

Muenster ISD approves Tax Rate and Proposed Budget

By Clay Richerson
MISD Superintendent

On June 30, 2010, the Muenster ISD Board of Trustees adopted the 2010-11 tax rate of \$1.1235 per \$100 value. The Maintenance and Operation (M&O) effort will be \$1.04, which is the same as the 2009-10 school year. The Interest and Sinking (I&S), bonded indebtedness, was set at \$0.0835 per \$100 value. This rate of \$1.1235 per \$100 value for the 2010-11 school is \$0.0433 less than the adopted rate of last year. For the 2009-10 school year, the tax rate was \$1.1668. The reason for the drop in the I&S tax rate for the 2010-11 school year is because the effort to maintain the bonded indebtedness payments is less due to the property values of the District. The estimated property value of the District for 2010, according to the Cooke County Appraisal District, is \$438 million. Certified values for 2009 were \$447 million, 2008 were \$268 million. The reason for the difference from 2008 to 2009 is the Wolfe Ridge windmill project. For the 2009-10 school year, Muenster ISD taxed the windmill project at full appraised value which was \$180 million. The District was able to add to the fund balance of approximately \$1 million. With the Chapter 313 agreement between the School District and Wolfe Ridge, the windmill project will be taxed at \$10 million of the \$176 million appraised value for the 2010-11 school year for M&O. The estimated appraised value of the District for M&O for the 2010-11 school year is \$272 million. For I&S, the windmill project will be taxed at the full appraised value of \$176 million, thus the \$0.04 drop in tax rate.

On June 30, the Muenster ISD Board of Trustees also approved the 2010-11 budget. As I explain the 2010-11 budget that was approved, keep in mind the previous information. The approved budget of \$5.6 million for the 2010-11 school year is an increase from the 2009-10 budget of \$5.3 million. Of the \$300 K increase, \$270 K is stipends and state mandated pay increases for staff.

Estimated state and federal revenue is \$1.8 million. Estimated local revenue is \$2.9 million. Total estimated revenue for the 2010-11 school year is \$4.7 million. This revenue leaves a \$900 K deficit. Bear in mind that the District added \$1 million to the fund balance last year due to taxing the full appraised value (\$447 million) of the District. This year's appraised value (\$272 million) will only generate \$2.9 million compared to \$4 million last year.

The state educational funding system is extraordinarily complicated and difficult to understand. Muenster ISD has been a "target revenue" school district. Seventy percent of the school districts in the state of Texas are "target revenue" schools. This means that the school district is guaranteed from the state to receive no fewer funds than the district received in the 2005-06 school year. Target revenue for Muenster ISD is \$4,922 per weighted average daily attendance (WADA). The state average target revenue is \$5100 per WADA.

After completion of the windmill project and due to the Chapter 313 agreement, Muenster ISD was moved into formula funding for one year. Local tax revenue for the 2009-10 school was put into a state formula which allowed Muenster ISD to generate more revenue than the \$4,922 WADA, thus the ability to add to the fund balance of \$1 million. Now that the windmill project will not be taxed at the full appraised value, Muenster ISD is back to a "target revenue" district.

During the life of the Chapter 313 agreement, the District will realize a positive benefit from the windmill project. According to the estimate of the agreement for the first year (2008) of the agreement there was no taxable value for the project. The second year (2009), the project was taxed at the full appraised value of \$180 million. From 2010 through 2017, the project will be taxed at \$10 million. In 2009, due to the project, the School District saw ap-

See MISD, pg. 2

City continues flood prevention efforts



Work has begun on two culverts intended to prevent the flooding of the trailer park along Mesquite Street. One culvert is located on Fourth Street at Mesquite and the other is located on Mesquite Street at Third. Residents will need to detour around the two locations. Earthbuilders of Decatur, the lowest bidder of four, began work Tuesday, June 29. The agreement with the City shows the time of completion must be within 120 days. Some grant money was awarded to the City, enabling the work to begin. Pictured above is the Mesquite Street at Third location. Linda Flusche photo

Area locations transformed into Seasons of Gray set

By Janet Felderhoff

Doc's Bar & Grill and Muenster's Main Street were just what Producer/Director Paul Stehlik, Jr. sought to film some of the scenes in his production *Seasons of Gray*. Most of the week had been spent at the Fredrick Ranch

north of Saint Jo where they were shooting the West Texas cattle ranch scenes for the beginning of the film.

Stehlik explained that a small town Main Street setting was needed. While driving past Muenster a couple of months ago, they spotted what they were seeking. "It's just got this quintessential look that was perfect for the film. So, with Doc's we scouted out the location. It's got this picture window that we wanted just the way it was written in the script to set up perfectly for the scene that we are going to shoot out on the sidewalk."

Two or three minutes of the film takes place on the sidewalk in front of the Eight Ball. Thus, for a short time, Doc's became the Eight Ball Boogie. A sign with that name hung over the Doc's sign for the filming.

Seasons of Gray, the first feature film for Watermark Films, portrays a modern day version or retelling of the story of Joseph from Genesis. Stehlik noted that they took the story and asked what it would look like in 2010.

Watermark Films is the feature film ministry of Watermark Community Church in Dallas. *Seasons of Gray* has been seven years in the making. The first draft of the script was written seven years ago this June. "To drive down Main Street here and have it

look like what we envisioned so many years ago was just amazing," Stehlik remarked. "Then to stumble upon Doc's as sort of this perfect locale, and then the generosity of the owners who have just let us come in and have the run of the place and really become part of the production, to welcome us in such a way has been such a blessing to what we've been trying to do."

Andrew Cheeney from Los Angeles stars in the film. All other characters were cast locally out of Dallas including co-stars Akron Watson and Megan Parker. A casting crew comprised of 45 individuals was brought to town. They are needed to do wardrobe, hair, make-up, run the camera crew, set up locations, monitor the streets, etc.

Orchestrating the filming required getting permission from the City of Muenster, working with the owners of Doc's, police department to block traffic, and on the day of filming looming clouds threatened to dump rain at any moment. In fact, it did rain much of the day Friday, June 25 as they worked on the film.

Joann Sicking, co-owner of Doc's, said that the film crew plans to return sometime in July to shoot a scene.

Doc's continued to serve

See MOVIE, pg. 4

Work in progress at the County complex



Work continues at the Cooke County Fair Association grounds with the construction of a Gainesville City-required run-off retaining pond. Mike Otto (pictured above) began digging, donating some labor to the project, along with other volunteers, with funding assistance from the Muenster State Bank. Dirt from the pond will be moved to the complex (shown in background) to build up the area for future cattle pens. Janie Hartman photo

Muenster Mill expedites production line through use of robot

By Janet Felderhoff

At least one of Muenster Mill's workers is always prompt, never ill or on vacation, and doesn't draw a paycheck. That "employee" is a robot! "The guys wish we'd had it 10 years ago," remarked Muenster Mill owner Ronnie Felderhoff.

The robot stacks bags of feed or other products on pallets getting them ready to put on trucks for shipping to various locations throughout the United States.

Felderhoff said that this type of robot has been in use for 10-15 years, but was quite expensive to purchase and didn't always work as well. A feed mill is a very dusty place and sometimes quite hot, so the robot would have to be able to function in a harsh environment. Over time, the robot became more affordable and was devel-

oped to withstand the environment of a feed mill. After seeing one operate, Felderhoff decided it was a wise investment.

There are fingers on the robot that pick up the feed bags and position them on the pallets. Felderhoff said that it has to be programmed for every layer and every bag that goes on. Some pallets get 100 bags, others only 40. "Once you get the program into the machine, you just have to tell it what you're making and once the program is in, it will pull the program up and start stacking," explained Felderhoff. "It takes a while to program them, but once it's programmed, it works great."

With the facility's increased production, the addition of the robot allows employees to bag out the feed at a rate two to three

times faster than when they stacked the bags manually. To keep up without the robot, they would need about three more employees. "When we were manually stacking, it was hard to keep up with production," Felderhoff noted. "Since we've got the robot, we can keep up with production a whole lot easier and the robot does a lot better stacking."

Max Koesler and Dickie Moster flew to Iowa for two days of training on the operation and programming of the robot when the Mill acquired it more than a year ago. Iowa is where most of the robot is manufactured.

Watching the system work through its precise steps is fascinating. It automatically disperses wood pallets, straightens them to an exact spot for the placement of feed bags on them, and puts down a slip sheet to protect the bags from tearing.

Before the bags reach the robot, they are filled and sealed by employees. One places the bag on a bag hanger that automatically weighs the feed out to the requested weight. From that point it goes to a conveyor where an-

other person guides it into a bag closer that either sews or glues it shut. Then it's on to a conveyor where it is knocked down, layered over, straightened, and aligned. An electric eye senses the arrival of a bag and prints a date code on it, noting date

of manufacture and expiration date. Next, a bag flattener evens out the product in the bag and sends it on to the robot for stacking on the pallet. When a pallet is full, a conveyor pushes it forward where a forklift is used to place it on a waiting truck.

Dickie Moster commented, "This is the best piece of equipment Muenster Mill has ever bought." Chuck Koesler agreed with him.

Chuck Freeman has worked at Muenster Mill for four years. He showed where

See ROBOT, pg. 2



This robot (right) at Muenster Mill stacks bags on a pallet. When the pallet is fully stacked, a conveyor belt carries it to a forklift for loading on a waiting truck. This system speeds up production and prevents wrenched backs. Left, Chuck Koesler at the feed formula control panel. Janie Hartman and Janet Felderhoff photos



DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO July 6, 1945

S. Sgt. Jack Needham returns home from German prison camp. Raymond Hess hurts hand while operating drilling clutch at oil well. New Arrivals: Billy Joe to Joe and Adeline Devers; Jane to Henry and Anna Henscheid. Jimmy Hellman and Theresa Schad have tonsils removed. Miss Imelda Felderhoff has two week vacation from her duties at the bank.

50 YEARS AGO July 8, 1960

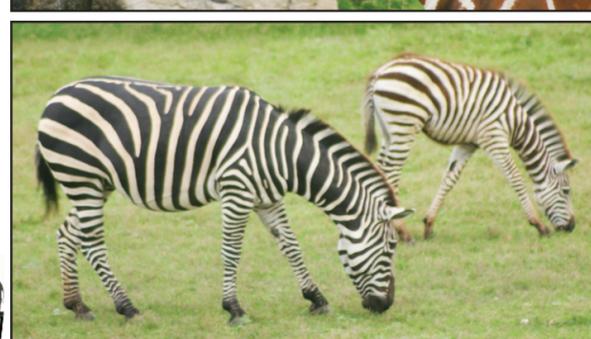
Burglary at Muenster pool nets one nickel; burglars break into candy machine coin box and only find a nickel. On July 4, for the first time, the Nation's first 50-star flag was raised; Hawaii

is the 50th state. New arrival: Dale to Ernest and Beatrice Wolf. Evelyn Flusche enrolls in Bud Hall's Beauty School. Wedding: Loretta Mages and Doug Reiter. Obituary: John F. Corcoran, 64.

25 YEARS AGO July 5, 1985

Muenster City Council chooses to keep street/curb ordinance for new subdivision. Street repair is in high gear. Beginner swim classes to start. Weddings: Toni Bowen and Toby Kennedy; Jana Herr and Chris Stoffels; Joan Voth and James Cowden III. New Arrivals: Michelle to Bill and Annette Bayer; Haley to Julia and Dickie Rogers. Surprise party honors Arnold and Theresa Mae Pels on 25th anniversary.

DASH TO ZOO SPLASH



Janie Hartman photos



On Saturday, July 10, at the Frank Buck Zoo in Gainesville, admission is only \$2 for everyone. Special \$5 Zoo Splash passes are available for unlimited fun in support of the Zoological Society. See related ad on page 6.



MISDcontinued from pg. 1

proximately \$1 million more in local revenue that was put into fund balance. In 2010, due to state funding, the School District is seeing a \$900 K shortfall in revenue compared to 2009. For the 2011-12 school year, the School District will have revenue and expenditures that will be more in line than the 2009-10 school year and the 2010-11 school year. Beginning in 2011 through 2017, the School District will receive 40% of the tax benefits from the electric company of the Wolfe Ridge Windmill Project. This 40% will be the benefit to the District.

no means am I an expert in Texas school finance. If you have any questions concerning the information in this article, you may contact me at the Muenster ISD Administration building, or may call 759-2282.

City requests return of grant surveys

People who have received a grant survey from the City of Muenster are asked to return them to City Hall by Friday, July 9.

ROBOTcontinued from pg. 1

they stacked pallets by hand before the robot was used. "We'd stand at the end of the conveyor and throw feed bags to two guys around the pallet who were hand stacking them," explained Freeman. "Before the robot, we'd probably do anywhere between 40,000 to 60,000 pounds of feed a day. That's about 1200 bags. There were probably four guys, and every guy would throw a ton and then rotate. It's just amazing what we can do now with the robot than what we were doing without."

Florida. Some is private label and the rest is Muenster Mill's product. Fish food has been shipped overseas to Nigeria. Felderhoff recalls that when his dad, Arthur Felderhoff, first had the Mill, everything was bagged. He changed almost everything over to bulk feed. Asked why he changed back to bagging feed, Felderhoff noted, "Dairy farming faded. Most of that (bulk) was dairy feed and with the reduced number of dairymen, I had to find other avenues to keep the plant open, so I transitioned from

a dairy manufacturing plant to a pet food manufacturing plant. Times changed, so we changed. "Extrusion is a specific piece of equipment. There's only six plants that extrude feed in Texas." As with most things in life, there are still problems even with the assistance of a robot. During the interview, they ran out of the bags being used and when they started up with new ones, there was a problem. Max was called away to reprogram the computer so things would go smoothly again.

The employees agreed they stay very busy most days. There are about 10 employees working in the facility on Main Street. Max Koesler is their supervisor. Max said of the robot, "It saves a lot of backs. I couldn't imagine running a day without it." He said that they average 100,000 to 110,000 pounds of production a day. In pounds, the sacks weigh 17, 20, 25, 35, 40, 50, 55, etc. Muenster Mill manufactures a variety of products including food for fish, cats, dogs, horses, llamas, and various game attractants. These products are shipped throughout Texas, to Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Ohio, Wyoming, and Michigan. Horse feed is shipped to states from California to



Muenster Mill workers bag llama feed on assembly line. Janie Hartman photo

Remember kids' water safety

It comes with the territory. Parents tend to worry, hover, nag, and snoop. Then they feel guilty about being overly protective. Especially when fixed with one of those baleful "Mom, you're doing it again" glares. Perhaps it'll help you to know that safety experts have your back, at least when it comes to summer water safety. Swimming, boating, skiing, and other water sports really can be dangerous, and the period between now and Labor Day is prime time for accidents and fatalities. According to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), at least 34 Texas children already have drowned in 2010.

- Never leave children alone with water, whether it's in a pool, wading pool, drainage ditch, creek, pond, lake, or bath.
- Make sure kids use approved life jackets and that proper safety equipment is located near the pool.
- Have emergency medical telephone numbers at hand.
- Learn CPR.

of these craft can propel young riders out of parental view in seconds. Studies have found that jet ski mishaps tend to cause far greater injuries than other boating accidents, including closed-head injuries and trauma to the chest and abdomen. It's important, then, for all small watercraft users to follow Texas boating safety laws, especially those requiring life jacket use and forbidding children under 13 to operate personal watercraft unless accompanied on board by a person 18 or older. Will your adventurous youngster find it a buzz kill to have mom or dad along for the ride? Possibly. But they'll get over it.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING DATE - JULY 12, 2010

The following is the Agenda for the regular meeting of the Muenster City Council to be held at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room on Monday, July 12, 2010.

- Call meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
- Opening prayer.
- Approve minutes of the regular meeting on June 7, 2010.
- Recognize visitors and invite them to attend the entire Council meeting and to discuss their business.
- Consider any other business to come before the Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

- N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discuss and possibly approve contract with Chamber of Commerce for use of City Park for Germanfest.
- Hear request and possibly approve City water service extension to 839 N. Ash Street.
- Consider and act on approving the sale of alcoholic beverages by the Muenster VFD at their BBQ fund raiser in City Park on August 14, 2010.
- Police Chief Stovall will give quarterly police report.
- Discuss and act on rescheduling September meeting date due to Labor Day Holiday.
- Consider approving employee payroll increase for obtaining wastewater license.
- Schedule FY 2010/2011 Budget Workshop meeting date.
- Discuss and consider changing stop sign locations throughout town.
- Approve Kiwanis Club's request for use of old Baseball Park for Community Circus.
- Receive status reports on City projects and activities. Take action as necessary on items of discussion.
- Review and act on monthly bills.
- Adjourn.

Brenda Simpson, City Secretary

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

Sunday, July 11, 2010	Monday, July 12, 2010	Tuesday, July 13, 2010	Wednesday, July 14, 2010	Thursday, July 15, 2010	Friday, July 16, 2010	Saturday, July 17, 2010
Muenster Museum open- 1-4 pm	City Council, 7:30pm VFW mtg., 8pm No MMH Aux. mtg. KMB mtg. 6:45pm KMB House, City Park	Library open 10am-6:30 pm Muenster Library story/craft hour 10:30 am	Library open 1:30 -5:30 pm SH Alumni & Supporters mtg., 8pm, SNAP room MISD Board mtg., 7:30pm	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
		Swim Lessons		City Pool		
Sunday, July 18, 2010	Monday, July 19, 2010	Tuesday, July 20, 2010	Wednesday, July 21, 2010	Thursday, July 22, 2010	Friday, July 23, 2010	Saturday, July 24, 2010
Muenster Museum open- 1-4 pm	VFW Aux. mtg 7:30 pm	Library open 10am-6:30 pm Muenster Library story/craft hour 10:30 am MMH Board mtg 7 pm	Library open 1:30 -5:30 pm Kiwanis mtg. noon, Center	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

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LIFESTYLE

Gideon, Felderhoff exchange vows at Lone Oak Ranch

Brandi Jean Gideon of Sanger and Danny Felderhoff of Muenster exchanged vows at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at the Lone Oak Ranch and Retreat in Gainesville. Rev. Dr. Jon M. Eckstein of Iowa Park First United Methodist Church officiated for the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Wes and Sherri Gideon of Sanger. Her grandparents are Robert and Jean Collier and Jim and Laurel Gideon of Sanger. Tom and Becky Felderhoff of Muenster are the parents of the groom. His grandparents are Charles and Alice Davidson and Tom and Barbara Felderhoff of Muenster.

The couple was married on the lawn at the Lone Oak Ranch. Bridesmaids, followed by the bride, arrived at the lawn in a horse-drawn carriage. The bride and her father processed to Pachelbel's Canon in D performed by guitarist Ben Smith. After the couple recited their wedding vows, they rode by carriage to the reception site on the grounds of the Lone Oak Ranch. Carriage rides were provided by Rustic Rides of Sanger, Rick Akin, driver.

The bride wore an ivory satin gown with spaghetti straps over a slip bodice embellished with crystals. The pick-up skirt had a cathedral train. Her elbow-length veil gathered to a pearl and crystal tiara. She carried a white calla lily bouquet.

ATTENDANTS
Matron of honor was friend Chandra Brown of Huntsville. The bridesmaids were bride's cousin Kaitlyn Chatman of Ponder, friends Jenny Huchton of Lindsay, Mary Mouring of Saint Jo, and Misty Mize of Oklahoma

City, groom's sister Emily Hoffman of Gainesville, and friend Jessica Robertson of Dallas.

Bridesmaids were attired in clove green dresses with a clove green ribbon at the high waist and green buttons down the back of the dress. They carried a single white rose. Each bridesmaid wore jewelry created by the bride.

Ami Hoffman of Gainesville, groom's niece, was flower girl. She wore an ankle-length dress of ivory satin with ribbons and crystals. Ring bearer was Carson Crawford, groom's cousin.

Serving as best man was Brad Felderhoff of Muenster, groom's cousin. Groomsmen were cousin James Felderhoff of Muenster, friend Brandon Ford of Graham, brother-in-law Brian Hoffman, friends Eric Fisher of Roanoke and John Flusche of Farmers Branch, and bride's brother James Gideon of Sanger who was unable to attend due to his service in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Ushers were friends Calvin Huchton and Clinton Kyle, both of Lindsay, cousin Darrell Henscheid of Muenster, and groom's Godson Bill Felderhoff, Jr. of Muenster.

The men wore black tuxedos with clove green vests.

RECEPTION

The bride and groom and their attendants arrived by carriage at the Arena for the reception, dinner, and dance. Sam Hess and Cindy Del Olmo registered guests. Reception assistants were Jill Collier and Veronica Collier, bride's aunts, and Kathy Brorsen, Pat Gilliland, and Amy Davidson, groom's aunts.

Tables were decorated western style with boots,



Mr. and Mrs. Danny Felderhoff
... 'nee Brandi Jean Gideon ...

New Arrival

Miller

Eric and Deanna Miller of Krum are proud to announce the birth of their son Dalton Thomas Miller. Dalton was born on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 10:57 p.m. in Presbyterian Hospital of Denton. He weighed 8 lb. 12 oz. and measured 20 1/2 inches in length. He was greeted by his proud big sister Sydney. Grandparents are Alan and Darlene Miller of Muenster, Charles and Sandie Meurer of Krugerville, and the late Tommi Sue Meurer. Great-grandparents are Adam and Alma Wolf of Muenster, Larry and Barbara Meurer of

Windthorst, the late Bill and Terese Miller, and the late Brownie Holt. Great-great-grandmother is Catherine Kubis of Muenster.



Dalton Miller

I have found, through years of practice, that people garden in order to make something grow; to interact with nature; to share, to find sanctuary, to heal, to honor the earth, to leave a mark. Through gardening, we feel whole as we make our personal work of art upon our land.

- Julie Moir Messervy, *The Inward Garden*

bandanas, barbed wire, hats, horseshoes, and buckets with peanuts.

The bride's yellow cake held chocolate frosting with cascading spring flowers and green leaves. The groom's cake was strawberry with white icing, accented with green leaves decorating its sides. Lorna Bridges, bride's aunt, created both cakes.

During the reception, Brandi's mother read a letter from Brandi's brother James. He expressed his regret that he could not be with them. He welcomed Danny to the family and wished them much happiness.

The couple and guests danced to music provided by The Entertainer, Mitch

Creed and Dustin Walterscheid.

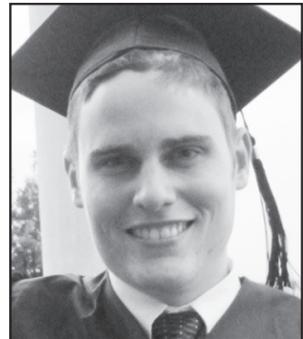
Following their honeymoon in San Antonio, the couple resides in Muenster.

The rehearsal dinner was held at the Lone Oak Ranch and Retreat on Friday, April 9. It was hosted by the groom's parents.

Brandi graduated from Sanger High School in 2004 and UNT in 2008. She is currently working toward her Master's degree in Social Work at Commerce Texas A&M. She is employed by Heart to Heart Hospice.

Danny is a 2000 graduate of Muenster High School and a 2002 graduate of Navarro College. He is employed by Community Lumber Company.

Mark Gehrig graduates



Mark Gehrig

Mark Andrew Gehrig graduated from Texas A&M University (TAMU) in College Station on May 14 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and minor in Chemistry. General David Petraeus, Commander of the U.S. Central Command, was keynote speaker at the ceremony.

While attending TAMU, Mark was accepted into the Biochemistry and Genetics Society, volunteered at St. Joseph's Hospital in the Emergency Room Department, became EMT certified, participated in a service trip to South Texas to encourage underprivileged eighth graders to pursue a college education, and studied abroad in Germany the summer of 2009.

Mark is the son of James and Cynthia Gehrig and the sixth Aggie graduate from their family. He is the grandson of Josephine Schilling and the late George Gehrig,

and the late Herman and Alma Stoffels.

Those attending Mark's graduation were his parents; sisters Karen Gehrig of Denver, Colorado, and Joanna Gehrig of Whitefish, Montana; brother Lucien Gehrig of Lewisville; brothers and sisters-in-law Michael and Kelly Gehrig of Muenster, Godfather Ryan and Kristen Gehrig of Moore, Oklahoma, and Jason and Felicia Gehrig and children Jessica, Nicholas, and Anthony of Fort Worth; Godmother Sally Bologna of Plano; aunt Janel Bologna of Denton; college roommates Patrick Mahaffey and Matt Murch; and college friends.

A dinner party was held following the graduation ceremony for Mark at his house attended by his family and college friends.

Mark is a 2006 graduate of Sacred Heart Catholic School. He is working as an EMT for Legacy Ambulance Service in College Station with plans to attend medical school.

Reed TWU graduate



Randi Leigh Reed graduated from Texas Woman's University on May 15 at Pioneer Hall in Denton. She received her Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Family & Consumer Sciences with an Interdisciplinary Studies minor. She is a 2005 graduate of Lindsay High School. Her parents are Rusty and Donna Reed of Lindsay. Randi is the granddaughter of Mary Ann Arendt of Lindsay, Eugene and Margaret Fleitman of Nocona, and Jerrel and Gloria Reed of Thacker, Oklahoma.

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The Muenster Volunteer Fire Department

is now soliciting donations for their annual fundraiser & auction set for August 14. If you wish to donate, call Bert Walterscheid at 736-6203 or Delanne Walterscheid at 759-4785 or any MVFD fireman.

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Bezner graduates Summa Cum Laude

Jillian Bezner, daughter of Bruce and Jenny Bezner of Lindsay, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas State University in San Marcos on May 15. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication in Public Relations with a minor in Communication Studies. The ceremony was held in Strahan Coliseum.



Jillian Bezner

Following the ceremony, her graduation was celebrated at the Gristmill Restaurant. Those attending were her parents, brother Todd Bezner, cousin Jordanne Hellman, and friends Julie Hanson, Ricky Grewing, Chantelle Vasquez, and Mindy Eschenberg.

While in college, Jillian earned the Dean's Scholarship from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication in the Spring of 2010. She was listed in Texas State's 2009 Who's Who Among American Students in Universities and Colleges, and was on the Dean's List from 2007 through 2010. In 2009 and 2010, Jillian was a member of the Fine Arts and Communication Council of Scholars.

She was active in Multicultural Student Affairs:

Harambee Hip Hop Dance Group from the Spring of 2008 through the Spring of 2010, serving as the treasurer from the Fall of 2008 through the Spring of 2010. With Texas State Paws Preview, Jillian was a mentor to incoming freshmen in August 2008 and August 2009. During 2009 and 2010, she was a member of PRSSA (Public Relation Student Society of America), and the AWC (Austin Women in Communication).

Jillian is a 2007 graduate of Lindsay High School.

Meeting Notice

Gainesville Christian Women Connection
Gainesville Christian Women's Connection will hold its July luncheon meeting on Thursday, July 22 at 401 W. Garnett in 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, July 19.

July will be Gainesville's own "Anana's," a decorative, fashion accessory and fragrance store on the Gainesville Square. Christi Jones will be the musical guest and the speaker will be "Pat Gordon" of Frisco. She is a former corporate trainer, team builder, and nurse. She will speak on "Live, Laugh and Love Life." She will provide strategies on how to add "Zest" to your life.

Rain water harvesting workshop scheduled

Do you want to keep your plants healthy and conserve precious water resources? A Rainwater Harvesting workshop aimed at water conservation will be offered to the public on Thursday, July 15, from 6-8 p.m. in the second floor Assembly Room at the Grayson County Courthouse in Sherman.

capture water for gardens and household plants. At the end of the session, the demonstration rain barrel will be given away as a door prize to one lucky participant.

Participants should enter through the south doors of the courthouse. The workshop is free and no reservations are required. The workshop is sponsored by the Grayson County Master Gardeners and the Texas AgriLife Extension office. For more information on the class as well as for other home lawn and garden information, call the Grayson County Master Gardeners at 903-813-4204.

customers during the filming. Even though patrons had to enter through the back and side doors, she said they seemed to have fun. "They seemed to enjoy seeing the actors and visiting with the costume people, the make-up people, and the production people," Joann commented.

Joann wasn't sure what to expect when they were first contacted about the possibility of being a film location. "I thought it was just going to be two or three hours early in the morning and not really disrupt traffic and disrupt the rest of the day like it did," she said. "Of course, the weather had a lot to do with that. They had some more shooting to do over at Saint Jo. They were supposed to get here by 9:30 or 10 and they didn't get here until after 12 and then it started to rain."

According to Joann, all of the shooting was done outside the business. "Everything was done on the front porch," she explained. "The actors were inside and pretending to play pool and have dinner, but they still shot through the window."

"The story is about six brothers. Two of them were on the bench out front and they were discussing whatever issues were going on at the time. The other four brothers were inside playing pool and having lunch."

She said that it is about Joseph and his brothers. In the modern version, Joseph lives on a ranch and his

Save some 'dough'

If you think it costs too much to eat healthy, it's time to think again.

Nutritious home-cooked meals are almost always cheaper and healthier than the alternatives. They don't have to take hours to prepare, either.

The key is to plan ahead, said Dr. Jo Ann Carson, a registered dietitian and professor of clinical nutrition at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

A few tips from Dr. Carson to stretch your food budget even further include:

Stock staples - Always have beans, barley, brown rice, pasta, and oatmeal on hand.

Shop in season - Fresh fruits and vegetables taste better and cost less when they're in season.

Make soup - It is a great way to use up leftover vegetables. Homemade soup is not only tastier but also lower in sodium than the canned varieties.

Prepare your own microwaveable meals - Double your recipes and freeze half for another meal. Be sure to use freezer- and microwave-safe containers for times when you need something quick.

brothers happen to meet him there. There are six brothers in *Seasons of Gray*, rather than the 12 in the Book of Genesis.

Commenting on the people involved in the film, Joann said, "We had a lot of fun. They were really nice and polite. It was great and we enjoyed them."

If you were in the area as filming took place, the camera may have caught you in the background. To watch Muenster in the movie, you will have to wait until the fall of 2011. Stehlik said that this was the first of six weeks of filming. The remainder will be shot in and around Dallas. It then will take four or five months to do production and edit on the film. He anticipates that the first cut will be ready this December or January, with the release set for the following fall.



Scenes for *Seasons of Gray* were shot at Doc's last Friday. Pictured above, from left, are Andrew Cheeney who plays Joseph, producer Paul Stehlik, Jr., and his wife, writer Sarah Stehlik. The center photo shows that rain or shine the show goes on; below, members of the cast visit at Doc's. Photos by Phil Keil and Scott Wood



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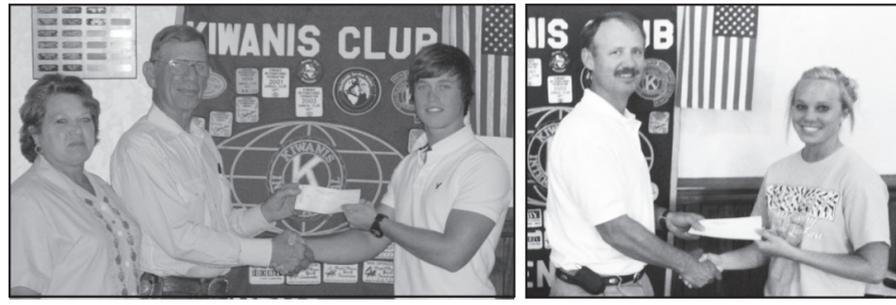
Some restrictions apply.



Early summer rains pull moisture up to normal

Winter's abundant moisture slowed down with the coming of spring. April and May each produced around 3 to 3 1/2 inches. With the beginning of summer in June, temperatures were hotter than normal with little rainfall. The area was drying up quickly, its lush grass browning. Finally in the last week of June, the rains came! Vegetation found new life, greened up, and put on new growth. The first few days of July added another .52 inches and the weather forecasts favor rain chances for the next week. The official moisture measurement for Muenster is recorded and reported by Carol Vogel.

Yr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
'50	2.25	2.45	.09	2.53	7.64	5.51	7.71	10.47	4.74	.02	.09	.03	43.53
'60	3.48	1.37	1.80	1.76	3.24	1.17	6.26	1.25	3.19	4.35	.29	3.54	31.70
'70	.36	3.83	2.57	4.83	4.05	1.09	1.09	.13	11.61	1.56	.52	.57	32.21
'80	1.58	1.71	.56	1.72	2.19	1.61	.26	.12	8.94	5.42	1.30	1.73	27.14
1946 to 1955													
10-yr. avg.	1.87	1.93	1.78	2.78	6.43	4.03	2.62	2.16	2.85	2.86	2.00	1.88	33.21
1956 to 1965													
10-yr. avg.	1.84	1.47	2.42	3.51	4.65	3.15	1.98	2.04	3.82	2.84	3.35	2.09	34.15
1966 to 1975													
10-yr. avg.	1.65	2.25	2.71	4.21	4.44	2.55	2.54	3.10	5.30	3.92	1.68	1.83	36.18
1976 to 1985													
10-yr. avg.	1.58	2.14	3.70	2.74	5.29	3.43	1.45	1.31	3.16	5.43	2.38	1.43	34.01
1986 to 1995													
10-yr. avg.	1.71	2.22	2.46	2.91	5.24	3.38	1.51	1.88	3.95	2.69	2.09	2.69	32.73
1996 to 2005													
10-yr. avg.	1.82	3.07	3.26	3.07	3.42	4.63	2.20	1.88	2.67	3.94	2.92	2.28	35.17
1996	.78	trace	3.30	3.65	.18	4.50	2.47	5.32	7.75	2.94	5.18	.18	36.25
1997	.49	7.44	2.69	5.31	8.48	3.32	.52	1.47	0.97	4.29	1.26	4.91	41.15
1998	4.15	1.89	5.44	1.92	1.00	5.20	0.00	.87	1.82	3.17	2.42	2.67	30.55
1999	2.40	.24	3.62	2.80	6.94	4.41	0.00	0.16	0.99	1.76	0.81	2.49	26.62
2000	1.75	0.70	2.93	2.80	1.00	4.66	2.69	0.00	2.07	7.92	7.12	3.50	37.14
2001	3.78	7.93	4.32	2.15	4.41	1.75	2.23	0.69	3.98	1.61	1.34	2.95	37.14
2002	1.11	3.63	6.43	4.94	2.50	4.42	5.10	0.89	2.06	8.44	1.54	4.07	45.13
2003	.05	3.24	1.07	1.33	4.05	3.07	0.15	1.97	5.31	0.08	2.29	1.11	23.72
2004	1.77	3.87	2.13	5.51	3.16	12.15	5.30	1.85	1.51	6.34	6.82	.71	51.12
2005	1.92	1.79	0.70	0.33	2.48	2.86	3.54	5.53	.23	2.88	.42	.20	22.88
2006	1.41	2.22	3.90	4.98	2.42	1.36	0.48	3.79	3.27	2.75	.96	4.68	32.22
2007	2.86	0.59	5.57	0.80	9.37	13.27	6.98	2.06	4.84	1.96	1.13	1.65	51.08
2008	0.26	1.71	7.49	3.13	3.20	1.72	1.78	5.61	2.19	1.51	0.63	0.19	29.42
2009	0.46	1.05	2.24	10.24	3.07	1.36	3.94	1.32	6.56	8.79	0.31	2.72	42.06
2010	2.26	3.89	3.16	3.6	2.97	4.9							20.78



Kiwanis Scholars - Receiving scholarships from the Muenster Kiwanis included, Muenster High graduates, above, left Chris Valliere, \$250 from Jane and Charles Barfknecht, scholarship committee members; right - Delana Sicking, \$500 from Kevin Sebabe, Kiwanis treasurer. Below, Sacred Heart graduates Chad Henscheid, \$250, and Kristin LeBrasseur, \$500 from Shane Wiley, former president, and President Butch Fisher.



Separating urban health myths from reality

Have you seen those mass-forwarded e-mail photos of the shark leaping up to chomp the guy who's dangling from a helicopter? How about the shocking tales of evil organ harvesters who get partygoers drunk, then steal their kidneys? Chances are you have — but not recently. That's because these golden oldie urban myths and hoaxes were debunked years ago. They're hardly ever seen anymore and, when they are, they fool no one.

But what about the startling, sometimes plausible-sounding, health claims making the rounds lately via e-mail, word of mouth, and even the mainstream news media? Here are five examples of modern health folklore, along with experts'

take on their veracity.

Claim 1: Your cell phone may cause your heart pacemaker to malfunction. The Straight Scoop: Possibly true.

A 2007 Dutch study concluded that some electronic medical devices, including pacemakers, syringe pumps, and ventilators, can be affected by signals from handheld communication devices that use wireless Internet signals. The effects often were minor. But, in more than 40% of cases where signals affected medical equipment performance, the effect was serious enough to be potentially life-threatening.

On the other hand, a 2004 study by the Mayo Clinic found no interference between medical devices and non-Wi-Fi phones. Until

definitive results are in, it's best not to use Internet-enabled phones if you have a pacemaker.

Claim 2: A toddler in Texas died of a heroin overdose after being stuck by a syringe in a fast food restaurant playground. The Straight Scoop: False.

This is an evergreen classic among urban myths, recurring with minor variations for at least nine years. The bottom line is, you'd be hard pressed to receive a fatally large dose of narcotics from an incident like this. Needle sticks also are much rarer than web folklore suggests.

Claim 3: Scientists have identified a new version of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) has been that can be transmitted through

the air. The Straight Scoop: False.

HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is usually spread through sexual activity, or by direct introduction of blood from an infected person — as through the sharing of hypodermic syringes. The Centers for Disease Control also note that some babies born to HIV-infected women have received the virus during pregnancy, birth, or breast feeding.

But, after countless scientific studies that have looked at all the possible ways HIV is transmitted, there's still no evidence that the virus can be passed along through the air. Or, for that matter, through insect bites, water, insects, or casual contact.

Claim 4: Microwaving food in plastic containers can give

you cancer or damage your reproductive system. The Straight Scoop: Probably false.

The claim is that plastics used in microwave cookware are full of cancer-causing substances that leach into food as it cooks. Containers labeled "microwave-safe" almost always are.

One note of caution: Bisphenol A (BPA), a chemical used in some approved microwave cooking containers, still is under study. European tests on animals found possible links between directly ingested BPA and risk of cancer and reproductive system changes. No such effects have been found in humans.

If you want to avoid BPA in microwave cookware and other containers, look for a

numeral 7 surrounded by a triangle stamped on or near the bottom of the container. This means the container is made of polycarbonate plastic, a type that often contains BPA. Not all category 7 plastics are polycarbonates, though — just the ones that are hard, clear, and shatter-proof.

Claim 5: Teens have died from inhaling a compressed air product sold for use in cleaning dust off computer parts. The Straight Scoop: True.

This story often is presented in an all-caps-laden format typical of hoax e-mails. But credible news sources confirm that it, and several others like it, are true. They stress, however, that the culprit was the propellant in the product, not the air itself.

Death from oxygen displacement or direct toxicity can be caused by inhaling ("huffing") many aerosol sprays or fumes emitted by liquids. These include butane, propane, and other chemicals, including the propellant used by the boy in the e-mailed story. The story is striking because the product is described as compressed air, but the real cautionary tale is about inhalant abuse in general.

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I, Khawaja N. Anwar, M.D., F.A.C.C. announce the closure of my cardiology and internal medicine practice in Gainesville, Texas effective June 30, 2010.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my patients over the last 27 years who trusted me with the most precious thing in life, their health. It was a pleasure and great honor to be your physician and I loved it.

I pray for God's blessing upon all my patients and their families and citizens of Cooke County at large.

My practice is being acquired by North Texas Medical Center and I expect a seamless transition to a new physician in the next few days.

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SPORTS

Catching crappies all summer

Crappies are fun to catch, and for the past few weeks, anglers who have been chasing crappies have, for the most part, been successful. The crappies have been in shallow water and have been eating. As we get into the summer months, crappies will move out of the shallows and be harder to locate. If you want to keep catching them, you need to fish where they are. Here's how you do it.

Crappies spawn in shallow areas. After they spawn, they move out to weed edges or drop offs in deeper water to recover from the spawn. For awhile you can catch them on those weed lines or drop-offs. In some bodies of water, they'll stay there all summer, but on other bodies of water, they'll move to deeper water where they'll spend the summer. Those deeper areas can be deep points extending from the shoreline, sunken islands, or areas that appear to be featureless. If there appears to be no bottom structure that's holding the fish, they're probably there because that's where their food is. In the summer, fish, regardless of species, will be wherever they can get something to eat.

Cruise the deeper areas paying close attention to your sonar. Modern sonar will reveal what's going on in the depths. The newer depth finders that have a color display do an outstanding job of showing the fish and their food, even when they're hugging the bottom. Crappies have a reputation for suspending above the bottom a few or quite a few feet, but more often than you might think, they'll be right on the bottom just like a walleye.

When they're on the bottom, fish them like you would a walleye. Hover directly overhead and work a Slurp! Jig with a Power Tube or a Fire-Ball jig with a minnow close to the bottom.

If they're suspended, move a short cast away from them and throw a Thumper Crappie King to them. Let it sink until it's at the level where you think the crappies are, then start your retrieve. You'll need to experiment a bit to find the proper depth

for retrieving your jig, but once you do, the bite will be consistent.

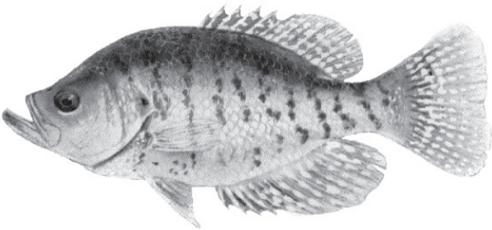
Four pound test line is best when the crappies are right on the bottom, as the smaller diameter allows small baits to get to the bottom quicker.

When they're suspended,

six pound test might be better, as its larger diameter slows the fall of your lure and allows the bait to stay in the fish zone easier and longer.

If you like to catch crappies year 'round, keep these ideas in mind and you'll do so.

Bob Jensen,
The Fisherman's Wire



Parasite suspected in minor dove die-offs

Avian trichomoniasis, a naturally-occurring parasite, is the likely cause of minor dove die-offs observed recently from South Texas to the Panhandle, suggest Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists.

"It's a fairly common occurrence, but folks should be aware of it," said Corey Mason, TPWD dove program leader.

Trichomonas gallinae is a single cell protozoan common in nature that circulates within bird populations. Trichomoniasis is considered by many avian disease specialists to be the most important disease of doves in North America. Outbreaks at bird feeding stations and similar locations reported to the National Wildlife Health Center have occurred from coast-to-coast within the United States.

Epizootics due to T. gallinae can happen year-round, but most outbreaks have been reported during late spring, summer, and fall. Because oral lesions often affect the ability of the bird to feed, infected birds lose weight, appear listless, and stand grouped together.

Avian trichomoniasis poses no human health risks; however, precautions should always be taken when handling sick or dead birds.

Mason said because this parasite is transmitted through cross-feeding and bill contact, impacts to dove populations can be minimized by taking precautionary measures, including removal of dead birds and temporary removal of artificial watering areas and feed, or routine cleaning of artificial watering areas and replenishing bird feeders with fresh feed daily. Platforms and other surfaces where feed may collect, including the area under feeders, should be frequently decontaminated with 10% solution of household bleach in water.



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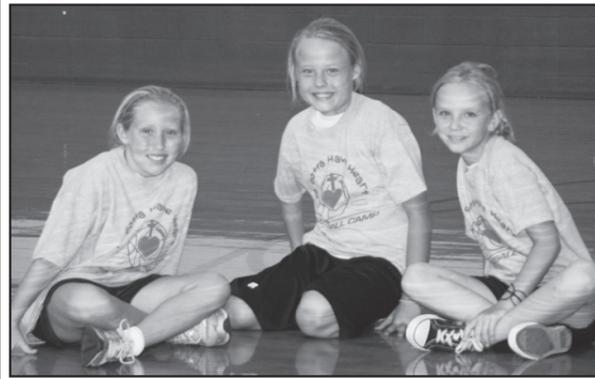
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Sacred Heart's award giving basketball camp



At left, Kate Springer, Megan Rohmer, and Mackenzie Bayer wait for awards. Above - Kaley Berkley with her award.
Courtesy photos



Summer ball in full swing - At left - Cassie Wright waits for the pitch. At right - Parker Forsche gets a hit.
Janie Hartman photos

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Survey affirms Texas dove seasons on target



Texas has the largest dove population, the most dove hunters, and the most flexible dove hunting framework in the nation. A recent opinion survey indicates Texas dove hunters are content with the current seasons and bag limits.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department asked the opinions and attitudes of Texas dove hunters toward season structures and bag limits in an August 2009 mail survey sent to 7,500 recipients. Besides revisiting several issues of continuing interest, the dove survey specifically sought feedback on three issues, including the late season segment being established in the North Zone, late season segment interest in the South Zone, and the new 15-bird daily bag limit for the Central and South Zones.

"We have a lot of options available for tweaking the system and want to be sure we're serving the needs of our dove hunters," said Corey Mason, TPWD dove program leader. "Some things, like opening prior to Sept. 1, are out of our hands. But, according to the survey results, our hunters prefer by a two-to-one margin that traditional Sept. 1 opener."

Recent changes in mourning dove harvest strategies resulted in the Central Management Unit having a single season structure option, a 70-day season, and 15-bird daily bag limit, although state regulations can be more restrictive should the Commission choose. With 10 extra days now

available in the Texas North Zone, TPWD asked hunters what season structure they preferred. A split season was preferred by 56.7%, with a shorter late segment being most preferred. Additionally, under current regulations, this season structure would standardize regulations between the North and Central Zones.

One question that seems to come up routinely in coffee shop talks relates to half-day shooting versus all-day. As in past surveys when this question was asked, dove hunters continue to prefer the all-day option by a sizeable margin, with only 15% preferring noon-to-sunset shooting hours. Response preferences have averaged around the 80% rate in every survey TPWD has conducted regarding the all-day option. All-day hunting will continue as long as there is no evidence indicating it is harmful to the resource.

Texas has had a four day Special White-winged Dove Area hunting season the first two complete weekends (Saturday and Sunday, noon to sunset shooting hours) in September in portions of South Texas for more than 50 years. Hunters indicated they prefer this format over a Friday-Saturday option and no other changes to the special season are needed.

Texas boasts 350,000 dove hunters and the survey showed nearly half (44.5%) hunt in the Central Zone. Prior to the 2009-10 season, hunters in the Central Zone preferred a longer season and smaller bag limit. How-

ever, now that both 70 days and 15 birds are available in one option, it becomes a win-win proposition for hunters.

South Zone hunters also prefer the 15-bird bag and 70-day season. According to the survey results, South Zone hunters also prefer to open as early as possible and hunt as late in the season as allowed by federal law over having a consistent closing date.

"Texas is the only state allowed to establish a late season that runs until Jan. 25," said Mason. "We have not run the season to the end of the framework for many years mainly because the primary hunting interest comes early and the segment of hunters who participate in the January season is very small."

The complete survey findings are available online at http://archive.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/feedback/public_comment/media/texas_dove_hunter_opinion_survey_results_2010.pdf.

STATE AGENCIES ISSUE ANTHRAX ADVISORY

The Texas Animal Health Commission, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department have issued a summer and early fall alert for ranchers, hunters, and anyone who may be going afield in Texas. One case of anthrax has been confirmed in a white-tailed deer herd on a game ranch in Uvalde County, which is in an area of South Texas endemic to anthrax. Although humans are also susceptible, no cases have been reported to date, and simple precautions can effectively reduce the risks of humans contracting the disease.

Anthrax is a bacterial disease of sheep, goats, cattle, horses, deer, and other animals. The bacteria which cause anthrax can remain dormant in the soil for many years. A period of drought followed by heavy rains frequently occurs just before the appearance of anthrax in livestock and deer. Animals that eat the rapidly growing grasses also consume soil that contains the bacteria. Currently, soil conditions are right to produce more outbreaks around the triangular geographic area bounded

by Uvalde, Ozona, and Eagle Pass, which cover portions of Crockett, Val Verde, Sutton, Edwards, Kinney, and Maverick counties.

Transmission of anthrax to humans can occur whether an affected animal is alive or has died from the disease. Simple precautions can greatly reduce the risk of contracting the disease from these animals. Carcasses of dead livestock and deer should not be cut open to allow blood to escape. Under no circumstances should the hide, hair, skulls, or horns of an animal suspected of having anthrax be salvaged, nor should the meat of these animals be eaten.

During an anthrax outbreak, hunters in the affected areas are discouraged from taking feral hogs because they consume the meat of dead animals and could be carrying the bacteria. Fortunately, by the time deer hunting season starts, cool weather usually puts an end to the often seasonal anthrax outbreak. At minimum, hunters should harvest only healthy-looking deer and other hoof stock. If a deer has ingested anthrax bacteria, within hours, it will stagger, tremble, or exhibit convulsions, and death is inevitable.

When an area experiences an anthrax outbreak, ranchers should wear long sleeves and gloves when handling or vaccinating livestock. Afterward, good sanitation measures should be followed, including hand washing and laundering of clothing. This aids in preventing contact with the anthrax bacteria which may have been picked up on the hides of animals. Do not pick up bones, horns or shed antlers, and pets and children should be kept

away from dead animals. Healthy animals also should be moved from a contaminated pasture during an outbreak, but must remain on the premise and not hauled down the road to another pasture.

To prevent additional soil contamination, Texas Animal Health Commission regulations require that anthrax affected animal carcasses must be burned, until thoroughly consumed, along with any associated bedding and manure. This practice prevents wild pigs, coyotes, dogs, or other predators from dragging carcasses (and the accompanying anthrax bacteria) from one pasture to another, and spilling out the anthrax spores.

TAHC regulations also require that livestock on infected premises be quarantined for at least 10 days after all the livestock have been vaccinated against the disease. During this time, anthrax-exposed animals may still die from the disease, while healthy, vaccinated animals will develop immunity.

All anthrax cases — suspected or laboratory confirmed — must be reported to the TAHC. The regulatory agency operates a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-550-8242, with state or federal regulatory veterinarians available at all times to take calls and work with private veterinary practitioners and producers.

More information about anthrax is available by contacting the TPWD Wildlife Division at (512) 389-4505, The Texas Animal Health Commission at (512) 719-0710, or the Zoonosis Control Division, Texas Department of State Health Services, at (512) 458-7255.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

**Open-House Style Public Meeting
Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035**
The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in
cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration,
will host the second series of open-house style public
meetings for the development of the Statewide Long-
Range Transportation Plan 2035. This plan will
establish a framework for addressing the challenges
of our aging infrastructure, urban densification, and
a growing population through 2035. The plan will
also address the need for improvements to all modes
of transportation including roadways, pedestrian
and bicycle facilities, transit, freight rail, passenger
rail, airports, water ports, pipelines, and Intelligent
Transportation Systems.
The purpose of this second series of meetings is to
present project updates and to solicit comments and
input to aid in the development of the plan. Information
will be available for viewing at the meetings, including
exhibits and videos about the status and results of the
study to-date. Representatives from TxDOT will be in
attendance to discuss the development of the plan and
answer questions. Forms will be provided for submitting
written comments.
**The open-house style public meeting in the
Wichita Falls area will be held on Thursday,
August 5, 2010 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at: TxDOT
Training Center, 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita
Falls, TX, 76302.**
Information regarding additional meeting locations
throughout the state can be found at www.txdot.gov,
key word: transportation plan 2035 or by calling the
project's toll-free information line at 1-888-5-TX-PLAN
(1-888-589-7526).
For those unable to attend the open-house style
public meeting, written comments can be submitted
on the project website at: www.txdot.gov, key word:
transportation plan 2035; by email at: TPP_txtranplan@dot.state.tx.us; or by mail to: Peggy Thurin, P.E., Project
Manager, Statewide Transportation Plan 2035, 4544
Post Oak Place, Suite 224, Houston, Texas, 77027.
Persons with special communication or accommodation
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FARM & RANCH

Peaches, plums induce deliciously promising death of breast cancer cells

Breast cancer cells - even the most aggressive type - died after treatments with peach and plum extracts in lab tests at Texas AgriLife Research recently, and scientists say the results are deliciously promising. Not only did the cancerous cells keel over, but the normal cells were not harmed in the process.

AgriLife Research scientists say two phenolic compounds are responsible for the cancer cell deaths in the study, which was published in the Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry. The phenols are organic compounds that occur in fruits. They are slightly acidic and may be associated with traits such as aroma, taste, or color.

"It was a differential effect which is what you're looking for because in current cancer treatment with chemotherapy, the substance kills all cells, so it is really tough on the body," said Dr. David Byrne, AgriLife Research plant breeder who studies stone fruit. "Here, there is a five-fold difference in the toxic intensity. You can put it at a level where it will kill the cancer cells - the very aggressive ones - and not the normal ones."

Byrne and Dr. Luis Cisneros-Zevallos originally studied the antioxidants and phytonutrients in plums and found them to match or

exceed the blueberry which had been considered superior to other fruits in those categories.

"The following step was to choose some of these high antioxidant commercial varieties and study their anticancer properties," Cisneros-Zevallos said. "And we chose breast cancer as the target because it's one of the cancers with highest incidence among women. So it is of big concern."

According to the National Cancer Institute, there were 192,370 new cases of breast cancer in females and 1,910 cases in males in 2009. That year, 40,170 women and 440 men died from breast cancer. The World Health Organization reports that breast cancer accounts for 16% of the cancer deaths of women globally.

Cisneros-Zevallos, an AgriLife Research food scientist, said the team compared normal cells to two types of breast cancer, including the most aggressive type. The cells were treated with an extract from two commercial varieties, the "Rich Lady" peach and the "Black Splendor" plum.

"These extracts killed the cancer cells but not the normal cells," Cisneros-Zevallos said.

A closer look at the extracts determined that two specific phenolic acid components

- chlorogenic and neochlorogenic - were responsible for killing the cancer cells while not affecting the normal cells, Cisneros-Zevallos said.

The two compounds are very common in fruits, the researchers said, but the stone fruits such as plums and peaches have especially high levels.

"So this is very, very attractive from the point of view of being an alternative to typical chemotherapy which kills normal cells along with cancerous ones," Byrne added.

The team said laboratory tests also confirmed that the compounds prevented cancer from growing in animals given the compounds.

Byrne plans to examine more fully the lines of the varieties that were tested to see how these compounds might be incorporated into his research of breeding plums and peaches. Cisneros-Zevallos will continue testing these extracts and compounds in different types of cancer and conduct further studies of the molecular mechanisms involved.

The work documenting the health benefits of stone fruit has been supported by the Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center at Texas A&M University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the California Tree Fruit Agreement.

Texas cattle on feed up 1%

USDA released their Cattle on Feed report June 18, and the numbers for Texas and Oklahoma are encouraging. Cattle on feed for 1000+ capacity feedlots in Texas is up 1% from June 2009 and up 5% from May 2010. Oklahoma cattle on feed for 1000+ capacity feedlots is up 11% over last year and up 6% from May 2010.

The numbers for cattle placed on feed in Texas were somewhat higher, claiming the highest gains against most other states with a 36% rise since the same time last year and a 55% gain over the previous month. Oklahoma placements had a 39% increase over the previous year and a 63% gain over May 2010.

Total U.S. inventory of cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in U.S. feedlots was up 1% from June 1, 2009.

Just a thought

Bad advice is like too much fertilizer ... either way you'll get burned.

Give to the earth and it will give to you.

County Agent's Report

Mosquito control around the home

Mosquitoes not only irritate and annoy people, but they also can transmit many disease-causing organisms to humans and animals. They spread such diseases as West Nile virus, encephalitis, dengue, yellow fever, malaria, and filariasis. Mosquitoes are also responsible for transmitting heartworm in dogs.

Mosquitoes have four distinct stages during their life cycle: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. They can complete this life cycle in as little as 10 days, depending on food availability, weather conditions and the species of mosquito. They begin their life in water. When they mature, they move to land to feed on nectar, plant sap, or some source of plant carbohydrates. The female mosquitoes require a meal of blood as a protein source prior to producing eggs.

Mosquito control usually means a very calculated, multi-directional approach. Extension Entomologists recommend several practices that will help solve the problem; these are listed below:

Eliminate breeding sites for larvae

Reduce standing water that provides breeding sites. Eliminate containers such as old tires, buckets, cans, and bottles that collect and hold rainwater and become good breeding sites for mosquitoes. Drain water from flower pots, bird baths, rain gutters, rain barrels, birdbaths, pet dishes, livestock watering troughs, etc., at least once a week.

Empty your plastic wading pool weekly and store it indoors when not in use.

Fill holes or depressions in trees with sand or mortar, or drain them after each rain by drilling holes into the tree.

Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.

Reduce adult mosquito populations

Mow tall grass or reduce the amount of brush and other foliage in your area to reduce the resting sites for adult mosquitoes.

For temporary relief in yards or high traffic areas, use fog treatments or surface treatments of insecticides that are labeled for that use and apply them following directions on the product label.

Avoid contact with mosquitoes

Use screening in your homes and pet kennels. Keep the screens in good repair and be sure that they seal around the frames of the door or window.

Schedule outdoor activities during times when mosquitoes are not active. Mosquito species that are active at dusk and dawn can often be avoided. Species that bite throughout the day are more difficult to avoid.

Wear long, loose-fitting clothing to avoid mosquito bites. Use head nets when mosquitoes are very abundant.

Use repellents whenever in a mosquito infested location. Products that contain DEET have been shown to be the most reliable repellents.

For short-term relief in outdoor areas such as patios and picnic areas, use a fogger and citronella candles or punks as a deterrent.

Protect your pets with drugs that eliminate heart-worm.

Treat larval breeding sites

Use mosquito fish or other fish species in permanent bodies of water whenever the water will support them. Mosquito fish can be found in other ponds, pet shops, or bait stores. Use Bacillus thuringiensis israeliensis products such as Mosquito Dunks® to treat permanent water bodies to eliminate larvae.

You can use oil treatments on the surface of standing water to kill larvae. Use commercial products according to the instructions on the product label. Be aware that other organisms in the water body may be affected by the treatment.

TDA market recap

For the week ending July 3, feeder cattle prices at Texas auctions were mostly steady to \$4 higher per hundredweight, with a few as much as \$10 higher. Auction receipts were down for the week as most late-week sales were closed for the Independence Day holiday weekend. Fed cattle prices were unchanged for the week and wholesale beef prices were slightly higher.

Corn and grain sorghum prices were higher for the week after USDA reported fewer planted acres and lower stocks in storage than expected.

As for futures markets, wheat, corn, and lumber were higher, while feeder cattle, fed cattle, and cotton were lower.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly adequate to short, with surplus conditions noted in areas that received drenching rains from Alex.

Wheat harvest progressed to 78% complete statewide, well behind the normal 88%, but nearing completion in some areas. Grain sorghum planting is nearing completion and 56% of the acreage is headed. Harvest has begun in a few areas. The state's corn crop is silking on 55% of the acreage and 6% was mature. Crop and pasture conditions were rated mostly good to fair statewide.

EPA proposes pesticide permit to regulate usage

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing a new permit that would require all operators to reduce pesticide discharges by using the lowest effective amount of pesticide. The proposed permit is in response to an April 9, 2009

court decision that found that pesticide discharges to U.S. waters were pollutants, which require permits.

EPA estimates that the pesticide general permit will affect approximately 35,000 pesticide applicators nationally who perform approximately half a million pesticide applications annually. The Agency's draft permit currently does not cover terrestrial applications to control pests on agricultural crops or forest floor covers. The draft permit does include pesticide uses on mosquito and flying insects, aquatic weed and algae, aquatic nuisance animal control, and forest canopy pest control. EPA is soliciting public comment on whether additional use patterns should be covered by this general permit.

EPA plans to finalize the permit in December 2010, and it will take effect April 9, 2011. EPA will accept written comments on the draft permit for 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

AMI releases video explaining different beef cuts

AMI released a new educational video outlining for consumers the many different cuts of beef available in today's marketplace. The video features meat scientist Betsy Booren, Ph.D., director of scientific affairs of the American Meat Institute Foundation.

The video is aimed to educate consumers as they shop for different cuts of beef at the supermarket or butcher during the unofficial start of prime grilling season and May's National Barbecue Month.

To learn about the different cuts of beef and to watch the short video, visit AMI's YouTube channel, The Meat News Network, at <http://www.YouTube.com/MeatNewsNetwork>.

In addition to the video, AMI's companion brochure, "A Consumer's Guide to the Meat Case," offers a user-friendly grid detailing various cuts, their local and fanciful names, and the best cooking methods for each.

The free brochure can be downloaded at <http://www.meatmattersinfo.org/>

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Kirsten Patton, MPT

Kirsten Patton got her Bachelor of Arts degree at the College of Wooster and earned her Master's degree in Physical Therapy from Hahnemann University. She is certified in Sports Medicine with 25 years of experience. She worked with professional tennis for 14 years at Wimbledon, U.S. Open, and French Open top 10 players in the world. Kirsten is a member of the National Athletic Trainers Association.

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Light Weight Steers & Heifers - \$5 to \$7 HIGHER. Feeder Steers & Heifers - STEADY to \$1 HIGHER. Packer Cows & Bulls - STEADY. Pairs - \$40 - \$60 HIGHER. Bred Cows - STEADY. Sold at Friday's sale JUNE 25 were 3,254, compared to 2,279 the previous week. Sold at Tuesday's sale JULY 6 were 325 Goats, 67 Sheep, and 179 Hogs. The numbers from last week were 325 Goats, 67 Sheep, and 179 Hogs. Results follow:

Feeder Steers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.38-1.60; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.10-1.38; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.30-1.52; Nos. 2 & 3, .90-1.30; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.15-1.34; Nos. 2 & 3, .80-1.15; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 1.10-1.21; Nos. 2 & 3, .80-1.10; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 1.05-1.21; Nos. 2 & 3, .75-1.05; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 1.02-1.17; Nos. 2 & 3, .80-1.02.	Stocker Cows (per head) Pregnancy-tested, 3 to 9-year-olds - Large Frame: \$850-\$970; Medium Frame: \$550-\$850. Cow/Calf Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - Large Frame: \$1000-\$1240; Medium Frame: \$650-\$1000. Baby Calves: Holstein: NT Cross Breeds: \$70-\$290.	Ewes (per lb.) Stocker: 40-60; Thin: .15-.35; Fat: NT. Bucks (per lb.) Thin: NT; Fat: NT. Barbardo (per head) Lambs: \$25-\$45; Ewes: \$30-\$70; Bucks: NT.
Feeder Heifers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.18-1.40; Nos. 2 & 3, .90-1.18; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.15-1.40; Nos. 2 & 3, .80-1.15; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.07-1.25; Nos. 2 & 3, .75-1.07; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 1.04-1.16; Nos. 2 & 3, .75-1.04; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, .99-1.13; Nos. 2 & 3, .70-.99; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, .89-1.02; Nos. 2 & 3, .60-.89.	Barrows & Gilts (per lb.) US #1, 230-270: 57-65; US #2, 220-280: 48-56. Feeders (per head): 100-175 lbs.: NT; 25-90 lbs.: 15-65.	Goats (per head) Kids: 20-35 lbs.: \$25-\$50; 35-55 lbs.: \$35-\$65; 55-75 lbs.: \$55-\$85. Yearlings (per head) 75-120 lbs.: \$75-\$115. Nannies (per head) Stocker: \$50-\$115; Milk Type: NT; Slaughter: \$85-\$110; Thin: \$35-\$50.
Slaughter Cattle (per lb.) Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade #1-2, 1,200-2,050 lbs.: .64-.82; Slaughter Cows: #1&3, .57-.66; Cutter: .32-.56.	Sows (per lb.) Feeder, 400 or less: 22-39; Light wt., 400-500: NT; Med. wt., 500-600: NT; Heavy wt., 600+: NT. Boars (per lb.) 300 lb. up: .0550; 200-300 lbs.: NT; Light wt.: NT. Sheep (per lb.) Feeder lambs: 40-60 lbs., 1.00-1.14; Light lambs: 60-90 lbs., 1.00-1.14; Fat lambs: 90-120 lbs., .90-1.00.	Billies (per head) 120 lbs-up Breeders: \$115-\$145. Slaughter: \$85-\$110. Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny: NT; 3/4 Nanny: NT; Full Nanny: NT, 1/2 Billy: NT; 3/4 Billy: NT; Full Billy: NT.

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We Wouldn't be 83
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JULY 12 - 18, 2010**

Weekly Grocery Specials

Fischer's Quality Meats



ORIGINAL OR MESQUITE SHURFINE Charcoal Briquets 8.3 LB. 2 \$5 for	SHURFINE ASSORTED FLAVORS Ice Cream 56 OZ. SQR. CTN. 3 \$5 for	KRAFT ASSORTED VARIETIES Barbecue Sauce 18 OZ. BTL. 69¢	ASSORTED VARIETIES Shurfine Soda 12 PACK, 12 OZ. CANS 5 \$10 for
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PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF
Ribeye Steaks **\$6.59** LB.

FARM RAISED
Catfish Nuggets **\$1.49** LB.

PILGRIM'S PRIDE
Drumsticks or Thighs **89¢** LB.

TENDERIZED BEEF
Cube Steak **\$2.89** LB.

TOWN TALK SANDWICH OR ROUND TOP White Bread24 OZ. 99¢	ASSORTED VARIETIES Coca-Cola2 LTR. 4 \$5
SMUCKER'S CHOCOLATE OR CARAMEL Sundae Syrup20 OZ. 2 \$5	SWEET, DILL, OR SWEET JALAPEÑO Best Maid Relish8-12 OZ. \$1.29
BATHROOM TISSUE Charmin Basic12 BIG ROLLS \$4.99	SHURFINE ORIGINAL, LIGHT, OR FAT FREE Coffee Creamer16 OZ. 2 \$3
PRINT PAPER TOWELS Bounty Basic8 ROLLS \$4.99	SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Skillet Meals5.6-7.6 OZ. 5 \$5
9.5-12 OZ. BAG, REGULAR \$3.99 Ruffles® or Doritos®2 FOR \$5	ASSORTED Gatorade32 OZ. 99¢
HUNT'S Tomato Ketchup24 OZ. 89¢	SANTA FE Bean Dip9 OZ. \$1.59
SELECTED VARIETIES General Mills Cereals 10.7-12.25 OZ. 2 \$4	ASSORTED FLAVORS Mini Moon Pies12 CT. \$1.99
WOLF BRAND REGULAR, HOT, OR MILD Chili No Beans15 OZ. 2 \$3	NESTLE Pure Life Water24 PACK \$3.99
ALL PURPOSE ShurSaving Flour25 LB. \$5.99	THRIFTWAY Drinking Water24 PACK \$2.99
ASSORTED VARIETIES Hawaiian PunchGALLON \$2.79	SHURFINE FAMILY SIZE Tea Bags24 CT. \$1.09
SHURFINE DINNER Macaroni & Cheese7.25 OZ. 2 \$1	ASSORTED RICE & PASTA Lipton Sides6 OZ. 99¢
SELECTED VARIETIES PASTA American Beauty12-16 OZ. 5 \$5	CREAM STYLE OR WHOLE KERNEL CORN, CUT OR FRENCH STYLE GREEN BEANS, PEAS, OR MIXED VEGETABLES Libby's Vegetables15.5 OZ. 79¢
HUNT'S ASSORTED VARIETIES Spaghetti Sauce26-26.5 OZ. 5 \$5	SWANSON Chicken Broth15.5 OZ. 2 \$1
ASSORTED VARIETIES Spam Luncheon Meat 12 OZ. 2 \$5	ASSORTED Shurfine Pineapple15.5 OZ. 89¢
LIBBY'S REGULAR OR CHICKEN Vienna Sausage5 OZ. 2 \$1	BETTY CROCKER ASSORTED Cake Mixes18 OZ. \$1.09
WESTERN FAMILY WIND RESISTANT OR FLEXIBLE REACH Utility LighterEACH \$2.99	12 PACK Coca-Cola \$4.00

24 PACK Natural Light 12 OZ. CANS \$14.99
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MARKET SLICED HONEY ROASTED OR Virginia Smoked HamLB. \$3.19	BALL PARK Beef Franks1 LB. \$2.79
MARKET SLICED Baby Swiss CheeseLB. \$2.99	OSCAR MAYER SELECT VARIETIES CHOPPED HAM, FAT FREE BOLOGNA, OR LITE BEEF BOLOGNA \$1.99
SELECT VARIETIES FROZEN Fast Fixin' Entrees26-36 OZ. \$5.09	Lunch Meats8 OZ. \$1.99
HILLSHIRE FARMS SELECT VARIETIES Little Smokies Links \$2.59	BOILED AND SMOKED Oscar Mayer Ham6 OZ. \$2.09
PRICE'S Pimiento Spread7 OZ. \$1.29	OSCAR MAYER Bologna8 OZ. \$1.49
MEAT OR BUN SIZE MEAT Ball Park Franks1 LB. \$2.09	SELECT VARIETIES HOMESTYLE POTOATO, MUSTARD POTATO, OR ELBOW MACARONI 89¢

Fresh Produce

PREMIUM Avocados4 FOR \$1	FRESH BUNCH Green Onions2 FOR \$1
FRESH Yellow Corn4 FOR \$1	SUMMER RIPE SWEET Peaches or Nectarines2 LBS. \$3
SEDED WatermelonsEACH \$3.99	WASHINGTON ApricotsLB. \$1.99
CHILEAN Navel Oranges2 LBS. \$3	NORTHWEST CherriesLB. \$2.99
FRESH RED RIPE Strawberries1 LB. 2 \$4	YELLOW, ZUCCHINI, OR MEXICAN GREY Fresh SquashLB. 99¢
BLACKBERRIES, BLUEBERRIES, OR RASPBERRIES Fresh Berries6 OZ. 2 \$4	FRESH BAGGED Granny Smith Apples ...3 LB. 2 \$5
PREMIUM CELLO WRAPPED Iceberg LettuceEACH 99¢	TROPICAL CoconutsEACH 79¢
CRISP GREEN Broccoli CrownsLB. 99¢	SELECTED VARIETIES Dole Salad Blends ...11.3-13 OZ. 2 \$6

**Congratulations,
Tina Walterscheid
Winner of the June
Dairy Month Drawing
for 2 gallons of
Shurfine Milk every
week for a Year.**

Dairy & Frozen Foods

ASSORTED VARIETIES SunnyD Punch GALLON 2 \$5 FOR	BANQUET CHICKEN TENDERS, PATTIES, OR NUGGETS, OR SELECTED VARIETIES Family Entrees12.6-32 OZ. 2 FOR \$5
COLE'S Garlic Bread Loaf16 OZ. 2 \$5	CHUNG'S ASSORTED VARIETIES Egg Rolls or Spring Rolls 10-12 OZ. 2 FOR \$5
	GREEN GIANT ASSORTED VARIETIES Steamers12 OZ. 2 FOR \$3
	PLAINS Sour Cream16 OZ. 2 FOR \$4
	APPLE, RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT, OR ASSORTED ORANGE JUICE Florida's Natural64 OZ. 2 FOR \$6
	CREAMY, LIGHT TASTE Imperial Quarters16 OZ. 99¢

Health & Beauty Care

NAPROXEN SODIUM GELCAPS, TABLETS, OR CAPLETS Aleve 20-24 CT. BTL. \$3.99	MURINE Ear Drops5 OZ. \$4.99
WESTERN FAMILY ASSORTED LOTION OR SPRAY Sunblock or Sunscreen 6-10 OZ. \$3.99	WESTERN FAMILY MEN'S OR WOMEN'S 5 CT. COMFORT TOUCH, OR 12 CT. ORIG. OR SENSITIVE Disposable Razors2 FOR \$3
SELECTED VARIETIES Midol20-24 CT. \$4.99	