

## MMH achieves success in EHR enrollment

**Janet Felderhoff**  
News Editor

Administrator Michael Kent informed the Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors at the Wednesday, Dec. 17 meeting that the District had been successful in its applications for Medicare and Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) incentive programs for Stage 1 Year 1 Meaningful Use. They are now waiting for the reimbursement of the cost of the EHR programs. This is expected within 90 days. The reimbursement will be used to pay back the EHR loan taken out by the District to fund the programs.

“Good job to the core team and everybody,” stated Kent. Brent Kimbrough, CPA of the audit firm BKD, LLP reported his firm’s findings to the Board. High points of his report included that having the Critical Access Hospital designation benefits the District about \$2.6 million per year.

Kimbrough said that the net position increased by roughly \$175,000 or 3% in 2014 from where it was in 2013. An operating loss of about \$951,000 is down slightly over the loss reported in 2013. Non operating revenue decreased by about \$34,000, the majority of which is due to the increased interest expense, but once the note is paid off that will go away.

CFO James Tacker gave the November financial report. He said that revenues were down for the month and the net income went down resulting in a large operating loss. “November has traditionally been a poor patient month for us,” said Tacker. “After November, our census has traditionally climbed.”

Kent noted that the Texas Department of State Health Services was on site to perform the Hospital survey for CMS. This is done every four years. There were only two deficiencies found. Both were in the Medical Records Department. The problems were identified and corrected within Meditech.

Board President Ronnie Weinzapfel remarked, “I would like to thank the nursing staff and everybody else because this isn’t much. They almost always find something over the years. I compliment everybody.” The survey encompassed everybody from laundry and kitchen to business office and nursing.

There are three Board positions up for election this May. They are held by Ronnie Weinzapfel, Mary Del Olmo, and Bob Ambrose.

Those who wish to file as a candidate for these at-large positions may do so between Dec. 29 and 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 27. The election will be held on Saturday, May 9.

In his CEO report, Kent said that Novitas has been performing desk audits on FYE 2011 and FYE 2012 during the past few months. After their review, the Hospital will be receiving \$16,833 for FYE 2011 and \$146,822 for FYE 2012.

CNO Diane Neu’s report showed 66 patients seen in the Emergency Room in November, two patients in the Cardiac Rehab, 5 Wound Care patients, and four patients and five procedures in surgery. November’s patient census was 7.40

Marketing Director Gayla Blanton explained what is being done to promote certain services offered by the Hospital District. This includes visiting with area nursing homes and doctors’ offices to inform them of services available at

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## MISD votes for staff Christmas bonuses

**Janet Felderhoff**  
News Editor

Muenster ISD’s Board of Trustees agreed at the Wednesday, Dec. 10 meeting to give Christmas bonuses to all District employees. The Christmas bonus of \$50 for every staff member had been cut from the 2014-15 budget.

It was noted that MISD has 10 new staff who will not be eligible to receive this year’s Academic Performance Payment (APP). The APPs will be given to staff who were with the District for the 2013-14 school year.

APP was formerly known as the Exemplary Stipend presented for achieving the Exemplary District ranking. A name change took place at the Oct. 8 Board meeting to reflect the State’s change in ranking of schools.

The Board voted unanimously to give all the staff a \$50 Christmas bonus, including those receiving APP bonuses.

Nortex’s proposal for a bell system/intercom for the Junior High and Ag building was accepted. They also approved using bond money to pay the \$11,788 for the system.

Nortex proposed a cost of \$23,570 to connect the bell system to the Elementary, High School, and Life Skills buildings. That money will be taken out of the construction fund.

Construction Manager Charlie Price reported that construction for the new Junior High has grading completed for all walks and drives. Trenching and installing conduit for data to other buildings was underway. All indoor equipment and duct work is set for HVAC and waiting for outdoor condensers and permanent power to start up units. Painting was scheduled to begin the next week. Delivery of furniture for the new building is set for Jan. 12 and the move to the new facility soon to follow.

Interim Superintendent Sharon Browning reported that the District had items stored in the old cheese plant. These things received water damage during a micro burst storm that hit Muenster. She said the District may need to rent 10 dumpsters to remove the damaged goods.

Elementary Principal Lou Heers noted Six Weeks highlights. A Littlest Angel Coin Drive brought in \$1,049.69. Students took part in a food pantry drive sponsored by the Muenster Chamber of Commerce. For each one donated, the student got their name in a drawing with the prize being a ride in Santa’s sleigh during the Muenster Christmas Parade.

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## 1896 Muenster home undergoing renovation



Janie Hartman photo

This house located at 602 North Main in Muenster was built in 1896 by Victoria Seyller and her husband. After the death of her spouse, Victoria sold her home and moved. She later moved back and repurchased it. The Ben Hellman family bought the home in 1932 and in 1940 remodeled it into a larger two-story. In the 1960s, Rich and Clara Wilde bought the home. They made no changes to it. After Clara Wilde’s death this year, Mike and Laura Marshall bought the home and have begun a major remodeling project with the intention of selling it after it is finished. In its original state, the home was an ornate Victorian one-story. When it became a two-story, it was more of a Colonial style. Mike and Laura hope to take the middle of the two, making it more of a Country Colonial style. Changes include adding on to the flat roof area to make the roof line the same, adding a third dormer to the front, making it a four bedroom 2 1/2 bath, and completely redoing the electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc. They plan to keep the oak and pine wood floors. Don Eckart is the carpenter assisting the remodeling. It is expected that the project will be finished early this coming summer. The Marshalls plan to hold an open house so that the public can view the home then.

## Morgan hired as Ag Extension agent

**Janet Felderhoff**  
News Editor

Cooke County has been without an Ag Extension agent since the resignation of Wayne Becker in April 2013. That will change this February.

At the Dec. 22 meeting of Cooke County Commissioners Court, Charles Marty Morgan received the unanimous approval of the Commissioners Court. He was introduced by Herbie Miller, District Extension administrator.

Miller noted that Morgan holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Tarleton State University. He worked at Talley Ranch in Pilot Point as a ranch manager for about 16 years. Prior to that, he spent seven years as ranch manager for RNJ Ranch, was at Morgan Wood Production Co. for eight years, and at a cow-calf operation for several years. “Marty has a lot of good experience and some great knowledge that will be very beneficial for the County Extension agent position here in Cooke County,” said Miller.

Morgan will begin his duties in Cooke County on Feb. 5. Miller added that all new agents hired without Extension experience are put through a four-step program. They are placed in an adjacent county to see what goes on, how the agents interact with clientele, etc. The Agency pays the cost of the first 30 days. Morgan will spend his first 30 days in Wise County.

County Judge John Roane assured those present that there have been many phone calls and interviews during the process of locating an agent for Cooke County. Judge Roane and Precinct #4 Commissioner Leon Klement participated in the interview process with the top candidates for the position. All the Cooke County Extension agents visited with Morgan before he was selected and Judge-Elect Jason Brinkley also took part.

The Court approved paying a \$15,911 stipend and travel

expenses of \$4,000 per year toward the Ag Extension agent’s salary. The State pays the remainder of the salary.

Morgan said that he appreciated the opportunity being presented to him and he looks forward to serving Cooke County.

The Court considered the sale of abandoned highway property to an abutting or adjoining landowner in Cooke County, Precinct 4, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 263.002. Precinct # 1 Commissioner Gary Hollowell questioned the manner in which this was being done. The sale of the property had been approved at a previous Court meeting.

Commissioner Klement explained that the property is located near the Muenster Lake. It had been purchased by the City of Muenster and deeded to the County as a county road to allow the landowner access to his property that was landlocked by the building of the Muenster Lake. That property and the property through which the road runs was purchased by another person. The new owner asked to have the road closed (the County approved the request) and is now hoping to purchase the former road from the County.

County Attorney Ed Zielinski confirmed that all steps required by law were taken to allow the County to sell the property. That included having the land appraised.

The Court voted to sell the property for \$8,000 with the purchaser paying for the survey.

With a split vote, Commissioners Court approved the installation and funding of generators for EMS Substations #4 near Muenster and #2 at Woodbine. Judge Roane and Commissioners Klement and Al Smith voted for the installation and Commissioners Hollowell and B.C. Lemons cast nay votes.

EMS Director Kevin Grant said he received two bids. One

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## Local teams participate in tournaments



The Muenster Hornets, along with the Lady Hornets, and Sacred Heart Tigers and Tigerettes, were all competing in holiday tournaments earlier this week. The Hornets, seen here in action against Sanger, were in the Whataburger Tournament in Fort Worth. The Lady Hornets played in Pilot Point, with both Sacred Heart varsity teams in the Holiday Classic at NCTC. Game results will be in next week’s Muenster Enterprise.

Photo courtesy of Darla Styles

## Easy Street Animal Shelter



Here are the last of the puppies and their momma. All three want to start the new year with their new families. Please call Denise at 940-613-6865.

## DAYS GONE BY.....

### 65 YEARS AGO Dec. 30, 1949

Walter Hermes is 1st place winner in County 4-H corn contest. Appendectomies: Marcellene Wimmer and Laura Streng. Obituary: Frank Hoffman, 77. New Arrivals: Linda to the Nig Wilsons; Chris to the J.C. Landers; Karen to the Jack Needhams. The Clover Farm Store advertises 46 oz. can of tomato juice 29¢, can of green beans 17¢, and 14 oz. catsup 19¢.

### 50 YEARS AGO Jan. 1, 1965

Joe Moster is elected Muenster's new fire chief; Muenster firemen answer 59 alarms during past year. Tonsillectomies: Sheila Henigan, Ann Sicking, and Theresa Becker. New Arrivals: Laurie to Ed and Clara

Endres; Anthony to John and Tillie Otto; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hermes; Jason to the Robert Bernauers; Leigh to Randy and Marilyn Bayer. Obituary: Bill Lucas, 68. Wedding: Robert Trachta and Robbie Robbins. Fisher's advertises Kraft cream cheese 29¢ and shoestring potatoes 2 for 19¢.

### 25 YEARS AGO Dec. 19, 1989

Christmas break. No paper published.

## SCHOOL.....

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rade. Second grade students Annsley Budish and Brisan Hermes are the winners from Muenster Elementary. Junior High/High School Principal John York said that the FFA Junior Quiz team performed in the Area V Leadership Contest. National Honor Society members decorated Muenster's light poles for the Christmas holidays.

Technology Director Jeff Presnall said that he and Debra Sicking would help with the computerized scoring of the Elementary UIL District Meet. Technology assistance was provided for both campuses during the second cycle grading period and with the Fall PEIMS submission. He and Sicking attended the quarterly technology meeting at Region XI in White Settlement collaborating productively with peers from Era, Godley, Lindsay, and Aubrey.

In other business conducted, the Muenster Board of Trustees:

- Heard that \$1,177.09 in delinquent taxes were collected during November.
- Discussed, but took no action, on paying City to help with the cost of paving Ninth Street and making changes to Oak Street.
- Heard that all Board members had their required training hours for the year.

## HOSPITAL

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MMH.

In other business, the MMH Board of Directors:

- Approved reappointment and approval to the Active Staff with requested delineation of Privileges for Cardiologist Richard Ammar, M.D.; Courtesy Staff Privileges for radiologists Christopher Sidden, M.D., John Wohlwend, M.D., and Shiril Hombal, M.D.; and Tommy Duncan, CRNA for reappointment to the Affiliated Staff.

## COUNTY

from Parker Electric and one from TNT Electric. Grant said, "I think the two big differences between the two are with Parker they require us to do the concrete pad, the conduit and so forth, and run the gas line. With TNT, they do everything. It's kind of a turnkey thing."

Grant recommended TNT's bid of between \$10,000 to \$12,000.

The Court approved \$12,000 per each of the two EMS sites for the purchase and installation of generators. The money is to be taken out of the Contingency Fund.

Commissioner Klement had requested that Grant get the bids because when the electricity goes out, two of the four EMS stations have no back up for their electrical needs. This causes the ambulance and crew

from the affected station to be transferred to the Gainesville station, leaving an area without close ambulance service.

Commissioner Smith and Justice of the Peace Jason Brinkley were appointed to look into possibly developing a tax abatement policy for Cooke County. A wind energy group had requested a tax abatement from the County. Smith noted that the tax break the group seemed primarily interested in is payment in lieu of taxes. He and Brinkley consulted outside counsel about it.

Smith said, "The result of that consultation for me, I won't speak for anybody else, was that there is not any way that I would recommend to this Court that we entertain a payment in lieu of taxes structure. We have a long-standing tax appraisal system and we have all kinds of laws and statutes on how it works. Payment in lieu of taxes in some ways is a bypass of many of those tried and true methods and it might not serve the County well to go down that road."

Smith also said that to have a tax abatement for a wind farm, they would have to have a definite plan and layout of what the wind farm was going to look like.

Judge Brinkley stated that he agreed with Smith that in lieu of taxes was not some-

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thing that he would care to see the County pursue.

They will continue to work on a generic tax abatement policy.

In other business, Commissioners Court:

- Approved 5-0 amending section 2 of the interlocal agreement between Cooke County and the Cooke County Fair Association and funding of the \$42,875 to be paid in 2014. The wording was changed to say "to be paid in 2015."
- Approved the Treasurer's monthly report for November showing that assets, cash on hand, money market accounts, and short-term investments in the County are \$23,928,857.85.

Consent agenda items approved by the Court included:

- Accepting a monetary award from a class action lawsuit against AT&T due to third party billing in the amount of \$653.48.
- Accepting an insurance settlement on the Road and Bridge Precinct #3 belly dump trailer that was damaged in an accident in the amount of \$5,918.02.
- Accepting the Texas State Library and Archives Commission grant for the Cooke County Library in the amount of \$300 for ILL reimbursement.
- Donations in the amount of \$25 each to the Cooke County Library in memory of Johnny Hayle Boardman, Ramon Dan Hamric, and Stephen "Mack" McDonald Cole from the Cooke County Republican Women.
- Renewal of the Careflite Group Membership for the 2015 plan year.
- Receiving \$735,138.81 additional payment from the Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program.

### AGENDA MEETING DATE - January 5, 2015

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, January 5, 2015.

1. Call meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
  2. Opening prayer.
  3. Approve minutes of the regular meeting held on December 1, 2014.
  4. Recognize visitors and invite them to attend the entire Council meeting and to discuss their business.
  5. Consider any other business to come before the Council.
- OLD BUSINESS:**  
1. n/a
- NEW BUSINESS:**  
1. Approve the appointment of three Board Members for the Muenster Industrial Development Corporation Board of Directors.  
2. Receive monthly update from the Fire Department.  
3. Receive update on Police Department from Chief Barr.  
4. Receive status report on City projects and activities.  
5. Review and act on monthly bills.  
6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Council may enter into closed or executive session to discuss the following: Texas Local Government Code: 551.074-REAL ESTATE.  
7. Return to regular session: Take any needed action.  
8. Adjourn.

Johnna McQuillan, City Secretary

### Texas Oil and Gas Production Reports from the Texas Railroad Commission

### November permits to drill

The Railroad Commission of Texas issued a total of 1,508 original drilling permits in November 2014 compared to 1,559 in November 2013. The November total included 1,376 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 23 to re-enter existing well bores, and 109 for re-completions. Permits issued in November 2014 included 376 oil, 76 gas, 977 oil and gas, 69 injection, two service, and eight other permits.

### October crude oil production

Texas preliminary October 2014 crude oil production averaged 2,215,355 barrels daily, up from the 1,758,780 barrels daily average of October 2013.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for October 2014 is 68,675,991 barrels, up from 54,522,194 barrels reported during October 2013.

### November oil and gas completions

In November 2014, operators reported 1,570 oil, 380 gas, 36 injection and five other completions compared to 1,625 oil, 167 gas, 84 injection, and three other completions in November 2013.

Total well completions for 2014 year to date are 27,595 up from 23,311 recorded during the same period in 2013.

Operators reported 1,069 holes plugged and zero dry holes in November 2014 compared to 431 holes plugged and zero dry holes in November 2013.

### October natural gas production

Texas oil and gas wells produced 610,601,042 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for October 2014 up from the October 2013 preliminary gas production total of 576,413,317 Mcf. Texas preliminary October total gas production averaged 19,696,808 Mcf a day.

Texas production in October 2014 came from 162,224 oil wells and 89,802 gas wells.

## Meeting Notice

### Cooke County Republican Women

The next meeting of the Cooke County Republican Women will take place on Thursday, Jan. 8, beginning at 7 p.m., at the Fellowship Hall of First Christian Church. Hopper Smith, Director of Public Affairs for Devon Energy, will present a program about CLEAN Energy Production. Topics to be discussed will include issues regarding the practice of 'fracking'. CLEAN stands for Citizens for Lasting Energy and Affordable Natural Resources.

The public is invited! Contact Lynn Switzer, 940-665-6300 or Dorthy Lewis, 940-736-5871 for more information.

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

Sunday, January 4, 2015	Monday, January 5, 2015	Tuesday, January 6, 2015	Wednesday, January 7, 2015	Thursday, January 8, 2015	Friday, January 9, 2015	Saturday, January 10, 2015
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 pm	City Council mtg. 6:30 Classes resume - MISD & SH	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm	Library open 10-6:30 Rel. Ed class 6:45pm	Museum open 1 - 4 pm Library open 10- 6:30  M Historical Comm. mtg. 8 am	Museum open 1 - 4 pm AARP luncheon mtg. 11:30 am	Library open 10-2:30
Sunday, January 11, 2015	Monday, January 12, 2015	Tuesday, January 13, 2015	Wednesday, January 14, 2015	Thursday, January 15, 2015	Friday, January 16, 2015	Saturday, January 17, 2015
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 pm	M 4-H mtg. 3:30 pm MMH Aux mtg. 5:30 pm VFW mtg. 7:30 pm	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm Rel. Ed. class 6:45 pm MISD Board mtg. 6:30 pm	Museum open 1-4 pm Library open 10-6:30 MISD early release - 12:30  BLOOD DRIVE - MISD	Museum open 1-4 pm MISD early release - 12:30 MISD - end of 3rd 6 weeks	Library open 10 - 2:30

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## Harold "Runt" Schmitz 1923 - 2014

Funeral Mass for Harold "Runt" John Schmitz, age 91 of Gainesville, was held Monday, Dec. 22 at St. Peter's Catholic Church with Fr. Phil Petta officiating. Burial followed in St. Peter's Cemetery. Rosary followed by visitation was recited on Sunday, Dec. 21 at the Geo. J. Carroll and Son Chapel. He died Dec. 19, 2014 in Gainesville.

Schmitz was born Jan. 26, 1923 in Cooke County to Theodore and Pauline Loerwald Schmitz, the sixth of seven children.

He joined the U.S. Army on July 10, 1944 and served in Japan and the Philippines during WW II. Military decorations he received were: Asiatic-Pacific Campaign ribbon with two bronze stars, Philippine Liberation ribbon with one bronze star, good conduct medal, victory ribbon, three overseas service bars and army occupation ribbon, Japan. He was honorably discharged on Aug. 31, 1946.

He married Clara Mages on June 23, 1949 in Muenster, and was a member of the St. Peter's Catholic Church. Schmitz worked for the Clyde Fisher Distribution Company, owned and operated Club 60 in Lindsay, installed ceramic tile, vinyl, and carpet, as well as farmed and ranched the family farm.

In January 1968, Schmitz

suffered a severe stroke and was paralyzed on his right side. After numerous surgeries and extensive therapy, he learned to walk again with the use of a forearm crutch. He never regained the ability to speak. After a fall in 2003, in which he broke his arm, the doctor confined him to a wheelchair. He was a resident of River Valley Health and Rehab Center since June 2013 when his wife had surgery herself and could no longer care for him.

Schmitz is survived by his wife Clara of Gainesville; son Doug and wife Renee Schmitz of Gainesville; daughters Mona and husband John Finkbohner of Cedar Hill, and Carla Grahl of Santa Rosa Beach, FL; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and sister Isabel "Sis" Klement of Muenster.

Schmitz was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Lawrence Schmitz, Francis Schmitz, Patrick Schmitz, and Eugene Schmitz; sister Louise Schmitz Horn; and an infant son.

Pallbearers were grandsons Rusty Schmitz, Sean Finkbohner, and Evan Finkbohner; and nephews Pat Klement, Joe Schmitz, and Stan Dieter.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the building restoration fund at St. Peter's Church in Lindsay.

## Gerta Geray 1921 - 2014

Funeral Mass for Gerta Ullmann Geray, age 93 of Gainesville, was held Tuesday, Dec. 30 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lindsay, with Fr. Phil Petta officiating. Burial followed in St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery. Rosary was recited Sunday, Dec. 28 at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home.

Gerta went to join her husband in heaven on Dec. 23, 2014.

Born to Elise and George Ullmann in Emden, Germany on Aug. 1, 1921, Gerta immigrated to America with her parents and her brother Fred when she was 2 1/2 years of age. They settled in southern Oklahoma where Gerta completed school before joining the Women's Air Corp during WWII. While in the Women's Air Corp, she traveled extensively and was part of an educational service program called "This is the Army, Mrs. Jones" which provided support and education during the war. After her discharge from the Army as a staff sergeant, she met and married her husband James Geray in 1952. They worked together to build and operate a working farm/ranch and backhoe/septic

tank business. Gerta also worked at J. C. Penney as a bookkeeper prior to having children.

Gerta enjoyed travelling and went on hunting and fishing expeditions from Canada throughout North America and Mexico with her husband. She was an avid gardener. She also enjoyed reading, dancing, playing dominoes, and "people watching," being a warm and friendly person. Gerta was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lindsay.

Survivors include her children and their spouses: Jim and Vicki Geray, Cynthia and Roy Hellinger, Joe and Lorrie Geray, Linda and Jess Trowbridge, and Stephen and Cindy Geray; 15 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren; sister Wilma Easley; and brother George Ullmann.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband James; sister Louise Ullmann; and brother Fred Ullmann.

Memorials may be made to Home Hospice of Grayson, Cooke, and Fannin counties online at [www.homehospice.org](http://www.homehospice.org) or by mail at PO Box 936, Gainesville, TX 76241.

## Five things to know about signing up for health care coverage for 2015

By Bob Moos

Southwest public affairs officer for the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

If you don't have health insurance through your job or a government program like Medicare or Medicaid, you'll want to read on. You have until Feb. 15 to shop for health care coverage for 2015 through the federal health insurance marketplace or your state's exchange.

The marketplace's open enrollment period got off to a strong start in mid-November, with tens of thousands of people now signing up every day. Here are five things to know about it:

This is comprehensive health insurance, with benefits similar to what many employers offer their workers.

Insurance protects you from unexpected medical expenses. With it, you'll have peace of mind. Without it, you'd bear the full brunt of any bills. Fixing a broken leg can cost you up to \$7,500. A three-day stay in the hospital runs, on average, \$30,000.

The health plans sold through the marketplace cover a broad range of medical services, including emergency care, hospital stays, doctor visits, and prescription drugs.

Insurers can't deny you coverage, or charge you higher premiums, because you have a pre-existing medical condition such as diabetes or high blood pressure. The price you pay for insurance is based only on where you live, how old you are, and whether you smoke.

Even if you signed up during the marketplace's first enrollment period a year ago, you'll want to update your personal information and shop around again to make sure you get the best deal.

It's true that you'll be automatically re-enrolled in your current health plan if you do nothing. But you could end up cheating yourself. The plan that was your best choice for 2014 may not be for 2015. It may be changing its benefits, its cost sharing or its network of hospitals and doctors.

You also may have more choices. Nationally, there are 25% more health plans than last year. The increased competition among insurers is reining in prices in many cases. If you don't compare all your options for 2015, you could miss out on a plan that would save you money.

It's also important to review your application from last year and update any personal information that's changed. If you've had a drop in income, for example, that could boost any financial help you're receiving for your premiums or out-of-pocket costs.

Look beyond the monthly premiums in comparing health plans.

Some plans have lower premiums but charge you more out-of-pocket when you require care. Other plans charge higher premiums but cover more of your medical expenses. You'll need to decide how you want to balance your premium costs with your out-of-pocket costs.

The easiest way to compare health plans available in your area, along with

their estimated cost, is to use [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov)'s new "window-shopping" feature. Even before completing an application, you can browse plans by entering your ZIP code, household income, and family size.

Check whether you qualify for financial assistance.

About 85% of the people who enrolled in a marketplace plan a year ago received tax credits that made their premiums more affordable. Nearly seven in 10 consumers who qualified for help paid \$100 or less per month for their coverage. Almost half got covered for \$50 or less per month.

If you're new to the marketplace this year, you can find out whether you're eligible for a tax credit by visiting [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) and creating an application with your most up-to-date income information. This year's application has been shortened and simplified for most people.

Ask for help in enrolling if you need it.

The [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) website is running much more smoothly this year. But if you're not computer-savvy, don't fret. Call the marketplace assistance center at 1-800-318-2596 and speak with a trained counselor. Local organizations are also available to help. For a list of groups in your community that can provide in-person assistance, visit [localhelp.healthcare.gov/](http://localhelp.healthcare.gov/)

The deadline for enrolling in a health plan is Feb. 15. Coverage begins on Jan. 1 for those who sign up by Dec. 15. Don't delay. Once this open enrollment period is over, your next chance to buy insurance and apply for help may not come for another year.

**Virtue is nothing without the trial of temptation, for there is no conflict without an enemy, no victory without strife.**

- St. Leo the Great

## Easy Street Animal Shelter



My name is Sammy and I have been waiting a long time for someone to take me home. Please come see me and fall in love. For more info, contact Denise at 940-613-6865.

## Use an Energy Star HVAC system

Selecting the right HVAC system upfront will help you conserve energy and save money in the long run. Bigger may not be better as larger systems require more energy. In Texas, cooling and heating accounts for as much as 40% of annual home energy expenses. By using an Energy Star heating and cooling system that is the right size for your house, you can save up to 20% on energy costs and help keep the air clean.

We could reduce energy consumption statewide by nearly four billion kilowatt hours if all households replaced their heating and cooling systems with Energy Star HVAC systems based on the average annual usage of more than 8.7 million Texas households.

The payoff in annual savings: \$360.

For more tips to keep our air and water clean, conserve water and energy, and reduce waste, visit [TakeCareOfTexas.org](http://TakeCareOfTexas.org).

## Winter outlook and safety tips issued by Forest Service

Expect a slow fire season this Winter.

Much of the state received above normal rainfall this year, helping to suppress fires and increase the moisture level—also increasing the amount of grass or fuel.

More fuels coupled with dry weather normally causes concern during the winter months since this combination supports significant fire activity, helping spread wildfires quickly across grassy areas. Although we have more fuels, we don't have the dry weather which reduces the threat.

Forecasted El Niño conditions may hinder wildfires this season. El Niño is a weather cycle that occurs every three to five years. It deviates from normal surface temperatures, causing warmer temperatures and wetter-than-average conditions across Texas.

"With El Niño in place, precipitation chances are expected to increase during the winter months. This would help limit wildfires this season," Tom Spencer, Texas A&M Forest Service predictive services department head said. "However, with the surge of grass growing in the plains regions of the state, there could be opportunities for an occasional period of fire activity."

Although a rainier season is expected, Spencer urges residents to still use care through the winter months and limit activities that could accidentally start a wildfire.

TFS offers these tips for Texans to stay safe this holiday season:

Check for and obey burn bans and fireworks restrictions. When and where outdoor burning is allowed, keep the fire small, never leave it unattended, and remove leaves and other materials from the area surrounding the fire. Avoid lighting piles on windy days.

Keep water nearby in case a fire starts. A spark or burning ember can ignite dry, fine-textured fuels like grass and weeds.

Dispose of paper, boxes, and other waste by recycling, when practical. Burn paper and cardboard in a burn barrel or other fire-proof receptacle topped by a metal screen or grill, as winds can carry embers over long distances.

The full Winter weather outlook is now available, and daily fire weather forecasts can be found at the Texas Inter-agency Coordination Center webpage.

## Child injured by pellet gun

On Sunday, Dec. 28 at 6:30 p.m., the Cooke Sheriff's Office dispatched units to North Texas Medical Center in Gainesville in reference to a juvenile who had been accidentally shot with a pellet gun.

Deputies met with the victim's father Jose Flores who informed them that his seven-year-old daughter had been accidentally shot with a pellet gun in the stomach area by another juvenile sibling. Flores transported his daughter to North Texas Medical Center by private vehicle where she was examined and transferred to Cook's Children in Fort Worth.

The incident occurred in the 100 block of CR 101 in Cooke County at the Flores residence.

The investigation is ongoing, but it appears that the shooting was accidental.



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## Weekly Grocery Specials

SELECT VARIETIES  
**Shurfine Milk**  
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SELECT VARIETIES  
**Shurfine Yogurt**  
6 OZ.  
**3 for 99¢**

KELLOGG'S,  
SELECT VARIETIES  
**Special K Cereal**  
11-13.1 OZ.  
**4 for \$10**

SELECT VARIETIES  
**Healthy Choice Dinners or Cafe Steamers**  
9.5-11.8 OZ.  
**4 for \$10**

SELECT VARIETIES NOODLE OR RICE  
**Knorr Sides** ..... 4-5.7 OZ. **5 for \$5**

SELECT VARIETIES, NO BEANS  
**Wolf Brand Chili** ..... 15 OZ. **\$1.39**

SELECT VARIETIES, WITH BEANS  
**Wolf Brand Chili** ..... 15 OZ. **\$1.19**

SELECT VARIETIES OLD ORCHARD  
**Juice Cocktails** ..... 64 OZ. **\$1.49**

PRINT  
**Sparkle Paper Towels** ..6 ROLL **\$4.99**

FRITO LAY REG. \$3.49  
**Fritos® or Cheetos®** ... 6.5-9.25 OZ. **2 for \$5**

REG. \$4.29 ASSORTED  
**Doritos®** ..... 10-11 OZ. **2 for \$6**

FRITO LAY ASSORTED  
**Fritos® Dips** ..... 9 OZ. **2 for \$5**

SELECT VARIETIES HEINZ  
**Tomato Ketchup** ..... 14-20 OZ. **\$1.99**

SHURFINE SELECT VARIETIES  
**Soda or Mixers** ..... 12 PK. **4 for \$11**

ANGEL SOFT REG. OR LAVENDER SCENT  
**Bath Tissue** ... 12 DOUBLE ROLLS **\$6.99**

KELLOGG'S SELECT VARIETIES  
**Pop-Tarts or Mini Crisps** ..... 4.9-22 OZ. **\$3.29**

NABISCO SELECT VARIETIES  
**Chips Ahoy! Cookies** ..... 9.5-13 OZ. **2 for \$4**

SELECT VARIETIES, GARDETTOS OR CHEX MIX  
**Snack Crackers** ..... 5-8.75 OZ. **2 for \$4**

SELECT VARIETIES VAN CAMP'S  
**Beanee Weenee** ..... 7.75 OZ. **4 for \$5**

SELECT VARIETIES MCCORMICK  
**Taco Seasoning Mix** .75-1.5 OZ. **2 for \$1**

LIBBY'S REGULAR OR CHICKEN  
**Vienna Sausage** ..... 4.6 OZ. **3 for \$2**

ITALIAN HERB, SEA SALT OR BLACK PEPPER  
**McCormick Grinders** ..... 77-2.12 OZ. **2 for \$4**

SELECT VARIETIES GLAD  
**Trash Bags** ..... 14-35 CT. **\$5.49**

WESTERN FAMILY, BURNS UP TO 3 HOURS  
**Firelog** ..... EA. **\$3.89**

## Fischer's Quality Meats



PREVIOUSLY FROZEN  
**Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast**  
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FAMILY PACK  
**Pork Chops** **\$1.69**  
LB.



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**Top Sirloin Steak** ..... LB. **\$4.99**

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**Pork Spare Ribs** ..... LB. **\$2.79**

FARM RAISED RAW  
**Catfish Nuggets** ..... LB. **\$1.99**

TENDERIZED  
**Beef Cube Steak** ..... LB. **\$4.99**

CHICKEN OF THE SEA W/COCKTAIL SAUCE  
**Shrimp Rings** ..... 10 OZ. **\$6.99**

HORMEL LITTLE SIZZLERS  
**Sausage Links** ..... 12 OZ. **89¢**

MARKET SLICED  
**Boiled Ham** ..... LB. **\$2.49**

SELECT VARIETIES EL MONTEREY  
**Burritos or Chimichangas** ..... 32 OZ. **\$3.99**

IMITATION  
**Crab Meat** ..... LB. **\$1.49**

MARKET CUT, WISCONSIN LONGHORN  
**Cheddar Cheese** ..... LB. **\$3.49**

FOSTER FARMS GLUTEN FREE OR JALAPENO CHEESE  
**Corn Dogs** ..... 32-37.4 OZ. **\$6.59**

GLACIER GOLD  
**Hash Brown Patties** .. 10 CT. **\$2.19**

SEÑOR RICO  
**Rice Pudding** ..... 8 OZ. **\$1.19**

## Fresh Produce

2 LB. BAG  
**Clementine Mandarins**  
**\$2.97**

WASHINGTON  
Premium  
**Gala Apples**  
**79¢**  
T. MARZETTI'S  
Caramel Apple Dip ..16 OZ. **3.99**

CALIFORNIA CARA CARA OR MORI NU "BLOOD"  
**Oranges** ..... 2 LBS. **\$3**

BAGGED CHOICE  
**Texas Grapefruit** ..... 5 LB. **\$1.99**

TANGY  
**Fancy Lemons** ..... 3 FOR **\$1**

CRISP BABY PEELED  
**Carrots** ..... 1 LB. **99¢**

RIPE TROPICAL  
**Kiwifruit** ..... 3 FOR **\$1**

SELECT VARIETIES  
**Fresh Express** ..... 5-7 OZ. **2 for \$6**

24-PACK CANS  
**Milwaukees Best Light**  
**\$14**

30-PACK CANS  
**Natural Light**  
**\$20**

18-PACK  
**DR. PEPPER**  
CANS ASSTD. FLAVORS  
**\$5.00**

20-PACK  
**COCA-COLA**  
CANS ASSTD. FLAVORS  
**\$5.99**

## Dairy & Frozen Foods

SHURFINE SMALL OR LARGE CURD  
**Cottage Cheese**  
24 OZ. TUB **\$2.79**

SHURFINE  
**Garlic Toast** **\$1.99**  
11.5-16 OZ.

SELECT VARIETIES FAMILY SIZE  
**Banquet Dinners** **\$2.79**  
24-27 OZ. PKG.

SHURFINE  
**Sour Cream** ..... 24 OZ. **\$2.29**

BUTTERMILK OR HOMESTYLE  
**Shurfine Biscuits** ..... 10 CT. **3 for \$1**

IMPERIAL  
**Soft Spread** ..... 45 OZ. **\$2.49**

SELECT VARIETIES TOTINO'S  
**Pizza Rolls** ..... 17.4-19.8 OZ. **\$3.49**

## Health & Beauty Care

SELECT VARIETIES  
**White Rain, or Shampoo Conditioner**  
12-16.9 OZ. **99¢**

WESTERN FAMILY NON-COATED  
**Aspirin** ..... 500 CT. **\$2.99**

SELECT VARIETIES DELSYM  
**Cough Suppressant** ... 3 OZ. **\$9.99**

WESTERN FAMILY REG., BLUE MINT OR SPRING MINT,  
**Antiseptic Mouth Rinse** .. 33.8 OZ. **\$1.99**

# LIFESTYLE



MMH photo

**GETTING READY FOR HOME - Muenster Memorial Hospital's extended care unit offers access to a full kitchen/laundry facility to prepare patients for the tasks of daily living, such as cooking and doing laundry. Many need to practice such activities using newly acquired assistance devices, such as canes and walkers.**

## Hospital offers services unique in County

The only long-term, hospital-based extended care facility in the county.

The only aquatic therapy program in Cooke or Montague counties.

The only wound care program in Cooke County.

The only local representative for Personal Emergency Response Systems.

All of the above are available at Muenster Memorial Hospital.

**Extended Care = Skilled Nursing Facility = Swing Bed**

When it comes to rehabilitation following surgery, incapacitating illness, or injury, Muenster Memorial Hospital has a solid reputation for providing the care needed to get patients back on their feet and home safely.

For over a decade, Muenster Memorial Hospital has provided extended inpatient care for patients who require additional attention following a hospital stay or surgery. The facility provides full therapy services to help patients regain strength and function in preparation for a return to normal

activities. Other qualifying conditions include a need for IV medications following an acute care hospital stay, additional training or education (newly diagnosed diabetics), and post-stroke or traumatic injury care and rehab.

Palliative (or comfort) care for end-of-life patients, which focuses on pain and stress reduction, is also available, as is wound care.

Services are reimbursable by Medicare and some other insurances. Medicare assists for up to 100 days of care. Extended care (sometimes referred to as "swing bed") can be utilized either short or long term. Patients may remain in extended care as long as there is a documented need for the level of care.

Adelia Wilson is the program coordinator and works closely with case managers and discharge planners at surrounding hospitals to make them aware of the service and to screen for eligible patients.

"Our facility offers many advantages for area families," she said. "Having a

loved one close to home relieves so much stress for caregivers, and the fact that the patient is staying within a hospital facility, with 24-hour medical monitoring, offers additional peace of mind."

Muenster offers 18 rehab beds and a beautifully appointed rehabilitation center with state-of-the-art equipment, therapy pool, and a functioning kitchen that allows patients to practice activities of daily living, such as cooking and laundry, before returning home.

"The therapy services provided to extended care patients cover the gamut, from physical and occupational therapy, including hand therapy, to speech," noted Wilson.

"The goal of our physicians, nurses, and therapists is to make the patient as whole as we can possibly make them. Sometimes, the time allowed for a hospital stay is just not enough."

For more information on Muenster Memorial Hospital's extended care program, please contact Wilson at (940) 759-6125.

## Meeting notice

### Gainesville Christian Women's Connection

The Gainesville Christian Women's Connection (GCWC) January Brunch will be Thursday, Jan. 22 at 401 W. Garnett, Gainesville. The event time is 10 to 11:30 a.m. and the cost is \$9 per person. Brunch will be catered by Lone Oak Ranch and Retreat.

The keynote speaker will be Deanna Martin. Deanna, an author, avid gardener, and former owner of a vineyard, will share her "whispers of love" story. Karen Brooks of Past Time Fabric will present quilts past and present as the special feature. Melody notes will be performed by the Shafer sisters.

GCWC is a non-denominational organization affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries open to women of all ages. Whether you are new to the area or have lived here a long time, join them. For reservations, call Judy DeField at (940) 612-3130, Laura Patterson at (817) 366-4768 or email gcwcreervations@yahoo.com by Thursday, Jan. 15

## Adjust thermostats

You can cut your cooling and heating costs by installing and using a programmable thermostat or, adjust your thermostat during overnight hours or when no one is home. Try setting the thermostat at 78 degrees or warmer in the summer and at 68 degrees or cooler in the winter to reduce energy consumption.

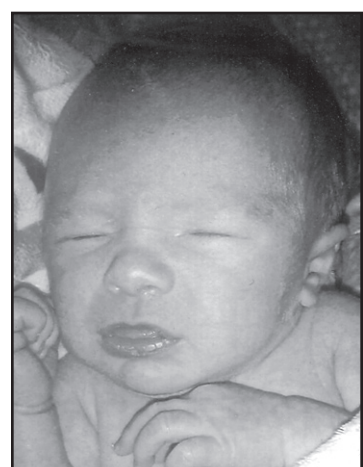
According to the Department of Energy, you can save as much as 1% per year for each degree if the setback period is eight hours long. When used properly, a programmable thermostat with four temperature settings can save the average household up to \$150 per year in energy costs. If all households in Texas did this, Texans could collectively save over \$1.3 billion a year.

For more tips, visit TakeCareOfTexas.org.

## New Arrival

### Shurbet

Chris and Madison Shurbet of Myra joyfully announce the birth of their first child, son Blayne Shurbet, on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014. He was born at North Texas Medical Center at 6 p.m. weighing 5 lb. 1 oz. and measuring 18 inches in length. Grandparents are Donny and Renee Knabe of Muenster, and Bobbie Doris Scoggins of Myra, and Brian Shurbet of Bowie. Great-grandparents are Pat and Ruth Klement of Muenster, Barbara Kirkpatrick of Saint Jo, Augie and Shonna Knabe of Iowa Park, Harry and Harriet Parkgins of Muenster, Howett and Leota Shurbet of Bowie, and the late Jake and Juanita Al-



Blayne Shurbet

len. Blayne is the first great-grandchild of Helen Yosten and the late Larry Yosten and Sis Klement and the late Tony Klement.

## Cooke County Library offers eReader and tablet help

Did you get a new tablet or eReader for Christmas? Or perhaps a new smartphone? The Cooke County Library has eServices that you might be interested in learning about and using.

### eBooks

The Library offers eBooks through Freeding, OneClick Digital, and now TumbleBooks. Freeding gives Library patrons access to over 40,000 eBooks. You can download fiction and non-fiction books for both children and adults.

OneClick Digital has over 100 eBooks by popular authors and is increasing as new titles are purchased. Most titles are for adults, but there are a few children's titles.

TumbleBooks is the Library's newest eBooks service just for children. It has animated, talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love. TumbleBooks are created by taking existing picture books, adding animation, sound, music, and narration to produce an electronic picture book which you can read, or have read to you. There are over 540 titles for children to interact with and enjoy.

### Downloadable

### Audiobooks

Through OneClick Digital, Library patrons have access to over 3,000 audiobooks, right on their phone, tablet, or computer. Just download the app, do a search, and start listening. You are allowed six audiobooks at one time.

### Music

In November, the Library started offering Freegal Music Service which allows the Library to offer access to over seven million songs and 28,000 music labels from 101 different countries. Patrons are allowed three songs that can be downloaded for free per week and three hours of live streaming per day.

You can find all of these great products by visiting the Cooke County Library website (<http://cookecountylibrary.org/>), click the "Books & More" tab, and then click on the eBooks, Downloadable Audiobooks and Music headers to learn more details on each of these services.

Any of the Library staff is qualified and willing to help show you how to use these products. Patrons are not required to call ahead and schedule a time for help. If you have any questions about these eServices, call the library at 940-668-5530.

## College honors

### Midwestern State University

Midwestern State University recognized 916 honor students for the Fall 2014 semester.

A student who completes a semester schedule of at least 12 hours in one semester with no grade lower than A (4.0) is included on the President's Honor Roll. The student cannot have semester grades of I, WF, or NC. Included on that list was Rebekah Hesse of Muenster.

A student who completes a semester schedule of at least 12 semester hours in one semester with a grade point average of 3.75 to 3.99 and no grade lower than C is included on the Provost's Honor Roll. The student cannot have semester grades of I, WF, or NC. Shelby Binford of Muenster was named to that list.

## Weather Whys - Wind


Q: Some days it's very breezy, and other days, there seems to be no wind at all. What causes wind?

A: There are several reasons why it's windy one day and calm the next, said Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. Wind is caused by air flowing from an area of higher pressure to an area of lower pressure, he explained. "Add to that the rotation of the Earth, which also affects air flow," he adds. "And during daylight hours, winds increase as sunlight heats the ground and causes convection to occur, meaning heat is moving away from the Earth's surface. At night, this convection dwindles and the winds die down. Nature is always trying to balance things out, and the result of trying to balance and equalize pressure from one area to another results in wind."

Q: Are there different kinds of wind?

A: Winds that blow uphill are called upslope winds, and winds that blow downhill are called downslope winds, McRoberts adds. "Winds that blow from large bodies of water inland are called sea breezes. Santa Ana winds are dry winds that can fan forest fires, especially in California. The U.S. has some of the windiest weather on Earth. In fact, the highest wind speed ever recorded in the U.S. occurred April 12, 1934, on Mount Washington, N.H. For a few seconds, the wind blew an incredible 231 miles per hour."

*How long can men thrive between walls of brick, walking on asphalt pavements, breathing the fumes of coal and of oil, growing, working, dying, with hardly a thought of wind, and sky, and fields of grain, and sky, and machine-made beauty, the mineral-like quality of life?*  
~ Charles A. Lindbergh, Reader's Digest, November 1939

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**The Gambler (R)**  
Fri & Sat 11am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10  
Sun 11am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15  
Mon-Thurs 1:45, 4:30, 7:15  
**Into the Woods (PG)**  
Fri & Sat 12:00, 3:15, 6:45, 9:45  
Sun 12:00, 3:15, 6:45  
Mon-Thurs 3:15, 6:45  
**The Hobbit, Battle of the 5 Armies in 2D (PG-13)**  
Fri & Sat 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10  
Sun 12:15, 3:30, 7:00  
Mon-Thurs 3:30, 7:00  
**Unbroken (PG13)**  
Fri & Sat 11am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:00  
Sun 11am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45  
Mon-Thurs 1:55, 4:50, 7:45  
**Night at the Museum (PG)**  
Fri & Sat 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40  
Sun 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00  
Mon-Thurs 2:00, 4:30, 7:00  
**Annie (PG)**  
Fri-Sat & Sun 11am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:25  
Mon-Wed 1:45, 4:45, 7:25  
Thurs 1:45, 4:45  
**Taken 3 (PG13)**  
Thurs Jan 8th 8pm



## THE MOST JOYOUS TIME OF THE YEAR

Holidays are the most joyous time of the year. They're also the most expensive. But with a little help from us, you can be prepared. Talk to us about a savings plan, or a holiday loan, and then shop locally for Christmas wherever you can.

Season's greetings from all of us here at the bank! We'll see you in the stores.



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# SCHOOL

## Great things happening at MISD

**By Sharon Browning**  
Interim Superintendent

Great things continue to happen at Muenster ISD. The new junior high is nearing completion, with a possible move in date of mid-January. Everyone is excited to be able to get those students settled in the new facility. With the completion, intercom and bells will be back for the high school, junior high, and AG building. You never realize how much you use something until it is missing; bells and intercoms are a very important part of making the day run a little smoother. The intercom will also reconnect to the elementary so that we will once again have a district-wide intercom connection.

Recently, the elementary and junior high completed their district UIL academic competitions, with the elementary hosting the event in their new facility. All students not competing were out of school for the day as we hosted seven other schools on site. With the help of both the elementary and secondary staff, the event went very smoothly. Muenster elementary students were the champions at the end of the day.

The next day, the junior high competitors traveled to Era for their competition. They finished second out of

the eight teams in the district. The junior high One Act Play competitors performed earlier in mid-November. They had a great play and received many good laughs from the audience. Too bad the one competition judge doesn't ask my opinion for their ranking, because they are really good.

The football teams had a great season. The varsity season did not end until the Area game against Iola! In typical Hornet fashion, they fought to the end, never giving up. Cross country has a rising new freshman star who advanced to Area as well. The basketball season is in full swing and fun to watch. If you haven't been to a game, check the website for the schedule and come join us in the gym.

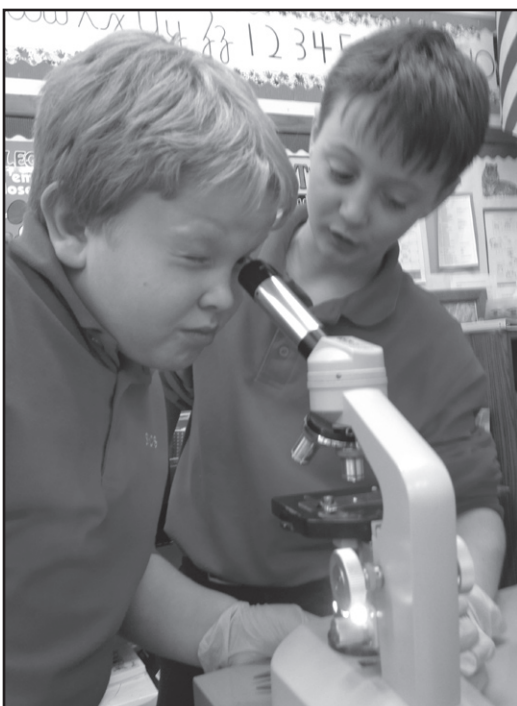
FFA and FCCLA have been busy during the semester as well. FCCLA has had many great worthwhile community projects that have students donating items. Each project helps to reinforce how generous the students of MISD are towards someone in need.

The competition season for FCCLA will start in the spring semester. FFA competition junior quiz team advanced to Area and there have been numerous live-stock shows that have been attended since school started. The big show season will

get underway in January. Student Councils, elementary, junior high, and high school, have community projects that have been taking place to provide services for those in need. National Honor Society had their annual induction and also has community service projects in progress. The number of service projects that our students are involved is amazing. The lessons learned through being a part of these projects are invaluable.

In the classrooms, we have awesome new technology in the form of many Chrome books and I-Pads and Smart Boards. It is our responsibility to help our students be successful in the world after graduation, so the staff works diligently to keep on top of the newest trends to prepare them. Students and teachers both have embraced the technology and it is very exciting to watch the process as it unfolds.

In January, a new superintendent, Steve Self, will be starting. I am sure that he will bring new ideas to challenge the staff and students at Muenster ISD. I have been very honored to fill the role of interim superintendent during the past few months, and I believe that Muenster ISD's staff and students will continue with the tradition of success.



SHCS photo

Students pictured examining owl pellets include, clockwise from top left, Elise Flusche; Eli Hess and Isaac Schilling; Mara Juntado; Parker Forshee and Vincent Simmons.



Courtesy photo

Barbara Felderhoff, right, and Pauline Lesch, left, deliver dictionaries to third graders at Valley View Elementary School.

## Republican Women promote literacy, patriotism

Literacy and Americanism projects are a tradition for Republican Women's clubs throughout the country, and Cooke County Republican Women (CCRW) have closed out the year promoting both.

2014 Literacy Chairman Debi Zielinski coordinated three projects: first, the donation of two books to the Cooke County Library; second, the delivery of copies of the U. S. Constitution to fifth graders of both public and private schools in Cooke County; and third, the delivery of dictionaries to third graders in all public school districts in the County, as well as St. Mary's and Sacred Heart.

"It's a treat to the children to have their very own Dictionary, and their very own copy of the Constitution," said 2014 President Rosina

Salsman. "It's also a lesson in giving. They see that members of the community care about them and about helping them succeed in school and in life."

2014 Americanism Chairman Nenia Kahl assisted with the Constitutions, a joint project of the two committees. In addition, she headed a project for veterans at the Ardmore Veterans Center. Club members donated money and personal care items, which were put

into 50 "care packages." Each package contained a Christmas card with a handwritten note, disposable razors, washcloths, and an assortment of toiletries such as shaving cream, powder, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

Kahl and her husband Matthew, himself a veteran and an associate member of CCRW, delivered the gifts and visited with the veterans on Christmas Day.

## Hoo, hoo knows what owls like to eat?

In Science class, the fourth grade students at Sacred Heart Catholic School have been studying the interactions of living things in their environments. In order to better understand food chains and food webs, they dissected owl pellets to determine what owls consume. While this was a rather grisly Science Lab, the students were excited to discover and identify a variety of skulls and bones from their specimen. They could have just read about an owl pellet in a text book, but it

was much more interesting and educational to explore it themselves.

The overheads, bone charts, and special science tools were donated to Sacred Heart School by North Central Texas College (NCTC). The Texas Regional Collaborative for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching (TRC) is an award-winning network of P-16 partnerships that provide sustained, high intensity professional development to P-12 teachers in science and mathematics.

North Central Texas College provides training to north Texas schools, through hands-on training and interactive training. Most trainings are after school hours to accommodate teacher schedules and all are free of charge. Sacred Heart teachers including fourth grade teacher Michele Knauf, Math teacher Barbara LaChance, and high school Science teacher Marilen Juntado frequently attend these classes and bring back exciting new ideas and activities to their classes.

## Weatherize your house

Weatherize your house. You wouldn't set sail in a leaky boat, right? So why would you let your heating and cooling escape from leaks in your house?

Sealing air leaks around your home, combined with

adding more insulation, can help you maintain a comfortable indoor temperature and save money.

A few easy steps can save you as much as 10% on your annual energy bills.

Even a beginner can make simple fixes, such as replacing weather stripping on doors and caulking around windows. Some bigger jobs might include sealing leaks and adding insulation in your attic.

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*An annuity gift will earn interest for the donor or designate for the rest of their life after which the gift will be used for Catholic education.*

*A donation to the Sacred Heart School Trust Fund is an investment in Catholic education.*

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# SPORTS

## KEEP TEXAS WILDLIFE WILD

By Jenny Sanders

We have all heard the stories. The so-called "hunter" picks out a deer on the Internet to kill for its prized antlers. The "hunter" flies in on his corporate jet to a Texas ranch, hops in a jeep, and drives up to a genetically engineered trophy buck, released from captivity as little as 10 days prior. The "hunter" shoots the deer, loads up the antlers, gives the meat to whoever will take it, and gets back on his plane so he is home in time for dinner.

With over four million wild deer in Texas, how can we justify these extreme factory farming and put-and-take shooting practices? Hunters and Texans agree, this is not hunting.

Deer breeding in Texas is a cottage industry backed by big dollars and focused on producing the biggest antlers. There are less than 1,300 deer breeders in the state, and for the past decade, they have spent millions on lobbying efforts seeking more liberty with the people's deer. Despite outcries from Texans and hunters alike, the breeders have gone largely unopposed.

With the 84th Legislature commencing this January, deer breeders are expected to file bills that will seek to further deregulate their industry. Texans for Saving Our Hunting Heritage is a group of concerned sportsmen and landowners formed to expose practices that we believe threaten the future of hunting:

**Cavalier use of drugs and no safety net to protect human health** - Extreme animal husbandry practices that are common in the deer breeding industry lend themselves to the use of a long list of pharmaceuticals. Very few of the commonly used drugs are labeled for white-tailed deer. And unlike the strict

controls on pharmaceutical administration and withdrawal intervals in the livestock industry, there is no recognized authority that protects the consumer from potential drug residues in liberated breeder deer.

**The 10-Day Rule** - Current law allows for captive-raised deer to be "hunted" just

11 days after they are liberated from captivity. This poses threats to food safety because of unknown pharmaceutical withdrawal intervals in liberated breeder deer and promotes a perception of "canned hunting" that most hunters and most Texans cannot support.

**Lack of Consumer Protection & Disclosure** - There is currently no requirement for breeder deer to be clearly and visibly marked upon liberation into the wild. No form of disclosure is required to ensure that the hunter is aware he is hunting a pen-raised deer. Hunters deserve transparency regarding the origin and potential pharmaceutical history of the deer they harvest.

**Lack of Enforced Habitat Requirements** - Deer breeders have used political strong-arming to exempt themselves from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department "Stocking Policy," allowing them to liberate captive-raised deer into any size "pasture," regardless of habitat availability. Hunting is part of the fabric of Texas. It is about camaraderie, family values, conservation, and tradition. Texans for Saving our Hunting Heritage calls on Texans and Texas hunters to unite in opposition to these practices that threaten the perception and future of our sport. Please join us as we, "Hunt Real. Hunt Wild. Hunt Texas Proud."

Jenny Sanders is the executive director of Texans for Saving Our Hunting Heritage. For more information, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/texanshuntingheritage>



Photo courtesy of Laura Pagel

Lady Hornets Bailey Klement (#25) and Kassie Dangelmayr (#20) put pressure on a Lady Eagle in Muenster's big District opener victory over Valley View.

## Pre-Holiday basketball

### Hornets out-fly Cardinals 65-42

The Muenster Hornets picked up their 12th victory of the season on Dec. 19 with a 65-42 win over the Pottsville Cardinals.

"It was a tale of two halves for us," noted Muenster Coach Lynn Cook. "The 1st half, we were very good on offense - not so much on defense - giving up 32 points. In the 2nd half, we played great defense, holding them to 10 points, but our offense suffered a bit."

Ten Hornets contributed points to the win. Trevor Cheaney led with 16. Lyndon Cook added 15, Blake Hoepfner and Logan Cook 7 each, Trey Anderle and Nate Walterscheid 6 apiece, and 2 points each from Chance Herr, Brandon Hennigan, Blayne Jones, and Ryan Hoepfner.

M	23	17	11	14	65
P	17	15	2	8	42

### Lady Hornets get 2nd District victory

The Lady Hornets of Muenster flew over to Poolville Dec. 19 to open District play against the Lady Monarchs. A strong 29 point 1st quarter gave Muenster a big lead and they never looked back, finishing with a 75-37 District victory.

Four Lady Hornets scored double digit points. Kassie Dangelmayr led with 15, Mady Burnett 14, Bailey Klement 13, and Claire Schneider 11. Morgan Eldridge added 8, Kristen Reiter 7, Courtney Stevens 5, and N. Dangelmayr 2.

Muenster had five 3-pointers and hit 16 of 22 free throws.

M	29	12	17	17	75
P	12	4	9	12	37

### Tigers over Red River

The Sacred Heart Tigers took a 47-36 holiday victory from the Red River Rattlers on Dec. 21 to remain undefeated, 9-0, on the season.

Kason Reeves led the Tigers with 16 points, nine rebounds, seven assists, and six steals. Zach Flusche added 7 points, Brady Endres and Hayden Schilling 6 each, Tyler Spruill and Isaac Walterscheid 5 apiece, and Thomas Hennigan 2.

SH	16	14	7	10	47
RR	6	11	7	12	36

### Just a thought

We often learn best from our mistakes.

Do good with what you have or it will do you no good.

Speaking kindly never hurt anyone.

### JUNIOR HIGH ACTION

#### Sacred Heart 28 St. Mary 24

On Dec. 1, the B Team Lady Cubs pulled out a 4 point win over the Lady Mustangs. Rachel Hesse led the scoring with 10 points. Lily Haley added 8, Jianne Juntado 6, and Emily Campbell 4.

#### Sacred Heart 22 St. Mary 12

The A Team Lady Cubs were also victorious in their Mustang match. Dani Hess put 10 points on the boards. Madi Ladzinski added 8, with Megan and Emma Ploeger each scoring 2.

#### Sacred Heart 18 ICCS 24

The A Lady Cubs came up short against Immaculate Conception of Denton on Dec. 8. Five Sacred Heart members scored in the game. Hess and E. Ploeger each scored 5, with Ladzinski and Stephanie Koesler adding 3 apiece, and Hesse 2.

#### Sacred Heart 18 Sivells Bend 8

On Dec. 15, the B Lady Cubs earned another win. Haley and Hesse each had 6 points. Lexi Rivers added 4, and Campbell 2.

### Just a thought

Those who think they are dreamers are usually just sleepers.

How can we judge the deeds of others? Most of the time we can't understand what we do ourselves.

Everyone dies, but not everyone lives.

### JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL

#### Muenster 58 Valley View 25

The JV Lady Hornets opened District play Dec. 16 with a victory in Valley View. Natalie Dangelmayr was high scorer for Muenster with 17 points. Macie Pagel added 14, Megan Rohmer and Alaina Kubis 8 each, Savannah Hermes 4, Jenna Sicking 3, and 2 apiece by Bailey Anderle and Sterling Walterscheid.

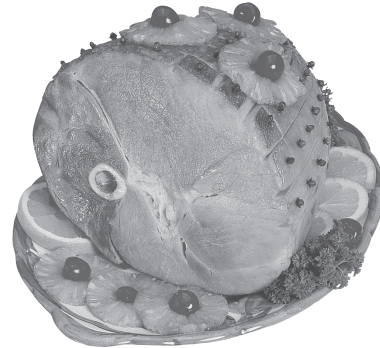
M	8	27	11	12	58
VV	8	9	4	4	25

#### Sacred Heart 20 Red River 22

The JV Tigers came up short 22-20 in their Dec. 21 game against Red River. Four Tigers put points on the boards. Mathew Anderle scored 7, Jacob Kemna 6, Robert Hanson 5, and Alex Vela 2 points.

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# THSCA drops All-Star games

At the December meeting of the Texas High School Coaches Association's Board of Directors, the Board was informed of the decision from the NCAA Legislative Relief Waiver Committee to deny the THSCA's request for exemption from the new NCAA Bylaw (13.1.7.9.6 - which prohibits Division I college football coaches from attending or speaking at a convention that has an all-star game affiliated with it). This decision has forced the Board to eliminate an 80-year tradition of hosting the Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star games.

While there is a sentimental attachment to the THSCA All-Star games which have had a rich history over the years, the THSCA Board of Directors felt it was in the best interest of the Texas High School Coaches Association to make sure its Convention and Coaching School remained a quality event. Eliminating attendance by the Division I college coaches



would be very detrimental to the success of the convention which is the main source of income for the Texas High School Coaches Association. "This is not a decision we wanted to have to make at all. We felt our convention and all-star games were not a violation of the NCAA rule and took extra steps to separate the two events as best we could, but the Waiver

Committee felt otherwise," said THSCA Executive Director D. W. Rutledge. "When faced with the burden of either excluding the college coaches from attending our convention or hosting the all-star games, the Board felt it was in the best interest of the Association and its members to eliminate the all-star games."



Photo courtesy of Laura Pagel

District play will be in full swing this Friday night when Alvord comes to Muenster. The Lady Hornets defeated their first two District opponents - Valley View and Poolville. Alvord will be the Hornets' 1st District match. Pictured is Lady Hornet Sarah Binford (#22) in action against Valley View.

## Texas Game Warden Reports

### Bright lights, Bowie city

A Montague County game warden was traveling down Highway 81 in Bowie, having just dropped off his boat. On this way, an oncoming vehicle began flashing its bright lights rapidly, so the warden turned around and initiated a traffic stop. After stopping, the female front passenger instantly got out of the vehicle and began yelling that they were trying to find the Win-Star Casino, located across the Red River in Oklahoma. She said she told the driver to flash the bright lights so someone would stop and give them directions. After the warden explained they were an hour away, he decided to check the vehicle, discovering multiple open containers of alcohol. The driver did not have any identification in his possession, and a records check came back invalid. It was determined the driver had given one of the aliases he had used in the past. The driver then admitted to just bonding out of Tarrant County Jail four hours prior, and that he did not possess

a valid driver's license. He was arrested and charges of failure to ID, open container, and no driver's license were filed.

### The abominable snowman

A game warden received a call with information about two Yeti coolers for sale on Craigslist. The warden and a DPS Criminal Investigation Division officer reviewed the listing and found the coolers pictured to be consistent with the description of two stolen coolers. The next day, the two officers contacted the seller, posing as possible buyers, and made arrangements to meet. When the officers inspected the coolers, they found the exact markings matching the missing property. When interviewed, the seller quickly admitted to taking the coolers and gave the location of the remaining stolen property. A total of six Yetis were recovered with an estimated value of \$3,000. The individual was handed over to Willacy County investigators for processing.

### Striking green

A Polk County game warden received a call from someone near Livingston who was doing preseason maintenance at a deer lease with some fellow hunters when they stumbled upon some marijuana plants growing in the woods. The warden called the Polk County Sheriff's Department special response team (SRT) for assistance in case the plants were being guarded. The warden lead the SRT to what turned out to be a very large and sophisticated cartel-organized marijuana growing operation consisting of tens of thousands of plants. The operation included a very large camp, bunkers with generators, and enough food and supplies to last nearly a month. The occupants of the camp may have been spooked by the hunters and left the area in a hurry, leaving behind most of their belongings. The case was turned over to the Polk County Sheriff's Department for further investigation and plant eradication.

### "I am in Trouble"

A Dallas County game warden, assisting a game warden from Collin County with dove hunters on public lands, noticed a hunter and young boy standing in the middle of a field looking down at what had just been shot. As the wardens approached the hunter, the man said, "I am in trouble—this is not a dove." The bird was later identified as a Wilson snipe.

Two citations were issued to the hunter, one for using an unplugged shotgun, and the other for taking a Wilson snipe out of season.

### Birds of a feather get caught together

Two Zapata County game wardens entered a large ranch to check for signs of dove hunters while patrolling during the special white-wing season. A bucket was located near camp with the carcasses of freshly cleaned birds, including 31 mourning doves, one Inca dove, and one scaled quail. After a few shots were heard in the distance, a truck pulled up at camp and contact was made. The wardens discovered a freshly killed whitetail fawn in the bed of the pickup truck, along with 11 additional mourning doves. The five subjects were interviewed, and the wardens received confessions on all the illegal hunting that took place. Multiple citations were issued for exceeding daily bag limit on mourning dove, no hunting license, hunting a protected bird, hunting quail out of season, possession of untagged deer, and hunting deer out of season.

## LOST LOGOS



Above are a small group of gas station brands seen around the country in past years. Most are now found only at antique stores.

## Happy New Year!



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Highlights Include: Boston • Woodstock • Quechee Gorge • Stowe Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Factory • Rocks Estate • North Conway • Lobster Dinner Lake Winnepesaukee Cruise • Kancamagus Highway • Kennebunkport Beautiful Boothbay Harbor (the boating capital of New England)

**IRELAND: Spirit of the Emerald Isle**  
August 15 - 26, 2015  
Highlights Include: Dublin, Irish Night • National Stud, Kinsale Cobh Heritage Centre • West Cork's Wild Atlantic Way • Kenmare • Killarney Castle Stay • Dingle • Cliffs of Moher • Farm Visit • Galway • Westport Kylemore Abbey • Kilbeggan Distillery

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**GAINESVILLE:** FSB Conference Center | 837 E. California  
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# Basketball 2015



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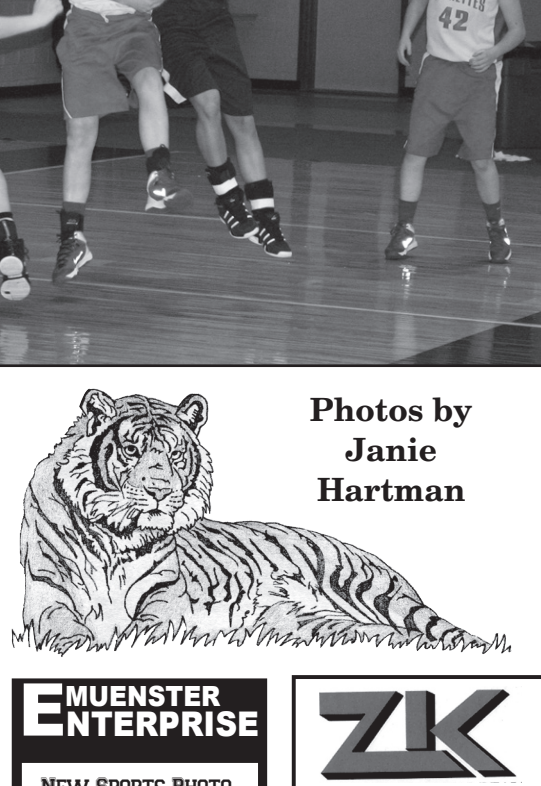
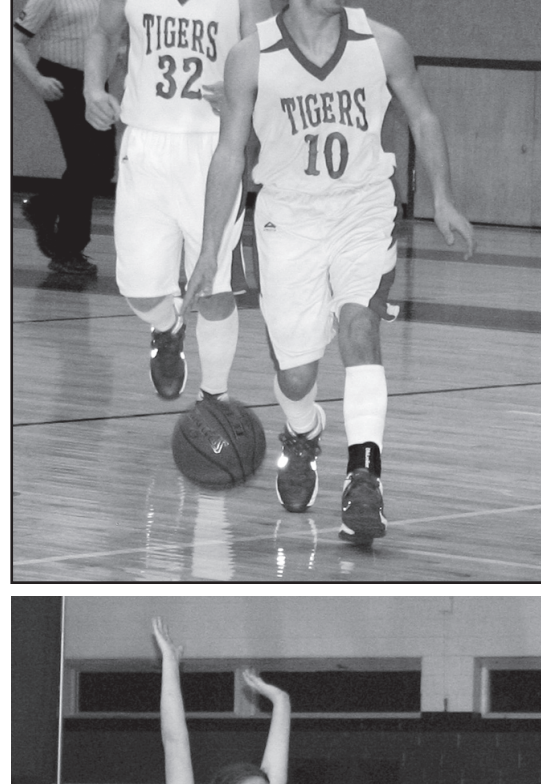
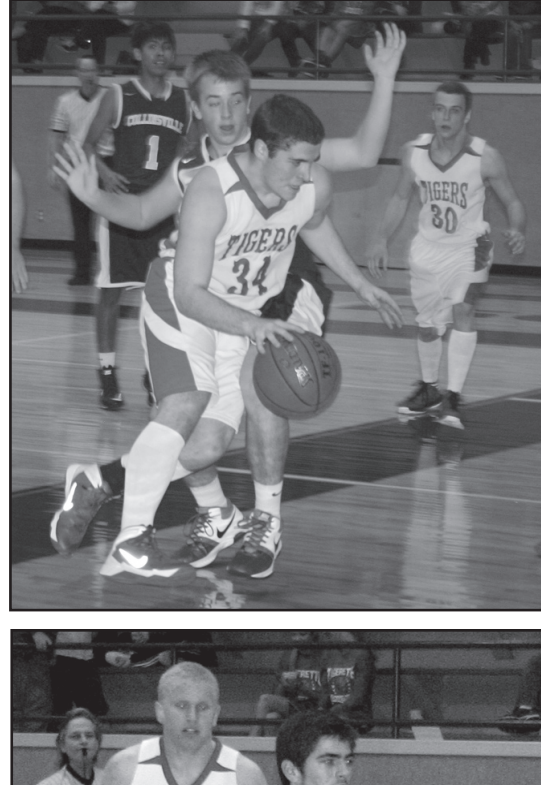
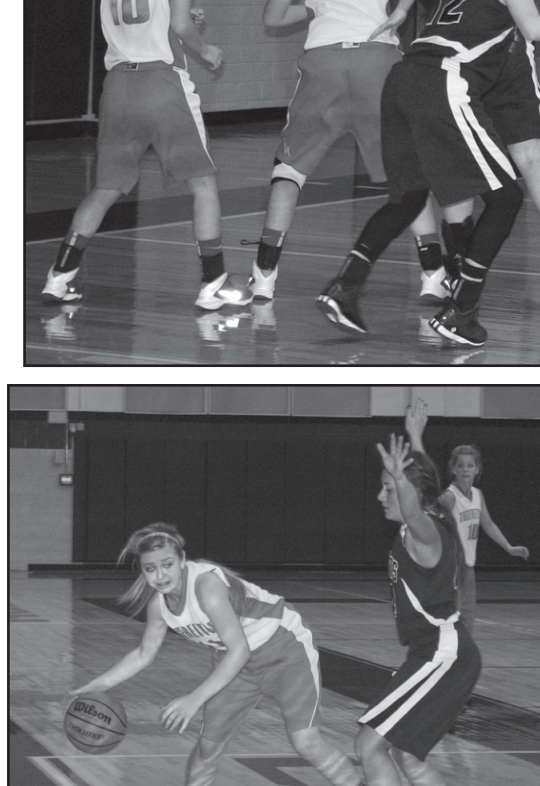
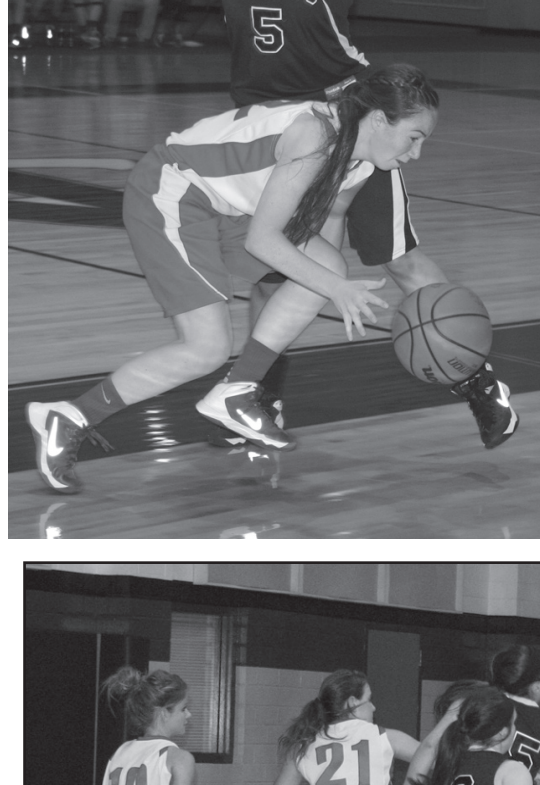
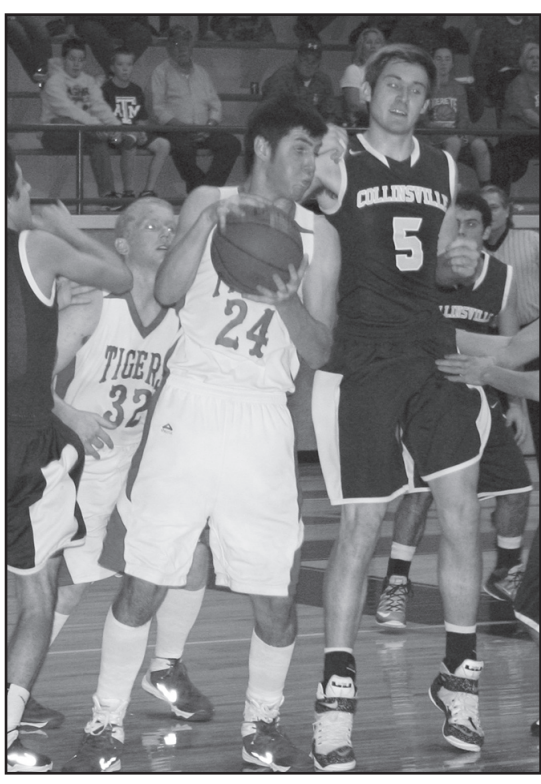
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## LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF TEXAS  
 COUNTY OF COOKE  
 235th DISTRICT COURT  
**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
 CV14-00610

To: J.B. SLEDGE, MARY ALICE DORAN, RUTH BIRD, MARJORIE ALICE KATSMAN, STANLEY DORAN, ELIZABETH DAVIS DREWA, ROBBIE LEE DOBBS, FRANK DORAN, KENNETH DREWA, CATHERINE DORAN WISE, EUGENE ARNOLD, O.E. REINEY AND W.E.F. HOLDING INC. AND IF SAID CORPORATION IS DISSOLVED, THE SURVIVING STOCKHOLDERS, OR IF ANY OF THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS BE DECEASED, THEN THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES **NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF FORTY TWO (42) DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS CITATION WAS ISSUED, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.**

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION of plaintiff at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date this citation was issued before the Honorable 235th JUDICIAL DISTRICT, Cooke County, Texas, at the courthouse in the city of Gainesville, Texas.  
 Said petition was filed in said court, on the 26th day of November, 2014 in cause number CV14-00610 on the docket of said court and styled:  
 TRIPLE G WELL SERVICE, INC.  
 vs. J.B. SLEDGE, MARY ALICE DORAN, RUTH BIRD, MARJORIE ALICE KATSMAN, STANLEY DORAN, ELIZABETH DAVIS DREWA, ROBBIE LEE DOBBS, FRANK DORAN, KENNETH DREWA, CATHERINE DORAN WISE, EUGENE ARNOLD, O.E. REINEY AND W.E.F. HOLDING INC. AND IF SAID CORPORATION IS DISSOLVED, THE SURVIVING STOCKHOLDERS, OR IF ANY OF THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS BE DECEASED, THEN THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES  
 The nature of this cause is the Plaintiff prays a receiver be appointed to execute an oil and gas lease under order of this court on behalf of the said defendants and for such other and further relief that may be awarded at law of in equity.  
 The Plaintiff would respectfully show the Court that it has taken oil and gas leases upon the following described property, to-wit:

156.0 acres of land, more or less, located in the Hiram Strong Survey, A-930, Cooke County, Texas, being more fully described as Tract Two, Tract Three, Tract Four, Tract Five and Tract Six in a Warranty Deed dated August 2, 1971, for Alice B. Turner to Edward S. Wilson, recorded in Volume 526, Page 287 of the Deed Records of Cooke County, Texas

And  
 40.0 acres of land, more or less, located in the T.B. Stroud Survey, A-950, Cooke County, Texas, being more fully described in a Warranty deed dated January 20, 1913, from Alexander and wife to F.C. Owen, recorded in Volume 112, Page 127 of the Deed Records of Cooke County, Texas.

The officer executing this citation shall promptly served the same according to requirements of law, and mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.  
 Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at Gainesville, Cooke County, Texas this the 2nd day of December, 2014.  
 ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF: DERRELL L. COMER P.O. BOX 973  
 109 E. CALIFORNIA STREET GAINESVILLE, TEXAS 76241

SUSAN HUGHES, DISTRICT CLERK COOKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
 101 SOUTH DIXON, ROOM 207 GAINESVILLE, TEXAS 76240  
 By: /s/ Melissa Gann, Deputy

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## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jimmy Delton Winters, Deceased, were issued on December 15, 2014, in Cause No. PR17175, pending in the County Court at Law of Cooke County, Texas, to: Steven Wayne Winters.

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

c/o: **LEE TATUM Attorney at Law 113 N. Commerce Street, P.O. Box 1211, Gainesville, Texas 76240**

**DATED** the 29th day of December, 2014.

/s/ Lee Tatum

LEE TATUM Attorney for Steven Wayne Winters

State Bar No.: 24043952

113 N. Commerce Street, P.O. Box 1211, Gainesville, Texas 76240

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# FARM & RANCH



TEXAS FARM BUREAU

YOUR TEXAS AGRICULTURAL MINUTE

## Scientists offer Rx for agriculture

By Mike Barnett

A tiny fertilizer pill—placed next to the seed at planting—could be a huge step in the high tech evolution in agriculture.

The pill would contain only the amount of fertilizer needed to get the plant through the growing season. It is smart enough to release the nutrients only when the plant says it needs it.

Pie in the sky? Hardly. Canadian researchers are working on the nutrient pill now, and say it offers huge benefits for agriculture, the environment, and a ballooning world population.

Studies show nitrogen efficiency in crops ranges from 30 to 50%. Much is lost through leaching or the atmosphere. The researchers believe intelligent fertilizer will allow farmers to increase nitrogen efficiency up to 85%.

Farmers will be happy. Environmentalists will be happy. And the world benefits as this “less is more technology” evolves to pest prevention or plant diseases.

An Rx for agriculture? What will they think of next!

## Drought can't end too soon

By Mike Barnett

Good news for Texas. The multi-year drought could officially end in 2015. If National Weather Service predictions hold true.

Drought-induced losses to Texas agriculture have been staggering. \$4.1 billion in 2006. \$2.4 billion in 2008. \$3.6 billion in 2009. And a whopping \$7.6 billion in 2011.

Hardest hit? Texas ranchers. That's why beef is so high. But an El Nino in the Pacific now has most of Texas in a favorable weather position.

That is, except for West Texas. Forecasters say Abilene west and north into the Rolling Plains and Texas Panhandle will remain in drought.

Let's hope the forecasters are wrong for West Texas' sake.

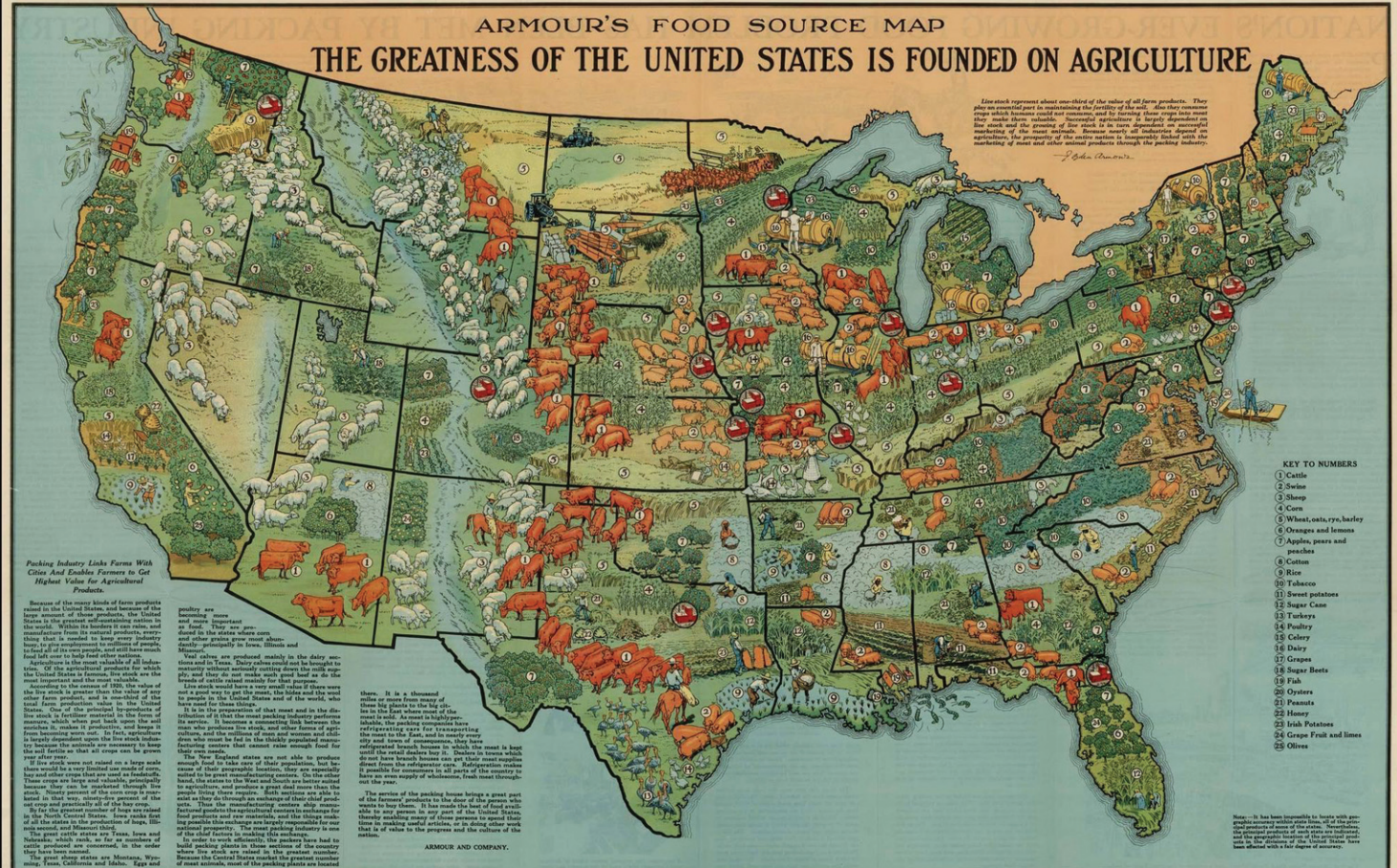
As singer songwriter Eric Clapton would say: “Let it rain, let it rain, let it rain, rain, rain.”

## APHIS reports on ag losses due to predators

Native predatory wildlife performs a vital role in a healthy ecosystem. However, predatory animals also cause damage or pose a threat to resources, including threats to people.

Health Inspection Service (APHIS) released the latest comprehensive environmental assessment (EA) of mammal predation recently, outlining the extent of the problem by geographic region and the impact of both traditional and alternative methods of dealing with predation as it relates to agriculture, according to *Southwest Farm Press*.

Cattle and calf losses due to predators in Texas was valued at over \$18 million in 2005 and at over \$19.4 million in 2010. These losses are chiefly caused by coyotes, at 47%, but other predators include dogs, bobcats, mountain lions, and foxes.



This map was published by the meat packing firm Armour and Company in 1922 to show the principal agricultural products across the country at that time. Records were worse then, and the map makers admit the difficulty of the project. “It has been impossible to locate with geographic accuracy within state lines, all of the principal products of some of the states,” they write. “Nonetheless, the principal products of each state are indicated, and the geographic location of the principal products in the divisions of the United States have been effected with a fair degree of accuracy.” The broad message of the map, though, is right at the top.

## Expert: Texas agriculture to benefit from normalized U.S.-Cuba diplomatic relations

Efforts to normalize U.S. and Cuba diplomatic relations will have potential positive implications for Texas agriculture, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economist.

University in College Station, said there will be immediate increases in the amount of U.S. food exported to Cuba. “Within a year to two years, we should see U.S. exports to Cuba return to the \$400 million to \$450 million range. “The combination of allowing up to a four-fold increase

in remittances along with an increased role for U.S. banks may lead to a 15 to 30% increase in U.S. food exports,” Rosson said. Currently, Cuban-Americans and others are limited to remittance of no more than \$500 per quarter to persons in Cuba. Rosson said under the new program, that limit would increase to \$2,000.

Rosson said in addition to allowing U.S. and other travelers to use credit cards, this will boost demand for foods. “Also expect to see the market for used agricultural equipment to increase,” Rosson said. Workshops have previously been conducted to assist educating producers on export trade with Cuba, partnering with the Texas-Cuba Trade Alliance and Free Trade Alliance, he said.

## USDA drops plan for second Beef Checkoff

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will not pursue efforts to create another beef checkoff under the 1996 commodity promotion law. Report language in the 2014 appropriations bill passed suggested USDA not continue to write a rule for the plan during this fiscal year. Although report language is not binding on the secretary, it does indicate Congress' desires. The Beef Checkoff Enhancement Working Group, of which American Farm Bureau Federation is a member, met again and will have its 17th face-to-face meeting in February. The group continues to develop a principles document on how to alter the 1985 checkoff law and order.

Texas supplies Cuba with several export items, including chicken leg quarters and corn. Pork, cotton, and dairy products produced in Texas are also exported there. More rice exports are also expected. A growing tourism market in Cuba has also sparked demand for items such as condiments, bottled water, beer, wine, and spirits. “These are products that we are seeing more interest in due to the growing tourism market in Cuba.”

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<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Tomato Sauce</b> 8 OZ. CAN <b>4 \$1</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING DINNER <b>Macaroni &amp; Cheese</b> 6.25 OZ. BOX <b>3 \$1</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Salad Olives</b> 10 OZ. JAR <b>\$1.59</b></p>
<p>SHUR SAVING SELECT VARIETIES <b>Canned Vegetables</b> 14.5-15.25 OZ. CAN <b>39¢</b></p>	<p>BROWN, GOLD OR BLUE RIM <b>Blue Bell Ice Cream</b> 1/2 GALLON <b>2 for \$9</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Vegetable Oil</b> 48 OZ. BTL. <b>2 \$5</b></p>

<p>SHUR SAVING SELECT VARIETIES <b>Canned Vegetables</b> 14.5-15.25 OZ. CAN <b>39¢</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING SELECT VARIETIES <b>Dry Seasonings</b> 2.5-3.25 OZ. JAR <b>88¢</b></p>
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<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Chocolate Flavored Syrup</b> 24 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.89</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING GROUND <b>Black Pepper</b> 2.5 OZ. JAR <b>\$1.59</b></p>
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<p>SHUR SAVING DISTILLED <b>White Vinegar</b> GALLON <b>\$1.79</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING INSTANT <b>Mashed Potatoes</b> 16 OZ. BAG <b>\$1.89</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Pinto Beans</b> 4 LB. BAG <b>\$2.99</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING WHOLE OR DICED <b>Tomatoes</b> 28 OZ. CAN <b>99¢</b></p>
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<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Vienna Sausage</b> 4.75 OZ. CAN <b>2 \$1</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING <b>Enriched Rice</b> 28 OZ. BAG <b>89¢</b></p>	<p>PANCAKE AND WAFFLE <b>Shur Saving Syrup</b> 24 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.69</b></p>
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<p>SHUR SAVING SMALL ANGLE BROOM, CORN BROOM, DECK MOP, OR SPONGE MOP <b>Cleaning Tools</b> YOUR CHOICE - EACH <b>\$3.99</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING FABRIC SOFTENER <b>Dryer Sheets</b> 40 CT. PKG. <b>79¢</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING 150 SHEETS OR MORE <b>Bathroom Tissue</b> YOUR CHOICE - EACH <b>\$3.99</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING 15 CT. 33 GAL. BLACK OR 25 CT. 13 GAL. BLACK <b>Trash Bags</b> YOUR CHOICE - EACH <b>\$3.69</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING 150 SHEETS OR MORE <b>Paper Towels</b> YOUR CHOICE - EACH <b>99¢</b></p>
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<p>WESTERN FAMILY 70% ISOPROPYL <b>Alcohol</b> 16 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.00</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING CHERRY BLOSSOM <b>Body Wash</b> 16 OZ. BTL. <b>69¢</b></p>	<p>WESTERN FAMILY <b>Epsom Salt</b> 1 LB. PKG. <b>\$1.00</b></p>	<p>SHURFINE <b>Charcoal</b> 6.7 LB. BAG <b>\$4.69</b></p>	<p>SHUR SAVING MACARONI DINNER <b>Macaroni Shells &amp; Cheese</b> 12 OZ. BOX <b>2 \$3</b></p>
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<p>WESTERN FAMILY INVIGORATING OR MEDICATED <b>Apricot Scrub</b> 6 OZ. TUBE <b>\$1.99</b></p>	<p>WESTERN FAMILY TOTAL MOISTURE, ALSE COOL &amp; FRESH OR ADVANCED HEALING <b>Skincare Lotion</b> 10 OZ. BTL. <b>\$1.99</b></p>	<p>WESTERN FAMILY ASSORTED VARIETIES <b>Dandruff Shampoo</b> 14.2 OZ. BTL. <b>\$2.99</b></p>	<p>WESTERN FAMILY SELECT VARIETIES PANTLINERS OR <b>Maxi Pads</b> 14-16 CT. PKG. <b>\$2.19</b></p>	<p>WESTERN FAMILY 2 HOUR BURN <b>Firelog</b> EACH <b>\$2.39</b></p>
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<p>FAMILY PACK PREVIOUSLY FROZEN <b>Fryer Drumsticks or Thighs</b> LB. <b>49¢</b></p>	<p>BONELESS <b>Pork Tenderloin</b> LB. <b>\$3.99</b></p>	<p>BONE-IN <b>Shank Portion Cook's Ham</b> LB. <b>\$1.49</b></p>
<p>SHURFINE QUALITY <b>Sliced Bacon</b> LB. <b>\$2.79</b></p>	<p>SHURFINE QUALITY <b>Beef Franks</b> 12 OZ. PKG. <b>\$2.99</b></p>	<p>SHURFINE QUALITY <b>Beef Bologna</b> 12 OZ. PKG. <b>\$2.59</b></p>
<p>SHURFINE QUALITY <b>Cheese Spread</b> 12 OZ. TUB <b>\$3.49</b></p>	<p>SHURFINE QUALITY <b>Cooked Shrimp</b> 12 OZ. TUB <b>\$6.99</b></p>	<p>MARKET SLICED <b>Muenster Cheese</b> LB. <b>\$3.29</b></p>
<p>MARKET SLICED <b>Pressed Ham</b> LB. <b>\$2.99</b></p>	<p>BONELESS CHOICE <b>Ribeye</b> LB. <b>\$9.99</b></p>	<p>BONELESS SELECT <b>Ribeye</b> LB. <b>\$8.99</b></p>
<p>24-PACK CANS <b>Milwaukee's Best Light</b> <b>\$14</b></p>	<p>30-PACK CANS <b>Natural Light</b> <b>\$20</b></p>	<p>20-PACK COCA-COLA CANS ASSTD. FLAVORS <b>\$5.99</b></p>

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<p>BAGGED CHOICE <b>Texas Grapefruit</b> 5 LB. BAG <b>\$1.99</b></p>	<p>BAGGED CHOICE <b>Navel Oranges</b> 4 LB. BAG <b>2 \$5</b></p>	<p>FRESH <b>Golden Pineapple</b> EACH <b>\$2.99</b></p>	<p>BAGGED <b>Red Delicious Apples</b> 5 LB. BAG <b>\$3.99</b></p>	<p>GREAT ALONE OR IN SALADS <b>Kiwi Fruit</b> 3 FOR <b>\$1</b></p>

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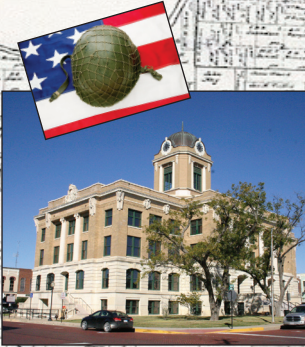
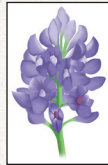


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# Welcome to Cooke County



# MEDAL OF HONOR PARK BRISTLES WITH PATRIOTISM; HONORS DUTY, SERVICE

**Cathy Krahl**  
Lindsay Letter

Gainesville's newest park, the Medal of Honor Park, was ready for the annual Medal of Honor weekend that began April 8 with the arrival of America's heroes. The park is located between California Street and Medal of Honor Boulevard near Interstate 35 in Gainesville. It is very much a symbol of Gainesville's sense of pride and welcome of those who served our country and kept us free, especially for those whose service and valor made them recipients of the Medal of Honor.

Don Pettigrew, one of the organizers of the annual Medal of Honor event, said the park had more than 100 visitors come for a look before it was completed.

The park was officially dedicated on Thursday, April 9 during the Medal of Honor weekend. Many of the recipients who attended past events were on hand for the groundbreaking ceremony in April 2013. They attended Thursday's ceremony as well.

The park is fenced with red brick and black wrought iron and has two arched entryways. There are plenty of park benches to contemplate on the service the Medal of Honor recipients gave to America. The mature trees and water feature add to the peacefulness of the site and gives visitors a chance to meditate on the sacrifices these men endured for their country.

The ground of the park is brick-laced with each Medal of Honor recipi-

ent's name and service branch, organized by conflict. They begin with the Civil War and Indian Campaigns, the Boxer Rebellion and Vera Cruz. They feature the campaigns in the Caribbean – Haiti (1915), Dominican, Haiti (1919-20) and Nicaraguan. The bricks cover Samoa, Korea (1871), Philippines outbreak (1911), Philippines Insurrection, and Spanish American War

The two names under Somalia are for the men featured in the book and movie Black Hawk Down.

The bricks are also for Medal of Honor recipients from World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Global War on Terror. A large section features recipients from the interim between wars 1865-1940 for non-combat valor.

"They no longer give the Medal of Honor for non-combat," Pettigrew said.

And at the foot of the area of the black granite slabs are the unknown soldiers of World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, and Romania.

According to Pettigrew, there are 3,491 recipients of the Medal of Honor, all represented in the walkway in the park.

The large black granite slabs have the names of those recipients who have actually visited Gainesville during their Medal of Honor weekend. That list grows each year as more recipients answer the invitation to come to Gainesville during the Medal of

Honor weekend in April.

Installed on the black granite slabs is a bronze artwork of the three different Medal of Honor medals being clutched in the claws of a bald eagle.

"The goal of the Medal of Honor Host City Program is to build a park that honors our Medal of Honor Recipients and recognizes Gainesville as the only Medal of Honor Host City in America," their website said. "A granite monument and water feature will be the center attractions. It will be a place where anyone can go to remember those who bravely served our

country in the environment of beautiful gardens, landscaping, and park benches.

"This gateway into the city will remind everyone entering that Gainesville, Texas is the Most Patriotic Small Town in America," the website bragged.

The park was built mostly by donations, with some help from Gainesville's Economic Development Corporation and the City.

The Medal of Honor is the United States of America's highest military honor, awarded for personal acts of



valor above and beyond the call of duty. The President of the United States in the name of Congress awards the medal.

"It shall be the privilege and responsibility of the City of Gainesville, Texas to welcome our Nation's Medal of Honor Recipients at every opportunity," the website said. "In so doing we pay homage to the principles which the Medal of Honor represents... Duty, Honor, Country."

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# Disc golf being added to Lindsay Park; Joins baseball, tennis, volleyball, horseshoes, jogging paths, playground for public enjoyment

**Cathy Krahl**  
News editor  
Lindsay Letter

The J.M. Lindsay Park will be gaining a new feature when disc golf will be added to its lists of amenities.

Keep Lindsay Beautiful, a non-profit civic organization, is behind the drive to bring disc golf to Lindsay. Kenny Bezner, chairman of the committee installing the course, said the group was waiting for fair weather to begin constructing the T-boxes and signs detailing the length and par for each "hole." They hope it will be up and running for summer fun.

The new disc golf course is the latest addition to the park, which has seen great improvements since the 1970s. Before then, the land was mostly a pasture for grazing farm animals until Lindsay's Homecoming Picnic, an event that has also grown in scope and entertainment. The annual Homecoming Picnic is sponsored by St. Peter's Parish with proceeds going into the church's renovation fund.

In the 1970s, the new Lindsay Jaycees dedicated funds to improving the park. To raise funds, they sponsored an Oktoberfest the first Sunday each October. This event also has grown in size as it attracts people from all over the country to sample Lindsay's German



heritage. Even though the Jaycees are gone, the Lindsay Knights of Columbus and the City of Lindsay Volunteer Fire Department have taken over the planning and running of the Oktoberfest.

Over the years, the Jaycees, the city and numerous volunteers have brought the once shady pasture into an authentic city park. Footbridges span the creek that flows through the park allowing both sides of the park to be utilized. A large pavilion was erected with a closed-in kitchen attached. Restrooms were constructed and a baseball field created. Tennis courts were installed in 1980 when the Jaycees and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department co-sponsored it construction. Designated horseshoe pits are on the south end. A sand volleyball court is on the northwest corner. Picnic tables dot the landscape.

And of course, the Lindsay Park has what every good city park has, lots of playground equipment. Most days, one can see children playing on the teeter-totters, swinging high on the swings, or sliding down the winding slide.

The Park also features a paved walking trail that snakes it way through the mature trees of the park, over the creek, joins Parkview Park, and returns to J.M. Lindsay Park for a leisurely stroll or a hard jog. Mornings find mothers pushing strollers through the park.

Keep Lindsay Beautiful holds an annual "clean up" day at the park to clear away weeds and debris as well as plants new shrubs and flowers before the spring season. Oftentimes, the fifth grade class will lend their assistance as part of their Earth Day celebration. Those efforts help make Lindsay Park one of the finest in the area.

So, if one wants to take the kids to enjoy times on the playground, sit quietly under the canopy of a spreading oak tree and read a book, have a picnic, play some tennis, take in a festival or just take a serene stroll on the walking path, Lindsay Park is the place to be.

# communities...

# Lindsay



Photo by Austin Lewter

**J.M. Lindsay Park plays host to the annual Oktoberfest celebration in Lindsay, Texas.**

## POPULATION

1,007

## POLICE

608 N Ash Street  
(940) 665-4455

## LOCATION

- Located on U.S. Highway 82
- 5 miles west of Gainesville
- 9 miles east of Muenster

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

637 Ash Street  
(940) 665-7576

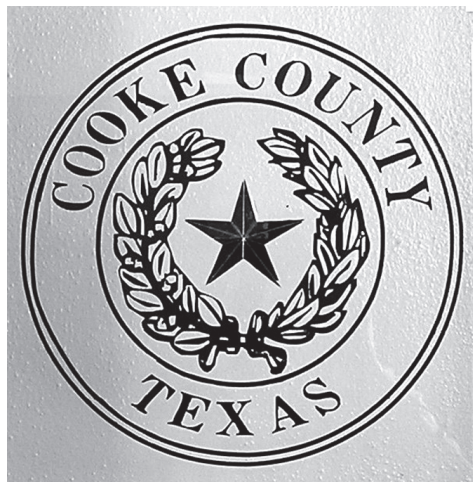
## CITY HALL

608 N Ash Street  
(940) 665-4455

## SCHOOLS

Lindsay ISD, a Class 2A school district with two campuses including Elementary and High School

Administration Building  
631 Knight Drive  
(940) 665-1637



**Cooke County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) 2015 campaign noting "There's no Place Like Home." CASA reported 149 children from Cooke County were in foster care last year.**

# Muenster's B&Bs provide a variety of unique experiences

**Janet Felderhoff**  
*Muenster Enterprise*

There are now several bed and breakfast locations in the Muenster area. Each offers something special and visitors to the area should be able to select one that offers amenities that especially appeal to them.

Whether your idea of a relaxing get away is being pampered with gourmet meals, massages, and being waited on pool side, being right by the golf course, spending time in a small town with unique shops, or a camp fire, star gazing, and outdoor activities like hiking, fishing, and fossil hunting, there is a place in the Muenster area suited to your tastes.

Elm Creek Manor, a luxury spa/inn located in the rolling hills of north Texas, offers many opportunities to be pampered. The lovely home is built with 500 year-old doors from Northern Italy, 300 year-old stained glass windows from Britain, and contains various unusual artifacts collected throughout the world. It is owned and operated by Marcia and Bradford Scarbrough.

It has been selected as one of the top 10 culinary inns worldwide twice by BedandBreakfast.com, is a winner of Best Ten Inns With A Spa, and Top

10 US Resort Inns. The Scarbroughs note, "Elm Creek Manor is much more than a culinary inn and spa, it is about creativity and respect for whole foods.

"We raise our own organic herbs, fruits, vegetables, and fresh eggs along with raising our own dairy goats, chickens, fish, rabbits, and beef. All cheeses are handmade artisan cheeses from our dairy milk. We keep bees for fresh honey and wax for our Artisan cheeses.

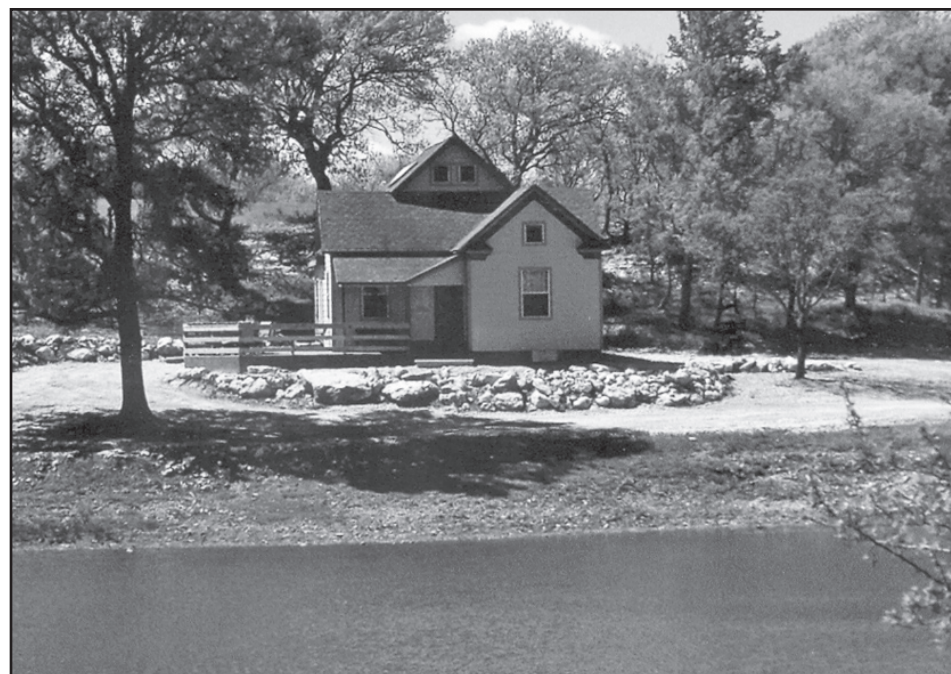
"Guests seek our venue for its uniqueness and our ability to bring fresh peak of perfection bounty to the table. It is the ultimate farm -to-table experience."

Guests who wish to do so may walk through the gardens or observe the aquaponic greenhouse, collect vegetables to cook, gather eggs, or assist in milking.

A full, hot breakfast is brought to guest rooms or cottage each morning to start the day.

Relaxation in the spa offers trickling fountains, soft music, fresh brewed hot tea, and gazing out to the orchard snuggled in your robe. Spa treatments are performed in the spa facility that has been designed for wellness and harmony.

The infrared sauna has a multitude of medicinal benefits plus aiding in



**Koesler Haus**

relaxation prior to spa treatments. There is use of mineral showers, changing room, and exercise room for all guests.

A landscaped, tiered outdoor pool area allows guests to swim or sun-bath. Staff circulates with chilled towels, fresh fruit, and water in summer. There is also a large outdoor hot-tub

beside the pool. Numerous outdoor games provide entertainment.

This is an adults only place to stay since nobody under the age of 18 is allowed. Information can be found at [elmcreekmanor.com](http://elmcreekmanor.com) or (940) 759-2100.

Koesler Haus takes guests away to a peaceful country retreat. It opened

**Dr. John Webb, O.D.**



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# communities...

# Muenster



**Schilling Haus**

in April 2014. The home was built in 1908 by the Koesler family. It was moved to 100 acre property owned by the Koeslers' great-granddaughter and her husband Dana and John Walterscheid.

The couple completely renovated the two-story home. It has three bedrooms, a fully furnished kitchen, two full bathrooms, laundry room, and game room with pool table. It overlooks a one acre lake stocked with catfish, bass, and crappie. The facility will sleep up to 15 people.

Outdoor activities abound. They include fishing, hiking, hunting fossils, pecan picking in season, row boating, bird watching, star gazing, a camp fire and grilling, or just sitting and watching the wildlife from a large, open deck.

Fishing is a big draw. Dana said that they do allow groups to come and spend an afternoon fishing. Picnic tables, outdoor pits, and swings add to the fun. There are even spots for tent camping for those who want to have that experience.

Guests have remarked on how kid friendly Koesler Haus is. "That's our big thing," noted Dana. "Bring the kids and get them outdoors. They can hike and we've got lots of fossil hunting. We do hayrides and pecan picking in the fall. Camp fires are pretty big any time with s'mores." She added that guests enjoy the quietness and watching the stars. They like getting out of the cities and off the roadways.

Horses, goats, donkeys, and chickens make their home near Koesler Haus. Guests can gather eggs, see baby goats - maybe even witness a birth. Dana said a recent group got to witness the birth of twin goats!

Dana said it is a large enough place for small family reunions. Bridal parties have gathered to get their hair and make up done together. They have even had girlfriend weekends

and some retreats.

Information can be found at [www.koeslerhaus.com](http://www.koeslerhaus.com) or by calling (940) 759-4732 or (940) 736-6522.

Schilling Haus is located at 134 North Maple Street in Muenster. It is located above Smiles By German Design. Owners are Dr. Elaine and Dale Schilling. Maggie Fuhrmann is the manager.

It is an upscale place to stay in Muenster. There are two separate units with a queen size bed, a couch, and room for a blow up queen-size mattress. For those who like to keep an exercise routine, there is a workout area. Each unit has a full kitchen and guests can cook the food of their choice.

"Muenster is a beautiful place and we want to give you an upscale place to stay and enjoy all the amenities that Muenster has to offer," stated Fuhrmann. "Our rooms are decorated with all local furnishings from Fresh Fellas, Muenster Antique Mall, and some places in Saint Jo. It is all decorated with furnishings from Cooke County because we really like to incorporate all the local business in it."

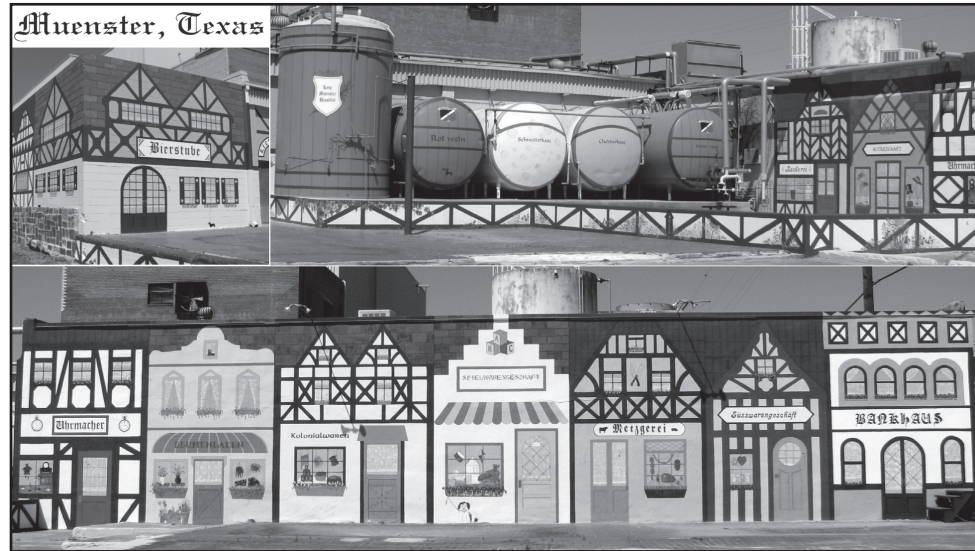
Brochures in each place will inform those staying there of various businesses and things to do in this area.

With each reservation, Fuhrmann contacts the guests to see what special requests they might have. She tries to select a basket or other gift appropriate to their likes.

The Schillings also have a farm with a home on it that they rent out also. There is a lake that guests can fish in, eggs to collect from the chicken coop. Beautiful scenery with cattle can be enjoyed from a spacious back porch.

A fully-equipped kitchen allows guests the option of cooking food that they bring or they can have a choice of ingredients for one of three dishes stocked in the refrigerator to save them from having to grocery shop.

**Continued on page 12**



*KMB photo*

Muenster was founded in 1889 by people of German heritage and Catholic faith. This unique German community located in North Texas, of approximately 1,500, is a close-knit family in both kinship and kindred spirit. Muenster proudly displays its heritage every April with the annual weekend-long Germanfest sponsored by the Muenster Chamber of Commerce.

## POPULATION

1,544

## POLICE

(940) 759-2236

## LOCATION

- Located on U.S. Highway 82
- 14 miles west of Gainesville
- 70 miles north of DFW

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

400 N. Main St.  
(940) 759- 2251

## CITY HALL

400 N. Main St.  
(940) 759-2236

## SCHOOLS

Muenster ISD, a Class 2A school district with three campuses including Elementary, Junior High, and High School

*Administration Building*  
135 E 7th St  
(940) 759-2282

Sacred Heart Catholic School, a private parochial school with four classifications including Montessori, Elementary, Junior High, and High School

*Administration Building*  
153 E. 6th Street  
(940) 759-2511



# Cooke County's Courthouse is 104

**Janet Felderhoff**  
Muenster Enterprise

Cooke County's current courthouse turned 104 this March. It was newly remodeled inside and out under the guidance of the Texas Historical Commission. Funds for the renovation project came from the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program (THCPP).

Over the years, changes had been made to accommodate the changing needs of Cooke County's government. Various portions of the County courthouse were restructured or re-purposed.

The goal of the THC was to bring the historical old building back to its original look. This would cause some offices and courtrooms to be moved and some to no longer have a home. It also required that the entire courthouse be closed for a period of about two years while the restoration work was being done. Some office spaces were rented. The County purchased a building just east of the courthouse and moved all its judicial business there for that period.

## HISTORY OF COOKE COUNTY COURTHOUSES

Courthouses in the County's early

days didn't have a good record for existing very long. The first courthouse was made of logs covered with a board roof. It measured 16' square and eight feet high and had a dirt floor. The County paid S.D. Brown \$29 to build it. It is reported that a steer demolished this courthouse in 1853. Apparently, the bovine sought shelter from flies pestering it and chose to enter the log courthouse. The building was totally wrecked as the frightened animal tried to get out. That same year, the County erected a second courthouse. This one-story building of "good frame" stood nine feet high, 26' wide, and 30' long. It had a door on either side, windows in each end, 12 lights, and a floor laid down loose. It cost \$300.

Beginning on Oct. 1, 1872, the courthouse was leased for use as a drug store for one year. It was eventually returned to use as a courthouse. With growing needs, the County leased additional spaces around the square to serve its needs. Fire destroyed this courthouse.

Signing of the contract for the third courthouse took place June 21, 1878 for a cost of \$27,499, but it was not finished until 1880 due to disagreements among the builders. It was considered



an attractive building. The two-story stone building had four fronts and was more solidly built than its predecessors. On May 28, 1909, fire destroyed the courthouse building. Commissioners found temporary locations for the County offices

Members of Commissioners Court visited several courthouses as they considered what should be constructed for Cooke County. They called a bond election on Aug. 21, 1909 in the amount of \$125,000 to construct the courthouse that still serves Cooke County to this day.

On Nov. 10, 1910, they laid the 3,000 pound cornerstone, inside which a box of relics was placed. The courthouse is built on a cruciform plan with a dome above. The building is limestone below the second story sill, with Gainesville face brick above the second story sill. All four elevations feature large stone columns, terra cotta trim, and an ornamented cornice featuring Beaux Arts detailing. The basement and ground floor are accessible on all four sides. The basement is half above ground.

Topping the building is a copper covered dome on a tall square base with windows flanked by columns. A terrace encircles it. The dome has clock dials on all four sides with copper ornamentation. It was decided by the Commissioners not to add the clocks to the courthouse dome during the construction. They were added in 1920 by the ladies of Cooke County under the direction of the XLI Club, as a World War I memorial. Names of those from the County who lost their lives in World War I are listed on a plaque near the east door of the courthouse.

Corridors from the four entrances intersect at the open rotunda in the center of the building that extends from the basement to the dome. Overhead is a polygonal art glass dome. A corridor goes around the rotunda and is finished with terrazo tile floors, marble base, and cement wainscoats.

A semi-circular staircase with marble connects the basement to the first floor. The remaining stairways throughout are iron. Even though an

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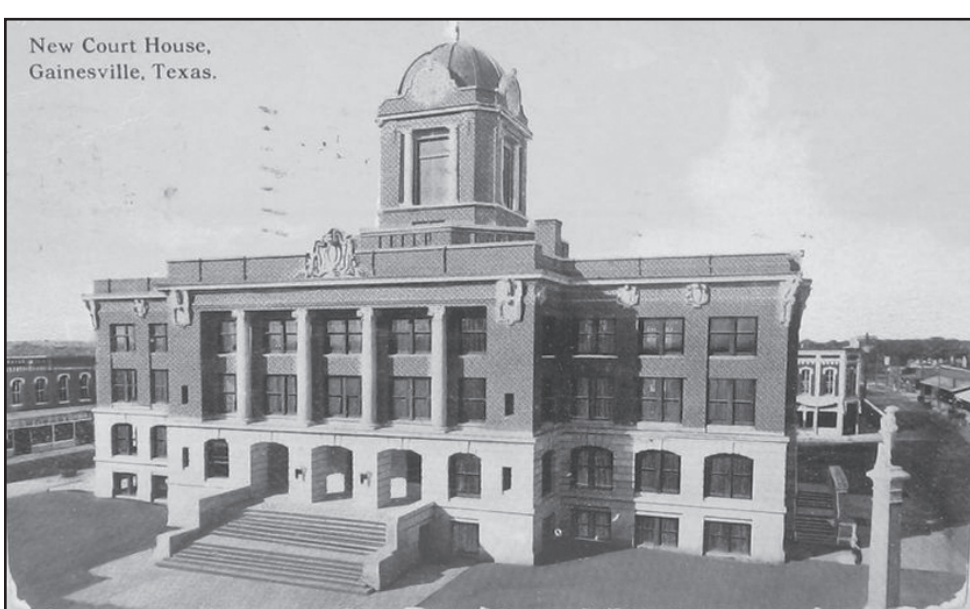
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New Court House,  
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elevator was not installed in the beginning, an elevator shaft was included in the building.

The two-story high District and County courtrooms were located on the second floor. In 1958, the courthouse was air-conditioned, an elevator installed in the existing shaft, an extra floor installed in the two-story high District Courtroom creating 3,100 additional feet of space, and a false ceiling was installed in the two-story high County Courtroom.

In 1988, remodeling of the District Courtroom included dividing the courtroom into two courtrooms.

In June 1999, then Texas Governor George Bush through House Bill (HB) 1341, established a plan to preserve endangered historic Texas courthouses with the aid of the Texas Historical Commission (THC). This was done through matching grants awarded by the THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program (THCPP). The program provides partial matching grants to Texas counties for the restoration of their historic county courthouses.

Having perceived a need to either repair the present courthouse or face

*continued on page 8*

communities...

# Gainesville



*Photo by Austin Lewter*

The Santa Fe Passenger Depot in Gainesville was built in 1902 to handle the increased traffic on the Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe railroads. The red brick structure contained a Harvey House Restaurant until 1931, and now serves as an Amtrak Station.

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### POPULATION

16,002

### LOCATION

- Located at the intersection of Interstate 35 and US Hwy 82.
- 31 miles north of Denton
- 35.5 miles west of Sherman

### CITY HALL

200 South Rusk  
(940) 668-4500

### POLICE

200 South Rusk  
(940) 668-7777

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

200 South Rusk  
(940) 668-7777

### SCHOOLS

Gainesville ISD, a Class 4A school district with eight campuses including Gainesville Head Start, Thomas A. Edison Elementary, W.E. Chalmers Elementary, Robert E. Lee Intermediate, Gainesville Middle School, Gainesville High School, Margaret Galubenski Achievement Center, and Gainesville Alternative Ed.

*Administration Building*  
800 S. Morris Street  
(940) 665-4362



**COURTHOUSE** .... from page 7  
 the fact a new one would be needed in the future, Commissioners Court was working to develop an architectural plan for courthouse renovations. Cooke County's courthouse had been accepted by the THC as a Texas historic courthouse. The late Precinct #4 Commissioner Virgil Hess worked with the Cooke County Historical Commission to apply for this Governor's grant funding. In 1999, Courthouse architect Komatsu was retained to revise and update the master plan then in place for Courthouse restoration. It was then submitted for grant consideration. In 2000, restoration of the

east and west exterior facades was planned.

Under the supervision of Hess, grants received were used to restore the outside of the Courthouse with Round III amount \$371,222 being awarded in January 2003; Round IV exterior grant for \$1,773,280; and in January 2008, Round V awarded \$4,085,904 for restoration of the interior.

Commissioner Hess died before the interior work could begin. Leon Klement was appointed to finish the time remaining in Hess' term and he accepted along with County Judge John Roane, the job of overseeing the interior renovation.



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# Rev up for hot rod car show by Riley's Performance Motor

**Cathy Krahl**  
*Lindsay Letter*

Summertime each year, car enthusiasts can travel to Valley View to get a closer look at performance cars from the past and the present.

And each year, Riley's Performance Motorcars hosts the event on the town square in Valley View. This year's event will be Saturday, June 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

What has begun as a small auto

show that fits around the square in Valley View has grown into an event that uses most every parking space in town.

"Last year we had 167 registered cars, but it was probably 180 total," Tiffany Riley of Riley Performance Motorcars said. "We had them in every graveled lot here."

Cars begin arriving around 7-7:30 and must be registered by 9 a.m. A panel of judges will pick the best

of show including best engine, best chrome, best interior, and best paint. About 60 trophies will be awarded.

"Riley makes our own trophies," Tiffany said. They will also be selling T-shirts.

Food trucks will be around the square providing visitors with a variety of food from fire in the hole pizza to barbeque to burgers and fries.

In the past, the Valley View Chamber of Commerce would have a booth.

Last year, it was a homemade ice cream contest. They have yet to decide what fundraiser they will use for the June event.



On the square in Valley View



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## Summer Sounds Bellamy Brothers kick off series

**Cathy Krahl**  
*Lindsay Letter*

For three summer nights on the historic brick streets of downtown Gainesville, the Summer Sounds Concert Series is free to the public. Each Friday night concert takes place on the west side of the Courthouse Square with food and drink sales starting at 5 p.m. and live music starting at 6:15 p.m.

This year, the Bellamy Brothers will kick off the concert series with the Friday, May 29 event. Special guest performers will be Oliver White Group and Morgan & Her Boyfriends. Restless Heart will be featured Friday, June 26 with Willy Kickett and special guest Jim Stewart. The final concert will be Friday, July 31 with Eleven Hundred Springs providing the music along with special guest Dakota.

For more than 30 years, the Bellamy Brothers have been an unassuming picture of consistency in Country music, crafting honest, heartfelt songs that connect with millions of listeners around the world. Howard and David Bellamy have enjoyed enormous success throughout their career with numerous No. 1 hits on both the Pop and Country charts.

The Brothers continued to produce No.1 hit after No. 1 hit, totaling more than a dozen chart-topping singles in the U.S. and Europe. "Let Your Love Flow," "If I Said You Had A Beautiful Body (Would You Hold It Against Me)," "Sugar Daddy," "Dancin' Cowboys," "Do You Love As Good As You Look," "Redneck Girl," "When I'm Away From You," "I Need More Of You," "Old Hippie," "Kids of the Baby Boom," "Too Much Is Not Enough," "Crazy From the Heart," "Santa Fe," and "I Could Be Persuaded" are just some of the Bellamys' Top Ten hits that populated the Pop/Rock and Country charts from the '70s into the '90s.

Restless Heart will showcase their talents at the June concert. John Dittrich, Greg Jennings, Paul Gregg, Dave Innis, and Larry Stewart – the men who make up Restless Heart - have enjoyed one of the most successful careers in Country Music history, placing over 25 singles on the charts – with six consecutive #1 hits, four of their albums have been certified Gold by the RIAA, and they have won a wide range of awards from many organizations – including the Academy of Country Music's Top Vocal Group trophy. Their career goes much deeper than that.

In the past few years, the group has really started to branch out in the community, particularly their work with the Nashville Rescue Mission. They have hosted an event called "Restless Heart & Friends – Music With A Mission," that they do at the Schermerhorn Center with the Nashville Symphony. The other thing that stands out is the tours they have done in support of the men and women of the Armed Forces.

Continued on page 13

communities...

# Valley View



*Photo by Austin Lewter*

Settled in 1870, the cotton patch town of Valley View saw great expansion with the arrival of the Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe railways in 1886. It was incorporated in 1979.

### POPULATION

788

### POLICE

308 W. O'Buch  
(940) 726-3957

### LOCATION

- Located at the intersection of IH 35 and FM 922.
- 12 miles south of Gainesville
- 26 miles north of Denton

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

308 W. O'Buch  
(940) 726-3957

### CITY HALL

308 W. O'Buch  
(940) 726-3740

### SCHOOLS

Valley View ISD, a Class 2A school district with three schools including Elementary, Middle School, and High School.

*Administration Building*

200 Newton St.  
(940) 726-3614





Schilling Farm



Turtle Hill Lodge

**B&B..... continued from page 5**

“It is a nice weekend getaway with a two-night stay minimum,” said Fuhrmann. “Right now, no kids are allowed unless they make a request and have the children approved.”

“It’s just a beautiful place for a couple to get away and not really have to do anything or go anywhere. It’s just really pretty.”

The farm is just about a mile out of Muenster, so dining and shopping are

close for those who choose to venture into town.

Information can be found at [schillinghuasmuenster.com](http://schillinghuasmuenster.com) or on Facebook, and by calling (940) 736-5812.

Turtle Hill Lodge & Conference Center is located about eight miles north of Muenster, just east of Turtle Hill Golf Course. Doyle and Debbie Hess own both facilities.

Lodging consists of five ranch style units each with four private rooms

with two extra long double beds, a private bath with large vanity area, refrigerators, TV, and data port. One unit has two rooms with a king size bed in each. Porches on each unit reveal beautiful views of rolling north Texas hills and countryside.

The Golf Haus will accommodate up to 15 people. It can be reserved as a whole or by the room. Catered meals can be arranged or reservations made for area dining.

Activities available include golf, volleyball, horseshoes, hiking, bicycling,

and ATV and motorcycle riding.

Shops in Muenster offer a variety of items from German gift items to beautiful jewelry, antiques, and more.

Doris Koesler of Turtle Hill Conference Center and Lodge remarked, “It is very peaceful and beautiful place for church retreats or just a night away. It is also great for family reunions and for our out-of-town wedding guests to stay.”

For more information, go to [www.turtlehilllodge.com](http://www.turtlehilllodge.com) or call 1 (877) 411-3585 or 759-2120.

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**SOUNDS** .....From page 11

Eleven Hundred Springs will be starring in the final concert of the series. They are a Texas Country rock band. Their influences include Willie Nelson, Buck Owens and Doug Sahm. They are known as one of the few remaining outlaw country bands. They have been together since 1998.

Next Life,” “Long Haired Tattooed Hippie Freaks,” “Raise Hell, Drink Beer,” “The Only Thing She Left Me was the Blues,” “This Crazy Life,” “A Straighter Line,” “Show Me the Money,” “Good Times, Hard Livin’,” “Great American Trainwreck,” “Rock Island Line,” and “Honky Tonk Angels.”

Their hits include: “Thunderbird Will do Just Fine,” “See You in the

The concert series is sponsored by the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce and is free to the public.

**Cooke County Courthouse contact information**

Cooke County Courthouse is located at 100 S. Dixon in Gainesville. The Courthouse Annex is across the street from the Courthouse at 112 S. Dixon.

Voter registration - Tax Assessor Collector’s Office, Courthouse Annex.

Environmental Office - Courthouse basement. On-site sewage facility permits; zoning permits; land development; and flood plane assessment.

Cooke County Commissioners Office, Courthouse basement - Apply for culvert permits outside city limits. County Maps available.

Tax Appraisal District Office - 201 N. Dixon.

AgriLife Extension Office - 301 S. Chestnut, Gainesville.

Cooke County Sheriff’s Office and County Jail - Cooke County Justice Center, 320 CR 451, Gainesville.

Justice of the Peace, Pct. #1 - Justice Center.

Justice of the Peace, Pct. #4 - 304 West O’Buch, Valley View.

Emergency Management/Fire Marshall - 301 S. Chestnut, Gainesville.

To get a Texas driver license, one must first get their vehicle inspected, then get a vehicle registration tag from the Tax Assessor Collector’s Office at the Courthouse Annex. A driver’s license can then be applied for at the Department of Public Safety Office, 206 W. California Street in Gainesville.

**communities...**  
**Callisburg**



*Photo by Austin Lewter*

The Sandy Creek Bridge, originally constructed in 1892, was removed in 2004 and incorporated into the walking trail at Parkhill Park in Callisburg.

**POPULATION**

347

**LOCATION**

- Located on FM 678  
- 5 miles north of US HWY 82

**CITY HALL**

59 Campbell St.  
(940) 665-9809

**POLICE**

Police protection provided by the Cooke County Sheriff’s Office

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

116 McDaniel Street  
(940) 612-1881

**SCHOOLS**

Callisburg ISD, a Class 3A school district with three campuses including Elementary in the Woodbine community along with Junior High and High School in Callisburg,

*Administration Building*  
148 Dozier St  
(940) 665-0540



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# Muenster Germanfest celebrates community's German heritage

**Janet Felderhoff**  
*Muenster Enterprise*

It was in April of 1976, 40 years ago, that Muenster first held the German Week Festival that is now known as Germanfest. It first took place as one of a series of celebrations and observances during the mid-1970s that paid tribute to the historical events leading up to the creation of the United States of America as an independent republic. Muenster's Bicentennial celebration embraced the community's German heritage.

In its infancy, Germanfest took place over most of a week. For the Bicentennial celebration, German Week kicked off with a historical pageant on Wednesday put on by students at Muenster ISD and supervised by the Muenster PTO.

Thursday was another pageant - the Miss Muenster contest sponsored by the Muenster Hospital Auxiliary. Barbie Hess was selected from the 19 contestants as Queen of German Week that year.

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday had a dance each evening. They were sponsored by the KCs on Friday, the Sacred Heart Men's Choir on Saturday, and

Sunday was the Bicentennial Ball.

Events for German Week took place in the Community Center, a 60'x100' tent, the Sacred Heart Parish picnic site, and Muenster High Auditorium. The tent held concession booths, a registration table, and some activities.

The Muenster Knights of Columbus hosted a German Fun Run chaired by Dan Hamric. There were 251 participants in the 10 mile run.

German foods including sausages, German potato salad, and sauerkraut, and sweets were abundant.

It is estimated that 5,000 attended that first festival.

After about three years, the Miss Muenster Pageant was dropped and the celebration took place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. It took the name Germanfest.

The Germanfest was moved to the Muenster City Park and continued to grow in the number attending, what was offered for entertainment, and arts and crafts booths were added, more variety in foods became available, carnival rides were also added. Entertainment ballooned into three stages - a Texas stage, the Tanze Halle stage, and a children's stage. Big name entertainers were booked as the size of Germanfest expanded.



For the athletic and competitive, there are several events and activities. One of these is the Nägelschlagen, a German competition where a nail spike is hammered into a tree stump by the contestants.

On Saturday, there is the annual Metric Century Bicycle Rally. Participants choose between three courses - 100 kilometer (63 miles), 65 kilometer (40 miles), and 35 kilometer (22 miles). The scenic courses follow paved roads that wind through hills and prairies dotted with trees and painted with colorful patches of wildflowers. Sponsor of the event is Sacred Heart School Alumni & Supporters. They receive many compliments for how well they run the event.

Runners fill Muenster streets on Sunday to participate in the Fun Run. It has grown in size until the number of runners is at times in the thousands. Runners either select the 5K or 15K. The courses begin on Main Street and follow paved roads to the north of town that turn back and end in town.

Carnival rides are for the little ones

as well as older children, teens, and adults. This event is sponsored by the Muenster Kiwanis Club. On Thursday evening from 5-10 p.m. and on Sunday from 2-7 p.m., they offer a family special of unlimited rides with the purchase of a wristband.

Helicopter and carriage rides will also be available.

On Friday and Saturday, the Annual BBQ Cook Off takes place on the west side of the Muenster Park. It is a Lone Star Barbecue Society sanctioned event. This is the second largest sanctioned BBQ cook off in Texas.

Many local organizations including Muenster Jaycees, Muenster Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Alumni and Supporters, Muenster Kiwanis, Muenster Public Library, Muenster Boy Scouts, Muenster Cheerleaders, and Muenster Historical Commission fund projects with proceeds from Germanfest.

Germanfest takes place on the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the last full weekend in April.

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# Plenty of things for kids to do this summer in Cooke County

**Cathy Krahl**  
Lindsay Letter



Party and the girls decorate and dress up, as well as, make everything they eat. They will also practice the etiquette skills they learned during the week. Camp II ends with a makeover party, eating, and practicing etiquette skills they learned during the week. For more information, call Hertel at 940-665-5558.

Butterfield Stage is offering a summer camp called "Lights' Campers Action." There are three different sessions offered: one for 5-6 years of age, one for 9-13 years of age, and one for 14-18 years of age. For more information, click on [www.butterfieldstage.org](http://www.butterfieldstage.org).

Frank Buck Zoo offers two different camps. In June, they have "Kid Power! Conservation Camps" - one for kids ages 6-9 years and the other for kids ages 9-13 years. This camp will show kids how they can make a difference in the world as they explore water conservation, plastic awareness, recycling, and how these practices affect animal conservation efforts globally.

The second zoo camp takes place in July and is called "Texas Critters Camps." Again two sessions will be offered, one for 6-9 year olds and the other for 9-13 year olds. Campers will explore a wide variety of native Texas animals that are found across the Lone Star State.

The local zoo also offers a Junior Zoo Crew for 14-18 year olds who would like to explore the possibilities of careers in zoo and aquarium sciences. Check the zoo website at [www.frank-buckzoo.com](http://www.frank-buckzoo.com)

Then there are the music camps like Dave Alexander's Big Texas Swing Camp at NCTC, horse riding camps like NCTC's youth mini summer camps for ages 8-15, and golf camps like the Gainesville Municipal Golf Course's "The First Tee" for kids and teens.

Many schools in the area hold sports camps and cheerleader camps during the summer. Check the schools' websites for more information.

And then there are the churches that encourage children to attend their Vacation Bible School each summer.

There is no lack of things to keep children and teens busy this summer. One just needs to look.

Summertime is a great time for kids to get out and try new adventures. With school out, they will have lots of energy to expend on events that can teach them new things while having fun or just go out and enjoy the freedom from classes. There are plenty of locations with playgrounds for kids to explore, but the best is in Leonard Park in Gainesville. It features a plastic tot playground and one large wooden playground structure of about 5,000 square feet.

Swimming is another summertime activity. Gainesville's Aquatic Center in Leonard Park is a 2,000,000 gallon facility that has an 18 foot high water slide, drop slide, diving board, zero entry with play structure, 8 foot rock climbing wall, human hamster balls, a shaded Cabana with picnic tables, and sun bathing deck with loungers. For questions or inquires about anything offered at the Leonard Park Aquatic Center, please contact (940) 668-4530.

Sports are another activity offered in the summer months. Boys Baseball of Cooke County and the Boys and Girls Club of Cooke County have league play. The City of Muenster offers similar leagues for area children to play summer ball.

Frank Buck Zoo bills itself as the best little zoo in Texas. The zoo features many different animals from all over the world. The petting zoo is fun for the smaller crowd. The highlight of the zoo is the daily giraffe feeding at 10:30 a.m. weather permitting. Summer zoo hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

After the visit to the zoo, kids can enjoy a ride on the Frankie Schmitz Express, a 1/4 size replica of a steam engine train. The train route encompasses the entire park with track length being approximately one mile.

And then there are the area camps.

Camp Kiowa at Lone Oak Ranch Resort offers one-week session for children 6-17. The camp is great for kids who might be sports-minded. Click on [www.campkiowa.com](http://www.campkiowa.com) for more information.

Miss Olivia's Bed & Breakfast has a unique day camp for young ladies, "Learning the Lost Arts." Owner Donna Hertel is an accomplished chef, master gardener, and seamstress who enjoys sharing these lost arts with young girls, 7-12.

Camp I ends with a Victorian Tea

## communities...

# Era



Staff Photo

Iron artwork welcomes visitors to Era, Texas when driving in from the North on Hwy 51.

### POPULATION

182

### LOCATION

- Located at the intersection of HWY 51 and FM 922.
- 12 miles southwest of Gainesville

### CITY HALL

Unincorporated

### POLICE

Police protection provided by the Cooke County Sheriff's Office.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 159  
(940) 668-6267

### SCHOOLS

ERA ISD, a Class 2A school district with one campus that houses grades K-12.

*Administration Building*

FM 922 Hornet Drive  
PO Box 98  
Era, Texas 76238  
(940) 665-5961



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**The Bank's primary location is in Muenster. The Bank also has a full-service Banking Center in Gainesville which can meet all the needs of any existing or prospective customer.**

**MSB is proud to be part of the communities of Muenster, Gainesville, and the surrounding area, and looks forward to providing friendly personal service for many years to come.**



## Muenster State Bank

201 N. Main St.  
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940.759.2257



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Gainesville, TX  
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