

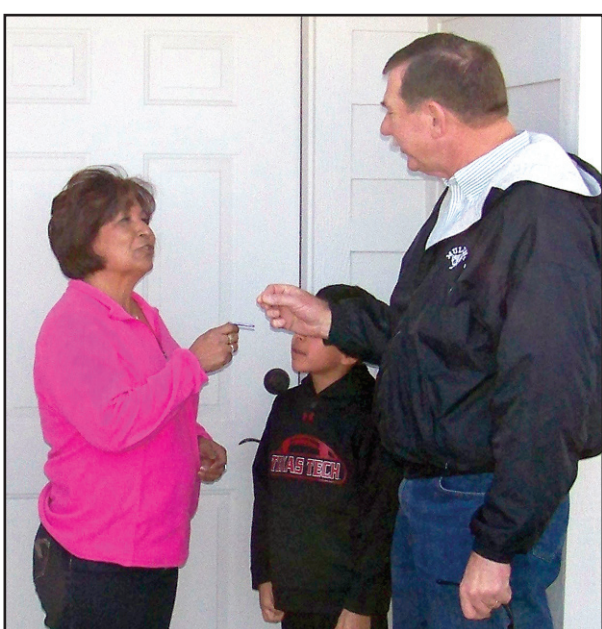
Muleshoe Journal

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Volume 93, No. 5 www.muleshojournal.com Muleshoe, Texas February 2, 2012

Late Christmas For Local Residents



Tina Costilla on the left

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Christmas came a month late for some of Muleshoe's longtime residents who were presented with the keys to their new residences Friday, Jan. 27.

The homes, which were part of a federally-funded housing rehabilitation program, are the second such set awarded by the City of Muleshoe, the first being in December 2009.

Measuring slightly more than 1,000 square feet, the residences replace structures that needed to be completely torn down because of their state of disrepair.

At Friday's ceremony, Mayor Cliff Black and City Manager David Brunson presented keys to the house recipients, welcoming them to their new homes with a bit of the fanfare of various network television shows.

"This is where it gets

exciting," said Karen Allison, West Texas Grant Consultant project grant administrator, at Muleshoe City Hall, where the recipients — Tina Costilla, Emilio "Pee Wee" Estrada, Florenico and Margarita Martinez, and Lupe Anguiano, completed the paperwork required in the program, prior to moving to the individual residents for the key presentations and tours.

At the new home

of Tina Costilla, she was greeted by her grandson, who received the honor of actually opening the front door.

As part of the day's ceremonies, Denise Esparaza, one of the city employees that worked with the project, presented the recipients with a bouquet.

"Oh, my gosh... it's beautiful," Costilla said about the new

Continued on A3



Emilio Estrada on the left



Margarita Martinez on the right



Lupe Anguiano on the right

'New Beginning' Not So Easy At MAHD Meeting

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

The Muleshoe Area Hospital District Board of Directors' president welcomed those attending Thursday's regular meeting stating it was "a new board, a new year and a new beginning," and encouraged the other board members to look forward rather than back at previous contention.

However, such wasn't



to be the case as board member Bill Liles and administrative staff member butted heads over such things as the balance sheet's listing for the current earnings

for Park View Nursing Care Center, and the use of temporary staffing.

Liles was comparing the positive earnings from the end of last fiscal year, as of Sept.

30, with the negative balance of \$169, 886.93, as of Dec. 31.

"We're getting where we need to be," said Shanna Laughton, Park View's administrator, noting that Rapid Temp's services should no longer be needed after mid-February.

"We're feeling pretty good about what we're doing over there," Laughton said, pointing out that six months earlier she had

several "bedmakers," whereas now — with CNA classes that have been held locally, she has properly trained CNAs.

"Things are getting where they should be." As for the nursing home's financial condition, MAHD CEO David Burke reminded the board that when he took over as CEO he'd noted that it would probably take three years to get the district's

finances, including the nursing home, on track.

"Shanna and I know exactly where we stand," Burke said. "We are fixing the problems."

Laughton also spoke of a recent Medicare audit held at Park View over charges filed in 2008-09, and how according to information she'd received from the auditor the submitted documentation had

Continued on A3

Muleshoe Area Drivers To Face Lengthy Road Construction

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Area drivers traveling through Muleshoe in upcoming months will be encountering road construction according to Lehman Jacobs, Texas Department of Transportation maintenance section supervisor for Bailey County.

At the Jan. 12 meeting of the Bailey County Commissioners' Court, Jacobs had briefly mentioned upcoming TxDot plans that were to begin in the Muleshoe area starting in April. Specifically, two

projects totaling \$21.524 have been set for 2012, with the first — a \$6.024 million rehabilitation of Hwy. 84 (American Blvd.), including the construction

of sidewalks and wheelchair ramps, set to begin in April.

According to Jacobs, the road construction project, which will extend from Uvalde Street — adjacent to

the Bailey County Coliseum, to Ithaca Street on the east end of Muleshoe, and is expected to take about 14 months to complete.

Jacobs said the work is currently planned in two phases, with traffic being moved to the inner lanes and reconstruction work on the outer lanes taking place first.

In the second phase of the project, the outer lanes on American Blvd. will be opened for traffic, and work will begin on the street's inner lanes.

According to Jacobs

the company that will be handling the reconstruction will do its best not to impact local businesses located on American Blvd.

The second Muleshoe area project, scheduled to be let in December 2012, will take place on Hwy. 70, from Muleshoe to the Lamb County line.

The cost of the state's rehabilitation of the 7.95 stretch of highway stretching east from Muleshoe is estimated at \$15.5 million, with the actual work taking place sometime after December 2012.

**14 months...
beginning
in April**

Powerlifters Compete In Largest Meet

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Muleshoe Powerlifting team participated in their largest meet to date in Levelland this past Saturday.

Seven platforms were in action during the meet and the young Mules performed well according to their coach.

Coach Kirk Byrd said after the meet, "All the boys improved on each lift and increased their totals. They did a great job and are working hard to improve at every meet."

Noah Del Toro lifted in the 123 pound class and squatted 195 pounds, bench pressed 115 pounds and dead lifted 250 pounds. He placed ninth overall.

Tyler Strader placed seventh overall by competing in the 132 pound class. He had a squat lift of 225 pounds, benched 105 pounds and dead lifted 245 pounds.

In the 198 pounds class, John Styles placed 19th overall. He squatted 240 pounds, benched 150 pounds and had a

Continued on B4

OPINION

Around Muleshoe...



Announcements from non-profit organizations in the Muleshoe area.

To post an announcement send an email to editor@muleshoejournal.com

Southern Plains Conference

The 23rd annual Southern Plains Conference is set for Feb. 8-9, at the Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge, located on Hwy 214, south of Muleshoe, and the Bailey County Coliseum, on West American Blvd., in Muleshoe.

Calvary Baptist Cookies

Calvary Baptist Church of Muleshoe is taking orders for its annual Valentine cookie fund raiser until Friday, Feb. 10. Prices range from \$6-8.

Deliveries will be made Feb. 13-14. Call Ann at 272-5914, Delores at 946-9078 or Renee 806-238-2169 for further information or to place an order.

SPC Muleshoe Registration

South Plains College's Workforce Development will host registration for spring classes on Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 10 a.m. until noon and from 1-3 p.m. at the Muleshoe Extension Center, 621 W. Second Street.

Registration will be for all Muleshoe Workforce Development classes. For more information, contact Connie Kenmore at 272-3346.

Time Is Running Out: Offer Expires Soon

I'm beginning to wonder if someone — maybe Someone — is trying to tell me something. Since my oldest granddaughter just turned five and I just turned 55, I suppose the good news is that I'm ripe for the message (poor metaphor).

That's also the bad news.

We might as well admit it: When it comes to this "aging" business, unless we've stopped aging (a serious situation), we're all in the same boat.

Better be seriously careful about looking down on old people; in ten minutes or so, we'll be them, be we presently five or 55.

Some birthdays grab our attention a bit more than others. A good friend turned 65 three days before I hit 55. He says that having nine exceptional grandkids eases the blow, and I already have enough grandkids — three of them and each of them obviously exactly of that "exceptional" variety — to be sure he's right.



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

Just yesterday another friend who recently blew past 60 candles confessed to me that he found that number a bit stark and sobering.

So... today I fire up my e-mail program, having put on my reading glasses and sitting here with an ice pack over my aching shoulder (dunno what I did), and I begin perusing the subject lines.

One promises, "Observations on Getting Older."

Another quickly labels itself as an ad for "Social Security disability." It's of the e-mail type that claims to be "important," proving conclusively that it's not.

A third offers hope: "Win a High Tech Winter Beauty Makeover." It assumes, I suppose, that anyone

I have a confession... the kind that is best made after the Christmas season, but a confession none the less.

You see, I've never cared for the Frank Capra movie, "It's a Wonderful Life." Yes, I know, in many homes it's a holiday mainstay, but it's always been pretty low on my list of favorite films. In fact, it's not even listed, even though I've always been a fan of Frank Capra's work and the movie's leading man, Jimmy Stewart.

I don't even like its most memorable remake with Marlo Thomas.

And to be perfectly honest, I'm not sure why I don't like it, but maybe it has something to do with its final scene, where the community gathers in the Bailey home with the baskets of money that have been collected to save their business. After all, such things don't really happen... do they?

And if they did in the past, they don't happen now... in this "modern," enlightened age... do

so rapidly approaching life's winter might need a "makeover" on an emergency basis.

Still another also alludes to age, but its truth makes me smile: "Your Kids Are Becoming You, But Your Grandkids Are Perfect."

What it doesn't say is that my kids, who've always thought I was old, also think that I'm getting younger (as in, "more childish") all the time, inexplicably shedding the kind of sedate maturity they'd always expected.

Ah, but the e-mail subject line that really got me this morning was this one: "Consumer Reports Health: Curtis, Time Is Running Out On Your Free Gift — Offer Expires Soon."

Just quickly scanning, my eye at first conveyed to my brain only a few words: my name, "Health," "Time Is Running Out," and "Expires Soon."

Well, time is running, for sure. And, in view of eternity, we're all "expiring soon," whether we lay it down in the next 90 seconds or in 90 years.

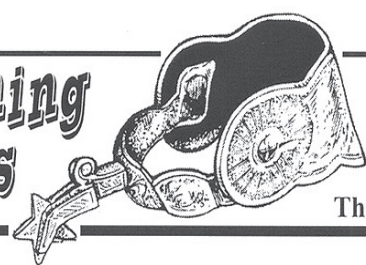
Hale, Swisher County Crop Conference Set

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the Hale/ Swisher Counties Crops Conference beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Feb. 10 at the Ollie Liner Center, 2000 S. Columbia St. in Plainview.

Individual registration is \$15 and includes lunch.

Those planning to attend should RSVP by Feb. 6 by calling the AgriLife Extension office in Swisher County at 806-995-3726.

Spinning Rowels



by Larry Thornton

Whether you're a fan of this particular Capra movie, or not. Whether you're feeling pessimistic about the altruistic nature of your fellow man or not, the simple truth is that yes, they do happen.

There have been numerous times here in Muleshoe, in the last few years, where the community has come together to help those in need.

The Bailey County Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, even the Park View Nursing Care Center's bus project from a few years ago, and even the local residents who received new houses and is reported upon in this week's issue. In each case, it is people helping people... a great thing.

One of the most heart-warming stories from this past week involved

Whatever time we have left, here's a prayer that we allow our Father to use it to help us look more like him — to love more, laugh more, fill up more on his mercy and grace, and, with deep joy, live into his Joy Eternal.

a hardware store in Ohio that was facing tough times after being in business for about 150 years. In one of the greatest commercial acts I'm aware of a "cash mob" showed up to put a bit of sunshine in the company's register.

While I've been disgusted by reports

of "flash mobs," coordinated by Twitter, and other means that have showed up to disrupt and steal from various businesses, this recent event in Ohio gives evidence to what coordinated good will can accomplish.

Can you imagine the benefit to the Muleshoe's "mom and pop" businesses if they were targeted in like fashion?

Imagine "It's A Wonderful Life," in real life. Now that's a movie everyone can applaud.

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Muleshoe Journal USPS 367820
Established Feb. 23, 1924 Published by Panhandle Weeklies, LLC.
Every Thursday at 201 W. Ave. C, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
Periodicals paid at Muleshoe, TX.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

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New Homes Presented...

Continued from A1 home, as friends, family and well-wishers associated with the city and the rehabilitation program gathered to see the home's interior and watch her reaction.

"Thank you, everybody! Thank you so much," she said.

When asked what the new home meant to her, Tina Costilla said, "A big change. I've gone through an awful lot, and I'm just speechless. I'm so happy to have this program... especially

for people that need it. We're so very excited."

At his new home, Emilio "Pee Wee" Estrada welcomed everyone in with a great wave of his arm.

When he was asked about the new home, Estrada said, "It means I'm going to cry all afternoon. It's good. It means I won't have to suffer when it's cold... I won't have to suffer when it's hot."

Prior to entering their new home, Margarita Martinez said, "I'd like

to thank everybody," and turning to the lead construction employee for project contractor Ameriway, she hugged him and said, "You did a great job."

The last presentation Friday, was at the home of Lupe Anguiano, who at 40 years was the newest of the Muleshoe residents to receive a new home.

The City of Muleshoe's match for the HOME Program was \$49,500, which was met with in-kind services and force

account labor, such as the demolition and disposal of the original home, rough site work, and the waiver of building permit and water and sewer tap fees.

"The city is proud to be a part of the HOME program that provides safe, decent, affordable housing to extremely low, very low, and low income families," Brunson said.

"In addition the homes improve neighborhoods and expand the tax base," the city manager added.



Missing More Than Hair?

Is this photograph missing from your scrapbook? If so, you can pick it up at the *Muleshoe Journal*.

MAHD Board Meets...

Continued from A1 been so poor that the hospital district could have been fined \$28,000, like she said another area nursing home was.

Laughton said Park View was to receive a lower fine of \$4,005, because of the work it's current staff did, digging through the medical records and assisting the auditor.

"It could have been horrible," she said.

"I think David has been very good," board president Zona Gatewood said. "I think we are going forward, and I have confidence in you all," she added.

In other business, the hospital district board:

- Administering the oath of office to Allen Smyer who was appointed to the board's

Place 4 seat.

- Approved a contract designating Muleshoe City Secretary LeAnn Gallman as the hospital district's election administrator for the upcoming election.

During the discussion prior to the vote, Gallman said their would be a box at Lazbuddie for the portion of the hospital district that extends north of the school for both early voting and regular voting.

- Voted to renew its insurance coverage through the Sanford & Tatum Insurance Agency of Lubbock.

Although the hospital district has had its workers compensation through Sanford & Tatum for several years, the district's board turned to them for all of the district's insurance

coverage last year when the previous carrier declined to cover the Muleshoe Area Medical Center's roof.

This year, according to Michael Tatum's presentation to the board, the premium — including workers compensation through Texas Mutual Insurance Company, the highest portion of the coverage, is \$197,609.50, which includes a 10 percent renewal discount for portions of the coverage.

- Declared some of the old, non-functional beds at Park View as surplus property.

- Approved resolutions regarding the district's banking procedures, and signature cards.

- Approved physician renewals.

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Senior Citizen News

By Brittany Gibbs

Good-bye, January... hello, February!

This year has already started out fast with blowing winds, cold days and a few promising hot sunny days, to get us ready for spring time which is just around the corner.

This Tuesday, Jan. 7, is the first Bunko session of the month at 10 a.m.

If you have not been down to the Oneita Wagon Senior Center and joined in on the fun, the grab a friend and come on down we know you will have a good time.

Thursday, Jan. 9, is Bingo at 1:30 p.m., so

come on down and see your friends win some prizes and enjoy a snack or cup of coffee.

Don't forget we always have a game or two of Dominos and Eighty going, as well as a very lovely library.

We would like to show our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Kline Buhrman.

May God bless you and ease your pain at this hard time. Know that you are all in are hearts and prayers.

Menu for Feb. 6-10:
Monday, Feb. 6 — Homemade turkey pot pie, wheat roll, margarine, seasoned

corn, tossed salad with dressing, ambrosia, and low-fat milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 7 — Swedish meatballs, parsley noodles, mixed vegetables, whole wheat roll, margarine, angle food cake with strawberries, and low-fat milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 8 — Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, stewed okra, seasoned corn and pumpkin squares.

Thursday, Feb. 9 — Ham and beans, cornbread, margarine, spinach, seasoned corn, orange pineapple cup, country apple crisp, and low-fat milk.

Friday, Feb. 10 — Breaded fish on a bun, lettuce, tomato, pickle, tarter sauce, potato wedges, coleslaw with dressing, peach chantilly, and low-fat milk.

HealthTip

Did you know that sunscreen rapidly loses effectiveness after one hour?

If you are going to be out for a while, plan to put on more sunscreen to avoid sunburn.

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Pastor Domingo Luna -
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6 pm; Wed. 7 pm

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Growth Gr. 1:30 pm;
Wed. 7:00 pm

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S.S. 10:30 am; W.S. 9:30 am

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Mon. 9 am Ladies Bible Stdy;
Tues. 6 pm Adult Bible Stdy;
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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Kline Buhrman

Church services for Kline H. Buhrman, 94, of Muleshoe, were held on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe with the Rev. Monty Leavell officiating.

Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park.

Kline died on Jan. 26, 2012, in Muleshoe. He was born on Dec. 9, 1917, in Clovis, NM, and married Margaret Ryan in Muleshoe on Sept. 10, 1942

Kline enjoyed reading and playing dominos at the Oneita Wagon Senior Center. He also enjoyed watching the Muleshoe Mules athletic events. He loved to read, and read a variety of books.

He is survived by his wife — Margaret; daughter — Marsha Welch and husband Miles of Arlington; two sons — Roger Buhrman and his wife Peggy, and Curtis Buhrman, all of Muleshoe; two



grandchildren — Miranda Stockhausen and husband Kurt, and AJ Buhrman and wife Amy; and three great-grandchildren — Ryan and Reid Stockhausen, and Wade Buhrman.

He was preceded in death by five brothers — Russell, Cecil, Donald, Dale and Luther Buhrman; and two sisters — Gladys Moore Maddox, and Edwina Eubanks.

Memorials may be sent to the First United Methodist Church: 507 W. Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or the Oneita Wagon Senior Center, 319 S. Main, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

RJ Garner

Church services for R.J. (Jeter) Garner, 81, of Farwell, are scheduled for 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 2, at the First Baptist Church of Farwell with the Rev. Russ Ponder officiating.

Burial will follow in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Ellis funeral Home of Muleshoe.

Mr. Garner died on Monday, Jan. 30, 2012, in Muleshoe. He was born on Nov. 28, 1930, to Thomas Leonard and Lottie Isabel (Martin) Garner in Granite, Okla., and married Lillis Woodard in Cooper on Aug. 6, 1949.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He was also preceded in death by a son, David Garner on May 12, 1989.

Mr. Garner had lived in the Farwell area since 1954, having moved

from Robertson. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Farwell, where he served as a deacon since 1971.

Mr. Garner graduated from Robertson High School, and was a member of the Farwell Independent School Board in 1977.

He farmed in the Oklahoma Lane and Lariat areas and worked for Texas Boll Weevil, and enjoyed following the careers of his grandkids.

Survivors include his wife — Lillis Garner of the home; a son — Donnie Garner of Long Beach, Calif.; a daughter — Debra Redwine of Muleshoe; a sister — Jeanne Denton of Dennison; and four grandchildren

Memorials may be sent to Muleshoe Meals On Wheels, 300 S First, Muleshoe, Texas 79347.

Does Scripture Prohibit Our Being Rich?

Do the scriptures prohibit our being rich?

Must we care for every disabled person we see? The answer to each of these questions is "No, of course not."

For example, Abraham, was one of the most blessed and rich men that ever lived. He was called "a friend of God." And in what was probably one of the most trying time of his life he was justified by his works, and 'not by faith only.'

In every event we have cited, and in all others, it is the attitude that answers the question. It was the values they put on their lives. The rich young ruler valued his riches more than he valued the well being of poor people.

The Samaritan valued the life and comfort of the beaten mean more than his own life and well being. Do we see and do we understand the difference? It is meaningful to us? In the sense that I am speaking, it is the difference in life and death,

We know at that time the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans, but the man of Samaria evidently rose above that and he gave time, effort and money to help the beaten and half-dead Jewish man. But I don't see any justification for the action of the priest or the Levite.

If there is any scripture, in either the Old Bible or the New, that tells people to be born again, or what to do in order to be born again, or how to do it, then I have overlooked it. I am speaking of the most basic and fundamental sense.

I am aware of the fact that Paul told the Corinthian brethren, "For though ye have 10 thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel."

Now, if this is speaking of rebirth or the new birth or being born again then Paul is due the honor.

And he states that in the preceding verse, "I write not these things

Something worth saying...
By Glen Williams

to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn you."

And in verse 17 he speaks of "Timothy, who is my beloved son."

Now, back to the questions, we find the answers in I Timothy, chapter six, as Paul told him to "fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto ye are also called." And here is some of the instructions he gave him.

"Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us all things to enjoy.

"That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate.

"Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

If I count them right there are six different things that Paul told Timothy to teach or charge those who were rich "in this world" — meaning, I would say, "in this age:"

- That they be not high-minded,
- Nor trusted in uncertain riches, but in the living God.
- That they do good
- That they be rich in

- good works.
- Ready to distribute.
- Willing to communicate

Here we see a lifetime of good living — right living — laid out for those that are rich to live and enjoy, if they get the "hang" of it.

Riches will not bring happiness to people. Being high-minded,

better that "ordinary" people will not bring happiness.

But there is three things that Paul laid out for Timothy to teach those rich people: Good works, ready to distribute and willing to communicate.

These will bring happiness.

Now, that substance of this is in doing those things the rich folks will lay a foundation for a good life. They will in fact. Lay hold on eternal life.

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS

Texas Cattle Inventory Lowest In Decades

The inventory of Texas cattle and calves totaled 11.9 million head on Jan. 1, down 11 percent from last year's inventory. This is the lowest Jan. 1 inventory total since 1968.

Texas continued to rank first in the nation in total number of cattle and calves with 13 percent of the total United States inventory.

Total inventory of all cows that have calved was 4.80 million head, down 12 percent from last year's total.

Beef cow inventory, at 4.37 million head, was down 13 percent from last year's total.

Milk cow inventory,

at 435 thousand head, was up 10 thousand head from the 2011 total of 425 thousand head.

Beef replacement heifers totaled 550 thousand head on Jan. 1, down 10 percent from the 2011 total of 610 thousand head.

The milk replacement heifer inventory was 210 thousand head, down 20 thousand head from last year's total.

Texas' inventory of steers 500 pounds and over totaled 2.50 million head, down eight percent from the 2011 total.

Total inventory of heifers, steers and bulls less than 500 pounds was 1.95 million head,

down 15 percent from last year.

The 2011 calf crop totaled 4.65 million head, down 3 percent from the 2010 calf crop.

The United States inventory of all cattle and calves totaled 90.8 million head on Jan.1, two percent below last year's inventory of 92.7 million head.

All cows and heifers that have calved totaled 39.1 million head, down two percent from the 40 million on Jan. 1, 2011.

Beef cows totaled 29.9 million head, down three percent from a year ago, while milk cows were up one percent from a year ago

at 9.2 million head.

Beef replacement heifers, at 5.2 million head, were up one percent from the

previous year.

Milk replacement heifer numbers were down one percent to 4.5 million head.

The 2011 calf crop was estimated at 35.3 million head, down one percent from 2010.

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Sheep Totals Are Down

The Texas inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 650 thousand head on Jan. 1, down 24 percent from last year's level of 850 thousand head.

According to the annual report released by the Texas Field Office, the inventory of breeding sheep and lambs totaled 520 thousand head, also down 24 percent from 2011.

Breeding ewes one year old and older were down 19 percent, at 415 thousand head.

Replacement lambs were down from last year at 75 thousand head.

The 2011 lamb crop at 340 thousand head was down 6 percent from 2010.

Market sheep and

lambs in Texas were down 24 percent from last year, totaling 130 thousand head. Sheep for market totaled 20 thousand head, up 10 thousand head from 2011, while lambs for market totaled 110 thousand head, down 31 percent from last year.

Lambs for market weighing less than 65 pounds totaled 55 thousand head; lambs weighing 65 to 84 pounds totaled 20 thousand head; lambs weighing 85 to 105 pounds totaled 10 thousand head, and lambs weighing over 105 pounds totaled 25 thousand head.

Texas producers sheared 360 thousand sheep and lambs during the year, down

27 percent from the previous year.

Average fleece weights were up, at 7.2 pounds. Wool production totaled 2.6 million pounds during 2011, down 25 percent from the previous year's total.

Total value of the state's wool production was up five percent from the previous year to 5.75 million dollars. The price per pound averaged \$2.21, up 40 percent from the average for 2010.

Nationally, the inventory of all sheep and lambs totaled 5.35 million head, down two percent from 2011.

United States breeding sheep inventory on Jan. 1 was at 3.98 million head.

Ewes one year and older, at 3.16 million head, were two percent lower than last year. The 2011 lamb crop was 3.51 million head, down two percent from 2010.

The 2011 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older, an increase of two percent from 2010.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 1.37 million head on Jan. 1. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total.

Market lambs weighing less than 65 pounds accounted for 22 percent of the total; 65 to 84 pounds, 12 percent; 85 to 105 pounds, 22 percent; and more than 105 pounds, 38 percent.

Market sheep account for the remaining six percent.

Texas Milk Production Shows An Increase

Texas milk production totaled 807 million pounds during December, up 4.1 percent from last year's production of 775 million pounds.

November 2011 production totaled 787 million pounds.

The number of milk cows during December averaged 435,000 head, up 15,000 head from last year, but unchanged from November 2011.

Production per cow averaged 1,855 pounds during December, 10 pounds more than last year and 45 pounds more than November 2011.

Milk production in the 23 states participating in the monthly survey

totalled 15.4 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from production in these same states in December 2010.

November revised production, at 14.7 billion pounds, was up 2.2 percent from November 2010.

Production per cow during December averaged 1,818 pounds, 27 pounds above a year ago.

The average number of milk cows in the 23 states was 8.49 million head, 99,000 head more than last year and up 12,000 head from November 2011.

Thanks for reading!

THE PARMER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADVISES THAT ONCE AGAIN IT IS TIME TO PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR WINDBREAK TREES.

Parmer County SWCD has a good selection of all variety of trees. Trees for windbreaks, wildlife, or fruit trees are available. Seedlings as well as larger replacement trees can be ordered. We also have added a Spring flower bulb program. We have a variety of Lilies, hostas, Dahlias, Gladiolus etc.

More than 30 varieties of shrubs, hardwoods, and evergreens are offered.

To order, call the Parmer County SWCD office, 806-481-3311 and talk to Jenny Baize, Frank Torres, or Earl Behrends.

The Muleshoe Housing Authority is now accepting applications for housing for agriculture or farm related workers.

Handicap units available.
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For more information call Raquel or Olimpica at TTY: 1-800-735-2989 806-272-5560.

Office hours:

Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



La Autoridad de Cubierta de Muleshoe ahora está aceptando aplicaciones para viviendas para los trabajadores de agricultura /o trabajadores relacionado a agricultura.

Unidades de la desventaja son disponibles. El gas, la electricidad, el agua, la alcantarilla y la basura son incluidos.

Para más información, llame Raquel or Olimpica al numero TTY: 1-800-735-2989 806-272-5560.

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The Sudan Buzz

Xcel Files For Lower Fuel Costs

Xcel Energy submitted plans to the Public Utility Commission of Texas on Thursday, Jan. 26, for a revised fuel cost formula and factor that will reduce residential bills of 1,000 kilowatt-hours by an average of \$1.83, or about 1.8 percent, starting April 1.

The fuel factor is a pass-through charge on customer bills to recover the cost of fuel used by generation plants and

energy purchased from other generators.

The factor on customer bills can be adjusted up to three times a year in Texas to reflect rising and falling costs along with fuel mix changes.

A drop in natural gas prices over the past year has offset higher natural gas usage in the company's generation fleet.

Another factor holding down fuel costs this year is the delay of a costly new federal

emissions rule that was set to take effect on Jan. 1.

Xcel Energy's only viable short-term compliance option to the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule was to reduce the output of lower-cost coal-fueled power plants and depend on natural gas-fueled plants for the bulk of power generation.

Compliance would have increased costs of all fossil fuel generation

despite lower natural gas prices.

A federal appeals court issued a stay of the Cross-State rule Dec. 30, which temporarily delayed the effective date of the rule until the court takes up the merits of lawsuits filed in opposition.

"We're pleased to announce the reduction in the fuel cost factor, and that our joint efforts to oppose the Cross-State rule have helped contain expected increases in bills," said Riley Hill, president and CEO of Southwestern Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy company.

"Moving forward, investments in new, more efficient generating units and new transmission lines will help us keep downward pressure on fuel costs," he said.

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Texas Brigades Applications Sought

By Steve Byrns
 Tamu.edu

This year marks the 20th year anniversary of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service's Texas Brigades wildlife youth camps, said the camps' founder.

Dr. Dale Rollins, AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, started the effort in 1993 with the Bobwhite Brigade.

The intensive five-day educational format has steadily grown and now includes six camps, each centered around a single wildlife species.

Rollins said since the beginning, the Texas Brigades' mission has been "to educate and empower youths with leadership skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries and land stewardship to become conservation ambassadors for a sustained natural

resource legacy."

"Given the increasing demographic pressures looming over Texas resulting in ever increasing strains on our natural resources, it's more important now than ever, that our future leaders be well-grounded not only in the ecology of the issues, but also in critical thinking, team-building and public speaking," he said.

Rollins said registration is now under way for all the camps, but ends March 15, which is earlier than in previous years.

Each camp is limited to 20-30 high school youth ages 13-17.

The camp dates and locations are:

- South Texas Buckskin Brigade, June 3-7, Southern Star Ranch, Uvalde.
- Rolling Plains Bobwhite Brigade, June 16-20, Centennial Lodge,

Coleman.

- South Texas Bobwhite Brigade, June 24-28, 74 Ranch, Campbellton.
- Bass Brigade, July 9-13, Warren Ranch, Santa Anna.
- North Texas Buckskin Brigade, July 15-19, Stasney's Cook Ranch, Albany.
- Waterfowl Brigade, July 22-26, Big Woods on the Trinity, Tennessee Colony.

Tuition is \$400 per cadet per camp, but Rollins said sponsors are available to provide financial aid to those who qualify.

Applications may be completed online or downloaded at www.texasbrigades.org.

For more information, contact Helen Holdsworth, at hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org, or Kassi Scheffer, at kscheffer@texas-wildlife.org or by calling 210-556-1391.



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March Is National Nutrition Month

The National Nutrition Month theme this year is "Get Your Plate in Shape."

The nutrition education and information campaign is sponsored by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

"Get Your Plate in Shape celebrates and reinforces the new food guidance system called MyPlate," said Dr. Sharon Robinson, Associate Professor and Registered Dietitian with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

MyPlate illustrates five food groups: vegetables, fruits, grains, dairy and protein foods.

MyPlate key messages are:

- Make half your plate fruits and vegetables
- Make at least half your grains whole
- Switch to fat-free or low-fat milk
- Vary your protein choices

- Cut back on sodium and empty calories from solid fats and added sugars
- Enjoy your food but eat less
- Be physically active your way

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service offers free and low-cost nutrition education programs on the new food guidance, MyPlate which have been developed by Registered Dietitians.

Contact your local

county extension agent for more information. You may reach Kathy Carr at the AgriLife Extension Center in Muleshoe at 806-272-4583.

To find information on MyPlate go to: <http://www.choosemyplate.gov/>.

To learn more about the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics or find a Registered Dietitian in your area go to: <http://www.eatright.org/>.

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Caution, Shark Infested Waters

High school is a crucial part of life; it's a stepping stone in the long journey.

High school, like a sea filled with multicolored fish swimming in different directions, is a never ending social food chain that is fed upon by inevitable drama.

With social standards being high, educational expectations being strived for, and the future just out of reach, high school seems to be a bitter sweet four years of life.

High school has a constant flow of drama. Like the sea, there is an abundance of many different shapes and sizes.

With the upholding power to manipulate each other, the constant battle to survive in the social realm seems to be never ending.

With the sharks swimming in the high waters, high school seems to be the beach that has the big sign that reads, "Caution, Shark Infested Waters."

For some people, high school is like walking down the red carpet. For those, it's a safe swimming zone filled with four years of living the typical and fun high school life.

However for others, natural neglect and lack of support causes them to find themselves unconsciously feeding on the bottom of the success ladder.

The social food chain seems so important in the four years of living the teenage life during high school. For some, it seems to be a major part of life.

On the other hand, through the cliques and the segregations, everyone goes separate ways, clinging to people that they assume to trust.

There are multiple different cliques within the lives of teenagers, cliques with numbers that seem to expand and shrink at a constant rate.

People swim from group to group, constantly awaiting the feeling of acceptance

Mule Moments

by Garrison Myers

as they cling to the necessity of being wanted and needed.

With acceptance out of reach for some, the years of high school can become a constant treading of water, as teens strive to be a part of something important.

High school can be a carefree part of life. It's a time of life to do the things that only high school kids do.

Nights out on the town are memories that teenagers will remember for a lifetime. Within the life span of a high school student, it makes it okay to play loud music, hang out too late at night, leave his room in a mess, spend countless hours at Sonic™, procrastinate on every school assignment, and have fun while doing all of it.

While being stereotyped as reckless teenagers, the years of high school make a playful swimming area before being released into the ocean.

The future is at the fingertips of teens as they approach a new chapter of life and prepare for a change that includes big plans and major dedication.

The future can be promising, haunting, and sometimes even mysterious.

With high school being the roped off waters that keep teens from the crashing waves,

it's just a matter of time before swimming into the real waters of life comes.

High school: it's a crucial part of life that sets the scene for a future that is just ahead.

It's a feeding ground for the dominant sharks, and a shadow to hide behind for those who feed on the bottom of the intimidating social food chain.

With an indescribable

difference between every person, and massive segregation due to an excessive need for acceptance, the inevitable drama seeps through every crack in teenagers' lives.

Through education, a social adventure, and the last years before being released into the real world, high school holds an important role in the upbringing of kids.

With a daring environment that seems to have such a fragile hold on life, high school is the four years of life that inevitably suggest the contradicting present and future.

Addresses for charitable giving suggested

- Muleshoe Heritage Foundation Center, P.O. Box 201, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, (806) 272-5873.
- MOST Scholarship (given to all graduating MISD seniors yearly), c/o Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets, 514 W. Ave. G, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- Oneita Wagnon Senior Center, P.O. Box 292, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- Hope Chest, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Muleshoe Hospital Auxiliary, c/o Muleshoe Area Medical Center.
- Bailey County Food Pantry, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- Meals on Wheels, 300 1st St., Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Muleshoe Volunteer Fire Department, c/o Muleshoe City Hall, 215 S. First, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 272-4528.
- Lazbuddie EMS and Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 125, Lazbuddie, TX 79053.
- Park View Nursing Care Center, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Inc., 104 E. Ave. C, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 272-5727.
- Muleshoe Area Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 62, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, 115 E. American Blvd., Muleshoe 79347.
- Bailey County Child Welfare Board, P.O. Box 243, Muleshoe TX 79346, or call 272-3204.
- Muleshoe Boy Scouts, 609 W. Seventh, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 806-946-9908.

Old Testament Priests

A word search puzzle with the title "Old Testament Priests" and a grid of letters. The words "Priests" and "Old Testament" are circled in the grid.

Births



Kace Marricle

Tsunii Garcia

Juan Garcia Jr. and Lindsay Moulton of Muleshoe announce the birth of their daughter, Tsunii Estrella Ramos Garcia, on Dec. 8, 2011, at 4:32 a.m., at Lamb Healthcare Center of Littlefield.

Tsunii weighed seven pounds, six ounces at birth, and was 21 inches in length.

Her grandparents are Melinda Guzman, Patricia Molina and Eliseo Molina.

Ryan and Morgan Marricle of Muleshoe announce the birth of their son Kace James Marricle on Dec. 1, 2011, at 9:22 a.m., at Covenant Lakeside in Lubbock.

Kace weighed six pounds, 14 ounces at birth, and was 20 inches in length.

Kace's grandparents are Terry and Donna Burton and David and Terry Marricle, all of Muleshoe.

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SPORTS NEWS

Lady Mules Encounter Tulia's Sting

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mules traveled to Tulia on Tuesday night and lost to the league leading Lady Hornets 73-34. They hosted the Dimmitt Bobbies Friday night and lost 51-39.

Tulia dropped in three treys in the opening period to jump out to a 22-8 lead. Kaylie Morris opened the game with a basket and drained a 3-pointer.

Carly Krug hit a jumper from the elbow and McKenna Dunham made a free throw.

Dunham made the Lady Mules only basket of the second period. Tulia poured in 27 points to lead 49-10 at the half.

The Lady Mules had a better second half and scored 10 in the third period and 14 in the fourth.



Lady Mules play the Tulia Lady Hornets

Adrienne Precure dropped in a 3-pointer and Dominique Mata added a free throw and a basket.

Alyssa Leal and Ivanna Agundis made a hoop each. The Lady Hornets led 63-20 with one quarter left to play.

Krug made a pair of

free throws to open the final quarter. Leal made two hoops and Baylee Bessire, Precure, Mata and Dunham added a basket each.

Leal led the Lady Mules with six points, Mata, Dunham, Precure and Morris dropped in five each. Krug added

four points and Agundis and Bessire chipped in two points each.

The Lady Mules held Dimmitt to just two points in the first quarter and led 6-2 after one quarter.

Precure made a free throw to break the ice for the Lady Mules. Morris

nailed a 3-pointer and Leal added a basket.

The Lady Mules repeated with six points in the second quarter but fell behind 16-12 at the half.

Leal made a basket half way through the period.

Precure made three free throws and Dunham made one.

The Lady Mules had their best scoring in the third quarter with 15 points but Dimmitt scored 16 to increase their lead 32-27.

Morris completed an old fashion three-point play and two hoops. She also made a free throw from a technical foul called on the Dimmitt bench for six points during the quarter.

Precure made three from the foul line. Leal finished a fast break with a hoop, DonAnn Rempe completed an

old-fashion three-point play, Dunham dropped in a basket and Krug made a free throw.

Morris made her second 3-pointer of the game in the final quarter. Dunham and Mata added a basket each.

Precure and Leal made two free throws each and Krug chipped in one.

Morris led the Lady Mules with 11 points, Precure made all nine of her points from the charity line and Leal dropped in eight.

Dunham finished with five points, Rempe and Krug made three points each and Mata chipped in two.

The Lady Mules hit the road this week when they travel to Littlefield on Tuesday to meet the Lady Cats. They go to Floydada on Friday to battle the Lady Winds.

Mules Fall In Tulia Battle; Return Strong Against Dimmitt

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules traveled to Tulia Tuesday night and hung close to the Hornets for eight minutes.

Tulia took over after that and defeated the Mules 62-48. The Mules did not stay down and came back strong on Friday.

Beau Avila knocked down back-to-back 3-pointers in the second quarter against the Dimmitt Bobcats.

The two long distance baskets seemed to fire up the Mules and they dropped Dimmitt 66-55.

The Mules trailed Tulia 8-6 at the quarter break but fell behind 26-17 at the half.

Eli Leal and Avila hit treys after the half and the Mules rallied to cut the Hornet lead to 40-33 with eight minutes left to play.

The Hornets were seven-of-eight free throws to hold off the Mules in the final quarter.

Leal led the Mules with 13 points and Juan Guerrero dropped in

10. Avila added seven points and Saul Elizalde finished with four points.

Shawn Atwood and Eric Orozco made three points each. Louie Guzman and Hector Flores chipped in two points each.

Guerrero broke the scoring ice for the Mules Friday night when they hosted Dimmitt by making a pair of free throws.

Guzman got hot from the wing and made a pair of 3-pointers.

Elizalde made a pair of hoops and Atwood put back a rebound for two points.

The Mules had fallen behind early but came back to lead 14-12 at the quarter break.

Avila made his first trey 20 seconds into the second quarter and dropped in a second on the Mule's next trip down the floor. He added two charity tosses before the half ended.

Flores hit a trey from the same spot on the floor that Avila made his.

Elizalde grabbed a rebound and drove the floor for a lay up

twice during the second period. He added a third basket before the half ended.

Atwood stuck back a rebound and Guerrero added two more free throws.

The Mules out scored Dimmitt 21-10 to lead 35-22 at the half.

The Mules were a little slow out of the gate in the second half and gave up four points of their lead.

Dimmitt scored 14 points to 10 by the Mules. Elizalde made two baskets in the third quarter and Orozco added one hoop.

Avila chipped in a free throw. The Mules lead had dropped to 42-36.

The Bobcats continued to force Mule turnovers early in the final period but the Mules came alive in the last half of the quarter for the win. Leal made two baskets and three free throws.

Elizalde repeated his two basket quarter for the fourth consecutive quarter.

Guerrero completed an old fashion 3-point play with a put back and a free throw. He added a second basket

and free throw before the final buzzer.

Avila made a basket and added a free throw and Flores chipped in one from the line.

Elizalde led the Mules with 18 points and Avila dropped in

12. Leal made all 10 of his points in the second half and Guerrero was six-of-seven from the line and also had 10 points.

Guzman added six points, Flores and Atwood made four each

and Orozco chipped in two.

The Mules are on the road this week and will travel to Littlefield to meet the Wildcats on Tuesday and then to Floydada Friday to face the Whirlwinds.

JV Mules

Win, 39-17

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Mules hit the road to Tulia last Tuesday night and after a 13-point first period were able to hit the cruise control. The Mules rolled on to drop their host 39-17.

The Mules returned home on Friday and put up a battle but went down to defeat to the Dimmitt Bobcats 40-35.

Tony Molina patrolled the paint in the first three quarters and opened the game with a pair of hoops. Matthew Barron also made two baskets and Austin Ross dropped

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SPORTS NEWS

JV Ladies Down Tulia

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Lady Mules traveled to Tulia and downed the Lady Hornets 51-32. The Lady Mules led from the tip to the final buzzer and increased their lead each quarter.

Celeste Flores was perfect from the free throw line in the first period and was four-for-four.

Katelyn Gable sandwiched a pair of free throws between a couple of buckets for six points.

Carolina Franco made a basket and a free throw and Liliana Vasquez made a hoop. The Lady Mules led 15-12 after one quarter.

The Lady Mules increased that margin in the second quarter with Daniela Diaz making three hoops.

Flores added a pair of hoops and Shanice Rosas dropped in a basket. The Lady Mules had out paced the Hornets 12-8 in the period and led 27-20 at the intermission.

L. Vasquez made

a basket 16 seconds into the second half. She added two more baskets and a pair of free throws for eight points in the quarter.

Mandy Scolley, Samantha Vasquez and Diaz added a hoop each. The Lady Mule defense held Tulia to four points to increase their lead to 41-24.

The Lady Mules out scored Tulia 10-8 in the final period. S. Vasquez got the Lady Mules cranked and added a second. L. Vasquez dropped in a pair of

hoops and Flores made one final basket.

L. Vasquez led the charge for the Lady Mules with 14 points and Flores dropped in 10. Diaz finished with eight points, S. Vasquez and Gable made six each. Franco made all three of her points in the opening period, Scolley and Rosas chipped in two points each.

The Lady Mules are on the road this week when they travel to Littlefield on Tuesday night and then to Floydada on Friday.

Eighth Grade Mules Fall In Second Half

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The eighth grade Mules made a run at the Tulia Hornets in the second half but could not make up all the distance they lost in the first half.

The Mules fell to Tulia 31-27.

Brandon Chavez got the Mules started with a hoop and Josh Lopez added a free throw and a hoop. The Mules led 5-4 after one quarter.

The Mules could only score two points in the second period and fell behind 14-7 at the intermission. Tristan Boehning made the Mules only points of the second quarter.

Jaxon Lee scored in the paint to get the Mules started in the third quarter. Lopez dropped in a pair of hoops and Simon Chavez hit one. Danny

Campos chipped in a charity toss. The Mules had cut the Tulia lead to 20-16.

Boehning dropped in a pair of hoops in the final period as did B. Chavez. S. Chavez drained a 3-pointer to give the Mules 11 points.

Tulia refused to give up the lead and stayed with the Mules' pace to also make 11 points.

Lopez led the Mules with 11 points and Boehning dropped in six. S. Chavez added five points, Lee and B. Chavez made two points each and Campos chipped in one.

The Mules travel to Dimmitt for their final road game and return home February 6 to host Littlefield. Floydada will visit the Mules Feb. 13 for the Mules' final game of the season.

JV Mules

Continued from B1

in one. Grey Johnson drained a 3-pointer before the period ended. The Mule defense had held the Hornets to just two points and the Mules led 13-2.

Molina continued to control the paint and made three baskets. Ross added a pair of hoops and the Mules blanked Tulia during the period. The Mules led 23-2 at the half.

Molina's reign in the lane ended in the third quarter with two baskets. Johnson made his second 3-pointer of the game. The Mules

had pushed their lead to 30-7.

Johnson nailed his third trey of the game and added a free throw. Nacho Elizalde hit from behind the arc and Mario Daniel made a basket.

Molina paced the Mules with 14 points and Johnson added 10. Barron finished with six points and Barron had four. Elizalde made three points and Daniel chipped in two.

The Bobcats out paced the Mules 13-9 in the opening period. Blaine Hurtado opened the quarter with a 3-pointer. Elizalde, Barron and

Jaxiel Lopez made a basket each. The Mules trailed 13-9 after one quarter.

Barron found the range from outside the arc before making a basket. Hurtado added a basket.

The Mules fell behind by another point at the half and Dimmitt led 21-16.

The Mules made up three points in the third quarter. Barron completed an old fashion three-point play with a basket and a free throw. He added another hoop before the period ended.

Ross and Hurtado

each made a basket and the Mules had cut the Dimmitt lead to 27-25.

Saul Sanchez hit twice from behind the arc and made a free throw. Barron also made a 3-pointer but the Mules fell short.

Barron led the Mules with 15 points. Hurtado and Sanchez dropped in seven points each. Elizalde, Ross and Lopez made two points each.

The Mules go on the road for two games this week and travel to Littlefield to face the Wildcats and then go to Floydada Friday to meet the Whirlwinds.

Seventh Grade Mules Cruise To Victory, 35-15

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The seventh grade Mules applied a very stingy defense that include full court pressure at times Monday evening when the Tulia Hornets visited.

The Mule defense only allowed the Hornets to score seven points in the first half.

The Mules pumped in 16 points in the first half that would have been enough to defeat

Continued on B4

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- Lazbuddie-New Country Listing on Highway**-Spacious Spanish Style brick home, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, built-ins, central A/H, sunroom with indoor grill, fireplace, office, large utility, lots of storage, patio, 2 car garage, plus a lot more, all on approx. 10 acres, call for an appointment today!!

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MULESHOE: 1315 W Ave J - 3/2.5/2 + basement, Geo-thermal heat and air, Double Pane Windows, open concept, neutral colors, 2 water heaters, large workshop, many extras, outstanding location. **PRICE REDUCED!**

MULESHOE: 905 Ivy - near COUNTRY CLUB - 3/3/2 - 2516 sq ft - large living area w/ fireplace, isolated master suite, extra storage thru/out, Central air/heat, one owner, great family home. Call for more details.

LUBBOCK AREA: 16812 CR 2110 - 3 acres with 4BR/4 full bath/2 half bath/4 Car Garage + office/basement and garage room. 4850' sq ft open floor plan, many extras. PLUS 50x30 wired & insulated shop w/loft. Call Linda Scott 806-781-5314. LAR MLS# 9983868.

LUBBOCK: 5819 - 110th St - 3/2/2 Garden Home, built 2005, 1987 sq ft, granite countertops, crown molding, extra storage, large closets, whirlpool tub/ separate shower in master suite, fireplace, open concept. Call Keith or Jane. LAR MLS# 9984412.

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Castro/Parmer Counties- Dodd area. 303 acres 2 pivots, 4 wells, good soil, lays good. On pavement.

Castro County- Brick home on 16 acres. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. 40'x50'x18' steel barn. Can sell with or seperately from above 303 acres.

Bailey County- 177 Acres of C.R.P. One year remaining on current contract. On pavement.

Parmer County- 160 acres. Modest house and Quonset type steel Barn. Valley sprinkler, 750 g.p.m. from 2 wells. Good bases & yields.

Lamb County-Earth Area- Nice 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with fenced yard. Fireplace., 2 large living areas, formal dining room, large office, LOCATED ON 155 acres. 154 acres in C.R.P., Contract expires Sept. 30, 2019. House can be sold separately.

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360 acres- Two pivots, on highway. With 1004 cotton yields.

1440 acres- Seven pivots, 600 gal. water, with 1021+ cotton yields.

360 acres- Three pivots, 500 gal. water, with 936+ cotton yields.

Springlake - 35 acres just east of town on Highway 70. Dryland cotton land or home place. \$70,000.00

RESIDENTIAL

Sudan - 104 Ormand, 2180sf 3-2-2 home, lots of space, nice yard, close to school, low cost/sq.ft. at \$65,500.

Sudan - 406 Wilson, 3-2-1. Very nice brick home. 1291sf at \$52,500.

Sudan - 205 Smith, 2-3-2. Plus basement or another bedroom 1794 sf plus 528 sf Garage, outside storage, close to school. \$97,800.

COMMERCIAL

Muleshoe - Investment Opportunity, (SELF STORAGE UNITS) - 509 West American Blvd. 44 units, plus office rental, 100% leased on 100 X 140 corner lot. WHWY 84. Asking \$174,500.

Littlefield - 701 West 3rd. Laguna Market: 40x40 metal building, combination Deli and convenience store. Money Maker , Large Lot close to school. Frisbee course brings in a lot of customers.

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2012 The Year of the Dragon

Gung Hay Fat Choy!

(Best Wishes and Congratulations!)

The Chinese New Year celebration started this year on Monday, January 23rd and will last 15 days ending with the Lantern Festival on Monday, February 6th. The Chinese Calendar has a 12 year cycle with each year represented by an animal. This year is the Year of the Dragon, the most powerful animal. It is said that the people born in each animal's year have some of the characteristics of that animal.

The New Year is a time of family. In many of our large cities, like San Francisco, there are lots of fun family events: dinners, parades, concerts, races, zoo visits and fireworks. Vendors sell flowers, fruits, candies and pastries. The U.S. Postal Service has a new stamp with the design of a dragon on it for the year of 2012. Everyone can join in the fun!

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle about the Chinese New Year:

- This year, 2012, is the Year of the _____.
- It is to be full of _____ following the quiet Year of the Rabbit.
- The dragon is one of the best known symbols in _____.
- It is mostly a symbol of good _____.
- The dragon is said to come from the sky - a heavenly, _____ creature.
- Dragons are wise and said to visit the Emperor to _____ him.
- Chinese dragons have long _____, short legs, five toes, sharp teeth and claws.
- Some are pictured with _____ and some are not, but they all can fly.
- A dragon dance is part of the _____ Festival held on the last day of celebration.
- A team of _____ makes up the dragon and controls the head and body.
- The _____ the dragon the more luck it will bring.
- _____ born in the dragon's year are said to be smart, leaders and risk takers.

Later, during the year, many states have a Dragon Boat Festival. The boats are long, brightly painted, and shaped like dragons. The crews paddle to a drumbeat to win the race. See if there's a race near you!

More Free Puzzles!

Visit our website to print out new puzzles: **Good Fortune, Super Bowl, Wildlife in Winter and African Animals.** Don't forget the new reading log and certificate set too: www.readingclubfun.com

Seventh Grade Mules...

Continued From B2

Tulia. The Mules cruised through the second half to defeat the Hornets 35-15.

Dagen Dunham made two free throws to crank the Mule offense and then hit a bucket from point blank range from the blocks.

Mario Flores provided the rest of the Mules' fire power in the first period with a bucket and a made a 3-pointer.

The Mules led 9-3 after one quarter.

Jason Flores finished a fast break after the Mules forced a turnover and Tre Villa hit a 15-foot jump shot.

Timothy Perez cashed in on a turnover and M. Flores chipped in a free throw.

The Mules led 16-7 at the half.

The Mules turned up the offense after the break. Javy Perez, Dunham and Beto Diaz made a pair of hoops each.

The Mules had pushed their lead to 28-14 going into the final period.

Tulia struggled to find the basket in the final frame.

J. Perez put back a rebound for a hoop and Villa hit jump shot. Dunham finished an old-fashion three-point play.

Dunham led the Mules with 11 points. J. Perez and M. Flores dropped in six points each. Villa and Diaz added four points each and J. Flores and T. Perez chipped in two points each.

The Mules traveled to Dimmitt on Monday and then finish their season at home against Littlefield and Floydada on Feb. 6 and Feb.13.

MHS Powerlifters...

Continued from A1

dead lift of 300 pounds.

Jordan Russell lifted in the 275 pound class and placed 20th overall. He had a squat lift of 250 pounds, bench pressed 120 pounds and dead lifted 275 pounds.

The final meet of the regular season for the Mules will be in Bovina February 24. Then those that qualify will advance to the Regional Meet in Sundown March 10.

More Classifieds

Continued from B3

for skills training services. Salary: \$12.71/hr Applicants can visit our website: www.clplains.org.

HELP WANTED: Temporary Work - 5 Job Openings - Starting: 03/01/2012 - Ending: 01/15/2013. We need seasonal help on our Irrigated farming operation. We grow corn, alfalfa, soybeans, cotton and wheat. Employees will drive and control farm equipment to till soil, plant, cultivate, spray, fertilize, and harvest crops. Will need to do routine maintenance on equipment. Must have a CDL or appropriate driver's license with air brake endorsement if available in State, to permit

driving of grain and oilseed crops. Must produce and furnish to employer a current "driver's abstract" showing an acceptable driving record. All applicants will be required to take and pass a drug test at no cost to them before hired. Require 3 months experience. The employer, D&M Farms from Muleshoe TX will pay the highest wage rate of \$10.00/hr. The employer guarantees 3/4 of the workdays in the work contract. The work tools, supplies and equipment are provided without cost to the worker, if applicable. Free housing is provided to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of the workday. Transportation and subsistence

expenses to the worksite will be provided or paid by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract or earlier. Workers interested in the job should contact their nearest local State Workforce agency or send resumes to Texas Workforce Commission, FLC Unit, 101 East 15th Street Room 202T, Austin, Texas 78778 and mention job order number: TX 6178652.

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