muenster City Council.

Ordering new KMB tee shirts and bags for the One Bag At A Time project was addressed. Also discussed were two upcoming projects for this year.

A speaker is being sought for the March meeting and will be announced near to the meeting date.



Katie Grassman, left, is welcomed as guest speaker by KMB President Elaine Schilling. Courtesy photo



At the 2010 Blue and Gold, five Webelos II from Muenster Pack 664 received the highest rank in Cub Scouts, the Arrow of Light. Pictured are, from left, Devin Sicking, Bennigan McCoy, Nick Turner, Treston Lutkenhaus, and Tyler Walterscheid. Courtesy photo



Muenster Cub Scout Pack 664 was hugely successful in this year's "Scouting for Food." Citizens of Muenster stepped up in their fight against hunger. Area food banks will benefit from everyone's generosity, modeling to the Scouts good will towards all. Pictured are, from left, front - Caleb English, Preston Smith, Rafael Rondon, Nolan Vogel, Matthew Klement, Cole Hess, Jacob Walterscheid, Keith Bezner, Koby Hogan, Jared Walterscheid, Colby Endres, Anthony Rodriguez; middle - Stetson McGrew, Owen Tolar, William English, Brenton Wilson, Julian Hesse; back - Stone Lamar, Max Herr, Sam Hesse, Tyler Walterscheid, Andrew Stoffels, Bennigan McCoy, Nick Turner, Devin Sicking, Treston Lutkenhaus, Ian Kintz, Jaden Walterscheid, Michael McCoy, Collin Knabe, Shane Sicking. Courtesy photo

Fear can hold you prisoner, hope can set you free. Unknown

AREA EVENTS

Gainesville Christian Women Connection

Gainesville Christian Women Connection will hold its February luncheon meeting on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 401 W. Garnett, Gainesville. The event time is 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the catered lunch is \$10. For reservations, call Nancy at (940) 612-2811 by Monday, Feb. 22.

The special feature will be "Filly Kisses," a new gift shop in the square downtown Gainesville. "Filly Kisses" is a gift shop that has western gifts and fashions. Maggie Sykes will be the special musical guest. The keynote speaker Connie Tolbert will be speaking on "You're Not Alone!" She is a successful businesswoman and a moth-

Cooke County Diabetes Support Group

There will be a meeting of the Cooke County Diabetes Support Group on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. in the North Texas Medical Center Classrooms. Kidney Disease: A complication of Diabetes will be presented and a tour given of The Dialysis Cottage by Trish White, RN, CNN, administrator and Donald Sheffield, WTS, chief operations officer.

Individuals with diabetes and family members are encouraged to attend this FREE program. For more information call 940.759.4296.

Hope is a waking dream. Aristotle

NEW ARRIVAL

Nasche

Matthew and Tanda Nasche of Muenster announce with joy the birth of their son Arlo Benedict on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2009 at 7:08 a.m. Arlo was born in Denton Presbyterian weighing 4 lb. 13 oz. and measuring 18 inches in length. Grandparents are LaVerna Nasche and the late Angelo Nasche and Cheryl and Danny Word. Great-grandparents are Mary and Gene Word, the late Gary and Caroline Hess, and the late James Vincent and Carmella Patella Nasche.



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SCHOOL

Cross-Ex Debate team qualifies for State UIL Meet in Austin



State-bound Cross Examination Debate competitors Hannah Weger, left, and Brooke Walterscheid. MISD photo

Hannah Weger and Brooke Walterscheid of Muenster ISD have qualified for the 2009-10 University Interscholastic League State Cross-Examination Debate Meet to be held March 15 and 16 at The University of Texas at Austin.

The students qualified for the State meet by placing second at the UIL Cross-Examination District Meet held in Gainesville at First Baptist on Monday, Feb. 1.

The District round robin competition included five rounds, in which Hannah and Brooke won four and lost one. The loss was to Wolfe City. At the end of the competition, there was a three-way tie. Muenster took second place on speaker points. Lindsay earned first place and Wolfe City placed third.

The first two places attend State competition.

Also competing at District were Austin Hennigan and Payton Sanders, who earned sixth place.

"UIL debate competition develops skills in our students that directly prepare them for real world situations by challenging their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities," said Jana Riggins, UIL Debate director. "This year's cross-examination debate topic required students to research extensively the issue of poverty."

UIL academic contests range from social studies to accounting, and from computer science to poetry interpretation. Of the 2.2 million students who participated in UIL activities last year,

627,000 competed in one or more of the 23 general academic contests.

During a typical academic year, TILF will disperse more than \$1 million to more than 600 students attending colleges and universities throughout Texas.

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For more information, contact Lisa Walterscheid, debate coach, or the UIL at (512) 471-5883.

LUNCH MENUS

WEEK OF FEB. 15 - 19 SACRED HEART

Mon. - No School.

Tues. - Chicken spaghetti, green beans, green salad, strawberries/bananas, bread.

Wed. - Tuna casserole, green peas, green salad, apricots, bread.

Thurs. - Salisbury steak, potatoes, gravy, carrots, mixed fruit, bread.

Fri. - Cheese pizza, tomato soup, peaches, wheat crackers.

MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Corn dogs, oven baked French fries, pinto beans, peach cups, cake.

Tues. - Chicken fried steak, creamed potatoes w/ gravy, green beans, strawberry cups, hot rolls.

Wed. - Tuna sandwich, chips, carrots, apples, cookies.

Thurs. - Sausage and kraut, creamed potatoes w/ gravy, corn, pears, hot rolls.

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

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Soft tacos w/trimmings, refried beans, Spanish rice, peach cobbler.

Tues. - Italian meatball sub sandwich w/mozzarella, potato chips, pickle wedges, mixed fruit.

Wed. - Baked potatoes w/cheese, lettuce salad, fresh apples w/peanut butter.

Thurs. - Chicken on a bun w/trimmings, tator tots, ice cream.

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

ERA ISD

Mon. - BBQ sandwich, potato wedges, ranch style beans, fruit mix, sugar cookie.

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

Wed. - Pepperoni or cheese pizza, corn, pineapple, tossed salad.

Thurs. - Corn dogs, baked beans, broccoli, pears, chocolate chip cookie.

Fri. - Chicken spaghetti or fish sticks, green beans, breadstick, peaches, ice cream.



Muenster FCCLA students collecting money for Haiti earthquake victims included, from left, Kaly Dangelmayr, Lana Heers, Chloe Schneider, Allison Pagel, Andi Felderhoff, Kelsie Pagel, Paige Hennigan, and Shelby Simpson. MISD photo

Change for Haiti

The Muenster ISD Apparel Class organized a collection as an FCCLA project for the victims of Haiti. Every morning, the students of the class went to each class and collected pocket change from all the students and faculty. This collection continued for a week and was very successful. They collected \$445.76 and all proceeds will go to the Red Cross.

The only way to have a friend is to be one.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Muenster ISD Spelling Bee winner Kimber Walterscheid, at left, and runner-up Morgan Eldridge. Kimber will compete in the County competition on Feb. 16 in the Muenster ISD Cafetorium at 2:30 p.m. See last week's paper for story. MISD photo

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SPORTS

Tigerettes are Bi-District Champions; Tigers end season

Tuesday night, the Sacred Heart varsity basketball teams, both undefeated District Champions, hosted two teams from Longview in the Bi-District round of the TAPPS State Basketball Playoffs. The Tigerettes took an easy win, but the Tigers' outcome ended the season for the Sacred Heart boys.

"This was tough loss, as my nine seniors put so much into this season," commented Coach Jon LeBrasseur on the Tigers' loss to Longview Trinity. "I am very proud with how hard they played tonight and throughout the year. I feel for them. We got beat by a great team that was a little better than we were tonight."

The game ended with a 54-51 score. Kevin Kulle led

the Tigers with 22 points, 17 rebounds, and four steals. John Krawietz added 18 points, Patrick Mojica 5, Ian Barnhill 4 points and five assists, and Garrett Berend 2.

"We had a great season with the best mark in school history, 21-3," added Coach Jon. "It just did not work out tonight."

SH 17 14 10 10 51
LT 13 19 10 12 54

The Tigerettes earned the Bi-District Championship with a 55-17 win over Longview Heritage. "Our defense continues to improve and I was pleased with how we hit the offensive board as we pulled in 26 offensive rebounds," noted Coach LeBrasseur. "There is much pressure on the first round and I was impressed with how our

youngsters held up."

Kristin LeBrasseur led the Tigerettes with 20 points and 11 steals. Sydney Hoedebeck added 10, Kelsey Reeves 9, Karli Anderle 8 points with six assists, Taylor Reiter 4, and 2 apiece by Kaitlin Hesse and Mikaela Bartush. Bartush also had 10 rebounds.

SH 16 21 14 4 55
LH 7 2 2 6 17

Playoffs

The Tigerettes will compete in their first playoff game against Amarillo Arbor on Saturday, February 13 at Vernon ISD. Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Lutkenhaus to play at Southeastern



Muenster Hornet Jeremy Lutkenhaus signed last week for a five year scholarship to play football at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Lutkenhaus, shown with his parents Bobby and Linda, plans on majoring in education/coaching. Honors he received this past season include 2nd Team All-State Defensive Lineman, District Defensive MVP, 1st Team District Offensive Lineman, and Hornet award - Offensive Lineman of the Year. **MISD photo**

Lady Hornets playoff bound - Muenster boys buzzing for a slot

The Lady Hornets picked up their ninth District victory last Friday in Petrolia with a 65-43 win over the Lady Pirates.

Helping lead the Lady Hornets to victory was Lana Heers, scoring 16 points. Shaina Felderhoff added 12, with Lia Heers, Taylor Klement, and Jackie Klement each scoring 9. Allison Pagel dropped in 5, Demi Koelzer 3, and Emily Hellman 2.

M 15 29 14 7 65
P 12 13 7 11 43

Tuesday night, the Lady Hornets were awarded the District Championship trophy after their final District game, a 57-34 victory over Archer City. Muenster dominated the 1st half before slowing the pace in the 2nd. Felderhoff was high scorer with 20 points. T. Klement added 13, Lia Heers 8, Koelzer 6, Lana Heers 5,

J. Klement 3, and 1 each by Leaha Smith and Pagel.

M 14 21 10 12 57
AC 9 7 9 9 34

The Lady Hornets have a record of 24-6, 10-0.

The Hornets were challenged by the Wildcats of Archer City, who handed Muenster a 64-41 loss. The Hornets are still in the running for 3rd place. Jason Luke and Eric Hellman led the scoring for the Hornets with 13 and 11 points. Garrett Walterscheid added 7, Scott Porter 5, Tyler Anderle 4, and Josiah Flaming 1.

M 7 9 6 19 41
AC 13 13 18 20 64

Playoff games - The Lady Hornets received a Bi-District bye and will play a practice game at Burkburnett Saturday, Feb. 13 at 5 p.m.

Area playoff will be **Friday, Feb. 19** in Jacksboro vs. Albany or Ranger. Game time will be 7 or 7:30 p.m.



Ian Barnhill (14) steals the ball from a Trinity player in the Tigers' Bi-District loss Tuesday night. **Janie Hartman photo**

District final secures playoff home court

The Sacred Heart Tigers had already clinched the District Championship, but the Tigerettes' victory over Abilene Christian last Friday captured the girls District Championship and secured home courts for the first round of the playoffs (see related story).

The Tigerettes remained undefeated in District (6-0) with a 58-50 win over the visitors from Abilene. "Both teams played well," noted Sacred Heart Coach Jon LeBrasseur. "The difference was that we made eight

more free shots."

Kristin LeBrasseur led the Tigerettes with 19 points, six assists, and eight steals. Karli Anderle added 18 points, pulling down 12 rebounds. Rounding out the scoring were Kelsey Reeves 9, Sydney Hoedebeck 7, and Kaitlin Hesse 5.

SH 12 22 9 15 58
AC 17 11 6 16 50

The Tigers allowed Abilene to score 66 points in their first meeting of the season, the highest by any opponent. But last Friday, the Sacred Heart varsity team played

great defense and defeated their visitors 66-29 to end District play 8-0.

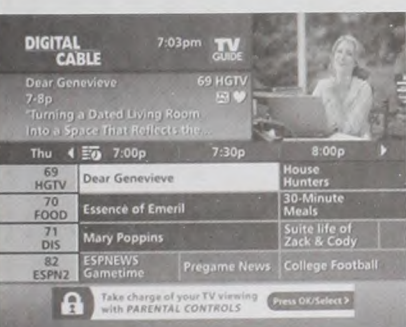
All 10 Tigers scored in the game, led by Kevin Kulle's 28 points. Greyson Evans added 10, Kyle Knabe 8, Ian Barnhill and John Krawietz 4 apiece, Garrett Berend, and Patrick Mojica 3 each, and 2 points each by Josh Biffle, JaeKook Im, and Matt Hesse. Knabe also pulled down seven rebounds, and Mojica took eight steals.

SH 16 17 19 14 66
AC 9 5 8 7 29



Lady Hornet Bianca Velasquez fights for the ball in Muenster's win over Petrolia last week. **Deanna Hellman photo**

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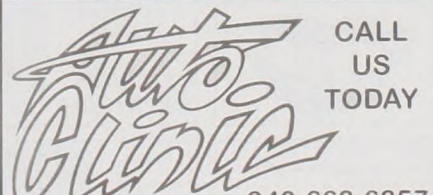
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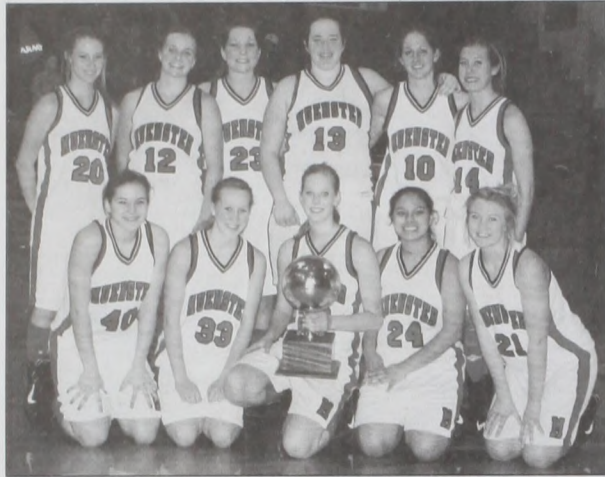
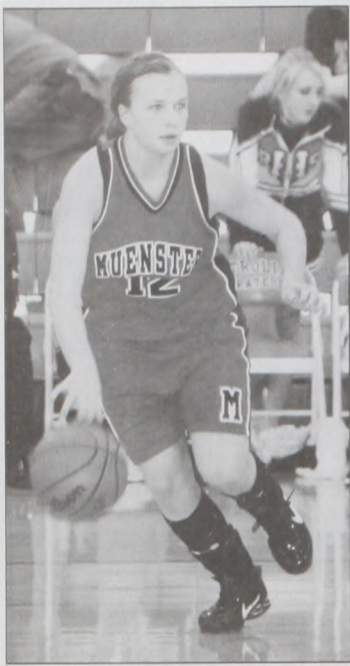
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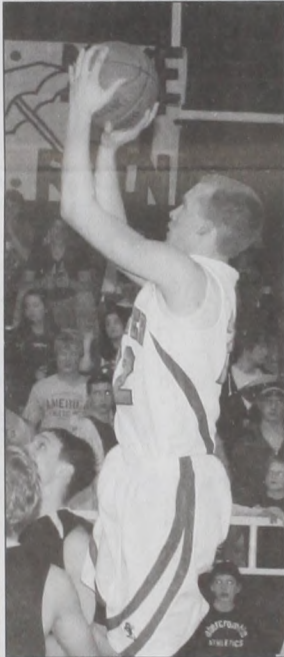


Photos by Janie Hartman

Hornets vs Archer City

Lady Hornets vs Petrolia

Photos by Deanna Hellman



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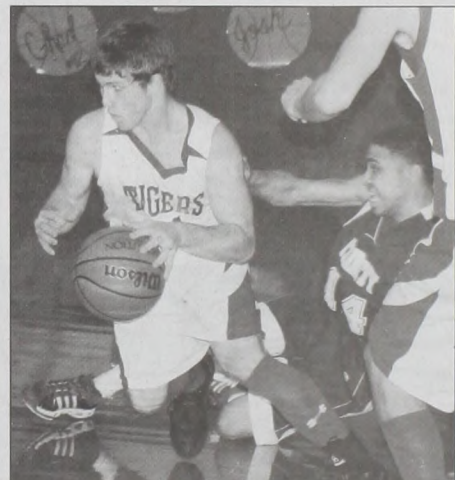
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Photos by Janie Hartman



Sacred Heart playoff action



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District KC Free Throw winners Courtesy photo

Winners named in KC District Free Throw Championship

Ten area "sharp-shooters" were named winners in the annual District Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Championships held last Sunday, Feb. 7 at Muenster High School. Thirty boys and girls ages 10 to 14 participated in the contest in which scores were based on the number of baskets

made out of 25 shots. These District Champions are now eligible to compete at the Regional contest to be held on Saturday, Feb. 13 at UNT in Denton. District Champions, their age division, and shots made were as follows: **Age 10** - Elizabeth Green (Gainesville) 19 and Roy Endres (Muenster)

17; **Age 11** - Brenna Ballard (Lake Kiowa) 13 and Andy Dieter (Lindsay) 20; **Age 12** - Sydney Ott (Lindsay) 18 and Brandon Worth (Gainesville) 18; **Age 13** - Karleigh Reeves (Muenster) 21 and Troy Robertson (Gainesville) 23; **Age 14** - Payton Sanders (Muenster) 20 and Jonathan Mendez (Gainesville) 24.

Lindsay splits District wins

The Lady Knights dropped a close game to Windthorst last Friday while the Knights gained a victory over the Trojans.

The Lindsay girls came up short 55-51 in their District loss. Cammi Neu led the team with 15 points. Katie Dieter added 10, Kristin Martin and Jessica Block 7 each, Allison Metzler 6, Bethani Eberhart 4, and Katie Nortman 2.

Dax Fleitman and Colton Hermes led the Knights on the scoreboard with 23 and 20 points in their 62-45 win over Windthorst. Thomas Rohmer added 13, with Jordan Lane, Justin Anderle, and Madison Parkhill each adding 2.

The Lady Knights finished their season Tuesday with a victory over Petrolia, 57-51. The Lindsay girls were 12-14 overall and 3-7 in District.

"Even though the season did not go the way we had hoped, I am very proud of

these young ladies," noted Coach Don Neu. "Their attitude and work ethic has been very good."

Neu led the Lady Knights with 16 points. Block and

Eberhart each added 14, Martin 8, Metzler 3, and Dieter 2.

The Knights put the points on the boards Tuesday in their battle with the Pirates, but when the last second was off the overtime clock, the Knights came up short 71-70.

Hermes and Fleitman led the scoring for Lindsay with 27 and 22 points. Rohmer added 15, Garrett Yancey 3, Anderle 2, and Parkhill 1.

The Knights' basketball game for Tuesday has been changed to Monday, Feb. 17, starting at 5 p.m. with the JV, followed by varsity.



Sivells Bend

The Cubs first game of the tournament was played on Thursday. After a 24-2 1st quarter, Sacred Heart cruised to a 52-5 victory over Sivells Bend. Hayden Schilling led all scorers with 12 points. Kason Reeves and Brady Endres each added 10, while Darian Peters and Grant Springer added 7 apiece. Kevin Flusche scored 4 points, and Daniel Hesse and Isaac Walterscheid 2 each.

Sacred Heart vs Toga
In the Championship round, the Lady Cubs faced the team from Toga. A strong 2nd quarter lifted Sacred Heart to an 18-9 halftime lead on their way to a 33-14 win. Walterscheid led the point making with 10. Reeves added 8, Reiter 7, Kylie Hess 6, and Mikayla Fleitman 2.

Sacred Heart vs Toga
The Cubs played some close quarters, but could not pull ahead, falling 33-33 to Toga. Reeves led Sacred Heart's scoring 14 points. Tavi Saldana added 11, Walterscheid and Endres 3 each, and Flusche 2.

Sacred Heart vs Toga
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Knights and Trojans went to battle last week in Windthorst. Above, Lady Knight Bethani Eberhart (10) goes in toward the basket. At left - Justin Anderle (23) slides in two points.

Jay Anderle photos

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL ACTION

Muenster vs Petrolia

The JV Lady Hornets brought home a 35-22 win over Petrolia last Friday night. Andi Felderhoff was the leading point maker for Muenster with 11. Shelby Dangelmayr added 6, Paige Hennigan 5, Kalyn Dangelmayr, Lauren Rohmer, and Paige Herr 4 each, and Michelle Sicking 1.

M	9	9	7	10	35
P	2	8	5	7	22

The JV Hornets were also victorious over Petrolia, winning the game 42-37. Blake Grewing led the scoring with 15 points. Trevor Hess added 9, Hunter Klement 7, Austin Hennigan and Landon Presnall each added 4, and JJ Horsman 3. Muenster hit 57% of their free throws.

M	4	14	8	16	42
P	8	10	12	7	37

Lindsay vs Windthorst

A 29-28 victory over Windthorst last Friday kept the JV Lady Knights unbeaten in the second half of District play. Lucinda Krahl led the scoring

with 13 points. Taylor Atkins added 8, Katie Arendt 7, and Mandy Hess 1.

The Knights pulled out a 38-31 win over the young Trojans. Dawson Holt put 13 points on the board. Dean Fleitman added 8, Jace Wann 6, Cade Hess and Connor Fuhrmann 4 each, and Chisam Reiter 3.

Muenster vs Archer City

The Muenster Hornets improved their record to 12-8, 5-2 Tuesday night with a 48-32 win over Archer City. A powerful 2nd period boosted Muenster's lead, never looking back. Grewing was high scorer for the Hornets with 15 points. Andy Flusche added 12, Klement 7, Hess 6, Presnall 4, and 2 each by Hennigan and Corey Richey. Muenster hit 59% of their free throws and 5e 3s.

M	9	18	11	10	48
AC	6	5	5	16	32

The Lady Hornets dominated the Pirate girls from Petrolia, sinking the visitors 47-14. Ten Muenster girls scored points in

the Lady Hornets' final game of the season. Andi Felderhoff and Lauren Rohmer each scored 8. Paige Herr and Amber Walterscheid both added 6, with Shelby Dangelmayr, Paige Hennigan, and Brooke Walterscheid getting 4 each. Olivia Haverkamp scored 3, and Michelle Sicking and Kalyn Dangelmayr 2 apiece.

M	18	11	10	8	47
AC	2	5	5	2	14

Lindsay vs Petrolia

The JV Lindsay Lady Knights claimed the District Championship, ending the season Tuesday with a 43-28 victory over Petrolia. Jordan Fleitman led Lindsay in scoring with 16 points. Katie Arendt added 11 and Taylor Atkins 10. Lucinda Krahl scored 3, Emily Ambuehl 2, and Mandy Hess 1.

The JV Knights pulled out a 41-40 District win over Petrolia Tuesday. Fleitman and Holt led the scoring with 16 and 15 points. Fuhrmann and Reiter each added 3 and Cade Hess 2.

JUNIOR HIGH DISTRICT TOURNAMENT ACTION

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT 7TH GRADE

Muenster vs Lindsay

The Lindsay White team boys defeated the Muenster "B" team 26-22 in round one of the tournament, eliminating the young Stingers with a 4-1 District record.

Scoring for Muenster were Trey Anderle 7, Grant Simpson and Austin Creswell 5 apiece, Dalton Blessingame 3, and Brandon Hennigan 2.

Lindsay scorers were Justin Ott 11, Ryan Hoepfner 7, Mason Morrow 6, and Kedrick Boaz 2.

Muenster vs Era

The Muenster "B" team girls won their first round in the tournament by defeating Era 25-17. Kyla Haverkamp scored 6 points for the Lady Stingers. Ashley Hammer added 5, with Morgan Flusche, Tressa Jones, and Shelby Sicking each scoring 4, and Jori Magee adding 2.

M	9	8	6	2	25
E	8	3	2	4	17

Muenster vs Windthorst

In girls second round action, Muenster came up short 22-19, falling to Windthorst. Flusche scored 9, Magee 6, and Haverkamp and Hammer 2 apiece.

M	2	4	9	4	19
W	4	5	5	8	22

Lindsay vs Archer City

The 7th grade Lady Knights

took a 31-10 victory over the Lady Kittens in their first tournament game. Sydney Ott led the scoring with 17 points. Emily Otto added 4, with Kallei Klement, Nicole Fleitman, Tara Atkins, Courtney Neu, and Taryn Stringfellow each adding 2.

Lindsay vs Windthorst

In the Championship game, Lindsay defeated Windthorst 17-16 in a defensive battle to claim the District Championship. Scoring for the young Lady Knights were Ott 5, Bailey Murrill and Atkins 4 each, Otto 3, and Neu 1.

Lindsay vs Archer City

The White Knights lost to Archer City 36-28 in the semi-final round of the District Tournament. Hoepfner led Lindsay in scoring with 10 points. Ott added 8, Boaz 6, and 2 apiece by James Fuller and Dillon Case.

8TH GRADE

Lindsay vs Era

The Lindsay 8th grade girls were defeated by Era in a close 21-20 game, ending the season for the young Lady Knights. Jalyn Anderle was high scorer with 11 points, Elizabeth Wallace added 7, and Kendall McLeod 2.

Muenster vs Era

The "A" team Lady Stingers defeated Era's Lady Bees 24-13. Kassie Dangelmayr and Kristen Reiter each scored 6 points.

Hannah Bayer and Erin Hess added 4 apiece, with Sydney Huchton and Adrian Rohmer scoring 2 points each.

M	14	3	3	4	24
E	7	6	0	0	13

Muenster vs Windthorst

The Lady Stingers met the Lady Trojans from Windthorst in the Championship final. With a commanding 2nd quarter, Muenster's "A" team girls won the District Championship with a 26-19 victory. H Bayer led the scoring with 10 points. Huchton added 6, Hess 4, and Mandy Bayer and Dangelmayr 3 each.

M	4	12	6	4	26
W	5	5	4	5	19

Muenster vs Windthorst

The "A" team Stingers took a big win over Windthorst in round one of the tournament with a 41-9 victory. Mason Binder led all scorers with 15 points. Cole Walterscheid added 8, Trevor Cheaney 5, Jared Endres 4, Chance Herr 3, and Clayton Hess, Garrett Miller, and Clint Sidwell 2 apiece.

Muenster vs Petrolia

The Muenster Junior High "A" team Hornets won the District championship after a 40-23 victory over Petrolia. Walterscheid was the game's high scorer with 21 points. Binder added 10, Cheaney 7, and Sidwell 2.

Lindsay vs Petrolia

The Black Knights lost to

Petrolia 38-29 in the semi-final round of the District Tournament. John Haverkamp score 8, Garrett Cooper 7, Travis Krahl and Zach Mlmar 4 apiece, and 2 each by Dakota Ellender, Conner Polk, and Max Beebe.

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

The Sacred Heart Lady Cubs took the North Texas Independent League (NTIL) Championship last weekend. Three Lady Cubs were named to the All-Tournament team. They are Peyton Reiter, Karleigh Reeves, and Bailey Walterscheid.

Sacred Heart vs ICS

The Sacred Heart girls started tournament action with a 32-10 win over Denton Immaculate Conception. Reeves led the scoring with 13 points. Walterscheid and Reiter each added 6, Morgan Hesse 4, Kinzie Hess 2, and Sara Davidson 1.

SH	12	7	7	6	32
IC	3	2	5	0	10

Sacred Heart vs Toga

In the Championship round, the Lady Cubs faced the team from Toga. A strong 2nd quarter lifted Sacred Heart to an 18-9 halftime lead on their way to a 33-14 win. Walterscheid led the point making with 10. Reeves added 8, Reiter 7, Kylie Hess 6, and Mikayla Fleitman 2.

SH	8	10	9	6	33
T	6	3	2	3	14

Sacred Heart vs Toga

The Cubs played some close quarters, but could not pull ahead, falling 33-33 to Toga. Reeves led Sacred Heart's scoring 14 points. Tavi Saldana added 11, Walterscheid and Endres 3 each, and Flusche 2.

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 Republican (I)

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County Commissioner, Pct. 4
Re-Elect
Leon Klement
 Republican (I)

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Leon Klement, Treasurer, 7484 FM 1201, TX 76252.

Elect
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LEGAL NOTICES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
 The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct public meetings to allow public input into the Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) preparation process. A list will be provided of upcoming state projects selected in the UTP and TIP. Maps and drawings will be on display. Meetings will be held at the following times and locations:
 - Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Graham Area Office located at 848 US 380 West in Graham, Texas.
 - Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Wichita Falls Area Office located at 2844 E. Central Freeway in Wichita Falls, Texas.
 - Thursday, March 11, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Vernon Area Office located at 4031 Main Street in Vernon, Texas.
 - Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Gainesville Area Office located at 2615 West Hwy 82 in Gainesville, Texas.
 The meeting will be informal, and all interested citizens are invited to attend and express their views on the programs. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille are requested to contact Tammy Marlow at (940) 720-7741 two (2) weeks prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
 Written comments may be submitted to the Texas Department of Transportation, Attention: Danny Brown, P.E., 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita Falls, Texas 76302-4906, but must be received no later than 10 days after each of the public meetings.

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION
 CV10-00050
 To: PEARL THURMAN AND HER UNKNOWN HEIRS
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.
 You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the petition of plaintiff at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 235TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, COOKE County, Texas, at the courthouse in the city of GAINESVILLE, Texas.
 Said petition was filed in said court, on the 4th day of February, 2010 in cause number CV10-00050 on the docket of said court and styled:
BLS PRODUCTION, INC vs. PEARL THURMAN AND HER UNKNOWN HEIRS
 The nature of this cause is APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXECUTING AN OIL AND GAS LEASE.
 The officer executing this citation shall promptly served the same according to requirements of law, and mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.
 Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at GAINESVILLE, COOKE County, Texas this the 08th day of February, 2010.
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
 WM. B. SULLIVANT
 P.O. BOX 1517
 GAINESVILLE, TX
 PAT PAYNE, DISTRICT CLERK
 112 S. DIXON ST.
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 /s/ By: Susan Hughes, Deputy

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Options vary when marketing cattle

Livestock producers have many options when it comes to selling cattle, but a Texas AgriLife Extension beef specialist suggests that producers start at the beginning, by producing a good animal.

According to one beef cattle specialist, the first step to marketing cattle is to raise a quality animal.

"You don't have a lot of options if you don't first produce a quality animal," Texas AgriLife Extension Beef Cattle Specialist Jason Cleere said. "Once you get a good animal, then you can look at the next step."

That next step is marketing, and producers today are faced with an array of choices when it comes time to sell. The local auction barn is always an option, but producers can also sell their animals directly from their farm or ranch, or through video or Internet marketing. They can retain ownership all the way through the feedyard, or they can grow cattle for a specific consumer market—such as natural, organic, or grass fed beef.

Even with all the new options, the local livestock auction barn is the most convenient and popular way for producers to sell cattle, Cleere said.

"You get paid the same day you take the cattle to the auction," Cleere said. "The marketing is done right there. You will get paid for the cattle. The people at the auction barn work for you. There is a commission charge, but they are doing the marketing for you."

"One of the drawbacks might be that you don't get fully paid for the genetics of your cows, and you may not be utilizing the benefits you get from high-marbling bulls."

Cleere said that those producers might want to look at direct sales, which means the buyer buys the animals directly off the farm or ranch. That might mean a better price for higher-quality animals, but the producer has to handle the marketing aspect.

"You generally have to sell truckload lots," he said. "You have to be big enough to sell that many animals. Plus, you have to collect the money yourself. It might take longer than it would at the auction barn."

With co-mingled sales, pro-

ducers sell their cattle along with other pre-sorted cattle in order to put together a bigger truckload of cattle.

"Most are tied to preconditioning calves," Cleere said. "They are brought in, evaluated, weighed, and sold as part of a lot. You get paid for that, and you can get paid a premium. The main thing is to make sure you have somebody sorting the cattle that knows how to sort cattle. If you have good cattle and they get mixed in with bad cattle, you're going to lose money."

Cleere said the Northeast Texas Beef Improvement Organization (NETBIO) in Sulphur Springs has one of the state's top preconditioning programs. "That's about as successful one as there is in Texas," he said.

Sellers who choose to retain ownership of the animal all the way through the feedyard process will get paid for the animal's genetics and meat quality, but the money will be tied up for a longer time, Cleere said.

"Of course, the most recent buzz you hear today is for natural or organic meat," Cleere said. "That's going to include natural or organic beef, grown with no antibiotics or artificial hormones. A part of the consumer market believes this kind of beef is better for you. Science says it's not, but there is that perception out there and people who believe it are willing to pay two or three times as much as they will for conventional beef."

Cleere said the flip side of the higher prices includes higher input costs and more paperwork in order to be certified organic, natural, or grass fed.

"I get a lot of people who ask me for advice on growing organic or grass fed beef and the first thing I ask them is how they are going to market their beef," he said. "Most of them have never thought of that, but they need to have a marketing plan first."

"They need to figure the cost of production and marketing against the value in the marketplace. They may find that they're better off raising cattle in the conventional way. It may not be feasible for everyone who wants to do it."

Despite the new means of marketing that have opened, Cleere said most producers

are selling cattle in the traditional manner, by taking them to local livestock barn.

"In the grand scheme of things, most people are going through the traditional channels of production and marketing," he said. "They are producing a good product. If you want to believe the beef that's marketed as organic, natural, or grass fed is better, that's fine. But there's really no difference in the health benefits between the traditional and the natural or grass fed."

By Clay Coppedge, Country World Staff Writer

TDA market recap

For the week ending Feb. 6, feeder cattle price trends at Texas auctions were again mixed, from \$4 lower to \$4 higher per hundredweight compared to a week earlier. Wet conditions hindered livestock movement and many auctions had very light volumes for sale. Fed cattle prices were more than \$1 higher in spite of lower beef values.

Grain prices ended the week higher as demand improved somewhat at the recent lower prices. As for futures markets, fed cattle and lumber were higher while feeder cattle, cotton, wheat, and corn were lower.

Most of the state received rain during the week with as much as two inches recorded in some areas. Topsoil moisture was rated mostly adequate to surplus.

Winter wheat benefited from the additional moisture, especially on the High Plains. Wet fields delayed some fertilizer applications and prevented grazing of some wheat pastures. The crop was reported in mostly fair to good condition statewide. Wet conditions also delayed fieldwork in some areas. Livestock were reported in fair condition with supplemental feed necessary in most regions.

Record high beef production for December

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.15 billion pounds in December, down slightly from the 4.16 billion pounds produced in December 2008.

Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 2% above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.75 million head, up 3% from December 2008. The average live weight was down seven pounds from the previous year, at 1,296 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.1 million pounds, 2% below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 92,300 head, down 2% from December 2008. The average live weight was down 5 pounds from last year, at 240 pounds.

Pork production totaled

1.99 billion pounds, down 3% from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.83 million head, down 3% from December 2008. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.9 million pounds, was up 3% from December 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 235,300 head, 2% above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, up 2 pounds from a year ago.

January to December 2009 commercial red meat production was 49.3 billion pounds, down 2% from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 2% from last year, veal was down 3%, pork was down 2% from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2%.

Strawberries are the only fruit with seeds on the outside and the average strawberry has 200 seeds.

The U.S. produces more strawberries than any other country.

Strawberries actually are a member of the rose family.

What do you need to know when selling grain?

Knowledge of some little-known facts about buying and selling grain in Texas could save both farmers and grain elevator owners a lot of time.

More importantly, however, it could save them from unnecessary risk, according to the state grain specialists.

For instance, grain elevators must be bonded for storage of grain, but not as grain buyers, according to Dr. Mark Welch, AgriLife Extension grain marketing economist. "You have some insurance that your grain will be there when you get ready to sell, but no protection against the buyer being able to pay you," he said.

When a public warehouse acts as a grain buyer, they are bonded, but it only pro-

tects grain depositors for storage, he said. The bond protection does not apply to forward contracts or other grain purchasing activities.

"Also, grain manufacturers and livestock feeders aren't regulated by the Texas Department of Agriculture's Warehouse Program," Welch said. "They're not subject to its rules and requirements, and customers of these businesses are not under its protection."

If grain is sold to an unlicensed buyer, and if the buyer doesn't pay for the grain, there is no bond coverage available to help pay the seller, he said.

"Disputes are handled in civil courts and only civil penalties apply," Welch said.

According to the Texas Corn Producers, the economic impact of grain in Texas is significant. In 2008, Texas farmers produced more than 253 million bushels of corn, 158.6 bushels of sorghum, and near 99 million bushels of wheat.

"The value of production for those three grain crops was well worth more than \$2.6 billion to the Texas economy," Welch said. "In a time when grain markets

and the overall economy is volatile, it's extremely important for farmers to know their rights and responsibilities when selling their grain. There's tremendous investment in these crops and risk, so farmers need to know the details."

Welch offered the following rules of thumb for contracting grain:

- Have the contract in writing and understand the risk involved. If in doubt, do not sign.

- Know your customer. Knowledge of your customer's business reputation and ability to carry out obligations may reduce risk. "Be sure the other party can explain how the contract works to your satisfaction, and how it works under all market conditions."

- Maintain "open communication" with the other party before signing, and throughout the life of the contract.

To receive a copy of the report, "Selling Grain in Texas," contact the Texas Corn Producers Board or Welch at jmWelch@ag.tamu.edu. To receive Welch's market newsletter, contact him at the same e-mail address.

Texas wheat acreage down 16%

Texas wheat producers have seeded 5.4 million acres for the 2010 winter wheat crop, down 16% from last year, and down 7% from 2008, according to the Jan. 12 report released by the Texas Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

This is the fourth largest year to year decrease in average on record and lowest planted area since 1973.

Nationally, U.S. seeding of winter wheat for 2010 totaled 37.1 million acres, down 14% from 2009.

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<p>Feeder Steers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.18-1.33; Nos 2 & 3, 1.00-1.19 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 1.07-1.26; Nos 2 & 3, 90-107 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 1.06-1.18; Nos 2 & 3, 80-106 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 1.05-1.16; Nos 2 & 3, 75-105 600-700 lbs. No. 1, 91-110; Nos 2 & 3, 70-91; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, 89-95; Nos 2 & 3, 60-89 Feeder Heifers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs. No. 1, 1.00-1.10; Nos 2 & 3, 80-100 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 93-106; Nos 2 & 3, 80-93; 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 92-103; Nos 2 & 3, 75-92; 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 89-100; Nos 2 & 3, 70-89; 600-700 lbs. No. 1, 83-89; Nos 2 & 3, 70-83; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, 76-87; Nos 2 & 3, 50-76 Slaughter Cattle (per lb.) Slaughter: Bulls: Yield Grade #1-2, 1.20-2.050 lbs., 58-70; Slaughter Cows: #1&3, 50-58; Cuts: 31-49</p>	<p>Stocker Cows (per head) Pregnancy-tested, 3 to 6 years-olds: Large Frame: \$756-\$810; Medium Frame: \$500-\$735 Cow/Call Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - Large Frame: \$800-\$950; Medium Frame: \$700-\$800. Baby Calves: Holstein: \$35-\$60; Cross Breeds: \$85-\$235 Barrows & Gilts (per lb.) US #1, 230-270: 48-57; US #2, 220-230: 40-48 Feeders (per head): 100-175 lbs. 50-85; 25-90 lbs. 15-35 Sows (per lb.) Feeder, 400 or less: 40-42; Light wt., 400-500: 40-42; Med. wt., 500-600: NT; Heavy wt., 600+: NT Boars (per lb.) 300 lb. up: 05; 200-300 lbs. NT; Lighter: 20-22</p>	<p>Ewes (per lb.) Stocker: NT; Thin: NT; Fat: NT Bucks (per lb) Thin: NT; Fat: NT Barbardo (per head) Lambis: \$20-\$40; Ewes: \$40-\$50; Bucks: \$60-\$85 Goats (per head) Kids: 20-35 lbs., \$25-\$50; 35-55 lbs., \$35-\$75; 55-75 lbs., \$60-\$95 Yearlings (per head) 75-120 lbs., \$85-\$140 Nannies (per head): Stocker: \$40-\$105; Milk Type: \$50-\$75; Slaughter: \$65-\$105; Thin: \$15-\$40 Billies (per head) 120 lbs-up: Breeders: \$100-\$110; Slaughter: \$80-\$100 Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny, NT, 3/4 Nanny: NT; Full Nanny: \$75-\$90; 1/2 Billy: NT; 3/4 Billy: NT; Full Billy: NT</p>
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Chicken Noodle Soup 10.5 OZ. 59¢ |
| DEL MONTE
Tomato Ketchup 24 OZ. \$1.29 | SHURFINE
Sweet Gerkins 10 OZ. \$1.29 |
| AUNT JEMIMA SELECTED VARIETIES
Pancake Mix 32 OZ. 2 FOR \$5 | SHURFINE ASSORTED
Barbeque Sauce 18 OZ. 69¢ |
| GEBHARDT REGULAR OR WITH JALAPEÑO
Refried Beans 15.5-16 OZ. 4 FOR \$3 | ASSORTED
Dole Pineapple 20 OZ. 99¢ |
| QUICK COOKING WHITE RICE
Minute Rice 28 OZ. \$2.99 | SCOTT
Bathroom Tissue 12 ROLL \$6.99 |
| WOLF BRAND
Chili No Beans 19 OZ. \$1.99 | BOUNTY BASIC
Paper Towels SINGLE ROLL 89¢ |
| SHURFINE ASSORTED FLAVORS DRINK MIX
Coolers to Go 10 CT. 2 FOR \$4 | SHURFINE
Foam Plates 50 CT. 99¢ |
| SHURFINE ASSORTED FLAVORS
Coolers Drink Mix MAKES 12 QTS. 2 FOR \$4 | FAMILY SIZE
Lipton Tea Bags 24 CT. \$1.69 |
| FRUIT COCKTAIL, YELLOW CLING PEACH SLICES,
OR PEAR HALVES
Del Monte Fruit 29 OZ. 2 FOR \$4 | SHURFINE
Charcoal 9 LB. \$3.49 |
| WILLIAM'S ORIGINAL OR TEX-MEX
Chili Seasoning 1 OZ. 5 FOR \$5 | 24 PACK, 12 OZ. |

Dr. Pepper
\$2.99

Natural Light
\$1.49



Health & Beauty Care

WESTERN FAMILY TABLETS OR CAPLETS Ibuprofen 100 CT. BTL.	\$2.99	SELECTED VARIETIES CHILDREN'S OR JUNIOR Mucinex 4 OZ. OR 12 CT. \$7.29
		WESTERN FAMILY SOFT OR MEDIUM INTERDENTAL Toothbrush 1 CT. 2 FOR \$1
		KIDS OR SELECTED VARIETIES ADULT Aim Toothpaste 4.8-6.4 OZ. 99¢
		WESTERN FAMILY KIDS BUBBLE BATH OR ASSORTED VARIETIES Foaming Milk Bath 32 OZ. 2 FOR \$3
		ASSORTED VARIETIES 1.5 OZ. HAIR DRESSING Alberto VO5 EACH \$3.29

Fischer's Quality Meats

WHOLE IN THE BAG
**Pork
Shoulders** **99¢** LB.

WHOLE IN THE BAG, BONELESS
**Pork
Loin** **\$2.09** LB.

PILGRIM'S PRIDE
**Drum-
sticks or
Thighs** **79¢** LB.

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|---|--|
| PORK
Country Style Ribs LB. \$1.39 | FARM RAISED - PRODUCT OF CHINA
Whole Tilapia LB. \$1.39 |
| FRESH
Ground Round LB. \$2.69 | SEA BEST BREADED OR COCONUT
Jumbo Shrimp 9-10 OZ. \$2.79 |
| TENDERIZED BEEF
Cube Steak LB. \$2.99 | APPROX 6 LB. LOAF
Muenster Cheese LB. \$2.29 |
| FISCHER'S FULLY COOKED HALF & HALF
German Style Sausage LB. \$2.59 | MARKET CUT
Muenster Cheese LB. \$2.49 |
| FARMLAND BONELESS, 95% FAT FREE
Whole Hams 5 LB. \$7.99 | MARKET SLICED
Baby Swiss Cheese LB. \$3.19 |
| MARKET SLICED
Black Forest Ham LB. \$3.69 | PRICE'S
Pimiento Cheese Spread 12 OZ. 2 FOR \$5 |
| FARM RAISED RAW
Catfish Nuggets LB. \$1.69 | GOURMET DINING SELECTED VARIETIES
Stir Fry Dinners 28-32 OZ. \$4.99 |

Fresh Produce

PREMIUM
CELLO WRAPPED
**Iceberg
Lettuce** **79¢** EACH

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|---|---|
| LARGE
Roma Tomatoes 10 FOR \$1 | NATURALLY FRESH
Caramel Dip 16 OZ. 2 FOR \$5 |
| FRESH
Cantaloupe 2 FOR \$3 | NORTHWEST
Green Pears LB. 99¢ |
| LARGE GREEN
Bell Peppers 2 FOR \$1 | TANGY
Lemons 3 FOR \$1 |
| LARGE RED
Bell Peppers EACH 69¢ | JUICY
Limes 6 FOR \$1 |
| RED OR GOLDEN DELICIOUS
Fresh Apples LB. 99¢ | MEXICAN 1015 SWEET
Yellow Onions LB. 69¢ |

Dairy & Frozen Foods

BLUE BUNNY ASSORTED FLAVORS FROZEN YOGURT OR Ice Cream 56 OZ. OVALS	2\$7 FOR	
ASSORTED Blue Bell Sherbet QT. \$2.09		
ASSORTED VARIETIES Banquet Meals 5.7-10 OZ. 5 FOR \$5		
TOTINO'S COMBINATION Pizza Rolls 19.8 OZ. \$2.99		
PILLSBURY CREAM CHEESE-JALAPEÑO OR ARTICHOKE-SPINACH Savorings 7.8 OZ. \$2.99		
SHURFINE Cottage Cheese 12 OZ. CTN.	2\$3 FOR	
GREEN GIANT SELECTED VARIETIES Steamers 12 OZ. 2 FOR \$3		
SHURFINE Pie Crust 2 FOR \$4		
SOFT SPREAD Blue Bonnet 45 OZ. 2 FOR \$5		
BUTTERMILK, COUNTRY SWEETMILK, OR TENDER LAYER 4-PACK BISCUITS; CLASSIC PIZZA CRUST; CINNAMON ROLLS WITH ICING; ORANGE OR CARAMEL DANISH Pillsbury Refrigerated Dough 11-13.9 OZ. 2 FOR \$4		