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saying' returns**
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Muleshoe Journal



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Muleshoe, Texas

December 17, 2009



Photographs by Larry Thornton

Pictured above, the Harrisons pull into McDonalds at Muleshoe Thursday afternoon, ready for a meal and some serious play time. Pictured on the right, Bill and Amarins visit with a local resident, and show her the route the family has already traveled en route to their final destination... Fairbanks, Alaska.



'Free' wheeling cyclists travel through town

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

It's a journey that started some eight years ago, in the bottom of the Grand Canyon, when Bill met Amarins, a tourist from the Netherlands.

There aren't a lot of people hiking across the bottom of the canyon, as Amarins noted, and apparently that initial meeting made quite an impression. A couple of years later, they were married and not too much later were the parents of three young girls, all blonde, like their mother.

But while the adventuresome couple that enjoyed hiking and

the outdoors didn't lose their wanderlust, the realization that girls, ages ranging from three to six, didn't have the legs yet for long distance hiking may have played a part in the decision to seek another form of transportation.

Something different... something economical... something long and yellow.

On Aug. 1, Bill and Amarins Harrison, with Cheyenne, 6, Jasmine, 4, and Robin, 3, in tow — so to speak, left Mt. Vernon, KY,

on a yellow five-seat
Continued on page 2

School board adopts new curriculum program

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Muleshoe Independent School District administrators waged a successful campaign for change, garnering the school board's adoption of a new K-12

aligned curriculum during Monday's regular meeting. During the administrators' presentation Assistant Superintendent Carl Krug said that with the state's accountability

testing moving from TAKS to end of course exams in two years it was a good time for the district to re-evaluate its curriculum options.

"The state has put some interesting things before us to see if it works," he said. "...The state has said, 'here's the box,' and it's up to us to

decide how we're going to get there."

As the district's administrators discussed the issue, and expounded upon the virtues of C Scope, which was described as a curriculum guide rather than a set curriculum, their excitement about the possibilities it offered

began to build.

"We're talking about a whole new way of doing things," Todd Newberry, principal at Dillman Elementary said.

"Right now, today, this is the very best thing we could do for our district," said Brian Arnold, the district's Director of Special Education.

"We believe in this," Steve Myatt, principal of Watson Junior High said. "I think this is the ticket."

But for the program to succeed, Myatt said both the teachers and the school board needed to get on board as well.

It was pointed out
Continued on page 2

MAHD to consider sale of Park View again

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Thursday's meeting of the Muleshoe Area Hospital District's board of directors included a couple of last minute surprises.

At the beginning of the meeting, board president Bill Liles announced that the hospital district had been contacted by an individual interested in purchasing Park View Nursing Care Center, and would be meeting

with him to learn more about his proposal in a special meeting on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 5:30 p.m.

The second surprise came later during the meeting, when David Shaw of Covenant Health Systems received a text message announcing that Covenant's parent company, St. Joseph's, had approved the donation of the Muleshoe Family Medicine Clinic

Continued on page 2



This week's newest video

- Students, faculty honored by MISD school board
- Kentucky travelers at Muleshoe
- First United Methodist appreciation dinner
- MAHD meeting

Court approves EMS option for jurors

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

The Bailey County Commissioners' Court approved a recommendation by County Treasurer Shonda Black that would allow jurors the option of donating juror fees to the Bailey County Emergency Medical Service.

In previous years, jurors were issued checks for amounts varying

from \$6 to \$12 for their service to the county, many of which were never cashed because of the small monetary value but still ended up being carried in the county's books for a couple of years. Black noted that she recently voided about 40 such uncashed checks that were about three years old.

But when the county changed and began paying jurors in cash,

that problem was solved. And, when it was approved for the jurors to have the option of donating their money to local needs such as the Bailey County Child Welfare Board, Meals on Wheels, or Women's Protective Services out of Lubbock, Black said many chose to do so.

It was Black's idea to add Bailey County EMS to the list of organizations
Continued on page 2

The Christmas Key

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Part 3©

Darkbeak had flown for several days, pausing to rest only when he could fly no further. And even his rests were becoming fitful and tiring. It was as if the winter witches were constantly peering over his shoulder, waiting for a chance to snatch the key back.

The previous night it was even worse. His dreams swiftly turned to nightmares with Sophia and Porsha

calling his name over and over again. No matter how deeply he tried to tuck his head under his wing the images were still there, both sisters reaching for the key... his key.

All thoughts now of building a new nest were gone, replaced with hours and more hours of flying. As the days whirled past, the forests of the far north changed to the towns, farms and eventually cities further south.

Other crows cried out to Darkbeak as he winged past, but he

ignored them, and when they took wing to pursue him, Darkbeak flew even harder, driven to escape the dreams and his fear of losing the shiny key he clutched within his beak.

But the day came when he could fly no further. The shiny bauble he'd snatched from the air in the far north provided no sustenance, and it had been several days since he'd dropped

it long enough to eat or drink.

Darkbeak was weak, his attention focused on the next beat of his wings... so he was unprepared for the hawk's attack.

With a bone-chilling screech, a large hawk swooped at Darkbeak, its talons outstretched for what appeared to be an easy meal. However, weakened as he was,

Darkbeak's years in the wilds of the far north kicked in and he twisted out of the hawk's deadly path, suffering the loss of only a few feathers... and the key.

Turning to the left, the crow dove into a grove of trees for safety, only realizing his loss after the hawk was no longer a threat.

Toby enjoyed being outdoors. It didn't matter if the north wind was blowing or snow was falling. She enjoyed playing outside, and she especially enjoyed

playing outside at her grandfather's farm.

With Christmas still three weeks in the future, her parent's decision to spend the weekend at her grandfather's farm was almost an early Christmas present. This year, they would be traveling to her mother's parents for the holiday, which meant an early trip to visit her father's father, at his farm.

After arriving late Friday evening, Toby had awakened to the prospect of a day in
Continued on page 3



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Candlelight service

The First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe will be hosting a candlelight service on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at 7 pm. For more information, contact the church at 272-5517.

Project Christmas Card

The deadline for Project Christmas Card is set for Dec. 16, with the recognition set for publication in the Dec. 24 issue of the *Muleshoe Journal*.

Contributions may be mailed to Parkview Nursing Care Center, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, or dropped off at the nursing home, First Bank or Muleshoe State Bank.

Christmas Crate

The staff of Park View Nursing Care Center are participating in Project Christmas crate, an effort to deliver a fresh meal and Christmas presents to two needy families in Bailey County.

Individuals who wish to join in the effort may bring their gift or canned food items to the lobby of the nursing home and place the items in the barrels next to the reception desk.

Journal office closed for holidays

The *Muleshoe Journal* office, 201 W. Ave. C, will close for Christmas at noon on Thursday, Dec. 24, and reopen on Monday, Dec. 28.

During the week of New Years, the newspaper office will be closed on Friday, Jan. 1, and reopen the following Monday.

Muleshoe school board discusses C Scope

Continued from page 1
that the program would require additional work on the part of the teachers for the first year or two, and the school board members needed to be prepared for the complaint calls they'd likely receive from both parents and teachers.

It was explained that while other districts in West Texas have tried C Scope, not all have completely implemented the program. School districts in which it was optional for teachers to implement the program basically disliked C Scope or showed poor results, but districts that fully implemented the program reported much greater success.

"If it's going to be done, go at it all the way," Krug said.

"The only thing we know is these are our kids, and it's our job to get

them there," said Debbie Gallman, principal of DeShazo Elementary. "If we don't do this, what are we going to do?"

It was pointed out that Seagraves ISD went from unacceptable to recognized in one year through adoption and implementation of C Scope.

"We will be assessing our students, and that will be what drives what we teach our kids," Myatt said.

"I think this is a huge change for our school district," Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets said. While the school district has noted some academic success in recent years, the superintendent said he didn't feel the rate of success with the current curriculum would reach the level it needed to be at in a couple of years, but added that he thought the change to C Scope

could bridge the gap. While there is a significant start-up cost for C Scope, about \$500,000, he said that cost is being picked up for all the district's in Region 17. Still, the local implementation expenses would be about \$60,000 per year.

According to Sheets, more than half of the school districts in Texas have adopted C Scope. In regards to other school district business, the board members received a presentation regarding the proposed improvements to the district's football stadium, at an estimated cost of \$1,409,000.

While a variety of options were presented during Monday's meeting, the superintendent said the actual decisions wouldn't be made until the board's next regular meeting.

Commissioners' court... Continued from page 1

eligible for donation by jurors, which can be used to replace some of the ambulance service's equipment.

In other business, the commissioners' court:

- Received a report from Sheriff Richards Wills, who noted that

a decision regarding a contract for an inmate phone call system would need to be made in the near future, and added that he was receiving proposals for an inmate commissary provider, which he felt would benefit the county by

reducing the number of man-hours his staff had to spend on the task.

- * Approved the same list of county holidays as last year.
- Approved payment of county bills.
- Approved the treasurer's report for October, and received the report for November.
- Approved a "flow-through" grant of \$1,455 from the Texas State Comptroller's office for the Muleshoe Rotary Club's annual Labor Day roping event.
- * Set Jan. 11 as the date for the county's surplus sale.

Kentucky travelers take a breather at Muleshoe

Continued from page 1 tandem bicycle, headed to Fairbanks, Alaska, because... well, as Bill put it, "Because we're Americans, and we can."

When they were passing through Muleshoe, Thursday, Dec. 10, the Harrison's had logged more than 2,900 miles, having chosen a scenic route that carried them down through central Florida and west across the southern states.

"We're traveling the country before we're legislated to death and can't do it," Bill said.

"Living simple, living your dream, and being family" is what's important, he said, adding that he felt freedom of speech is deteriorating in the United States.

In Thursday's interview, Bill talked about some of the simple things he and his family had experienced on the trip that they might have missed if their journey had been by vehicle. Things such as laying in a field covered with butterflies.

And he talked about the strangers, now friends, they've encountered on their journey. People who have opened their homes and their pocketbooks to

help fund the Harrison family's journey.

Bill also spoke of people who have been tuning in to their journey from around the world through the Harrison's web page, "www.pedouins.org," to express support — both financially and with words of encouragement — for the journey.

"We're just blue collar workers following a dream," Bill said. He recalled one message from a person in China who said it was his dream to take a similar journey with his own son.

"A lot of people can't comprehend that we're doing this on an absolute shoestring," Bill said, noting that after the sale of their small home in Kentucky, and the purchase of the special tandem bicycle and trailer, the Harrisons headed out with only a few hundred dollars to their names.

From Muleshoe, they were headed to Clovis and Ft. Sumner, N.M., before completing the current leg of the journey, at some friend's in San Diego, Calif.



Photograph by Larry Thornton

Bill, Robin, Jasmine, Amarins, and Cheyenne Harrison stop to view "Pete," at the Muleshoe Chamber of commerce & Agriculture pavilion.

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Have a story or photo ideas? Let us know! 272-4536

The Christmas Key... Continued from page 1

the winter sun, exploring the fields and orchards of the farm. She'd helped with some of the chores, something she didn't mind even when one of the old hens tried to peck her hand as she gathered the eggs, and had been released to frolic in the unseasonably warm weather.

In her imagination, the trees became castles and ogres, the pasture battlefields. Even the small foot bridge across the small stream in the middle of the north pasture was a place of childish wonder, the dark abode of an imaginary troll. After all, Toby knew such things as trolls, ogres, witches... and even Santa Claus were, as her father called them, figments of her imagination. Weren't they?

When Toby saw the crow approaching from above, her imagination turned it into mighty eagle, a thought that was short-lived when the hawk suddenly appeared and swooped down at its prey.

But this sight was swiftly replaced by the realization that the crow had dropped something from its beak before seeking shelter in the trees.

Curious, Toby ran over to the patch of brush near which the shiny object fell, and after a brief search found it.

"A key?" she asked aloud, even though she was alone, "why would a crow be carrying a key?"

In the distance, Darkbeak squawked his protest from the safety of the trees.

"Mine!" he cawed. "It's mine!"

Ignoring the commotion in the trees, Toby dropped the key into her pocket, and went in search of dragons.

In the distant north, Sophia and Porsha stared into a black pool of water.

As they had each morning since the key had been lost, they scooped out a small pit in the black ashes of their fireplace, filled it with water and muttered the spell that turned its darkened surface into a magical mirror through which they could search for their stolen prize.

And now, after days of searching, a tiny glimmer finally beckoned the sisters from the pool's dark surface.

"There it is," Porsha exclaimed, "my key!"

"Our key," Sophia corrected her.

Porsha sniffed sharply in irritation before turning her attention back to the tiny speck of light in the water. "Where is it?" she asked.

Sophia waved her crooked fingers over the water. From a hand a few hundred years younger, with fewer liver spots, and skin that wasn't drier than a two-year-old corn husk, it might have been graceful... but it wasn't, and neither was the hand's movement. The cuff of Sophia's sleeve broke the surface of the water, disturbing the image.

"Clumsy," Porsha muttered.

"Hag," Sophia muttered back.

Ignoring the dampness of her cuff, Sophia sat back for a moment. Nothing more could be done until the water stopped its movement. During their wait, the sisters glared menacingly at each other.

• • • • •

Santa Claus was fit to be tied. His realization that the recent theft had in all possibility been the work of Sophia and Porsha wasn't a comforting thought. In fact, Santa was greatly upset that he hadn't taken sufficient precautions knowing their centuries old feud.

Actually, Santa didn't know why the sisters were such a persistent problem.

While they hadn't succeeded in the last century — since the village's protective fog barrier had been set in place, in earlier days their attempts to disrupt the elves and their work had been a continuous irritant.

Now, however, the fog's protection had apparently been breached, and there was no telling how long it had been going on.

Santa sat back in his chair, twiddling his thumbs as he tried to think of a solution, not just the recovery of the key, but also what to do about Sophia and Porsha.

He remembered the words of the American president, Abraham Lincoln, who said, "The best way to destroy an enemy is to make him a friend," and couldn't help

but think, "He obviously hadn't dealt with Sophia and Porsha."

Santa's own overtures at friendship to the sisters had been soundly rebuffed centuries ago. Since that time, Santa had come to realize it would take someone more powerful than he to thaw the sisters' icy hatred.

As he had for countless years, he bowed his head in prayer.

• • • • •

Toby's stomach growled as she headed back to the farm house.

Her grandfather's advice that she needed to eat more than the toast and jelly her mother made that morning came to mind.

"Playing is hard work," she said to herself as her empty stomach stopped growling... and roared.

Topping the hill at the east end of the pasture, she saw the farm house below, and spotted her grandfather walking from the barn, across the gravel drive toward the house.

"Grandpa!" she yelled, breaking into a run that almost turned into a stampede as the hillside's slope increased her pace beyond her control.

"Watch out there, Toby," Frank Burns, her grandfather called out when she caught her toe on a rock and almost lost balance.

She was breathing hard when she reached his side, clutching at his overalls in a fierce hug that also kept her from whizzing past him.

"Yeow," Burns shouted gleefully as he used his granddaughter's momentum to swing her up into the air before drawing her close into his arms.

"You almost lost it that time," he said with a big grin. "Dragons after you again?"

Toby reached up and kissed him on the cheek. "Nope, it was a bear this time," she said. "A big one."

"Do tell."

"Uh huh, a whole army of them, in fact."

"Well, if we're gonna have to fight a 'whole army of bears,' I guess we'd better go get some lunch," her grandfather said, playfully taking part

in his granddaughter's fantasy.

"What's for lunch?"

"Probably brown beans and oatmeal."

Toby tilted her head as she studied her grandfather's face, trying to decide if he was teasing her, or not.

"We don't want anything that might attract them bears..." he said.

"Oh, grandpa!" Toby said in mock exasperation before squeezing him as tightly as she could.

Grandpa Burns was probably Toby's biggest friend and hero.

A widower for almost nine years — Toby's grandmother had died shortly after she was born — Frank Burns continued farming, rarely had a gruff day, especially when his only granddaughter was visiting.

As for her grandmother, Toby couldn't really remember her. Her grandfather would occasionally share stories about her, sometimes through mist-filled eyes as he remembered his high school sweetheart and wife of 42 years.

"You'll like her when you get to meet her in heaven," her grandfather would say hoarsely. "And cook... oh, she could cook. I especially miss her mashed potatoes and gravy... and her fried chicken, and her butternut squash, and baked beans, and French toast, and cherry cobbler, and..."

The list of food items would go on and on, until Toby realized her grandfather's moment of sadness had passed, and he was once again "pulling her leg."

"Grandpa, if you eat all of that, you're going to be fatter than a pig."

"And what's bad about that?" he asked. "Pigs have it pretty good. In fact, a pig only has one bad day in his life."

"When's that?" Toby asked.

Her grandfather poked her in the ticklish spot on her side and said, "The day they change his name from pig... pig... pig... to bacon."

As they walked toward the house, Toby's grandfather felt something hard in her pocket. "What's that?" he asked.

Toby reached in and pulled out the key.

"A key," she said. "I saw a crow drop it in the field. Can I keep it?"

Burns looked at the key for a moment, holding it up so its decorated surface could gleam in

the noonday sun.

"I can see why the crow stole it," he said.

"Crows like shiny things," he added. "Bottle tops, colored glass... just about anything that'll catch the light."

"Can I keep it?"

"Well, it looks like it's been taken care of, but it isn't from any lock I know of. I guess it's alright until the crow tells you where it came from," he said.

Toby rolled her eyes. "Grandpa!" she said.

"Didn't you know crows can talk?"

"No they can't... they're animals," Toby said.

"And what does that matter? Just because an animal hasn't talked to you doesn't mean it can't," he said. "When we get inside, I'll get you a piece of string to hang it around your neck, so you won't lose it."

"It's a magic key," Toby said. "The key to my castle. I wish I had a gold chain to put it on instead of string," she said.

Continued next week

Thank You,

Dr. Purdy, his staff, the nurses and others, for the splendid and outstanding care given us during my recent stay in the hospital, we say "Thank You Kindly".

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Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

Our Lidia has had her surgery, and is back at home and doing well. We wish her a quick recovery.

Our prayers and well wishes go to her family.

Our sincere appreciation goes to all who have brought in goodies for the Christmas time of year.

It is so pretty here at the Oneita Wagnon Citizens' Center, and the holiday spirit is good.

We invite all to come by

From God's Holy Word

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

— John 1:14

and see the decorations, plan to have lunch or just have a cup of coffee.

Muleshoe is a great place to live. All of the special programs, dinners, and just helping one another makes this a good place to be.

Thanks to all of our good friends and neighbors.

Tuesday, Dec. 22, Kathy Carr, with the Bailey County Agri-Extension Service, will be presenting her program on nutrition.

Make plans to have lunch and enjoy her program.

Wednesday is our regular steak day. Call a friend and come enjoy the fellowship and good eats.

The center will be closed on Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, and Dec. 25, Christmas Day.

We will open again

on Dec. 28 at the regular time, 8 a.m.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe one.

To all of the ones who are under the weather, our prayers are you will be well soon and back with us at the center.

Menu for Dec. 21-23:
Monday, Dec. 21 — Smothered chicken, augarten potatoes, sliced carrots, salad, wheat rolls, cookies and fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 22 — Taco salad, rice, beans, cheese, onions, chips, salsa and pudding.

Wednesday, Dec. 23 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat rolls and cherry cobbler.

Thursday, Dec. 24 — Closed for Christmas Eve.

Friday, Dec. 25 — Merry Christmas! May God bless you!

Depth-to-water measurements under way

High Plains Underground Water Conservation Dist. No. 1 personnel are now making annual depth-to-water level measurements to determine the effect of 2009 pumpage on groundwater levels in the Ogallala aquifer within the district's 15-county service area.

Water level measurements are made in a network of more than 1,200 privately-owned wells. These water level observation wells are spaced throughout the district at a density of about one well per nine square miles.

"In previous years, Water District staff began making depth-to-water level measurements in the observation well network in early January. However, we're now starting a month earlier to take advantage of typically good December weather and to complete

the measurements before winter wheat irrigation and/or pre-plant irrigation begins. It is important for producers to know that district personnel will be visiting observation well sites from early December until completion of this work effort," said High Plains Water District Manager Jim Conkwright.

Personnel will begin making depth-to-water level measurements in the northern portion of the Water District service area and work their way south, weather permitting.

The depth-to-water level measurement is made by lowering a steel tape to a pre-determined depth in the well. The first few feet of the tape lowered into each well is coated with carpenters' chalk, which turns a darker shade of blue when it comes into

contact with water. The distance from land surface to the static water level is determined by subtracting the amount of tape with the darker blue chalk from the total feet of tape extended into the well.

After the measurement is made, a blue vinyl sticker with the observation well number, the depth-to-water level measurement, and the date of the measurement is affixed to the well equipment or other appropriate surface near the well site.

Water District personnel measure the same wells in the observation well network each year, as long as the individual wells are accessible and continue to provide satisfactory data. The current depth-to-water level measurement in individual wells is compared to that of the

Continued on page 12

BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

George Whatley

Church services for George Whatley, 67, of Muleshoe were held on Saturday, Dec. 12, at the First Assembly of God of Muleshoe with the Rev. Reydon Stanford, the Rev. H.D. Hunter, and the Rev. Ryan Pate officiating.

Burial followed in Bailey County Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Mr. Whatley died on Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009, in Muleshoe. He was born on Jan. 13, 1942, to Quint and Susie (Knight) Whatley in Strawn, and married Jackie Jean Kemp in Muleshoe on July 24, 1966.

Mr. Whatley had lived in Muleshoe since he was five years of age, and had been employed at Muleshoe

State Bank since 1998. Mr. Whatley had served his country in the US Navy from 1962 to 1965.

Survivors include his wife — Jackie Jean Whatley of Muleshoe; a son and his wife — Kasey and Stacie Whatley of Lazbuddie; a sister — LaQuintes June Farrell of San Antonio; a brother — Tommy Whatley of Quitman; a grandson — Kyle Whatley of Dimmitt; and three step-grandchildren — Keeley Burris, Ryley Burris and Lyndsey Burris.

Memorials may be sent to Trinity Christian Church, 1723 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe, Texas 79347, or to one's favorite charity.

Elna Byrd

Church services for Elna Byrd, 84, of Progress were held on Thursday, Dec. 17, at the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe with the Rev. Lou Balenton of Morton officiating.

Burial followed in Bailey County Cemetery.

Byrd died on Dec. 12, 2009, in Lubbock. She was born on Feb. 21, 1925, in Sapulpa, Okla., to Arthur and Ella Graves, and married L. Byrd in Clovis, N. M., on Aug. 10, 1954.

Jesus Torres III

Church services for Jesus Jose Torres III, 14, of Muleshoe, were held on Friday, Dec. 11, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church with Father Leo Pahamtang of Muleshoe officiating.

Rosary was said on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 9-10,

Byrd worked for 39 years for Muleshoe Area Medical Center as an LVN, retiring in 1991.

She taught Sunday School in the Second Baptist Church in Progress, worked in Mission Ladies, and assisted her husband in churches across the Panhandle.

Survivors include her husband — L. Byrd of Progress; a daughter — Joyceline Velasquez of Pampa; and three grandchildren.

at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed Friday's services at Muleshoe Memorial Park.

Jesus died on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, in Lubbock. He was born on June 16, 1995, in Mexico to Jose Jesus Jr. and Rosa Elva Torres.

Jesus had lived in the Muleshoe community for seven years, and was a freshman at Farwell High School, previously attending school in Muleshoe. He was active in football, weight lifting, and choir.

Survivors include his parents — Jesus Jose Jr. and Rosa Elva Torres of Muleshoe; two brothers — Ricardo Giovan Torres and Irvin Alexis Torres; and grandparents, Ramon Ronquillo and Juana Sanches of Mexico, and Jesus Jose Torres and Sylvia Margarita Rodriguez of Andrews.

Muleshoe graduate promoted to 'Director of Generation'

Clifford A. Watson, a 1981 graduate of Muleshoe High School, was recently named Director of Generation at the Oak Grove Power Plant in Franklin.

After graduating from Texas Tech University in 1986, Watson began his career as an associate engineer at the Martin Lake Plant of Texas Utilities Generating Company near Tyler, and has remained with the same company as it has transitioned to Texas Utilities Electric, TXU, and the current Luminant, which acquired the company in 2007.

During Watson's tenure at Martin Lake Plant, he worked as an engineer, maintenance foreman, maintenance planner, and project manager. For the next eight years, he continued his career at various gas plants, working as an

Where Are They Now?

engineer, superintendent and plant manager.

After being transferred to Big Brown Plant, near Teague, Watson held the position of production manager for three years. Before receiving his current promotion, he worked at the Oak Grove Plant as support manager for two years.

Watson is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas and a certified maintenance and reliability professional. He, his wife Janet, and their children live in Teague.

Janet, a native of Sudan and a graduate of Texas Tech University, teaches second grade.

Watson's parents, W.T. and Pat, live in the Muleshoe area.

Lurine Dudley

Church services for Lurine Dudley, 84, of Muleshoe, formerly of Plainview, were held on Friday, Dec. 11, at Muleshoe Cowboy Fellowship Church with the Rev. John Blythe of Petersburg officiating.

Burial followed in Bailey County Cemetery.

Dudley died on

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009, in Muleshoe. She was born on Nov. 2, 1925, to Alwin Herbert and Willie Wanda Dudley in Brisco County.

Dudley moved to Muleshoe in 2002 from Plainview.

She had worked as a legal secretary.

Survivors include three sisters — Dora Biggerstaff of Muleshoe,

Alma Lee Pierson of Oklahoma Lane, and Jimmy Crabtree of Muleshoe.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother and three sisters.

Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society, 3411 73rd St., Lubbock, Texas 79423, or the Muleshoe Cowboy Fellowship Church.

Engagement

Walls, Dorsett announce engagement

Sam and Dianne Walls of Muleshoe announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Dianne Walls, to Matthew Sealy Dorsett.

The prospective bride is a graduate of Muleshoe High School and a graduate of Texas Tech University.

The prospective groom is the son of Dr. Mark and Sidney Dorsett of Wolforth.

He is a graduate of New Home High School and a graduate of Texas Tech University and has a degree in agriculture communications

The couple plan to be married on March 13, 2010, at The Legacy in Lubbock with a reception to follow immediately after the ceremony.



Jennifer Walls and Matthew Dorsett

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Letter to the Editor

Resident talks about local medical staff

To the Editor:
I've been meaning to write this letter for sometime.

We who live in this area are so lucky to have the excellent doctors, nurses and all folks, who make up our hospital and nursing home.

Also, we should give thanks to the board members who work hard to keep those buildings up and running smoothly.

When you have need of these people, as our family did recently, you realize how lucky we are to have these facilities, so close to home.

Marilyn Engelking, Muleshoe

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Sports

Varsity Lady Mules tip off in high school's new gym

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mules had the honor last Tuesday night of playing the first varsity game in the new Muleshoe gymnasium. The facility has yet to be named so will be known as the "new gym" until a name has been found.

The Lady Mules were 2-7 going into the inaugural game with the 5-5 Morton Maidens. But the Lady Mules served notice early their seven losses had been to some very good teams and they had learned some hard lessons in those losses.

The Lady Mules reeled off six unanswered points in in the first minute and a half. Morton dropped in a 3-pointer.

But on the next trip down the floor Devine Orozco kicked the ball from the blocks back out to Sarah Johnson and she drained a 3-pointer from the top of the key.

Johnson hit another 3-pointer in the final seconds of the period to cap a seven point Lady Mule run for an 18-6 Lady Mule lead.

Val Olivas had made three buckets and two free throws for eight points in the opening period.

The Lady Mules also had a huge fourth period to salt away a 60-38 win in the New Gym.

Morton played a bit more than even with the Lady Mules in the second period and out scored the Lady Mules 13-12. The Lady Mules led 30-19 at the intermission.

The Maidens came out after the half and cut three points off the Lady Mule with a 12-9 quarter. The Lady Mules were clinging to a 39-31 lead with eight minutes left to play.

Yvonne Gardea had been warming up for three quarters and had scored only four points going into the final period. Gardea took the in bound pass to start the final quarter and drove to the hoop for a basket.

Gardea grabbed a rebound and made the out let pass to Johnson. Gardea then raced down



Varsity Lady Mules tip off during the team's first game in the new gymnasium.

Photograph by Stacy Conner

the floor and Johnson threw her a perfect strike for a lay up. Olivas stuck back an offensive rebound on a fast break to extend the Lady Mule lead to 43-32.

The next trip down the floor Johnson drove into the paint to draw the defense and dished to Alyssa Leal for the easy basket.

A minute late Gardea drained and eight-foot jumper.

Gardea showed her quickness on defense as she picked the pocket of a Maiden and blew down the floor for a lay up to complete a 12-1 Lady Mule run.

Morton hit a short jumper and the Lady Mules responded with Johnson draining a baseline 3-pointer. Olivas scored the final bucket of the game.

Johnson nailed a 3-pointer and added two charity tosses in the second quarter and Leal made a basket and a free throw.

Gardea made eight of her 12 points in the final quarter and Leal had six. Orozco added three points and Ali Eagle, BreAnn Baca and Jandy Gomez all chipped in two points each.

The Lady Mules tangled with a large Lady Lion team from Idalou Friday evening

and remain undefeated in the New Gym. The Lady Mules over came a slow start to defeat Idalou 53-44.

The Lady Lions scored 13 points in the first quarter but the Lady Mule defense held them to just 17 points in the second half.

"The Lady Mule team I was expecting us to have this season is just beginning to emerge," said Lady Mule coach Val Acree.

"Our defense came through for us in the second half and really held a much bigger team in check today. We are still undefeated in our new facility," he added.

Leal, Baca, Olivas and Gomez each scored a bucket in the first period and the Lady Mules trailed 13-8.

Johnson nailed a 3-pointer and added two charity tosses in the second quarter and Leal made a basket and a free throw.

Gardea, Baca and Olivas added a bucket each as the Lady Mule kept up with Idalou with a 14-14 quarter. The Lady Mules trailed 27-22 at the intermission.

The Lady Mule defense turned up the heat in the second half and held the Lady Lions to just eight points in the third quarter.

Johnson tracked down a long defensive rebound

as the third period began and Leal took off down the floor. Johnson laid a half-court pass in her hands for the fast-break lay up. Idalou answered before Johnson fired a three-quarter court pass to Gardea running on the break. Gardea kissed the ball off the glass for the easy deuce.

Idalou knocked down a pair of free throws before Olivas fought for an offensive rebound and stuck it back for a bucket.

Idalou scored before Leal started series of steals.

She stepped in the passing lane for her first of three steals and the Lady Mules converted each one to points.

Olivas completed the

first break; Gardea sank an eight-foot jumper to convert the second Leal steal and Johnson drove coast-to-coast after her third steal.

Orozco got in the theft mode as the Lady Mules reeled off eight unanswered points. The Lady Mules had grabbed a 36-35 lead in the third quarter.

The Lady Mules did not back off in the final quarter and Gardea scored the first two points of the period.

Idalou answered but Johnson came back with an old-fashion three-point play.

Olivas drove on the break and dished to Johnson to finish the break. Baca made one from the line before

Gardea picked a Lady Lion's pocket and drove for a basket.

Olivas gathered in a loose ball on the Lady Lions end of the floor and drove down the floor.

The Lady Mules had a 4-on-1 break and Olivas stopped and popped from four feet. Gardea dropped in one from the line.

Idalou drained a 3-pointer to cut the Lady Mule lead to 48-42. Gardea made two free throws and Olivas added one as the Lady Lions were forced to foul as time wound down.

Olivas hit Leal running on the break for the final points of the game.

Johnson paced the Lady Mules in scoring with 14 points. Gardea was just a single point behind with 13 and Olivas dropped in 10. Leal finished with nine points, Baca added five and Gomez chipped in two points.

The Lady Mules have a very packed schedule the next few days.

They traveled to Farwell Tuesday night to play the Lady Blue and return home to meet the Portales Rams on Dec. 18.

The Highland Park Lady Hornets visit the new gym Dec. 21.

The Lady Mules will take the five day mandatory break and jump back into action in the Littlefield Tournament Dec. 28-30.

The Lockney Lady Horns will visit the Lady Mules on Jan. 5

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Sports

Mules defend their new gym against Indian attack

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules have had some ups and downs early in the basketball season. Tuesday night they defended their new gym for the first time ever.

The Morton Indians invaded the new facility and the Mules were successful in their defense.

The Mules cranked up their stingy defense as well as their scoring in the first quarter. The Mules out scored the Indians 17-2 in the opening period and continued with double digit scoring in each quarter for a 70-39 win.

Nick Hurtado opened the Mule's scoring with a 3-pointer from the left wing. He added a second trey before the period ended and Tyson Turnbow dropped in three deuces for six points.

Cooper Washington made a bucket and a free throw and Isaias Guerra added a basket.

The Indians scored nine points in the second period but the Mules pumped in 21 points. Washington led the Mules with three buckets and Jonathan Perez hit a trey and basket for five points.

Beau Avila and Turnbow both made a free throw and a basket. Hurtado and Matthew Martinez made two



Photograph by Stacy Conner

Mule Tyson Turnbow prepares to shoot.

points each and the Mules led 38-11 at the half.

Morton had their first double digit quarter in the third period with 12 points but the Mules poured in 17.

Washington duplicated his three basket second quarter and Avila made a bucket and a trey.

Perez dropped in a pair from the charity line and Matthew Martinez made a basket.

The Mules led 55-23 with eight minutes left to play.

Morton had a strong

final period with 16 points. The Mules posted 15 points in the final frame.

Avila paced the Mules with a pair of baskets and four charity tosses. Washington had two buckets and Turnbow drained a 3-pointer.

Washington led the Mules with 19 points. Avila dropped in sixteen points and Turnbow added 14.

Hurtado recorded eight points and Perez made seven. Guerra and Martinez chipped in two points each.

The Mules entered the Abernathy Shootout Tournament on Dec. 10, and faced the Brownfield Cubs in the opening round. The Cubs have had the Mule's number for several seasons and Thursday was no different.

The Mule fell to the Cubs 56-45 with Hurtado leading the Mules in scoring with four 3-pointers and a pair of free throws for 14 points. Washington dropped in 11 points and Turnbow added seven points.

Avila made all six of his points in the first half and Ryan DeLeon made a 3-pointer and a bucket for five points. Perez chipped in two points.

The Mules took on Dimmitt Bobcats in the consolation bracket. The Mules pounded the Bobcats 65-45.

The Mules out scored the Bobcats 19-8 in the first period. Turnbow had the hot hand in the opening frame and dropped in four 3-pointers.

DeLeon added a trey and Hurtado made a pair of baskets.

Hurtado lit up the score board with a pair of treys and a bucket in the second quarter.

Perez made a basket and free throw and Washington and Martinez made a bucket each.

Hurtado, DeLeon and Turnbow each made a

trey in the third period. Turnbow added two baskets to go with his trey and Hurtado and DeLeon added a bucket each. Perez dropped in a single basket. The Mules had out scored Dimmitt 19-13 and led the Bobcats 53-30.

The Mule backed off in the final quarter and Dimmitt cut three points off the Mule lead. Martinez and Guerra both made 3-pointers in the final quarter. Turnbow made a basket and a pair of free throws and Washington chipped in a bucket.

Turnbow set the scoring pace with 23 points against Dimmitt. Hurtado dropped in 17 points and DeLeon added eight.

Martinez and Perez made five points each. Washington had four points and Guerra chipped in three.

The Mules lost the consolation game to Lamesa Saturday afternoon.

The Mules trailed by a single point after one quarter but only scored three points in the second

period and fell behind 31-13 at the half.

Lamesa held on in the second half for a 60-48 win.

Washington had three good quarters and led the Mules in scoring with 18 points. Turnbow dropped in two 3-pointers and 11 points. Guerra made all six of his points in the second half and Martinez had four, also in the second half.

DeLeon dropped in two free throws and Avila and Perez chipped in one point each.

The Mules traveled to Farwell Tuesday to play the Steers and return home December 18 to host the Portales Rams.

The Mules host the Highland Park Hornets December 21 before taking the five-day mandatory Christmas break.

The Mules will compete in the Littlefield Wildcat Tournament Dec. 28-30, and then open the New Year in the new gym with Estacado on Jan. 2.

The Lockney Longhorns will visit the Mules in the new gym on Jan. 5.

JV Mules 'explode' in game against Morton

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Mules exploded on the Morton Indians Tuesday night in the first quarter and pounded away at the Indians for two more quarters.

The Mules backed off a bit in the finally period but it was too late for the Indians to catch up.

The Mules dumped the Indians 62-33.

The Mules poured in 21 points in the opening period. Juan Guerrero dropped in six points in the opening period. Hector Flores dropped in two baskets and Mateo Castillo completed an

old-fashion three-point play.

Josh Stanford, Eric Orozco, Damien Snell and Saul Elizalde each added a basket as the Mules opened a 21-6 advantage over the Indians.

Orozco banged home a pair of buckets and two free throws for six points in the second quarter. Guerrero made three more baskets in the second period and Snell added two points.

The Mules out scored the Indians 14-4 to lead 35-10 at the half.

Orozco completed an old-fashion three-point play and two baskets for

seven points in the third period. Elizalde added a pair of buckets and Guerrero also completed an old-fashion three-point play.

Jr. Baca made a free throw and Flores added a bucket to help the Mules out score the Indian 17-8 and lead 52-18 going into the final quarter.

The Mules backed off some in the final frame. Flores made a pair of baskets and Castillo, Orozco and Elizalde added a bucket each.

Orozco set the scoring pace for the Mules with 17 points. Guerrero added 15 points and Flores

had 10. Elizalde made eight points, Castillo five and Snell four. Stanford dropped in two points and Baca chipped in one.

The Mules traveled to Farwell to meet the Steers Dec. 15 and will host the Portales Rams Dec. 21.

The Mules will take the Christmas break and be back in action on Jan. 5 when they host the Lockney Longhorns.

Freshmen Lady Mules fall to Dimmitt

The freshmen Lady Mules had opened a 14-8 lead at the intermission over the Dimmitt Bobbies but could not hold on in the second half.

Dimmitt held the Lady Mules to 17 in the second half while dropping in 27 points to take the win 35-31.

Linda Sanchez and Marissa Hernandez made a free throw each in the first quarter and the Lady Mules trailed 4-2. The Lady Mules exploded with 12 points in the second period and

held Dimmitt to four to take a 14-8 lead at the intermission.

Sanchez and Adrianna Guerra both dropped in a pair of baskets and Brady Castorena made a 3-pointer and a free throw for the Lady Mules 12 points. Sanchez, Sheridan White and Gisela Perez made a basket each in the third period and Guerra dropped in one free throw for the Lady Mules seven points in the third quarter.

Dimmitt had exploded for 15 points in the third

period to take a 23-20 lead over the Lady Mules.

Sanchez poured in three baskets in the final quarter and Megan Burris and White added a bucket each for the Lady Mules 10 points. Dimmitt scored 12 points to hang on for the win.

Sanchez led the Lady Mules with 13 points. Guerra added five points

Continued on page 8

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Big turn out at FUMC

The First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe reported a large turn out at its 11th annual appreciation dinner on Monday, Dec. 14. Area volunteers, residents from Park View Nursing Care Center, and individuals who have gone out of their way to make the Muleshoe

community a better place to be were treated to a meal of turkey, green beans, and Muleshoe Mayor Cliff Black's dressing, along with cranberry sauce and desert.

More than 430 people were served at this year's event.

Photograph by Larry Thornton

Freshmen Lady Mules...

Continued from page 7
The Lady Mules traveled and Castorena and White dropped in four points each. Perez and Burris made two points each and Hernandez chipped in one.

The Lady Mules traveled to Friona Monday night to face the Squaws.

The Lady Mules will take the Christmas break before returning on Jan. 11 to host Floydada.

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MULESHOE CATTLE MARKET

The Muleshoe Cattle Market is brought to you each week by Muleshoe Livestock Auction, located east of Muleshoe on U.S. 84. Muleshoe Livestock conducts sales every Saturday, beginning with hogs, sheep and goats at 10 a.m. and cattle following at approximately noon.

REPRESENTATIVE SALES - SAT., DECEMBER 12, 2009

1440 head of cattle, 131 hogs and 453 sheep and goats for a total of 2024 livestock. Market steady on stocker calves with fair demand. Bred Cows and Pairs steady, Packer Cows and Bulls 2-3 higher. Dec. 19th will be the last sale of the year NO SALES Dec. 26th or Jan. 2nd.

FOR INFO. ON SALES OR TO CONSIGN CATTLE - 272-4201

Seller, City	#	Type	Wt	CWT or PH
NM RANCH, NM	24	R & RWE STRS	298	\$125.50
NM RANCH, NM	16	R & RWE STRS	380	\$119.00
GUDELL CATTLE, LOGAN, NM	3	BLK STRS	375	\$116.00
RAMON MENDOZA, MULESHOE	6	CHAR STRS	380	\$111.00
NM RANCH, NM	5	BLK STRS	389	\$115.00
NM RANCH, NM	18	Mxd STRS	410	\$113.00
NM RANCH, NM	20	Mxd STRS	468	\$108.00
LARRY GOLDEN, ARKEN	3	BLK BULLS	455	\$97.00
DAN DAY, MEADOW	24	Mxd STRS	515	\$104.00
DAN DAY, MEADOW	37	Mxd STRS	578	\$96.75
DAN DAY, MEADOW	22	Mxd STRS	636	\$93.00
BK&J FARMS, LEVELLAND	19	BLK STRS	612	\$93.50
BK&J FARMS, LEVELLAND	14	BLK STRS	533	\$103.50
TODD WARE, BOVINA	2	BLK BULLS	533	\$94.00
TODD WARE, BOVINA	5	Mxd BULLS	621	\$86.00
MICHAEL CLARK, ROGERS, NM	6	BLK STRS	615	\$92.00
NM RANCH, NM	16	R & RWE STRS	330	\$107.50
FRANK LOEWEN, DENVER CITY	4	BLK HFRS	356	\$100.00
DAN DAY, MEADOW	12	BLK HFRS	417	\$90.00
DAN DAY, MEADOW	16	Mxd HFRS	493	\$87.50
LARRY GOLDEN, ARKEN	10	BLK HFRS	426	\$91.00
NM RANCH, NM	18	Mxd HFRS	491	\$90.00
NM RANCH, NM	30	Mxd HFRS	556	\$85.50
NM RANCH, NM	30	Mxd HFRS	660	\$81.50
LANNY BRINSON, BROWNFIELD	4	BLK PAIR		\$750.00
A&G RANCH, PLAINS	4	CHAR		\$720.00
A&G RANCH, PLAINS	4	BLK COWS		\$625.00
A&G RANCH, PLAINS	11	BLK COWS		\$600.00
A&G RANCH, PLAINS	5	RED COWS		\$580.00
OWEN YOUNG, LEVELLAND	5	RED COW		\$55.00
SEMINOLE FEEDERS, SEMINOLE	3	HOL COWS		\$53.50
SEMINOLE FEEDERS, SEMINOLE	3	HOL COWS		\$52.75
D.K. GABEL, SUDAN	2	BROWN COWS		\$51.00
BK&J FARMS, LEVELLAND	4	BLK COW		\$50.50
NM RANCH, NM	4	RWF COW		\$50.00
KIRK KIDD, HOBBS, NM	1	CHAR COW		\$48.00
KIRK KIDD, HOBBS, NM	1	CHAR BULL		\$62.75

Let's all help decorate each others'... ...homes for the holidays this year!

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2009 V6-N50

I have such a busy schedule for the holidays. This week I made little doughnuts and honey-covered puffs to take to my classmate's Hanukkah celebration. Next week, one of our teachers is going to tell us about the holiday season of Kwanzaa and some of his traditions. Then, I'm going to help Forest and Glade decorate their home with greens for Christmas. Chatter will bake cookies, breads and a Bûche de Noël - a delicious Christmas log cake...and I'll help! What are **you** and your family doing to celebrate the holidays?

Read these clues about December holidays and how families are celebrating them. Fill in the puzzle:

1. Festival of Lights, an 8-day Jewish holiday, honoring the Maccabees' victory over their enemies and the miracle of a small amount of oil that kept burning for 8 days in their temple.
2. Jewish families find candles and use this to arrange them.
3. Families find their recipes for sugared jelly doughnuts, honey-covered puffs and these delicious potato pancakes.
4. Celebrated in Mexico for nine days before Christmas. People act out the journey of Joseph and Mary trying to find shelter before the birth of their baby, Jesus.
5. Families make these special treats from a corn dough and a spicy pork or beef filling, all wrapped in corn husks for cooking.
6. Families set up these scenes in their homes: a stable for shelter, the figure of the Christ child in the center with father Joseph and mother Mary looking on, three kings (the Magi), angels, shepherds and townspeople, some animals.
7. Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus.
8. Comes on Christmas Eve to deliver gifts to good children; fills their stockings too!
9. Families _____ their houses, mantels and halls with lights, greens and a tree.
10. A 7-day festival celebrated by African-Americans; a time to think about their lives and families; how they can help to create strong communities.
11. People decorate, set a nice table for a dinner, light _____ and give gifts.
12. Families make peanut soup, sweet potatoes, rice or chicken dishes for a delicious _____

Holiday Fun and Feasts

Hanukkah decorate candles Santa Claus

I'm writing to Santa Claus. I've been very good this year. I'm sending a list of things I would like for Christmas. You don't think it's too long, do you?

Dear Santa, I've been good all year long!

I'm soooo tired from decorating!

Our Free Printable Puzzle is ready for your family on our website: www.readingclubfun.com
Join our free international reading club to help keep your kids reading.

Favorite Family Films and Fun!

It's that time of year when there are so many choices for family holiday fun and entertainment: movies, plays, television shows, cartoons, books, poetry, stories, and music. Here is a list of some family favorites. Match each title to its description:

1. **Lights: The Miracle of Chanukah**
2. **Just Enough is Plenty**
3. **The Legend of the Poinsettia**
4. **Miracle on 34th Street**
5. **The Nutcracker Ballet**
6. **A Charlie Brown Christmas**
7. **A Christmas Story**
8. **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer**
9. **'Twas the Night Before Christmas**
10. **It's Kwanzaa Time!**

- A. folktale by Tomie dePaola about a girl in Mexico and how her humble gift for the Baby Jesus turns into beautiful poinsettias
- B. dance and musical performance based on a storybook; the music was written by a famous composer named Tchaikovsky; first shown in Russia
- C. money is tight for the family in this Hanukkah tale; but when a stranger comes to the door, the family shares what little they have with him
- D. movie that makes everyone want to write to Santa Claus
- E. cartoon that shows the story of Hanukkah (Chanukah) and the traditions that families have for this holiday
- F. story made into a song; it is about a reindeer whose bright, shining red nose helps Santa find his way through bad weather to deliver gifts
- G. television special based on the comic strip *Peanuts*; Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and other characters talk about the meaning of Christmas
- H. poem by Clement Clarke Moore describing Santa Claus' trip to deliver gifts; "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"
- I. movie about 9-year-old Ralphie who can only think about the "official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot range model air rifle..." that he wants Santa to bring him for Christmas
- J. book by Linda and Clay Goss full of stories, songs, recipes, games and crafts to celebrate Kwanzaa

A Musical Note!

Holiday Pops! A concert of beautiful pieces of music like *The Nutcracker Suite* played at the holiday time. Fun and sparkly musical pieces like *Oh, Chanukah, Oh, Chanukah!* or *Jingle Bells* will be enjoyed by the audience.

Color Key:
B = blue
G = gold (or yellow)

If you can hear the musical, magical sounds of the holidays in person, you may be at the

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Sharing another word from my little brother

As you may remember, I wrote sometime ago about my younger brother letting me bear the whole burden for a wrongdoing that we were both guilty.

I now want to write something about his military experience in Korea.

But first I feel I must mention a similar experience related by a friend. Apparently he had, as I had done, a wrong of some kind.

His mother intended to give him a whipping for it. This is the first and only time I ever heard of it, but it seems that she told him to "go get a switch for me to whip you."

So he went out and brought in a large club like "switch." His mother was so surprised that she got tickled and started

laughing. Being tickled at that moment meant that she could not go ahead with the whipping.

The man did not tell me why he chose a "big switch" for a whipping, but I am sure he was pleased with the final outcome.

In regard to my brother's military experience, it took place about the time Gen. Douglas McArthur was relieved of his command in that theatre of war.

I knew he did not want to go and he felt bad about it, but having been drafted he had no choice. So he just made the best of it. And it apparently was not nearly as bad as he had pictured it.

For after he came home he liked to talk about it. At least he talked with me quite a lot about it.

One thing he said was

Something worth saying...
By Glen Williams

how he formed a genuine friendship with a little boy.

He said it was so real that he would have brought him home with him if the military authorities had permitted it.

Another thing he said was how he saw, not hundreds, but thousands of 13 and 14-year-old boys "carrying more on their heads that you can lift."

And that, I would remind you, was some 50 or 60 years ago when I was more near the prime of my life that is so today.

But the thing that seemed to interest him

most was their lifestyle. It was one of necessity, not of choice. For he said he sprayed houses to rid them of insects and rodents of different kinds. He sprayed, not hundreds, but thousands of houses and he never saw a bed or a table or a chair in even one of them.

He said there was no system to the way their houses were located in the little villages or community centers-no alleys, no streets, neither one.

The little houses or shacks were just set in whatever way they would work the best.

He told how the children

attended whatever kind of school might be in their village.

And the man of the house would get up before daylight, eat a breakfast of rice and maybe a little other stuff, get on his water buffalo, go to his field, work through the day, and come in about dark.

He would sit down on the floor of the shack in which they all "lived," eat supper with chopsticks, roll over in a blanket, sleep through the night, get on his old water buffalo, go to the field and work all day the next day.

Apparently they followed that routine day after day all year.

If I remember correctly, Scott said that other than their military and schooling they had virtually no social or

community activities. At least he never saw any that called for community activities or called for community betterments.

And now, I deeply regret being unable to continue these writings the past several weeks, but we hope now to continue them as our understanding of life and it's values.

I do appreciate the encouragement and favorable remarks we have received and I assure you that your comments will always be welcome.

Thus I hope to continue, not with the re-working of these writings only, but with the re-making of our lives.

And may the richest and best of God's blessing be with you is our prayer.



The Sudan Buzz

Buzzing away...

By Norma Burnett



The Harrison family rolled into town or I should say, "they pedaled into town" Wednesday afternoon on their tandem bicycle, Bill, Amarins, Cheyenne, Jasmine and Robin. The weather was below freezing so they stopped in the Food Jet grocery store to get a few groceries.

Amarins and the children stayed in the store while Bill went across the street to the Sudan Church of Christ. As luck would have it, the pastor Terry Wilson was at the church. He invited them to stay at the church that night to get in out of the below freezing weather.

Bill and his family left Mt. Vernon, Ky., on Saturday, Aug. 1, with about \$300 in their pockets, on a 7,000 mile journey across the United States.

They hope to arrive in Fairbanks, Alaska, in the summer of 2010, and hope to discover the way Alaskans live and they will be enriching their lives with new traditions and customs of the Alaskans.

By the spring of 2011 the Harrison's will make the decision about their travels back across Canada and back to the east coast of the United States.

In talking with Bill Harrison he says that they are talking with people about living simple, living their dreams and just being a family. He also says that they want to see America before it is gone and before we lose all of our freedoms.

Bill says that they are pulling over 730 pounds of weight. This includes the weight of the bike, trailer and their weight.

Bill says that they are making it across the United States through the generosity of the people and they could not say enough about how generous The Sudan Church of Christ was to them the night they stayed in Sudan.

Buzz-A-Licious" Recipes

Dessert Pizza

1 large or, 2 small Boboli™ Pizza Crust
1 can fruit pie filling (cherry is the best)
1 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese
1 cup powdered sugar
1 cup oats (uncooked)
1 cup brown sugar
1 stick butter or margarine
Mix cream cheese and powdered sugar together till smooth. Spread over crust. Spread pie filling over cheese. Mix together oats, brown sugar and butter together till crumbly. Sprinkle mixture over pie filling. Place crust on cookie sheet and place in 400 degree oven and bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until topping is brown and bubbly. Let set and cool for 10 minutes before cutting.

Sudan 'one act' cast places in UIL district competition

Sudan Junior High One Act Play cast performed "The Devi and Daniel Webster" at UIL Dist. 5A competition.

The following students received awards: Luke Tiller, Best Actor; Dex Baker, All Star Cast; Jared Shaw, All Star Cast; Madi Edwards, Honorable Mention; and Adam Martin, Honorable mention All Star Cast.

Other members of the cast include Ty Shaw, Kort Hill, Isiah Conley,

Joel Andrade, Jake Shaw, Madsion Chester, Alondra Ramirez, Kenda Soles, Vanessa Aguilar, Sydney Goen.

The crew includes Allison Black, Deric McCurray, Jessica Barrett, Reece Harper, Fabian Pallares.

Alternates were Gabriel Zamora, Katee Gonzales.

The directors were Anetta Gaassch, Jonathan Robertson and Leslie Shaw.

"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

Proverbs 3:9-10, NIV



Night of the Nativity

Everyone is invited to come to the First Baptist Church on Thursday, Dec. 24, at 6 p.m., for a special Christmas Eve service, celebrating the "Reason for the Season."

Sudan Senior Citizens

There will not be a meeting of the Sudan Senior Citizens this month. The next meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 25, at 6 p.m., at the Sudan Senior Citizens Center.

Christmas open house set

The First United Bank of Sudan will host its annual Christmas Open House on Thursday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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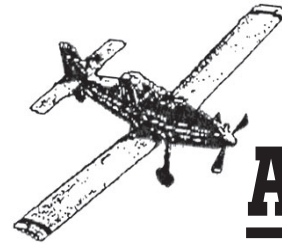
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Bethlehem is about what God has done and still does

The glory of Christmas is that it centers on something only God could have done.

No committee could ever have come up with Bethlehem. While God was busy saving the world, they'd have still been arguing over the shape of the table or the wording of the mission statement or fussing about regulations regarding sheep droppings and the environment or the perplexing problem of camel emissions.

No pow-wow of politicians, be they Democrats, Republicans, Conservatives, Liberals, Whigs, Tories, Labor, Green, Independent, Mean, Dumb, or Dull, or any combination thereof, could ever have drafted legislation to dispatch the right angel to the right virgin and send the



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

right Baby.

What politicians were on the scene fouled up royally. Herod was being Herod, which means being murderous. While heaven was sending angels to glorify God, Caesar was sending bureaucrats to glorify government with its usual answer to every problem — longer lines and higher taxes.

No covey of theologians could ever have written enough books about the problem of sin and the nature of deity to have given any of us a clue as to how the God of the universe would choose to break in and save the

world from sin.

No, what God did was something that only God could do. And that's the glory of Christmas. It's not about what we could do.

It's completely about what God did. And, though through the prophets, God had sent some tantalizing hints long before the birth at Bethlehem, what God did and how he did it was a complete surprise.

The amazing thing about Christmas continues to be that every time we celebrate the Grand Event, God still surprises us in the midst of the great blessing with a whole host of smaller ones.

When I strung the Christmas lights to spread a little holiday cheer even out in my shed, I didn't know that

a sweet granddaughter would go to sleep one evening out there on my lap after pointing her little finger upward and pronouncing one of her first little words in sleepy wonder, "Lights!" — and light up her PawPaw's heart.

When at church we planned and rehearsed a little Christmas pageant with the angels and Mary and Joseph, the

shepherds and the wise men, we didn't know how completely and sweetly the flock of two-year-old sheep would steal the show by defying even the best shepherd's attempts at corralling them. But they warmed a church's heart.

You can't program and plan joy. When it comes in its purest and most beautiful form, it's always a glorious

surprise, and God is always the One behind it.

And maybe that's one of the deepest truths behind everything wonderful that God did at Bethlehem and the most important things he still does in our lives.

If God lives in our hearts, Bethlehem's Child is born there each day, surprising us yet again with His Joy.

DeShazo Elementary receives math award

Muleshoe ISD was notified this past week that DeShazo Elementary earned a prestigious award from the National Center for Educational Achievement.

DeShazo Elementary was named as one of the 2009 "Just for the Kids" Higher Performing Schools in Texas for Mathematics. As a result, DeShazo's faculty has been asked to share insights with NCEA researchers regarding the practices that have made it successful.

DeShazo Elementary uses a math curriculum called "Math that Works," by Michael Eaton. The curriculum engages students in each math lesson beginning with the use of correct math vocabulary. Vocabulary is taught using full body motions. Math skills are reinforced daily with chants, songs, and hands on activities.

Students who experience difficulty are

given multiple learning opportunities before, during and after school hours. "Our teachers work together as a team, and they are determined to accept nothing less than each student's best," said DeShazo principal Debbie Gallman.

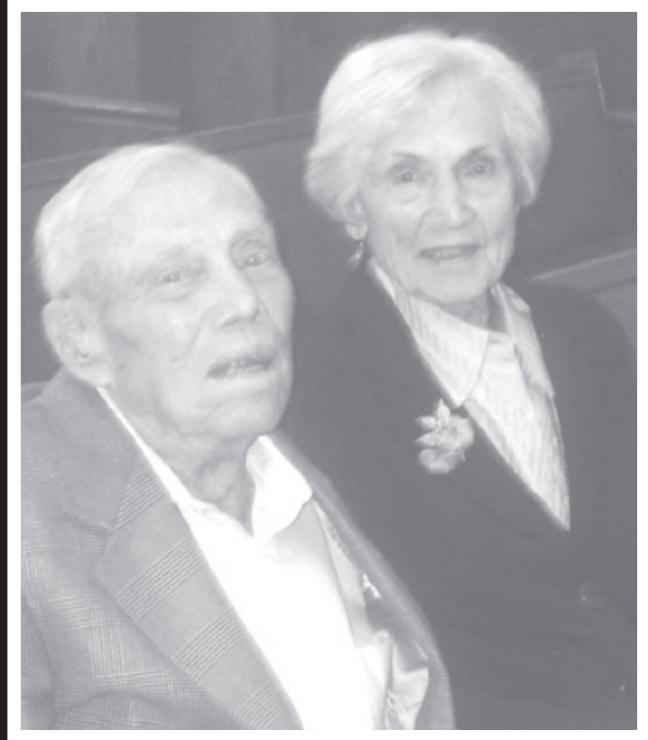
Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets said, "We are very excited that DeShazo Elementary has been recognized for its success in mathematics. We are very proud to have Mrs. Gallman as our principal and these outstanding teachers at DeShazo Elementary working with our children. All of our teachers in Muleshoe ISD are dedicated to doing everything they possibly can to help every child in Muleshoe reach his or her potential."

The National Center for Educational Achievement will host an award ceremony in January in Austin to present awards to those schools included in NCEA's Just for the

Kids Higher Performing Schools Campaign.

Included in the awards ceremony will be keynote speakers, presentations, and panels discussing the importance of College and Career Readiness for all Texas students. Scheduled keynote speakers include Sen. Florence Shapiro, Rep. Rob Eissler, and Rep. Diane Patrick.

NCEA will release its full list of "Just for the Kids" Higher Performing Schools in Texas on its Web site, "www.nc4ea.org," in January, to coincide with the events in Austin.



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We invite you to join in the celebration of the 70th Wedding Anniversary of Eugene & Mildred Redwine Sunday, December 20, 2009 2:00 – 4:00 pm Muleshoe First Baptist Church Your presence is their gift!

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LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICE

MULESHOE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

	General Fund	Five Area Community Telecommunication	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:						
5700 Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 3,279,417	\$ 44,042	\$ 810,421	\$ 358,965	\$ 184,521	\$ 4,657,366
5800 State Program Revenues	8,507,216	--	725,840	--	301,462	9,534,518
5900 Federal Program Revenues	92,875	--	--	--	2,170,040	2,252,915
5020 Total Revenues	11,869,508	44,042	1,536,261	358,965	2,636,023	16,444,799
EXPENDITURES:						
Current:						
0011 Instruction	6,441,865	44,042	--	--	1,435,034	7,920,941
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	232,861	--	--	--	232,861	232,861
0013 Curriculum and Staff Development	46,736	--	--	73,830	--	120,566
0021 Instructional Leadership	219,968	--	--	114,608	--	334,576
0023 School Leadership	716,800	--	--	4,320	--	721,120
0031 Guidance, Counseling, & Evaluation Service	253,682	--	--	49,073	--	302,755
0032 Social Work Services	--	--	--	57,825	--	57,825
0033 Health Services	137,748	--	--	5,299	--	143,047
0034 Student Transportation	429,949	--	--	--	--	429,949
0035 Food Service	21	--	--	850,732	--	850,753
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	594,508	--	--	--	--	594,508
0041 General Administration	481,839	--	--	4,399	--	486,238
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	1,219,323	--	--	--	--	1,219,323
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	8,322	--	--	--	--	8,322
0053 Data Processing Services	30,800	--	--	--	--	30,800
0061 Community Services	1,053	--	--	10,634	--	11,687
0071 Principal on Long-term Debt	--	--	575,000	--	--	575,000
0072 Interest on Long-term Debt	--	--	1,041,339	--	--	1,041,339
0073 Bond Issuance Costs and Fees	--	--	365	84,898	--	85,263
0081 Capital Outlay	344,804	--	--	10,598,683	--	10,943,487
0093 Payments to Shared Service Arrangements	154,406	--	--	--	--	154,406
0095 Payments to Juvenile Justice Alternative	--	--	--	--	--	--
0095 Education Programs	2,601	--	--	--	--	2,601
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	85,575	--	--	--	--	85,575
6030 Total Expenditures	11,402,861	44,042	1,616,704	10,883,561	2,805,754	26,352,742
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	466,647	--	(80,443)	(10,324,616)	30,269	(9,907,943)
Other Financing Sources and (Uses):						
7911 Capital-Related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)	--	--	--	3,000,000	--	3,000,000
7912 Sale of Real or Personal Property	150,000	--	--	--	--	150,000
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	--	--	--	84,898	--	84,898
7080 Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	150,000	--	--	3,084,898	--	3,234,898
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	616,847	--	(80,443)	(7,239,716)	30,269	(6,673,045)
0100 Fund Balances - Beginning	10,504,713	--	513,957	16,063,727	96,300	27,178,697
3000 Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 11,121,560	\$ --	\$ 433,514	\$ 8,824,009	\$ 126,569	\$ 20,505,652

Published in the Muleshoe Journal December 17, 2009.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S) Dist/Div: San Antonio Contract 6203-72-001 for GUARDRAIL REPAIR in KENDALL County, etc will be opened on January 05, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$519,322.50 Dist/Div: Wichita Falls Contract 6205-63-001 for ROW MOWING in MONTAGUE County, etc will be opened on January 22, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the district Office for an estimate of \$96,862.00. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract (s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 31565 State Office

Const./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office (s) San Antonio District Engineer 4615 NW Loop 410 San Antonio, Texas 78229-0928 Phone: 210-615-1110 Wichita Falls District Engineer 1601 Southwest Pkwy Wichita Falls, Texas 76302-4906 Phone: 940-720-7700 Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. *Published in the Muleshoe Journal December 10, 2009 and December 17, 2009.*

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experience wanted. Must speak English. Call Jimmy Wedel @ 806-272-5901. **BOOKKEEPER, PAYROLL/PAY RECEIVER.** Attractive salary plus benefits, and takes little of your time. Requirements: computer literate, NO age discrimination, must be efficient and dedicated. Contact derekmro65@gmail.com. Three temp positions: Farm work general, 12/24/09 to 04/30/10 @ 12.76 p/hr. Housing provided, 48 hrs p/wk guarantee, and transportation and subsistence expenses to worksite paid after 50% completion of contract. Tools, equipment provided at no cost. Min. 3 months experience. Duties: Maintenance and repair of equipment, Hauling of Grain to town, Hauling fertilizer to farm, 3 months exp, basic literacy and math skills required. Bendickson Farms, Garrison, ND. Apply at ND Job Service job listing # 206179.

HELP WANTED Lamb Healthcare Center is accepting applications for a night LVN. Apply at 1500 S. Sunset, Littlefield. For more information call 806-385-6411 ext. 214. LHC is an EEOC employer.

@ \$10.00 p/hr (or AEWR if higher). Free housing, 48 hrs p/ wk. 3/4 guarantee, transportation and subsistence expenses to worksite paid after 50% completion of contract. Tools, equipment provided at no cost. Tasks: attend, feed, medicate, clean, herd, care for livestock, read and speak sufficient English. Work in adverse weather. Meridian Grain, Freeman, SD. Apply at local SWA office refer Job Order # SD1471992.

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Micro fiber sofa, recliner, & coffee table. Although BRAND NEW I must sell ASAP. Solid wood frame made in the USA. Mfg. Warr. \$500. 806-549-3110.

Contouring mattress, BRAND NEW memory foam set, relieves aches, wrapped in plastic with original tags. Compare to Tempurmedic \$450. 806-438-0081.

Contemporary 5- pc bedroom set, with nice double dresser, mirror, nightstand, brand new, selling fast, \$490. 806-549-3110.

BRAND NAME queen pillow top mattress and foundation, plastic wrapped!!! Holiday guests? \$145. Adjustable metal frame, \$45. 806-438-0081.

Two mattress sets for sale. One full size set \$120. One twin size set \$100. -Both brand new. 806-549-3110.

BRAND NEW king size mattress set, pillow top comfort, in factory plastic, only \$260. Pillow set \$10. 806-549-3110.

John Deere Tractor 4010, 6 row breaking plow, 5 foot blade, 15 foot tandem disk, 4 foot haimie. Call 272-4153 or 272-4826.

1988 Olds. Cutlass Supreme. Runs good. \$900, OBO. 946-6593 or 272-3784.

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

Nice brick home in Lazbuddie area. 3400 sq. ft. 3-2-2 on 8 acres. Lots of updates. 806-946-7442.

HOUSE FOR RENT

1021A W. 3rd St., Muleshoe, 2 Bdr, 1 Bath Mobile Home, fireplace, cent H/A. \$450/mo w/\$200 deposit. 806-283-7069.

BABYSITTING SERVICES Childcare Safe Reliable in Home Setting! Daily planned activities and outside play! Less than comparable rates! Ref. Avail! In Muleshoe! Call 575-749-2369.

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FOR SALE HOT TUB SPA-2010 Model, -BRAND NEW-seats 5, lounge, ozone, cover, child locks, sells for \$6980., sacrifice \$2600. Great for achy joints. Must sell this week! 806-535-0835.

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REAL ESTATE

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Courtyard REAL ESTATE ERA

41/2 two story country home with unique appeal - 1972 sq. ft. living area 5 M. SW of Sudan on FM 298. New stucco on exterior, central heat and air (electric) with formal dining room den, living room, laundry room along with 2 room unfinished basement (not included as living area). Large front and back yard with established trees. Unattached garage with extra room that could be used for game room, apt. or storage. Priced at \$110,000. Monty Edwards, Agent (806) 786-5426

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Crista Bass 806-946-7261 Sales Associate

Carleton Johnson 806-789-4289 Sales Associate

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Vic Coker Land Co. Agricultural Real Estate

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Lamb County

North of Earth - 320 acres on pavement, 2 sprinklers, 6 wells, good direct payment.

Northwest of Earth - 160 acres, excellent soil, lays good, 3 wells, center pivot, good set of pens.

Pleasant Valley Area SOLD 285 acres, one center pivot, 3 wells, excellent soil, lays good.

320 Acres Near Earth - 2 sprinklers, 5 wells all tied together lays perfect, excellent soil, good fertility.

Parmer County

Lazbuddie - 108 acres with 2 irrigation wells, with or without sprinkler, good soil, lays good.

Rural Residential

Lamb County - Springlake area, 2650 sq ft on approx. 4 acres, brick, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, good cellar, 30x70 barn, lots of trees.

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- VERY NICE 4-4-2 Brick Home on corner lot, approx. 3500' lvg. area, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, auto. splkr., large finished basement!! MUCH MORE!! PRICE REDUCED \$249K \$225K!!
- NICE 2-1-3 carport Home, carpet, tile, fans, fenced yd., storage bldg. MORE!! \$45K!!
- 2 NICELY REMODELED DUPLEX UNITS & 1 NEW Duplex unit!! PRICED TO SELL!!
- NICELY REMODELED 3-2-2 Brick, new Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, 3125' lvg. area, splkr. sys., fenced yard, MORE!! REDUCED \$200K
- NICE 3-2-1 Brick Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, office, auto. splkr., fenced yd., garage/workshop/storage bldg. in back yd.!! \$H7,000 PRICE REDUCED \$110,000.00!!
- 4 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 2 car garage, geothermal (cent. A&H), built-ins, FP, approx. 5100', loads of storage, workshop/storage, RV port, auto. splkr., REDUCED TO \$185K!!
- 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 car garage, Cent. A&H, built-ins, basement, fenced yard!! \$79,900!! PRICE REDUCED \$74,900!!
- VERY NICE 3-1 3/2-2 Brick home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fireplace, thermal windows & doors, metal trim, workshop/storage, fenced yd., MUCH MORE!! \$139,500!!

RURAL

- VERY NICE 4-3 doublewide (2006) on 7.38 acres, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, fenced yd., 25' x 40' Metal Bldg. septic system, domestic well, on pavement close to town!! \$152K \$130K!!
- Nice 3-2 Home at edge of town on .8 acre tract, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, efficiency apt. or guest cottage, horse barn & corral!! PRICE REDUCED!! \$82,500
- NICE 4.8 acre homesites, close to town, deed restricted!! \$17,500!!
- NICE 3-2-5 carport Home on 2 acres, Cent. heat, Cent. evap. air, built-ins, fireplace, fans, utility, cellar, large shop, stor. bldg., MORE!! PRICE REDUCED \$109,500!!
- CLAY'S CORNER - VERY NICE 3-2 3/4-2 Home on 5 acres, approx. 2500' lvg. area, remodeled, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, whirlpool tub, fenced yard, 600' workshop/storage!! \$185K!!
- Nice 3-1 Home, on 1.99 ac. tract, an approx. 1000' basement, an approx. 29' x 60' shop/storage, and a 28' x 29' shop/storage building with attached shed!! NICE TREES!! \$89,000!!

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- NICE commercial bldg./approx. 3300' plus 1040' upstairs, Cent. A&H, 2 restrooms, MORE!! \$39,500!!
- NICE OFFICE/SHOP/WAREHOUSE on .7 acre on N. Hwy. 214, Cent. A&H, insulated shop & warehouse, has 1-3/4 bath & 1-1/2 bath!! MUCH MORE!! PRICED TO SELL!! \$85K!!
- 1900' Off. Bldg., 106' x 140' lot on Hwy. 70 and 84!! \$79.5K!! PRICE REDUCED \$62K!!
- VERY NICE CHURCH BLDG. WITH PARSONAGE - Possible Owner Finance!! Price Reduced!!
- GOOD INCOME PROPERTY-LONG TERM LEASE-Approx. 8,075' office bldg. w/ approx. 20,000' paved parking area!! PRICE REDUCED \$350K.
- 4.2 acre tract at edge of town, 40' x 60' metal insulated bldg., 2 other sheet iron bldgs., chainlink fenced area, numerous uses!! \$59K!!
- FORMER RICHLAND HILLS TEXACO - 1414' Bldg. + 1080' ranch + 16,530' asphalt paving!!
- Approx. 1080' metal building including an office and 3 bay garage/workshop area plus chain link fenced area!! \$39,500!!

HIGH SCHOOL AREA

- VERY NICE 3-2-2 Brick home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, approx. 2336' lvg. area, auto. splkr, fenced yd, MORE!! \$125K!!
- 3-1 3/4-2 w/workshop, wall furnace heat, window refig, plus efficiency apt, storage bldg, fenced yard, corner lot. \$77,000!!
- 2-1-1 car detached garage, Cent. A&H, built-ins, nice carpet, den, MORE!! \$49,500
- VERY NICE 3-3-2 CARPORT Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fireplace, approx. 2653' living area, covered deck & patio, workshop/storage, cellar!! Auto.splkr. (front yd.) \$140,000!!
- VERY NICE 3-1 Brick, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fans, enclosed garage, 2nd floor apt., fenced yard, workshop/storage!! \$72,000!!

Park View... Continued from page 1

building to MAHD, clearing away an obstacle in the expansion of the district's rural health clinic.

In other business, the hospital district's board approved the budget for calendar year 2010. A few months ago, the board approved a budget for the district's FY2009-2010 budget, but with the recent approval of the district's change from the fiscal year to the calendar year, a new budget had to be prepared and approved.

The new budget includes additional expected revenues from the nearly completed behavioral unit — the primary driving force behind the district's need to change its accounting year, and the proposed addition of a wound care unit, beginning in February.

According to MAHD CEO Jason Anglin, the additional services at Muleshoe Area Memorial Hospital are expected to increase the revenue by about \$4 million. He also

noted that the behavioral unit would require about 17 additional full time employees.

And while Anglin said the new budget includes three percent merit raises for the district's employees, MAHD chief financial officer David Burke expressed concerns about the cost of the merit raises when asked about the new budget by one of the board members.

Still, when the board turned to discussing the meeting's next agenda item, the district's financial report, Burke expressed a bit of relief in the district's financial condition.

He said the hospital paid \$90,000 in bills earlier that day, something he said hadn't happened in a long time. Burke also said it has been a long time since he'd had to deal with a vendor seeking payment on a past due account.

Referring to the hospital, Burke said, "I consider us financially sound at this time."

"Right now, everything

is looking good," he added.

According to Burke's report, the cash balance for the district, as of Oct. 31, was \$544,576.18, and the net accounts receivable for the hospital had increased by about \$80,000, when comparing September's figures to October's, and about \$27,000 at Park View.

The district's tax collections are also up by \$56,584.65.

While the financial condition of the nursing home is still a concern, with the October year-to-date revenue down from the budgeted amount by \$36,606.36, in his report to the district board interim administrator Kent Emmele reminded the board members, "We've got a really good nursing home."

Emmele admitted the home's census needs to increase, an ongoing problem with Park View, but noted that a recent new resident had been received because of the dialysis unit located at the nursing home.

Annual depth-to-water measurements...

Continued from page 4 previous year to determine the annual change in water levels in the Ogallala aquifer within the district.

Maps showing the location and well number of the observation wells in each county or portion of a county served by the water district are published each year in the district's newsletter,

The Cross Section.

The water level issue contains tables listing observation wells in each county within the district and the average and annual change in water levels for one-year, five-year, and 10-year intervals.

Additional information about the observation well program and annual depth-to-water

level measurements is available by contacting the High Plains Underground Water Conservation Dist. No. 1 at (806) 762-0181 or by visiting the district's web site at www.hpwd.com.

Persons wishing to receive The Cross Section newsletter can contact the district to have their names added to the mailing list.

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CHINET PAPER PLATTER 12 CT. PKG.	\$2.99

Combo Meals

#1 BACON/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE	\$2.09
#2 SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE	\$2.09
#3 BBQ SANDWICH & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.09
#4 HOMESTYLE POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.79
#5 SPICY POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.79
#6 3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69
#7 2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.59
#8 2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69
#9 CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.49
#10 2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69