

Changing seasons bring blast of Arctic weather to area



Janet Felderhoff photos

The first freeze of the season came a few days earlier than normal, setting trees ablaze with Fall's colors. On Nov. 22, the first freezing precipitation arrived with an Arctic blast. Icicles hung from fences and roof tops as rain fell in freezing temperatures. Tree branches hung low, some breaking, under the weight of ice-coated leaves. Fall's beauty and Winter's cold have settled on the area. Even the birds of prey sought shelter. This hawk visited a bird bath outside of The Bird Nest on Main Street Sunday afternoon.

Muenster Hospital District forges core values

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

In a special called meeting on Oct. 26, HR consultant Janet Oxford met with members of the Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors and a group of Hospital staff representing a cross section of the Hospital District operations to develop a new mission statement and vision statements.

The final mission statement chosen at the meeting was, "We provide excellent quality healthcare" and the vision was "To become best in class."

Then Administrator Michael Kent and nine employees from various parts of the Hospital District came together to work on the Hospital District's new core values.

At the Nov. 19 regular

MMH Board meeting, Karen Hacker, representing the employees, presented the values they determined should be those of all District employees. Those are as follows:

Muenster Hospital District (Hospital, Clinic, Pharmacy, and Home Health) core values:

Excellence: only the best will do.

• Commit to and live the

mission, vision, and values.

• Devote ourselves to continuous improvement, excellence, professionalism, and innovation in our work.

• Never stop learning and working to improve our skills, programs, and services.

• Provide excellent care and patient satisfaction.

• Stay focused and attentive to my surroundings and the needs of others.

• Verify patient identification at each patient interaction.

• Value people's differences.

• Practice good personal hygiene.

Integrity: through our words and actions we uphold and emphasize complete honesty, transparency, and sincerity.

• Behave morally, ethically, and legally at all times.

• Show consideration and support by offering assistance to patients, families, and coworkers.

• Effectively communicate with integrity, courtesy, clarity, and compassion.

• Treat coworkers with respect and recognize their talents and contributions.

• Be truthful, honest, and keep all promises.

• Respect everyone's privacy by eliminating gossip and rumors.

Caring: we treat those we serve and each other with kindness and compassion.

• Show respect for individuals' emotional, spiritual, cultural, and physical needs.

• Ensure the patient and family is kept informed about their care.

• Make the ones we serve as comfortable as possible.

• Offer reassurance.

• Exhibit a positive attitude.

• Focus on positive solutions.

• Be sensitive to the diverse community.

• Ask "is there anything else I can do to help you?"

Accountability: acknowledging and assuming responsibility for actions, decisions, and policies.

• Accept our individual and team responsibility and meet our commitments.

• Be mindful that all I say and do on work time and non-work time can affect Muenster Hospital District's reputation.

• Work together to achieve goals.

• Strive to do the job right the first time.

• Admit to and learn from mistakes.

• Have a continuous process-improvement mind-set.

• Pro actively work to find solutions to problems.

• Perform work in a timely manner.

• Follow through on projects.

• Actively seek information on how to improve our care and service.

• Listen and ask questions to confirm understanding.

Teamwork: we can only achieve our mission and goals by working together.

• Value "team success" over "individual success."

• Exhibit effective communication and continually challenge each other to strive for excellence.

• Trust and support each other building good relationship and good team spirit.

• Apply our diverse talents, background, ideas, and experiences to create solutions and benefit patients.

• Work cohesively to exceed expectations.

• Collective and coordinated efforts.

• T-E-A-M = Together Everyone Achieves More.

The Board commended all the employees who took part on their hard work.

The Board unanimously approved the new core values.

Administrator Kent noted that this will be added to the Policy and Procedure of the Hospital and will be presented to department heads who will review it with their individual staff. It will also be framed and placed in various areas of the Hospital.

During his CEO report, Kent said that as they move forward with a plan to change three offices back into patient rooms, they had

See HOSPITAL, pg. 2

Fun at the Thanksgiving Picnic



Janie Hartman photo

Rafael Rondon, left, and Kevin Dangelmayr hope the Cake Walk wheel lands on their number. There was a good crowd and plenty of entertainment at the Sacred Heart Parish Picnic held in Heritage Park Pavilion Sunday. They anticipate another record year. See page 4 for more photos.

Tree farms make Christmas memories

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

Some of my best childhood memories of Christmas have nothing to do with gifts. They are of the times when my family loaded up and drove towards the Red River in search of the perfect tree to cut down and bring home for our Christmas tree. Along with my parents, my sisters, brother, and I would trek through the woods looking at all the Christmas trees (actually cedar trees, but that is the only evergreen that grew naturally in this part of Texas).

The first ones we kids picked were always too big. They looked much smaller from a distance. But they dwarfed us when we stood next to them.

Half of the adventure was looking for the tree and the other half was being in the woods with nature. There were berries and briars, birds and various woodland creatures. It was a fun family outing and a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season.

Of course the treasured tree that we finally selected to cut down was often not perfectly shaped. It smelled like cedar which is not of the same pleasing fragrance as other evergreens like pines and firs.

Since those days, many people have abandoned the use of real trees for Christmas. They may look nice, but they are lacking the wonderful evergreen fragrance and there is no adventure in going to the attic or storage shed to pick out your tree! Or if you prefer real trees, going to the parking lot of a store to purchase a live tree (cut down somewhere else and shipped here) lacks much in the adventure department.

There is yet another option. There are a number of Christmas tree farms in the North Texas area and most offer an interesting excursion for people who want to pick and cut their own evergreen tree for Christmas.

One such farm is the Elves Farm located in Denison where Virginia Pines are grown. It was started by Curtis and Claudia Elliff in 1989. The first tree was harvested in

1992. In 1999, the farm was sold to neighbors Marshall and Sharlotte Cathey. Marshall explained that Sharlotte grew up next door to the farm and their families were longtime friends. He had helped on the farm in the past and noted that when the place went up for sale, it was a natural fit to take over the farm and continue the tradition and keep the land a farm.

Marshall recalled, "The farm start was inspired by Mr. Elliff through his family tradition of going up in the mountains of New Mexico cutting down their own tree. The thought of having a place in Texas to cut down your very own tree stuck with Mr. Elliff. After a little research, it was discovered the Virginia Pine would grow in a little section of our area. The Virginia Pine is the main tree grown in Texas as Christmas trees."

The trees are planted in January from bare root seedling stock. Marshall said that it takes about five years of growth, trimming, and care to get a tree to market. He said, "Once a tree is mature enough and the height is right, we will mark the tree with a tag which has the size and price. Once a tree is tagged, it is fair game and ready to make a special Christmas memory."

Elves Farm offers choose and cut trees for people to come cut down themselves. The Christmas tree seekers are given hayrides out to the patch from which trees are being cut. They are dropped off and provided with saws, so there is no need to bring your own.

Elves Farm also has a full-line tree lot offering pre-harvested Nobles Firs, Fraser Firs, and Grand Firs. The pre-harvested trees are brought in freshly cut and on refrigerated trucks. Marshall said, "We display our pre-harvested trees in water so they will remain fresh longer."

The Catheys also offer tree flocking which gives your tree that real snow look. To add to the adventure, Elves Farm has animals to visit in their farm zoo, a 2,500 square foot wooden maze, outdoor fire ring, hayrides to the patch, fresh custom made wreaths, and a full line Christmas store with

See CHRISTMAS, pg. 2



Courtesy photo

Sharlotte and Marshall Cathey of Elves Farm with tree for the Texas Capital House of Representatives in 2012.

DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO Nov. 26, 1948

Leo Felderhoff, Joe Henry Walterscheid, and Wilfred Walterscheid are employed in oil field work near Wichita Falls. New Arrival: Troy to the J.Y. Hobbs. Weddings: Lucille Arendt and Ray Voth; Marcella Bezner and Lawrence Sicking. Rita Block is County 4-H Gold Star Girl for 1948. Hubert Bezner, Texas Tech student, is selected for "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities." Endres Motor advertises '41 Chevrolet club coupe \$900; '40 Ford truck, \$395. Jerome Pagel, Louis Roberg, Lawrence Roberg, and Rody Klement announce the opening of Community Lumber Co. on Hwy. 82 in Saint Jo.

50 YEARS AGO Nov. 29, 1963

Memory of JFK honored here by special services. Obituary: Lucille (Mrs. W.B. "Nig") Wilson, 49. New Arrivals: Joseph to the Barry Blevins; Jeff to Bobby and Betty Eckart Simmel. Street-bridge level on Sixth Street raised four feet to stop flooding of street with every heavy rain. Hofbauer's advertises Christmas records 99¢ and up and children's records 29¢ and up. Pagel's advertises pork and beans 3 cans for 25¢ and hamburger 39¢ per lb. or 3 lb. for \$1. Fisher's advertises 46 oz. tomato juice 3 for 89¢ and 1 lb. box powdered sugar 2 for 35¢. Ben Franklin advertises tape recorder (no bigger than a book) for \$14.88.

25 YEARS AGO Nov. 25, 1988

Lindsay pastor, Fr. Cletus Post, OSB, dies at 75. Rodney Knabe achieves Eagle Scout rank. Muenster and Lindsay advance in football playoffs. Wedding: Tammie Reiter and Jeffrey Caldwell. Obituary: Mrs. Donnie Thompson, 91.

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there. - Will Rogers

HOSPITAL

.....continued from pg. 2

a major set back with the nurse call system It reached end of life by the manufacturer 12 years ago and parts were no longer produced eight years ago. They are no longer able to find parts to fix the current call systems and have no parts to install call systems in the new rooms. Solutions were discussed.

Kent updated the Board on physician recruitment. He has spoken with several family practice doctors about coming and some are interested in visiting Muenster.

In other business, the MMH Board:

- Approved Christmas gifts for employees using the same formula as 2012. Each will receive \$100 if they have been employed for over a year. Those there less than one year receive a pro rated amount.
- Approved bad debt write offs for October totaling \$52,325.85

Members absent were Mary Del Olmo and Bob Ambrose.

Notice

Brown Bag Book Review
on Thursday, Dec. 5 at noon, a Brown Bag Book Review will be held in the Morton Museum. Sarah Franklin will review *First Mothers: The Women Who Shaped the Presidents* by Bonnie Angelo.



Courtesy photo

David Conovaloff of Brushy Creek Christmas Tree Farm takes a group of children for a ride on the Farm's colorful train.

CHRISTMAS

.....continued from pg. 1

ornaments, nativity sets, and many other gift ideas and keepsakes.

Elves Farm has a pumpkin patch in October and offers a good selection of baking pumpkins for Thanksgiving and Christmas recipes.

Trees from the Elves Farm have been used in some prominent places in Texas. Marshall said that for the last two years the Elves Farm has provided a 20 foot plus Virginia Pine for the House of Representatives in Austin. He added, "We have already received a request to provide the tree this year. We have provided the tree for Baylor University Christmas on 5th Street celebrations." They specialize in large trees for businesses and cities, thus they provide trees to many cities and municipalities around the state.

Asked what he found most rewarding about his business, Marshall responded, "I find it rewarding to see families come out with smiles on their faces ready to find the perfect Christmas tree. To see family traditions fulfilled year after year. I love the idea of being able to celebrate my favorite holiday with so many families and to be a part of their families. There are not many businesses you can be in where everyone is happy to see you year after year."

Elves Farm has educational school tours available, by appointment only, to explore their farm and learn what it takes to be a Christmas tree in Texas.

Marshall shared some of the comments he hears at Elves Farm, "Awesome family fun." "Greatest place to get a tree." "Our favorite family tradition."

Contact information and directions for Elves Farm is 601 Harvey Ln., Denison, TX. Website - www.elvesfarm.com and telephone - (903) 463-7260.

Brushy Creek Christmas Tree Farm is located three miles east of Bowie on FM 3043/Brushy Road. It was started by David and Linda Conovaloff in 2004 after David retired from the Air Force, then Civil Service. Since they wanted to move to the country and get back to farming, they decided to move from San Antonio to

Bowie where Linda spent her younger years.

The Conovaloffs enjoy trees and have always had a real tree for Christmas. David remarked, "As we approached retirement and were still going to a Christmas Tree Farm for Christmas trees, we decided growing them would be a great thing to do after retirement."

They planted Virginia Pines and some Eldarica Pines, but they bring in other popular varieties. David said, "I plant the seedling trees in January, then water, trim, mow, and spray for bugs until they are the size people want. This is usually four to seven years or six to eight feet tall."

"This is a Choose and Cut farm. We provide the saw and the people find a tree they like, cut it down, and bring it to our shed. We then shake the loose needles from the tree, bale it, and let them take it home."

Besides the experience of choosing and cutting your own tree, Brushy Creek Christmas Tree Farm offers fun for children with its kid-dy train, Air Pogo, and from time to time, Santa.

"Many people come out to the farm just to get out of the city and into the country for fresh air and country atmosphere," observed David. "I

have comments received positive comments on our trees, the farm, and the experience of coming out to the country. See us on FaceBook, brushy-creekchristmastreefarm."

Brushy Creek Christmas Tree Farm always gives back to the community. David said, "I have given trees to the 'Trees for Troops' program, several money charities, handicapped people, and many of my trees are part of a 'Virginia Pine Improvement Program' conducted by Texas A&M and the Texas Forest Service."

Pride of ownership and sense of accomplishment are what David finds most rewarding about operating his tree farm.

Some of the comments David received on his Tree Farm are, "Our tree last year was beautiful and the kids had a ball!" "Great time at the farm tonight!!!! LOVE my tree and had so much fun.... If you are going real...head to Bowie!!!!"

Contact information and directions for Brushy Creek Christmas Tree Farm, 2854 FM 3043, Bowie, Texas. Telephone - (940) 872-5954 and website - www.texaschristmastrees.net/brushycreek.htm.

These farms are members of the Texas Christmas Tree Growers Association.

ID needed to buy vehicles

Cooke County residents purchasing a vehicle in Texas must now show a proper form of identification to obtain a title and registration.

"We want to process your registration and title application as quickly and efficiently as possible," said Billie Jean Knight, tax assessor-collector. "So it's very important to know the new rules before heading to our office or your auto dealer."

If you are buying from a dealer, provide the dealer with your identification. If you are buying a car from an individual, bring your identification and all other required application forms and fees with you to the Cooke County Tax Assessor-Collector's office to apply for the title. When buying from a dealer in another county, you have the right to request the title be transferred in Cooke County.

The identification rule passed by the board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) took effect in September 2013. It was required as part of two state laws approved in 2011 (HB 2017 and HB 2357) that mandate identification for titling a vehicle and first-time registrants. This change does not apply to registration renewals.

The following forms of identification are acceptable:

- A driver's license or state identification certificate issued by a state or territory of the United States
- United States or foreign passport
- U.S. military identification card

See VEHICLES, pg. 3

DAVIS & BLEVINS

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

Sunday, December 1, 2013	Monday, December 2, 2013	Tuesday, December 3, 2013	Wednesday, December 4, 2013	Thursday, December 5, 2013	Friday, December 6, 2013	Saturday, December 7, 2013
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 Valley View Parade	MMH Aux Mtg. decorate for Christmas City Council mtg. 6:30 pm	Library open 10 am-6:30 pm	Library open 10-5:30 Kiwanis mtg. noon Religious Ed 6:45 pm	Museum open 1-4 Library open 10-6:30	Museum open 1-4 pm M Jr. Hi UIL Meet SHCS No classes - academic meet AARP Board mtg. 10 am	Library open 10:00-2:30 VFW Aux. Santa party 9:45 am
Sunday, December 8, 2013	Monday, December 9, 2013	Tuesday, December 10, 2013	Wednesday, December 11, 2013	Thursday, December 12, 2013	Friday, December 13, 2013	Saturday, December 14, 2013
Museum open 1-4 pm SH Shopping Spree- noon	M Elem. UIL Meet VFW & Aux mtg. 7:30 pm M 4-H mtg. 3:30 pm KMB mtg 6:45 pm SHCS noon dismissal	Library open 10 am-6:30 pm MISD PTO mtg. 7 pm, Rohmers	Library open 10 am-5:30 pm Kiwanis mtg. noon Rel. Ed 6:45 pm Mass 7 pm MISD Board mtg. 7 pm SH Alumni & Support. mtg. 7:30 pm	Muenster Museum open 1-4 pm Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm M Historical Comm. mtg. 8 am	Museum open 1-4 pm AARP Membership lunch SH Alumni Bake Sale 7am-1 pm	Library open 10:00-2:30 Muenster Historical Commission BAKE SALE 8am -? Fischer's

**Katie Eberhart
1931 - 2013**

Funeral for Katie Eberhart, age 82 of Gainesville, was held Nov. 27 at 1 p.m. in the Geo. J. Carroll and Son Chapel with the Rev. Larry Eberhart officiating. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery. The family received friends on Nov. 26 at the funeral home. Katie died on Nov. 23, 2013 in Gainesville.

Born Aug. 31, 1931 in Lubbock to William and Emma Morgan Eberhart. She married Herman Eberhart on Jan. 6, 1948 in Muenster. She was employed by Muenster I.S.D. as a bus driver for over 10 years. Katie enjoyed

sewing, making Raggedy Ann dolls and sock monkeys, and enjoyed playing the guitar with her family, the Jones family who started playing on KGAF radio in the late 1940s.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law Larry and Kathy Eberhart of Gainesville; two grandchildren and their spouses; six great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and sister Janie Shasteen of Gainesville.

She was preceded in death by her husband Herman Eberhart; sisters



Katie Eberhart

Erma Mitchell, Lena Faye Randolph, Patsy Jones, and Shirley Orsborn; and brothers Jack, Bob, Billy, and Tommy Jones.

**Lisa Fleitman
1979 - 2013**

Funeral services for Lisa Ann Blanton Fleitman are scheduled for 6 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 24 at McCoy Funeral Chapel in Muenster. Rev. Ken Robinson will officiate. A second service will be held at the Comyn Baptist Church in DeLeon at 2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 30. Pastor Ray Seckinger will officiate the service in Comyn. Burial will be in Comyn Baptist Cemetery. Services are directed by McCoy Funeral Home, Muenster.

and Carolyn Barnes Blanton. She grew up and attended school in Stephenville.

Lisa married Matthew Fleitman on July 11, 2008. She was the mother of two sons Quentin and Collin. Lisa was a lovely lady, making friends wherever she went. Her primary occupation was just being a great homemaker.

Survivors are her husband Matthew; sons Quentin and Collin Peacock; parents Don and Carolyn Blanton of the Bay City area; sisters Jan Blanton Murphy of Sargent, TX and Diana Blanton Carroll of Pearl City, Hawaii.

She was preceded in death by her sister Diane Blanton.



Lisa Fleitman

Pallbearers are David Murphy, Tom Carroll, Jack Carroll, Mark Fleitman, Jimmy Prescher, and Ben Fleitman, Jr.

**Ruby Jo Chilcoat
1939 - 2013**

Funeral for Ruby Jo Chilcoat, 73, of Gainesville, was held Nov. 27 at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home with Pastor Ralph Gourley officiating.

Chilcoat died Nov. 21, 2013 in Gainesville.

Born in Gainesville on Dec. 31, 1939 to Hass and Cleo Robinson, Ruby Jo was a graduate of Gainesville High School and continued her education, receiving a nursing degree. She was a nurse at Mercy Memorial Hospital in Ardmore, OK and eventually retired from Hilltop Haven Nursing Home in Gunter. She always kept a beautiful garden and also enjoyed sewing and baking. Chilcoat cherished her time spent

with family, and especially her grandchildren. Above all, she was a woman of strong Christian faith and set an admirable example for those who knew her.

Survivors include son, Stuart Chilcoat and wife Shauna of Whitesboro; daughter Leah Anderson and husband Grayson of Fort Worth; six grandchildren; siblings Iwana Brodrick of Bakersfield, CA, Charlie Robinson and wife Ruth of Lake Kiowa, Linda Mitchell of Whitesboro, and Jamie Robinson and wife Janie of Gainesville.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials in Chilcoat's honor may be made to the Salvation Army.

Auxiliary announces "In Lieu of Christmas Cards" fundraiser

VFW Ladies Auxiliary #6205 is sponsoring "In Lieu of Christmas Cards," a fundraiser for their required program participation in helping veterans and their families, local community services, and promotion of American patriotism.

The Christmas card is an ad that is purchased by the Auxiliary which appears in the Christmas paper of the *Muenster Enterprise*. In order to have the participant's name appear in the ad, the Auxiliary requests a monetary donation of at least \$10 (or wish it to appear on the greeting.

As you make the donation, please consider the cost of

By Larry Tegtmeier, District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation, Wichita Falls District

The winter season will soon be upon us. Last winter was mild here while other parts of Texas were hit with a blizzard. Our own experience with the Christmas Blizzard of 2009 proved that we can get severe winter conditions too. We saw the dangers to motorists who weren't prepared. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) works 24/7 to ensure roads remain passable and safe year round. Road crews are especially prepared for improving road safety during extreme winter weather conditions.

TxDOT has developed a

winter weather awareness program called WinterSafe to help you prepare for the extreme conditions you may encounter when traveling across Texas during the winter months. It's not too late to ensure you're WinterSafe on the road. TxDOT encourages motorists to take precautions and incorporate a few safe driving habits to reduce the risk on the road. This can be as easy as:

- Planning your trip by checking current road conditions at www.txdot.gov. Keyword: Winter Driving OR by calling 1-800-452-9292.
- Wearing your seatbelt.
- Ensuring your vehicle is properly maintained.
- Observing traffic signs and weather alerts.

• Taking extra precautions when approaching bridges, shaded spots, overpasses, and turns.

- Preparing an emergency road kit.
- Not using your cruise control during ice and snow storms.
- Keeping a safe distance between your vehicle and snowplows.
- If stranded, call 9-1-1 for law enforcement.

For the latest information on Texas roadways, be sure to check www.DriveTexas.Org. TxDOT works very closely with local agencies across the state to ensure potentially hazardous roadways are treated quickly during seasons of extreme weather. Using a variety of environmentally safe treatment methods and equipment, TxDOT acts fast to improve road traction, remove accumulated snow, and prevent roads from icing up. All in an effort to ensure travel is easier and safer for all motorists.

Stay informed. Be WinterSafe.

VEHICLEScontinued from pg. 2

- U.S. Department of Homeland Security identification document
 - U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services identification document
 - U.S. Department of State identification document
 - North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) identification
 - Identification issued under a Status of Forces Agreement.
- Vehicles will be titled in your legal name as it appears on your identification. If your name has changed, you will need to have your ID corrected before the purchase. If you are filling out the title application yourself, be sure to use your legal

name. For more information about this new rule and the process for buying or selling a vehicle, visit the TxDOT's motorists portal online at www.txdmv.gov.

AGENDA MEETING DATE - December 2, 2013

The following is the Agenda for a regular meeting of the Muenster City Council to be held at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room on Monday, December 2, 2013.

- Call meeting to order at 6:30pm.
- Opening prayer.
- Approve minutes of the regular meeting held on November 4, 2013.
- 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:

- Review City Park Agreement with JAYCEES, take any needed action.

NEW BUSINESS:

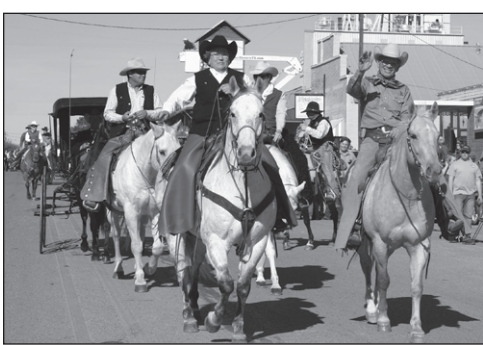
- Consider nominating candidate to service as a Board Member of the General Law Member Cities of the Greater Texoma Utility Authority.
- Approve Proclamation declaring December 8-14 "Muenster Museum Week."
- Review City Employee Policies, Guidelines, and Rules; approve any needed changes.
- Approve the purchase of Muenster Marks for City Employees.
- Receive monthly update on Police Department from Chief Blankenship.
- Receive status report on City Projects and Activities. Take any needed action.
- Review and act on monthly bills.
- Adjourn.

Brenda Simpson, City Secretary

Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving

Enjoy the parade!

Sat. Nov. 30 1 pm



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SIXTH ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

NOW THRU Sat., DECEMBER 14, 2013

Coats collected will be donated to those who need them & ABBA Women's Center. Sandee Feyereisen, Director of ABBA, will be in charge of sales and distribution of garments donated.

Those wishing to be a collection point should set up a box in their lobby and publicize the event the best way possible.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| First State Bank | First United Methodist Church |
| American Bank of Texas | First Baptist Church |
| Muenster State Bank, Muenster and Gainesville | Sacred Heart Catholic Church |
| Landmark Bank | Angel's Care Home Health |
| Prosperity Bank | Home Hospice |
| Dry Clean Supercenter | Dr. Mark Gibbs |
| Gainesville Chamber of Commerce | Hutcherson Insurance |
| City of Gainesville | Jim Goldsworthy State Farm |
| GISD | Ken Blanton Insurance |
| Kiwanis Club | Edward Jones Stan Temple |
| Optimist Club | Edward Jones Lee Russell |
| Rotary Club | Merit Advisors |
| Gainesville Daily Register | Glenn Polk Autoplex |
| Muenster Enterprise | Luttrell McNatt |
| Lindsay Letter | Red River Motor Sports |
| North Texas Medical Center | Stevens Floor Coverings |
| VFW | Wal-Mart |
| KGAF | Petroflex |
| Crossroads Baptist Church | Jazzercise |
| Whaley United Methodist Church | Lora's Flowers Muenster |
| | Ancient Ovens, Saint Jo |

If you want to help, contact David Hampton - email: smoothsales@tx.rr.com or Phone 940-665-0048.



With your help, we can keep everybody warm this Fall and save unborn babies' lives.



Sacred Heart Parish Picnic

Photos by Janie Hartman and Janet Felderhoff



CUB SCOUTS ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT EVENT



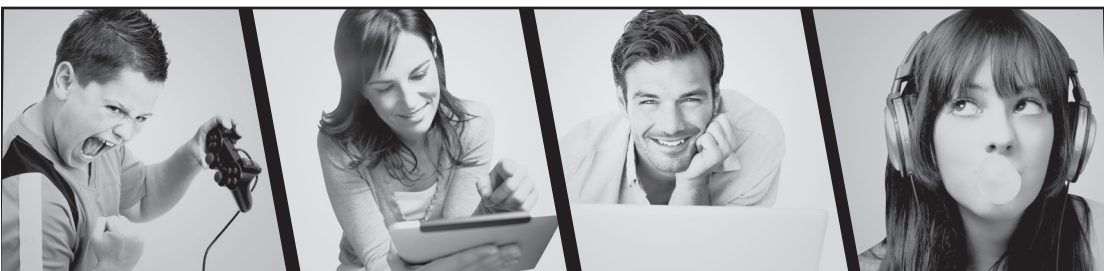
Photos courtesy of Jessica Hess



Above: left - Justin Keeling helping Colby Hess & Brad Felderhoff helping Luke Gehrig - Paintball; middle - Brandon Walterscheid teaching the Scouts how to build a bird house; right - John Spaeth & David Hair helping out the Muenster Tigers - BB Guns. At right - Dan Bezner helping Jackson Becker, Craig Bayer helping Colby Hess, & Michael Gehrig helping Cole Dangelmayr - Archery.



Game Warden, Darla Barr teaching the Scouts about Texas animal life.



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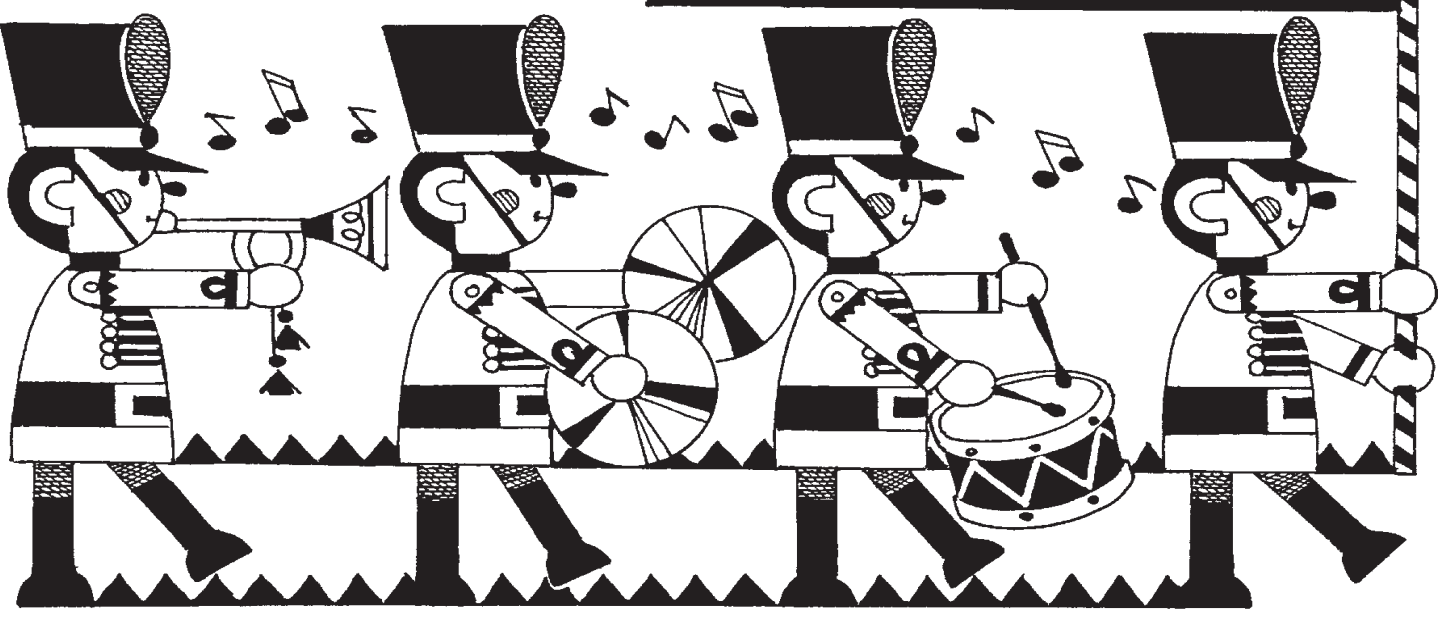
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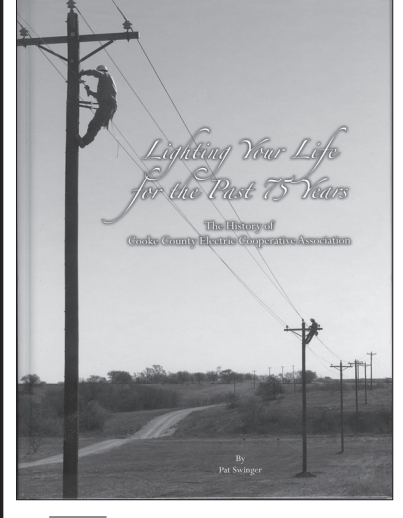
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MUENSTER ELEMENTARY "Bus Safety" Poster Contest winners are - Kindergarten: Grand Prize - Lillian Wimmer, 1st Place - Lillian Wimmer and Sarah Wood, 2nd Place - Brady Walterscheid and Will Cox, 3rd Place - Preston Robillard and Paityn Price; First Grade: Grand Prize - Della Hartman, 1st Place - Elena David and Della Hartman, 2nd Place - Emily West and Jasmine Hacker, 3rd Place - Gregory Giles and Nikolas Clure; Second Grade: Grand Prize - Andie Schroeder, 1st Place - Reece Acayan and Andie Schroeder, 2nd Place - Stormi Richardson and Alyssa Lutkenhaus, 3rd Place - Macy Hess and Lenzie Sandmann; Third Grade: Grand Prize - Marcus Anderle, 1st Place - Marcus Anderle and Sean Sicking, 2nd Place - Isaac Wolf and Erica Endres, 3rd Place - Owen Bayer and Connor Walterscheid; Fourth Grade: Grand Prize - Nate Hesse, 1st Place - Haley Flusche and Nate Hesse, 2nd Place - Chanel Grohman and Martie McCoy, 3rd Place - Timothy Luttmr and Luke Walterscheid; Fifth Grade: Grand Prize - Chloe Hacker, 1st Place - Chloe Hacker and Mary Fisher, 2nd Place - Makenna Aldridge and Makenna Forshee, 3rd Place - Shae Budish and Alexa Waneck; Sixth Grade: Grand Prize - Kacie Grewing, 1st Place - Tanner Corcoran and Kacie Grewing, 2nd Place - Zachary Sanders and Abby Walterscheid, 3rd Place - Danny Luttmr and Colby Endres.

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MUENSTER ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S AWARD WINNERS FOR THE 2nd SIX WEEKS are, from left, front - Callaway Mofield, Hayden Sicking; row 2 - Nolan Peel, Emma Grewing, Jasmine Hacker, Daegen Harris; row 3 - Maggie Hess, Landon Williams, Trever Rains; row 4 - Dylan Huchton, Ty Hess, Braden Berkeley, Victoria Rodriguez; row 5 - Alex Deeken, Sarah Monday, and Daphne Korte.

You have power over your mind - not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength. - Marcus Aurelius

Lunch Menus

WEEK OF DEC. 2 - 6 MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Spaghetti de Italiano, green beans, sweet corn, mixed fruit. AM - Bologna and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables.

Tues. - State Fair corn dog, glazed carrots, pork and beans, fresh banana. AM - Turkey and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables.

Wed. - Chicken fajita tacos, Mexicali corn, lettuce topping, cinnamon apple slices. AM - Ham and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables.

Thur. - Chicken tenders, peppered gravy, mashed potatoes, peaches. AM - Tuna salad, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables.

Fri. - Tony's pepperoni pizza, tator tots, baked beans, strawberry applesauce. AM - Po-boy combo, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables.

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Frito chili pie, ranch style beans, corn, fruit.

Tues. - Cheese pizza, steamed broccoli, lettuce salad, fruit.

Wed. - Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, cooked carrots, gravy, fruit, wheat bread.

Thur. - Baked potato, butter, diced ham, cheese, lettuce salad, fruit, bread.

Fri. - Cheeseburgers w/trimmings, oven fries, fruit, ice cream.



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MUENSTER ELEMENTARY TERRIFIC KIDS FOR THE 2nd SIX WEEKS are sponsored by the Muenster Kiwanis Club. They are PreK - Brody Charles, Emma Marshall, Colt Walterscheid, Carson Bindel, Jack Lashley, Jillian Schilling; K - Dane Gobble, Addison Snuggs, Kalyan Walterscheid, Paityn Price, Rhett Walterscheid, Colt Haverkamp, John Fredrick, Nikole Bowen; 1st - Annsley Budish, Landon Hacker, Faith Sicking, Owen Hofbauer, Gavin Doughty, Carter Klement, Marlee Walterscheid; 2nd - Gage Eberhart, Alyssa Lutkenhaus, Jackson Sicking, Reece Acayan, Luke Anderson, Halle Hess, Macy Hess; 3rd - Cassy Acayan, Josey Grewing, Whitley Klement, Meadow Walterscheid, Sean Sicking, Keith Huchton; 4th - Landri Richardson, Mariela Rodriguez, Nathan Hartman, Hillary Klement, Kayla Deweber, Timothy Luttmr; 5th - Shae Budish, Daniel Rodriguez, Preston Smith, Alexis Bateman, Kelsey Hennigan, Alyssa Huchton, Ty Trubenbach; 6th - Dayton Gressett, Savannah Bohl, Brett Hammer, Brooke Hammer, Stephen Dangelmayr, Celene Burke, Gavin Grewing, and Kenadie Hess. Not pictured - Bryce Hacker.

Muenster ISD Honor Rolls

2nd Six Weeks A HONOR ROLL

7th Grade: Garrett Bindel, Thomas Davis, Ashleigh Fisher, Nathan Hacker, Morgan Hennigan, Rut Rodriguez, Rudy Saucer, Mackenzie Sicking.

8th Grade: Erin Schniederjan, Jenna Sicking, Dean Walterscheid.

9th Grade: Logan Cook, Morgan Eldridge, Amy Luttmr.

10th Grade: Abby Luttmr.

11th Grade: Kevin Barnes.

12th Grade: Hannah Bayer, Kendi Bayer, Erin Hess, Jaisal Patel, Adrien Rohmer.

A/B HONOR ROLL

7th Grade: Joshua Brinkley, Hannah Clure, Jacob Hesse, Ryan Huchton, Anthony Jones, Christopher Kresge, Parker McGrew, Ixel Meza, Bannon Osteen, Sadie Sandmann, Lauren Trubenbach, Jaden Walterscheid, Kody Walterscheid, Blair Waneck, Kyle Wolf.

8th Grade: Bailey Anderle, Carson Cheaney, Natalie Dangelmayr,

Travis Dangelmayr, Kaden Fields, Seth Flusche, Max Herr, Zoe Klement, Alaina Kubis, Zwaine Lamar, Stetson McGrew, Megan Rohmer, Paige Saucer, Brandon Sicking, Clay Stevens, Andrew Stoffels, Madyson Walterscheid, Sterling Walterscheid, LeeAnn West.

9th Grade: Brennan Binder, Devon Brinkley, Bryce Herr, Katie Kresge, Macie Pagel, Mathew Porter, Sawyer Sanders, Emma Wood.

10th Grade: Mahayla Bohl, Ashlyn Burke, Mason Davis, Chase Deeken, Natalie Fangman, Dalton Hess, Trevor Lancaster, Mary McCann, Alison Morris, Karli Mouring, Nicole Rains, Alaina Reiter, Samuel Saucer, Clare Schneider, Kelsie Sicking, Courtney Stevens, Allie Walterscheid, Kimber Walterscheid.

11th Grade: Lyndon Cook, Kassie Dangelmayr, Caroline Gressett, Tara Gunnels, Rachel Hare, Blake Haubold, Chance Herr, Mikaela Lamar, Makayla Moster, Kristen

Reiter, Georgia Taylor Saavedra, Zachary Trubenbach, Sophie Wachtel, Lora Walterscheid.

12th Grade: Mason Binder, Austin Creswell, Jared Endres, Ashley Hammer, Clayton Hess, Sydney Huchton, Jori Magee, Garrett Miller, Rachel Mouring, Abigail Pagel, Mariah Rocha, Shelbi Sicking, Audrey Taylor Saavedra, Cole Walterscheid.

"A" HONOR ROLL

1st Grade - Addison Aldriedge, Krista Bayer, Kaydence Boaz, Annsley Budish, Benjamin Cox, Carson Crawford, Logan Flusche, Gregory Giles, Ayden Gray, Jasmine Hacker, Della Hartman, Owen Hofbauer, Caden Klement, Carter Sicking, Faith Sicking, Zachary Smith, Von Khemer Tai, Emma Walterscheid, Marlee Walterscheid, Raegan Wolf.

2nd Grade - Luke Anderson, Mary Ashcraft, Emily Collins, Laine Grewing, James Harris, Rosemary Hartman, Abigail Hendley,

Halle Hess, Maggie Hess, Alexis Hofbauer, Jakob Hofbauer, Preston Kubis, Emily Muller, Whitney Newton, Stormi Richardson, Lenzie Sandmann, Jonathan Smith, Dawson Voth, Lexie Walter.

3rd Grade - Marcus Anderle, Michael Berkeley, Devon Bindel, Derek Cox, Erica Endres, Madeleine Fisher, Kaci Ford, Josey Grewing, Keith Huchton, Rebecca Klement, Whitley Klement, Samantha Lockhart, Hunter Peel, Meadow Walterscheid.

4th Grade - Andrew Christopher, Andrew Flaming, Haley Flusche, Chanel Grohman, Emily Harrison, Hillary Klement, Martie McCoy, Landri Richardson, Ty Sanders, Eli Saucer, Luke Walterscheid.

5th Grade - Mikaley Berkeley, Abigail Cox, Sarah Davis, Mary Fisher, Makenna Forshee, Chloe Hacker, Kelsey Hennigan, Erin Hesse, Alyssa Huchton, Paden Jarosz, Kennedy Jones, Bayley Otto, Samantha Sim-

mons, Lance Smith, Cade Stevens, Wade Trubenbach,

6th Grade - Savannah Bohl, Major Eldridge, Colby Endres, Hunter Haverkamp, Hannah Lamar, Daniel Luttmr, Riley Stewart, Abby Walterscheid.

"A/B" HONOR ROLL

1st Grade - Elena David, Landon Hacker, Karissa Harrison, Ava Henley, Brisan Hermes, Caleb Korte, William Rocha, Emily West, Kelan Williams.

2nd Grade - Reece Acayan, Daultyn Dunn, Gage Eberhart, Macy Hess, Alyssa Lutkenhaus, Trever Rains, Taylor Reed, Andie Schroeder, Jackson Sicking, Seth Stoffels, Sonny Wilson.

3rd Grade - Althea Acayan, Brittany Bateman, Elijah Bayer, Gabriel Grewing, Debra Huchton, Bradley Lutkenhaus, Natalie McMinn, Wyatt Moster, Caleb Newton, Victoria Rodriguez, Sean Sicking, Connor Walterscheid, Isaac Wolf.

4th Grade - Gracyn Fields, Nathan Hartman, Nate Hesse, Timothy Luttmr, Lilly Muller, Braxton Osteen, Gavin Pagel, Clayton Spaeth, Logan Stewart, Landon Williams.

5th Grade - Annie Anderle, Trent Anderle, Jada Binder, Dylan Huchton, Katherine Klement, Matthew Klement, Audrey Kubis, James McMinn, Sarah Monday, Rallen Marie Tai, Ty Trubenbach, Jaxon Truebenbach.

6th Grade - Ashleigh Deweber, Dayton Gressett, Brett Hammer, Brooke Hammer, Kaitlin Hennigan, Jenna Hudspeth, Daphne Korte, Anna Proffer, Zachary Sanders, Lane Trubenbach, Brenton Wilson.



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Despicable Me 2 12/10/13

Fast & Furious 6 12/10/13

Elysium 12/17/13

Lone Ranger 12/17/13

SPORTS

District 7 football playoff update

Hornets take cold Area Championship from Wink

"Ugly, ugly, ugly," was how Hornet Coach Brady Carney described Muenster's Area Playoff game with the Wink Wildcats. "We looked like a team that hasn't played in two weeks. Like a team traveling all over Texas looking for a place to play. Like a team not focused. The good news - we were the team that won."

The Muenster Hornets, after getting a Bi-District pass on the UIL Class 1A, D II Playoff bracket, was scheduled to meet the Wink Wildcats Friday night in Tuscola for the Area Championship round. But mother nature had other plans, bringing in an arctic ice storm that hindered travel in the Abilene area and farther southwest. So the game was postponed to keep players and fans off the icy roads. With warmer weather on Saturday, the game was re-scheduled and played in Sweetwater with a delayed start of 3 p.m.

The game had a slow start, with no scoring in the 1st quarter. "We were inside the 10 twice and didn't score. Penalties were killing us," commented Coach Carney. "Defensively, we played really well the 1st half. Offensively, we were killing ourselves, stopping ourselves more than they did." Carney added that the Hornets' special teams did well and the kick coverage was great. "We found a way to win - that's what good teams do."

The Hornets had total offense of 346 yards to Wink's 151, but lost 140 yards in penalties. Muenster's defense held the Wildcats to a -5 yards rushing.

Wink took the opening kick, working five plays to midfield. Cole Walterscheid caused a Wildcat fumble, recovered by Jonathan Pierce, to give the Hornets possession on the Wink 33 yard line. Two runs by Clint Sidwell moved Muenster to the 10, but the Hornets couldn't find the end zone and Wink took over on the 9.

The 'Cats gained 6 and punted, giving Muenster the ball on the Wink 37. A Blayne Jones pass to Walterscheid gained 14 yards. Mason Binder ran for 12, with a Jones to Sidwell pass play getting the ball to the 9 before running out of downs.

Muenster's defense held the Wildcats to lost yards, forcing a punt. The Hornets, sitting on the Wink 26 yard line, got in two short runs to the 19 as the 1st period

ended. Two plays later, the Hornets were on the scoreboard with a 20 yard pass play from Jones to Jace Fredrick. Chance Herr added the extra point for a 7-0 score 40 seconds into the 2nd quarter.

Again the Wildcats couldn't get 10 yards and punted. Six plays later, Muenster punted back, burying the 'Cats on their 6 yard line. Two plays later, Wink was caught in the end zone for a safety for a 9-0 score with 4:52 remaining in the 1st half.

Muenster received the kick, starting on their own 44, but soon punted on 4th and 19. After a short run and a flag, the Wildcat offense was intercepted by Jared Endres, returning the ball to the Hornets on the Wink 24.

The next minute, 49 seconds saw two incomplete passes, an interception fumbled and recovered by Fredrick, a 13 yard run by Tavi Saldana, two false start flags against Muenster, two more incomplete passes, a defensive pass interference flag for a 1st and goal on the 2 yard line, another offensive false start for a 15 yard loss, and finally on 2nd and goal from the 20 yard line with 20 seconds on the clock, Jones completed a pass to Walterscheid for a touchdown. Herr added the PAT to give Muenster a 16-0 lead. The half ended with Fredrick covering another Wink fumble.

Muenster's offense started the 2nd half on their 46 yard line. A Jones to Walterscheid pass moved Muenster to the Wink 38. Binder gained 14, Kyle Klement 1, and Sidwell 10 to the 13 yard line. With 9:38 on the clock, Sidwell ran the ball in for 6 points. The 2-point conversion run failed for a 22-0 score.

The Hornet defense again held the 'Cats to lost yardage, forcing another punt. Six plays later, Jones completed another pass to Walterscheid for a 48 yard touchdown play. The point after kick by Herr extended Muenster's lead to 29-0 with 5:45 on the clock.

The Wildcats, assisted by a flag, found the end zone after nine plays to get on the scoreboard 29-6 with 2:57 on the clock.

A flag on the return put the Hornets on their 17 yard line. Three plays later, the 'Cats picked off a Muenster pass, placing them 15 yards from paydirt. A quarterback keeper found the end zone, but a holding flag brought the ball out to the 17. The 3rd quarter ended and the



April Walterscheid photos

Above: Jared Endres (66) picks off a Wildcat pass, then gets a good return (at right) in the Hornets' Area victory last Saturday over Wink.

4th began with a 4th and 16 for Wink. A pass play found the end zone for a 29-12 score just seconds into the final period.

Muenster marched from their 34 yard line to the Wink 11 after four flags were thrown. With 8:57 remaining in the game, Klement scored for the Hornets. A Binder to Fredrick pass was good for the 2 points conversion and a 37-12 score.

The Hornet defense once again dropped the Wildcats for losses, forcing a 4th and 27 punt. Muenster's offense worked the clock, ticking it down to 1:54 before running out of downs.

Two completed passes and a penalty kept Wink's offense on the field, but out of the end zone as the game ended.

M	0	16	13	8	37
W	0	0	6	6	12

Team Stats		M	W
18	1st downs	10	
45/169	Rushes/yds	24/5	
9/17/2	Comp/att/int	10/27/1	
177	Passing yds	156	
18/140	Penalties/yds	11/19	
0/0	Fumbles/lost	3/3	
2/33	Punts/avg	5/27.6	

Individual Stats
RUSHERS: Clint Sidwell, 13/75; Mason Binder, 8/57; Kyle Klement, 14/30; Ryan Hoepfner, 1/9; Tavi Saldana, 4/7; Trace Klement, 1/0; Blayne Jones, 4/9. **RECEIVERS:** Cole Walterscheid, 6/133; Clint Sidwell, 2/24; Jace Fredrick, 1/20. **TACKLES:** Jared Endres, Dalton Hess, Mason Binder, Collin Pagel, Travis Vogel, Chance Herr. **INTERCEPTION:** Jared Endres. **FUMBLE RECOVERY:** Jace Fredrick 2, Jonathan Pierce.

Hornets advance to Regional

The Hornets will take on the San Angelo Texas Leadership Academy (SATLA) Eagles this Friday afternoon in the Regional round of the playoffs.

The 10-0 Eagles are a run first team, not throwing much, according to Coach Carney. "They are big up front, have a big offensive line, and a talented running back. Defensively, they are very sound. They don't give

up a lot of big plays and they don't make mistakes, while capitalizing well on the other teams' mistakes," Carney noted.

SATLA, District 6 Champions, like Muenster, got a Bi-District pass. After a 6-6 halftime score, the Eagles went on to defeat Hamlin in last Friday's Area game 49-18. Hamlin moved on the playoff bracket after defeating Era 47-22 in Bi-District.

In District play, SATLA got wins over Bronte (56-14), Irion County (55-7), Miles (12-7), Menard (40-2), and Christoval (61-25), and non-district wins over Roby, Ranger, and Cross Plains. The Region 2 playoff game will be played at Memorial Stadium at Tarleton State University in Stephenville. Kickoff is scheduled for 3 p.m. Muenster will be the visiting team. Admission will be \$5 for adults, \$3 for students.

The winner of this game will advance to the Quarterfinal round and will play the winner of the Iraan versus Albany game.

Muenster & Sacred Heart basketball teams ranked in top 20

The Texas Association of Basketball Coaches High School Basketball season weekly ranking for the week of Nov. 5 lists the Muenster Hornets the #5 team in boys Class 1A1, even though the Hornets have not played a game. Also from the "area" are #4 Poolville, #14 Munday, and #17 Trenton.

On the girls side of the ball, the Lady Hornets (2-2) are ranked #17. The Sacred Heart Tigerettes (6-2), listed under Girls Private Small Schools, are ranked #7. Fort Worth Lake Country is #2 and Sherman Texoma #3.

Tigerettes beat Frisco

The Tigerettes of Sacred Heart brought home a 40-32 victory last Thursday over Frisco Legacy. "This was a nice win before the Thanksgiving break," noted Coach Jon LeBrasseur. "I was pleased with our execution down the stretch."

Peyton Reiter led the Tigerettes with 19 points, 11 rebounds, and 4 steals. Karleigh Reeves added 12 points and also had 11 rebounds. Michelle Zimmerman added 4 points, Kylie Hess 3, and Bailey Walterscheid 2.

SH	8	9	10	13	40
FL	10	5	10	7	32



Courtesy photo

From left - Shane Wiley, Malony Bartush, Carolyn Powell, Janet Voth, Jason Brinkley, Brent Reed, Vicki Robertson, Sara Butler, Pat Swinger, Neil Hesse, Carla Johnson, John Walterscheid, Terry Gilbert, Larry Stewart.

CCEC Golf Tournament benefits CASA

Cooke County Electric Cooperative Association sponsored their second annual Charity Golf Tournament benefitting CASA of North Texas on Oct. 4

It was a beautiful autumn morning out at Turtle Hill Golf Course where CCECA hosted a sellout crowd of golfers from all over the state of Texas. Golfers were treated to a Muenster German sausage breakfast.

Golfers Dan Brown and Jack Biffle were closest to the pin, while Biffle and Robin Kemp received long drive recognition.

First Flight Winners
 1st Place: Ben Bindel, Charles Brown, Frankie Hess, Robert Taylor.

2nd Place: Jason Leake, Dan Brown, Eddie Driggers, Jason Irons.

3rd Place: Jimmy Kupper, Tom Kupper, Darrin Kupper,

Justin Kupper.

Second Flight Winners

1st Place: Josh Glover, John Delao, Shane Wiley, Neil Hesse.

2nd Place: Patrick Hermes, Bonnie Prescher, Wilson Stininit, Clyde Bonds

3rd Place: Jerry Self, Greg Wolf, Trent Wood, Danny Martindale.

This charity golf tournament benefitting CASA raised \$12,849.52, including

a \$5000.00 matching grant from CoBANK. "CCECA was very excited to contribute to CASA, who is dedicated to the youth of our communities. They are our future," says Neil Hesse, CCECA general manager.

"Being chosen by CCECA as the beneficiary of this year's tournament is a true blessing to our program," said CASA's Director, Vicki Robertson.



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FARM & RANCH

Texas Agricultural Market Summary

For the week ending Nov. 23, Texas auctions reported feeder cattle prices were mostly steady to \$8 lower per hundredweight (cwt), but a few were \$2 higher on a portion of their offerings. Texas direct feeder cattle sales were steady to \$3 lower. Tight cattle supplies and grain prices that were much lower than a year ago have kept the market at near record-high

levels. Fed cattle cash prices were \$1 lower compared to the previous week following a decline in wholesale beef values. Weekly beef export sales were up 40% from the previous week and well above the prior four-week average. Cumulative sales for the year are down 16% from this time last year.

Corn and grain sorghum prices were higher after

weekly corn export sales came in above expectations and were more than three times higher than the average needed to meet annual projections. However, the gains were limited as markets continue to adjust to this year's record large U.S. corn crop. Wheat prices were higher due to reports of unfavorable weather in Australia and Argentina, as well as strong export data.

Weekly export sales were higher than expected, and more than double both the previous week and the weekly average needed to meet USDA projections for the year.

Futures markets were higher for wheat, unchanged for corn, and lower for feeder cattle, fed cattle, cotton and lumber. Precipitation fell statewide last week with totals of two or more inches reported in parts of South and East Texas and along the Coastal Bend.

More details on agricultural weather and crop conditions are available in the weekly USDA NASS "Texas Crop Progress and Condition" report at www.texasagriculture.gov/Home/Production-Agriculture/MarketNews.aspx.

U.S. oil output exceeds imports

In October, the U.S. produced more crude oil than it imported for the first time since February 1995.

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported U.S. crude oil production averaged 7.7 million barrels per day in October while 7.6 million barrels were imported. Total net petroleum imports, including gasoline and diesel, were at the lowest price point since February 1991.

New technology and unconventional oil production are helping the U.S. become more energy independent. EIA estimates that U.S. crude oil production will continue to increase in the coming years and imports will continue to decline. By 2014, EIA predicts the U.S. crude oil production will reach 8.5 million barrels per day and net imports of crude and petroleum products will fall to 28% of the total U.S. consumption.

EIA spokesperson Jonathan Cogan told Politico the increase in U.S. production "has been primarily driven by development of crude oil resources in shale and other tight rock formations, especially in North Dakota and Texas."



When Roosters Crowed

From the Muenster Historical Commission Preserving the Past for the Future

Oats

Oats were an important crop on early Cooke County farms. Oats were higher in protein than corn, making a better feed for pigs, chickens, dairy cows, calves, and horses. Also, the straw was valuable for bedding and feed, and oats kept down weeds, but seldom smothered the seedlings in the field.

Some farmers had grain binders, which was a very precise piece of machinery. Horses pulled the binder.

Oats were shocked. Most people took a lot of pride in trying to set up straight shocks and putting them in straight rows, making it handier for threshing. It was always hot work.

TFB Thanksgiving Meal Report shows price increase

Texans will pay a bit more for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, according to a new report from Texas Farm Bureau (TFB).

The TFB Thanksgiving Meal Report shows that a traditional, Texas-style Thanksgiving dinner for 10 will cost about \$48.08 this year. That's up a little more than 4% from last year.

Although the price is up slightly, TFB President Kenneth Dierschke reminds Texans that it's still possible to feed a well-balanced meal to a family of 10 for less than \$5 per person.

The survey includes the cost of 10 traditional Texas holiday staples, including: a 16-pound turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, and pecan pie.

A breakdown of the survey can be found online at <http://media.texasfarmbureau.org>.

USDA forecasts record corn crop

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released its first major crop production estimate since the government shutdown. The November World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report provided an updated forecast on harvested acres and yield, projecting the 2013 corn crop at 13.989 billion bushels.

If realized, the 2013 corn crop will be a record crop and more than a 3.2 billion bushel increase over the drought-stricken 2012 corn crop. The previous corn production record was set in 2009.

"The seasonable fall weather across much of the nation helped late-planted crops develop and increased yield projections from the September report," said Todd Davis, American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) economist.

The 2013 corn yield is estimated at 10.4 bushels per acre, up about five bushels from the last report in September.

At about a 130% increase in stocks from 2012-2013, the USDA report predicts 2013-14 corn ending stocks of 1.887 billion bushels.

"The ending-stocks ratio for corn is projected at 14.6%, which would be the largest stock-use ratio since 2005. This increase in stocks will likely cause prices to decline

from a marketing-average price of \$6.89 per bushel for 2012-13 to a projected \$4.50 per bushel for 2013-14," Davis said

Just a thought

Remember, running people down is bad business, whether you are a motorist or a gossip.

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Texas citrus crop enters strong market

The first shipments for Texas citrus growers and shippers were met with strong markets for 2013-14.

A report released Nov. 4 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) listed 7/10-bushel cartons of Texas fancy grade market Rio Star grapefruit from Texas' Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) priced at \$22.90-26.35 for sizes 23 and 27, \$20.90-24.35 for 32s, \$18.90-20.35 for 36s, \$16.25-16.90 for 40s, \$15.25-15.90 for 48s, and \$13.90-14.35 for 56s.

But water continues to be a concern for the LRGV, according to the Packer.

"We have struggled with our water situation in Texas, particularly South Texas, for a while now," said Bret Erickson, president of the Texas International Produce Association in Mission.

The region did receive a reprieve from the dry spell with 17 straight days of rain, which further increased the quality and size of the fruit, Erickson added.

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