

Lady Mules battle against Lady Lions...
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Muleshoe Christmas Parade is set for Saturday, Dec. 1, at 3 p.m.



Editorial: Parital victory achieved...
Page 2



Muleshoe Journal



Striving to be your source for local news

Volume 88, No. 48

www.muleshoejournal.com

Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

Mules defeated by zebra attack

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules and Littlefield Wildcats met for the second year in a row for the battle to advance in the Texas State Playoffs.

The Wildcats had defeated the Mules in the Regional round in 2006 in Kimbrough Memorial Stadium and went on to play in the Texas State Finals.

It took an overtime and an umpire racing five yards to get directly in front of a Garrett Riley to Lane Wood pass to eliminate the Mules 28-21 Friday night in Greg Sherwood Memorial Stadium in Plainview.

"This is a special bunch of kids," said Mule coach David Wood. "They fought their hearts out all season long. They left it all on the field and that is all anyone can ask."

"But more importantly after the game I thanked them for their friendship and the many great memories."

The Mules kicked off to start the game and shut



down the Wildcats first drive. Littlefield's punt was allowed to roll dead on the Mule 49. The Mules shredded the 50-Defense on first down.

Riley bought a little time by rolling out of the back field and allowed Dusty Clayton to get open down

the Mule side line. Clayton cut toward goal post behind his defender and Riley laid a perfect pitch in his hands. The pass and run cover 34 yards to the Littlefield 17.

Riley picked up seven yards on an option play. The Mules went to their double twin set and Clayton got open on a down and out pattern. Riley's toss to him put the Mules up 7-0 after Jorge Rodriguez booted the point after.

Patrick Precure's ensuing kick was touched by a Wildcat but had enough momentum to carry through the end zone for a touch back. Littlefield drove from their 20 to the Mule 11 on just four plays.

The Mule "crunch" defense showed they had come to play and stopped

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Photograph by Stacy Conner

Quarterback Garrett Riley hands off to Lane Wood during Friday's game.

School board discusses 'critical issues'

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Muleshoe's school board held its annual "team of eight" training session during Monday's regular meeting with the intent of prioritizing district's needs as a first step in addressing the critical issues it faces.

Among the issues listed were:

- The retention of the district's quality teaching staff and the recruitment of teachers required to meet

the increasing educational needs of the district's students.

In particular, Superintendent Gene Sheets spoke of the need for additional math instructors to meet the increasing state requirements.

The changing demographics of the school district, specifically referring to the increasing Hispanic population and the district's need to encourage its participation in the school

district. "We need to address that issue, and figure out how to help them," the superintendent said, speaking about the needs of new students in the district some of whom don't speak english.

"They're going to be leading the community in 15 years, and we need to give them the tools to do so," said board member

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'AAA' program excites students, teachers at Watson Junior High

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

The teaching staff of Watson Junior High impressed the members of the Muleshoe Independent School District's board of trustees during Monday's regular meeting with a presentation about the middle school's efforts to better utilize its resources.

"This is an example of the staff coming together to do something for the kids," Superintendent Gene Sheets said about the program, entitled "Aim and Advisory."

It was explained that the program is designed for student improvement, including TAKS intervention, reading proficiency, homework assistance and UIL preparation.

"It's a real positive thing

that we've added to our junior high," said one of the junior high instructors who spoke to the school board.

"We're very lucky to have the opportunity to service the students in this additional way," said another teacher.

At the beginning of the presentation, Principal Alex Salazar praised his staff's efforts, noting that he charged them with the task of developing a program that would benefit all of the junior high students and then stepped back and let them work.

The teachers talked about the enthusiasm the "AAA period" was generating among both the students and the teaching staff, and how it addressed several important instructional areas.

In other business, the school board received its annual audit report from Randy Field, CPA along with a report on the district's finances and investments from Business Manager Trae McNeill.

In the audit report, which covered the period ending June 30, 2007, Field said the school district received a "clean audit," adding that nothing of concern that needed to be addressed by the district had come to his attention during the audit process.

In her annual report concerning the district's investment policy, McNeill said the district's investments had done well during the past year, due in large part to the monies received

Continued on page 14

Local Weather

Thursday
Pt. Cloudy..... 57/36

Friday
Mt. Cloudy..... 54/28

Saturday
Few Shwrs..... 61/39

Sunday
Pt. Cloudy..... 67/33

Monday
Sunny..... 62/30

Tuesday
Sunny..... 61/32

Wednesday
Mt. Sunny..... 63/30

Give It A Thought

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Words to ponder from Beverly

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Call the carrier Bobby Flores at 806-891-3950 (leave a message) or call the Journal at 272-4536, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Parade entries sought

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its annual Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 1, beginning at 3 p.m.

The theme for this year's event is "A Christmas Caroling Parade."

Participants in the parade must turn in their entry forms by Friday, Nov. 30.

Entry forms are available at the chamber office.

The judging of floats and entries will be at 2:30 p.m. Awards will be given for Best Theme Presentation and Best in Show.

For additional information, contact the chamber office at 272-4248, or email chamber@fivearea.com.

Santa's Christmas Gift

By Larry Thornton
Part 3

After she read to her daughter, Marge, Peggy Jeffers appeared in Robbie's room with unexpected reinforcements, his father — who had arrived home from work later than expected.

"Hey, Dad!" Robbie said, bouncing off the edge of his bed and darting over to give his father a quick hug.

"Hey, Robbie," said Adam. Jeffers. "I understand we need to have a talk."

Robbie looked over at his mother, who was still standing by the open door to his room, her arms peacefully crossed. Although her face was stern, he was glad to see

there wasn't any anger present.

Robbie shrugged, before moving back over to his bed.

"Son, do you remember how you felt when you learned that Santa Claus wasn't real?" his father asked.

"Well... yah, but..."

"But nothing. Your mother and I don't think there's any harm in your sister believing in Santa Claus, in fact it's a good thing."

"But he's just pretend," said Robbie. "He's not a real person."

"And Spiderman® isn't?" replied Robbie's father, nodding at the image on Robbie's bedspread.

"It's not the same thing." "How's it different?"



"Well, I don't write him letters and I know he's just a cartoon and movie character."

"Does that mean you can't learn something from him?" asked Robbie's mother, speaking for the first time. "I guess not. But this whole Christmas thing..."

"This whole Christmas

thing is about more than Santa Claus and Christmas trees," added his father, "but right now you need to understand that believing in Santa Claus helps your little sister be a better person."

"But..."

"Robbie," said his mother.

Robbie frowned and looked down at the floor.

His mother continued. "This is the second time we've talked to you about this in just a week," she said. "Your father and I have talked about it, and think we need to do something besides talk..."

"Uh oh," Robbie thought to himself, "this isn't going to be good."

"Since you've already done your best to convince

your sister that Santa doesn't exist," said Peggy Jeffers, "your father and I think it's only right that you give her a list of reasons why she should believe in him."

It was a good thing that Robbie had already pulled off his shoes otherwise he might have stood a good chance of kicking his own chin when it hit the floor.

* * * * *

Far to the north, in fact just about as far north as you can get without turning back south again, Santa Claus pursed his lips as he listened to the elf Janus.

Inwardly, the man many referred to as St. Nick couldn't decide which

Continued on page 3



76 Years and Going Strong

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Christmas donations sought

"Christmas in Muleshoe," a project of the Bailey County Ministerial Alliance, helps loving hearts and able hands provide Christmas gifts for children of families with limited resources. Contributions for this project may be made at Muleshoe State Bank. Ask your teller to deposit your gift to the "BCMA Christmas in Muleshoe" account.

The BCMA is also accepting applications for the program. The applications are available at South Plains Community Action or at Muleshoe City Hall.

Christmas Card Project

The Christmas Card Project is now underway. This year's monies will go toward refurbishing an unused area into a chapel.

Your checks may be mailed to: Christmas Card Project, 1100 W. Avenue J, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, or dropped off at Park View Nursing Care Center at the same address. You may also drop off donations at Muleshoe State Bank and First Bank.

Dec. 17 is the cutoff date to make donations.

Angel Food Ministries

Trinity Christian Church of Muleshoe is going to be taking part in Angel Food Ministries, providing good quality food at a reduced price. The food boxes are \$25 each per month.

For additional information call Berna Bradley at 272-3702 or or 946-7358.

AA/Al-Anon meetings

Those looking for help with problem drinking and needing extra support during the holidays can do so at open AA and Al-Anon meetings being held at 7 p.m. each Friday at the First United Methodist Church, at 507 W. Second. Please use the west side entrance. For information about these meetings call 806-965-2870.

Xcel Energy Talk Station blood drive

United Blood Services offers a way to kick back for an hour this hectic holiday season — while you are donating lifesaving blood you can review your shopping list, plan a holiday meal, or just plain relax. Donate blood on Thursday, Dec. 6, at Xcel Energy Talk Station, from 8 a.m. until noon,, in the donor bus. Call 806 965-2194 to make an appointment today.

Blood donors must be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old. Bring a photo ID and donor card if you have one.

Alzheimer's Disease Support Group

The Bailey County Alzheimer's Disease Support Group will be meeting Thursday, Dec. 13, at noon, at Park View Nursing Care Center.

Shelly Moss, CEO for King's Manor Care Center, will provide the program. Lunch will be served.

For more information contact Debbie Crabtree, Bailey County Aging Services, 272-3647, or Mandi Seaton, Bailey County extension agent — Family and Consumer Sciences, 272-4583.

Editorial

Partial victory achieved

In what can only be termed a landmark victory in the rights of the unborn, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals recently upheld the right of an unborn child not to be murdered... without the consent of its mother.

While we applaud the recent court decision — which was based on the appealed murder conviction of Terence Lawrence who was charged with the 2004 murder of both his girlfriend and her unborn child — we can't help but wonder when, or if, the courts in either the Lone Star State or across this nation will ever return to the realization that the murder of a child by or with the consent of its mother is no different three months after conception than it is three months after birth.

Granted, we understand that the recent Texas court decision remains intact because it skirts the nation's high court decision in Roe v. Wade, but we can't help but be perplexed by actions that are condoned by our legal system prior to birth, only to be the target of prosecution just days later.

We demonstrate against those who prey against our children — whether online, around our parks and schoolyards, or in our homes; but when a child is still so young that he or she has yet to be named, society and the courts continue to give their permission for the mother to discard this tender soul with all the care and concern one gives the remnants of a Thanksgiving Day turkey.

We cry out that "it takes a village to raise a child," and proclaim that "no child should be left behind," but have no trouble supporting political candidates who see nothing wrong with the uncaring destruction of its youngest members.

Yes, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals made the right decision on Nov. 21, but it was only a battle... the war continues.



Tip Your Hat

Who in Muleshoe cannot applaud the efforts of the varsity Mules' football team?

With what must have been the most disturbing conclusion possible, the Mule's returned from its post-season play against Littlefield with the sure knowledge that it took a "12-man" team to bring about their defeat.

While this particular game will undoubtedly raise questions about how such situations are handled in future competition, the reality is that even if it results in changes down the road the 2007 gridiron season in Muleshoe ended in a heartbreaker.

It's tough enough for the spectators. It's even tougher for the participants — players, coaches and support staff.

As someone said Saturday, it's time for basketball in Muleshoe. But before the pads and helmets are turned in, lets

give the team a great cheer of appreciation. For months now, they have lifted the hearts of this community through their sweat and determination.

Now it's our turn to raise our hats and tell them how proud we are of them.

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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.
We are qualified members of:
Panhandle Press Association, West Texas Press Association and Texas Press Association
© 2007
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Bookkeeping/ Classified Advertising
classifieds@muleshoejournal.com
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Santa's Christmas Gift... continued from page 1

troubled him the most about the information that Janus brought concerning his fellow elf Sandy's recent activities.

While he was concerned about Sandy and the goose Elwood leaving the Christmas village, Santa was just as concerned about the apparent glee with which Janus brought him the news.

Sure, Janus couched his words in a manner that tried to show how worried he was about the two wayfarers, but Santa didn't need any special powers to catch the twinkle in Janus' eyes as he spoke.

"It's a sad truth that you don't need a warm climate to cry crocodile tears," Santa thought to himself.

There was little doubt in Santa's mind that Janus had waited in hiding somewhere, watching as Sandy prepared for the trip, mounted the goose and flew away, before scurrying to him with the news.

As he considered Janus' actions, a proverb popped into Santa's mind. "Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles do not let your heart rejoice."

"And your reason for bringing me this news?" Santa asked, tugging softly at the edge of his great white beard as he spoke.

The question caught Janus by surprise. "...Well, I was worried that he might get hurt or get into trouble..." he replied as meekly as possible.

"I see..." For several minutes, Santa sat thinking silently, and then with a twinkle in his eye that almost matched that of Janus' a few minutes earlier, the great toymaker said, "You're right. Something could happen to them. Unfortunately, the Winter Festival is just around the corner, and Christmas just beyond that. I can't get

away right now, and since you've already showed how concerned you are about them, it's only fitting that you bring them back."

The tiny bell on the toe of Janus' shoe tinkled softly as his chin crashed down upon it.

* * * * *

In an amazingly short period of time, Sandy and Elwood left the frozen tundra of the north behind.

As they flew along, Sandy continued to think about Santa's gift. Obviously, it wouldn't be something from a department store, for what could the machines of men do that the crafty hands of an elf couldn't manage.

Nor would it be something magical, in the normal sense of the word, for the ways of men had long ago shunned things that couldn't be explained with science and reasoning. And in this was rooted the glimmer of the idea that drew Sandy to the south.

As they flew, the lights of men gradually began to increase from an occasional farm and small village until the entire horizon was brightened by their artificial sunlight.

"Where to, Marvin?" Elwood called back to his passenger after they'd sailed over a particularly large community, its asphalt-paved thoroughfares bustling with activity.

"Keep going," Sandy called back, rolling his eyes in the process at the goose's refusal to use his real name.

On they flew, every once in a while having to dodge the lights of a highflying passenger jet. While it wouldn't be unusual for a goose to be passed by a commercial jet, for a goose the size of Elwood to do the passing, especially with a brightly-clad elf sitting on his

back, would have attracted an enormous amount of attention.

After awhile, Sandy leaned over and tapped Elwood on the side of the neck. "Fly lower," he said, leaning over to get a better look at the city lights far below.

Elwood set his wings, and began to slowly descend.

"That's it," Sandy said. "Land here!"

Elwood landed softly in a small park decorated with multi-colored lights.

Where else, Sandy thought, would you find a special gift for Santa than in a city that was already bedecked in Christmas lights.

* * * * *

Robbie sat deep in thought, paying little attention to the surrounding scenery as they traveled to the mall. Normally, his thoughts would have focused on the events planned for the Saturday evening — shopping with his parents and a movie, but on this night the task set him by his parents the previous day still had him bugged.

As hard as he tried, the only reason Robbie could think of was simply: Marge, if you don't believe in Santa Claus, I'm gonna be grounded until junior high.

Not very elaborate, or convincing, but maybe his parents would give him points for it being sincere.

With a deep sigh, Robbie stared out the window into the early December darkness.

"Daddy, can we drive through Holloway Park?" asked Marge, urging her father to take a small detour on the route to the mall and visit the small park the city had already decorated with a wild display of Christmas lights.

Robbie bit his tongue. Although he enjoyed the light display nearly as much

as his sister, his habitual outcry against all things Santa almost caused him to protest.

"When you're in a hole, stop digging," he muttered to himself, recalling one of the phrases his principal, Mr. Angleton, often used.

"What's that?" Robbie's father asked, glancing at Robbie in his rearview mirror.

"Nothing."

Adam Jeffers smiled knowingly as he signaled to change lanes prior to making the turn that would take them through the park.

A couple of minutes later, they turned into the park.

"Oh, look at the train!" Marge shrieked, her attention drawn to the newest addition to the park's light display, a locomotive outline of lights with wheels that appeared to be spinning, and a column of light that appeared to be a billowing smoke stack.

As they drove slowly through the park, Marge — sometimes accompanied by her mother, would call attention to another of the park's displays.

"Oh, look at the elf, Marge!" Peggy Jeffers said, pointing at something standing by one of the Christmas display.

"Is it real?" Marge asked.

"I don't know," her mother replied, just stopping herself before she said something that sounded too much like Robbie. "Maybe it's just a statue."

"But he looks real," Marge said.

Robbie turned and looked out the window at the display his mother and sister were talking about, and froze. For just a second, it seemed as if both the elf statute, and the large goose next to it were

starring back at him.

As the car continued on, Robbie turned around in his seat, trying to get a better look at the elf statute... but the space next to the light display was now empty.

"Where'd it go?" he asked

softly.

"Where did what go?" asked Robbie's father.

"...Nothing," Robbie said as he continued to stare out the rear window.

Continued next week



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It's A Wonderful Way To
Start The Christmas Holiday!

Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

We sincerely hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. We should give thanks everyday for our good health and America, a great place to live.

For those of you who missed having fish or chicken Friday, we apologize. Since the center was closed on Thursday, there wasn't enough time to get the fish ready. Come eat with us this Friday, we will have fish and chicken.

Remember our birthday party is Thursday, Nov. 29. You should have received

a phone call if we have you on our records. Please make plans to be here. The special prize of a free meal will be presented to the senior citizen with the most birthdays. A drawing will be held for a free lunch from the birthday cards, but you have to be here to win.

All you domino players plan to be at the center on Friday, Nov. 30, for a domino tournament. The tournament will begin at 10 a.m. Make plans to come and enjoy.

We are selling tickets on a beautiful quilt that was quilted and donated by

Marie Goforth. The quilt is on display at the center. It would make a wonderful Christmas present. Tickets are \$2 for one or three for \$5. The drawing will be held on Dec. 8, at the Christmas party.

Tuesday, Dec. 4, Mandi Seaton will present her nutritional program. Mandi is always enjoyable to listen to and gives a very informative program.

All you Bunco players make plans to be at the center by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 4. Call a friend and come play with us.

On Wednesday, Dec. 5, Muleshoe ISD Superintendent Gene Sheets will be speaking to the senior citizens on the construction and improvements for our schools. He will be speaking during the lunch hour. Mark your calendars to be with us.

Since we had no Bingo on Thanksgiving, all you Bingo players should be ready to play on Thursday, Dec. 6, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Bring your can of food for the food bank and enjoy the games.

Our Christmas Party will be on Saturday, Dec. 8.

The center will be open at 1: p.m. There will be games, fellowship and good eats. Make plans to come and enjoy.

Menu for Dec. 4-7:

Monday, Dec. 3 — Baked ham, au gratin potatoes, black eye peas, greens, cornbread, pudding.

Tuesday, Dec. 4 — Taco salad, pinto beans, spanish rice, chips, salsa, lettuce, tomatoes, fruit and cookies.

Wednesday, Dec. 5 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat rolls, pineapple cake.

Thursday, Dec. 6 — Baked

chicken with mushroom sauce, ranch potatoes, corn and bean salad, wheat roll and apple cobbler.

Friday, Dec. 7 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit salad.

AA meeting
Open AA and Al-Anon meetings are being held at 7 p.m. each Friday at the First United Methodist Church, at 507 W. Second. Please use the west side entrance. Call 806-965-2870 for info.

BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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The Touch of God
by Max Lucado

The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe. John 20:25

May I ask you to look at your hand for a moment? Look at the back, then the palm. Reacquaint yourself with your fingers. Run a thumb over your knuckles.

What if someone were to film a documentary on your hands? What if a producer were to tell your story based on the life of your hands? What would we see? As with all of us, the film would begin with an infant's fist, then a closeup of a tiny hand wrapped around mommy's finger. Then what? Holding on to a chair as you learned to walk? Handling a spoon as you learned to eat?

We aren't too long into the feature before we see your hand being affectionate, stroking daddy's face or petting a puppy. Nor is it too long before we see your hand acting aggressively: pushing big brother or yanking back a toy. All of us learned early that the hand is suited for more than survival—it's a tool of emotional expression. The same hand can help or hurt, extend or clench, lift someone up or shove someone down.

Were you to show the documentary to your friends, you'd be proud of certain moments: your hand extending with a gift, placing a ring on another's finger, doctoring a wound, preparing a meal, or folding in prayer. And then there are other scenes. Shots of accusing fingers, abusive fists. Hands taking more often than giving, demanding instead of offering, wounding rather than loving. Oh, the power of our hands. Leave them unmanaged and they become weapons: clawing for power, strangling for survival, seducing for pleasure. But manage them and our hands become instruments of grace—not just tools in the hands of God, but God's very hands. Surrender them and these five-fingered appendages become the hands of heaven.

That's what Jesus did. Our Savior completely surrendered his hands to God. The documentary of his hands has no scenes of greedy grabbing or unfounded finger pointing. It does, however, have one scene after another of people longing for his compassionate touch: parents carrying their children, the poor bringing their fears, the sinful shouldering their sorrow. And each who came was touched. And each one touched was changed.

From Just Like Jesus, Copyright (W Publishing Group, 1998, 2001) Max Lucado

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<p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD 521 South First Street 272-3017 S.S. 9:45 am, W.S. 10:30 am & 6:00 pm, Wed. 7:00 pm EL BUEN PASTOR 415 E. Ave. F - 272-5455 Pastor Domingo Luna - 272-4542 S.S. 9:45 am, W.S. 11 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7 pm</p>	<p>CATHOLIC IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH 805 E. Hickory Leonardo Pahamtang, Min.</p> <p>EPISCOPAL - CHARISMATIC ST. CLEMENTS CHURCH COMMUNION OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER Hwy. 214 South • 272-5954 Father Sergio Leal Sun. W.S. 10:30 am</p> <p>CHRISTIAN TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTER 1723 W. American Blvd. • 272-3877 Reydon Stanford, Pastor Sun. W.S. 10:30 am CENTRO CRISTIANO 117 E. Birch St. Hermanos Barron S.S. 10 a.m.; W.S. 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wed. 7 p.m.</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST LARIAT CHURCH OF CHRIST Sam Billingsley, Min. S.S. 10 a.m.; W.S. 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.</p> <p>LAZBUDDIE CHURCH OF CHRIST Nathan Crawford, Min. S.S. 9:30 am; W.S. 10:20 am & 5 pm; Wed. 7 pm MULESHOE CHURCH OF CHRIST 22nd & W. American Blvd. S.S. 9:30 am; W.S. 10:20 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm 16th & AVE. D CHURCH OF CHRIST Curtis Shelburne, Min. 272-4619 S.S. 9:30 am; W.S. 10:30 am; Growth Gr. 1:30 pm; Wed. 7:00 pm</p>	<p>LUTHERAN ST. JOHN LUTHERAN Lariat, TX • David Symm, Min. S.S. 10:30 am; W.S. 9:30 am</p> <p>METHODIST FIRST UNITED METHODIST 507 W. 2nd St. Spanish Service 8:30; S.S. 9:45; W.S. 11:00 Praise & Prayer 6 PM Pastor Monty Leavell, 272-5517 LAZBUDDIE METHODIST S.S. 9:30 am; W.S. 10:30 am Pastor Ken Peterson 965-2121 EL DIVINO SALVADOR U.M.C. 619 E. 5th Street & Ave. G, Muleshoe Javier Careaga, Pastor 272-6888</p> <p>PENTECOSTAL UNITED PENTECOSTAL LIGHTHOUSE 207 East Ave. G 1-800-454-6051 S.S. 10 am; Thursday, Bible Study 7 pm</p> <p>INTER DENOMINATIONAL NEW COVENANT Plainview Hwy. Steve Claybrook, Pastor W.S. 10 am; Wed. 7 pm MULESHOE COWBOY FELLOWSHIP 710 E. American Blvd., Muleshoe Steve Friskup, Minister 272-5199 Service: 7:30 p.m. Thursday</p>
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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Alma Bevers

A graveside service for Alma R. Bevers, 85, of Kingsland, formerly of Muleshoe was held on Saturday, Nov. 24, at Lakeland Hills Cemetery in Burnet County with the Rev. Bruce Clifton officiating.

Bevers died on Friday, Nov. 16, 2007, in Austin. She was born on April 24, 1922, to Serina and Joseph Hardcastle in Roaring Springs, and married Ray Maurice Bevers on Sept. 30, 1946, in Lubbock. He preceded her in death in 1999.

She was employed as a registered nurse and was a 1946 graduate of the Lubbock General Hospital Army Cadet Program in Muleshoe.

She was a member of the Richland Hills Baptist

Church in Muleshoe and also the American Nurses Association.

Bevers was also preceded in death by two children — Carolyn Lees and Sharon Marlow; her parents; two brothers and four sisters.

Survivors include two daughters and their husbands — Kaye and Roger Kendall of Sunrise Beach and Gina and Gilbert Vaca of New Braunfels; a daughter — Donna Guinn of Eagle Pass; a son and his wife — Johnny Ray and Melissa Bevers of Colorado Springs; a son — David Bevers of Phoenix, Ariz.; a sister — Velma of Farr; 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Sunrise Beach First Baptist Church.

Jonny Welch

A church service for Jonny Welch, 61, of Muleshoe was held on Friday, Nov. 23, at the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Monty Leavell officiating. Burial followed in Littlefield Memorial Park Cemetery.

Welch died on Sunday, Nov. 18, 2007, in her residence. She was born on July 28, 1946, in Shamrock to Floyd and Juanita Blake. She married Gary Welch in Plainview on Dec. 23, 1971.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother — Chris, and a sister — Faythe Ann.

Welch was a 1964 graduate of Lamesa High School, and moved to Muleshoe in 1985 from the Threeway Community. She was a homemaker and a member

of the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe.

She was a substitute school teacher in the Threeway, Sudan and Muleshoe schools.

Survivors include her husband; a son — Cory Welch of Austin; a daughter — Ransley Welch of The Colony; two sisters and their husbands — Merry and Ernest Ayala of Santa Fe, N.M., and Lynn and Tim Johnston of Plano; a brother and his wife — Terry and Patty Blake of Arlington; a brother — Curtis Blake of Dillon, Mont.; a sister-in-law — Karen Gobble of Hobbs, N.M.; and a brother-in-law — Bill Welch of Sudan.

Memorials may be sent to the South Plains Food Bank, 4612 Locust, Lubbock, Texas 79404.

Mary Davis

A graveside service for Mary Porter Davis, 86, of Sudan was held on Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Sudan Cemetery with the Rev. Robert Roecker of Sudan officiating.

Davis died on Nov. 21, 2007, in Littlefield. She was born on Dec. 31, 1920, in Paducah.

She was preceded in death by her parents — Uvie Bell and Ona Wilburn Porter; two daughters — Sydney Ruth and Susan Ronasa

Ernest Paez

A church service for Ernest Paez, 29, of San Angelo, was held on Monday, Nov. 26, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Muleshoe with Fr. Leo Pahamtang officiating.

Burial followed in Bailey County Cemetery.

Rosary was said on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 24-25, in Ellis Funeral Home of Muleshoe.

Paez died on Nov. 22, 2007, in San Angelo. He was born on Feb. 13, 1978, in El Paso, and married Stephanie Marie Guzman in Muleshoe on July 4, 1998.

He was preceded in death by his mother — Andrea, on March 10, 2004, and a brother — Freddie Paez in 1987.

He lived in San Angelo since moving from Muleshoe in 1998, and was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in San Angelo. He was employed as a carpenter.

Survivors include his wife — Stephanie Marie Paez of

Davis; and a brother — U.B. Porter, Jr.

Davis was a member of the First Baptist Church of Sudan.

She had moved to Sudan in 1932 from Post. She was a graduate of Sudan High School, and worked as a self-employed bookkeeper.

Survivors include two sons and their wives — Robin Euvie and Nancy Davis and Ronald Dustin and Beverly Davis, all of Sudan; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

San Angelo; three sons — Cristian, Evan and Isaiah Paez, all of San Angelo; a daughter — Dazmine Paez of San Angelo; his father — Rafael Paez of San Angelo; two sisters — Anna Morales of Lubbock and Olga Telles of Garland; three brothers — Ralph Paez, Jr. of San Angelo, Emilio Paez of Kyle, and Alejandro Paez of Christoval.

Christmas donations sought

“Christmas in Muleshoe,” a project of the Bailey County Ministerial Alliance, helps loving hearts and able hands provide Christmas gifts for children of families with limited resources. Contributions for this project may be made at Muleshoe State Bank. Ask your teller to deposit your gift to the “BCMA Christmas in Muleshoe” account.

The BCMA is also accepting applications for the program. The applications are available at South Plains Community Action or at Muleshoe City Hall.

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Van Scott Richards

A church service for Van Scott Richards, 47, of Sudan was held on Wednesday, Nov. 21, at the First Baptist Church of Sudan with Presley Newton of Muleshoe officiating. Burial followed in Lazbuddie Cemetery.

Richards died on Nov. 19, 2007, in Lamb County. He was born on July 10, 1960, in Leominster, Mass.

Richards was preceded in death by his mother — Mary Etta Richards, on Feb. 24, 2001, and a sister — Pam Newsom on Sep. 21, 2006.

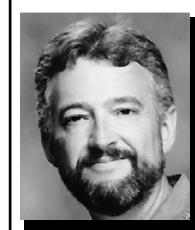
He was a member of the Diamond Jack Band, and a Christian. Richards worked for Lamb County as a heavy equipment operator for more than 20 years.

Survivors include a son — Jordan Richards of Sudan; a daughter — Haleigh Richards of San Angelo; his father — Don Richards of Archer City; two sisters — Melissa Sharp of Portales, N.M., and Rhonda McNair of Archer City; and five brothers — Bobby Don Richards of Forney, Joe and Michael Richards, both of Sudan, Tim Richards of Littlefield and James Richards of Amherst.

Christmas Tree Shopping Is Not What It Once Was

Well, I get to go look for a Christmas tree this evening. I'm not looking forward to the looking.

My wife has been making noises about this trip for several days. She's giving me time to come to terms with the inevitable. She knows I'd rather eat turnip greens than go shopping tonight. I'd rather be home with the flu because at least I'd be home. She knows that the only shopping that I like is the kind done with a computer screen and a mouse



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

where you never leave the house. She also knows that the two sons who are here with us right now from Africa don't want to go. They would rather take their chances with mango flies and relapses of malaria a few continents away than spend much time in an American, or any other, mall.

My wife does not understand why we are resistant to such a trip. She honestly does not understand why we are thrilled that the trip has been, through what the guys and I think are “acts of God,” postponed for two days already. We three don't want to go. This wonderful selfless Christian woman who has made our home happy and warm for decades doesn't care. Barring a bona-fide miracle, we're heading Christmas tree shopping tonight for a new plastic tree.

Excuse me. I just had to take a break to “tweeze” out a splinter that's been festering

in my finger for a couple of days. I'm glad it's gone, but, come to think of it, it has bothered me less than the knowledge of the tree-shopping trip rambling inexorably down the track toward us.

When I was a kid, I could hardly wait to go Christmas tree shopping. It was a wonderful time. Dad would lead the family expedition over to the Boy Scout Troop 80 Christmas tree lot in Amarillo. It was usually cold. As often as not some snow would be on the ground, and there would always be a warm fire in an old barrel with shoppers and tree-selling scouts huddled around it. Picking a great tree always took some time, but we'd finally load it up and head home with tree sap on our hands and the wonderful smell of pine boughs in our nostrils, evidence that we'd successfully found a TREE.

What we will find tonight will smell like dust and plastic. It will not come from any mountain. It will likely come from China.

I grant you, the fake trees are a lot better than they once were. But even the high dollar ones (which will not be the kind we will buy) will deserve the name Polyethylene more than they will deserve the name Tree.

Ah, well. I still love the season. And, yes, I still love my wife. The amazing thing is that she still loves me.

I admit it: The tree we end up with will end up being really pretty, though it will never end up being a real tree. But because God's Son lay down his own desires and went to a real and terrible tree, the joy that God will bring this season to his people will indeed be the real thing.

Curtis Shelburne is minister of the 16th & D Church of Christ in Muleshoe.

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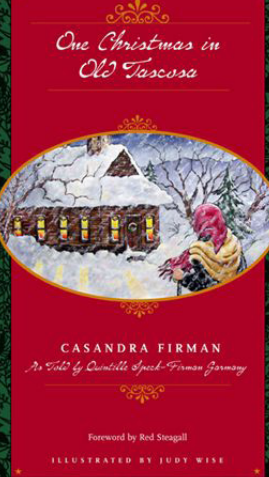
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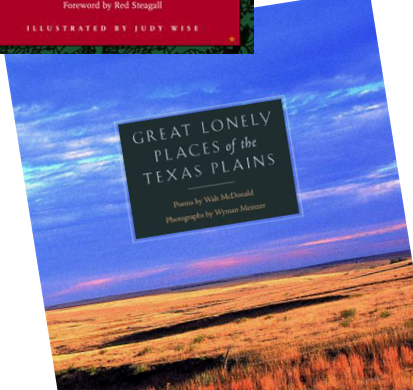
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Sports

Varsity Mules end football season against Littlefield

Continued from page 1

the Wildcats short of pay dirt on four plays at the Mule three. The Mules took over on downs.

Victor Vasquez started up the middle and then darted to the left for 14 yards on first down. Riley scrambled for a second first down but a very late flag all the way across the field from the play cost the Mules the first down plus one yard.

The Mules could not recover from the penalty and Riley punted the ball away. The return man fumbled the ball but recovered for the Wildcats at the Littlefield 47.

Littlefield converted on two fourth downs on their scoring drive that ended early in the second quarter. Zac Lopez scored on a one-yard dive to tie the game at 7-7.

The Wildcats changed their defense and began to rush only three and dropped back eight into zone coverage. The Mules could not sustain another drive in the first half.

Kyrus Collins broke three Mule tackles behind and near the line of scrimmage before breaking loose for a 66-yard touchdown with 6:32 left in the half. Steven Hobratchk missed the point after to put the Wildcats up 13-7.

Vasquez picked off the Wildcats only pass of the first half and returned the ball to the Littlefield 43. A hold call pushed the Mules back into their own territory on first down.

Riley connected on passes to Clayton, L. Wood, Wes Wood and Vasquez to move the Mules to the Wildcat 29. The Mules could not connect on two passes in the final



Photograph by Stacy Conner

Mule Doc Fullmer tackles a Wildcat.

eight seconds.

The two teams had exchanged punts to start the second half. Riley's second punt of the third period took a strange side ways bounced and hit a Wildcat in the back. Clayton was racing down the Mule sideline, saw what had happened and threw the Wildcat out of his way. He recovered on the Wildcat 33.

Riley rolled left out of the pocket and hit W. Wood in a

crowd at the three. W. Wood side stepped his defenders and took the three steps into the end zone. Rodriguez kick gave the Mules a 14-13 lead with 4:14 left in the third quarter.

Precure and W. Wood chased Precure's ensuing kick down the field and made the stop at the Wildcat 33. A chop block penalty set the Wildcats back 15 yards to their 26.

Jordan Broadhurst, one of the two Wildcat quarterbacks kept on a roll out for the third straight play. The Mules bite on the run and came off their coverage to help with the run.

Broadhurst threw he ball high in the air an allowed the wind to carry the ball over the head of the Mule defenders. Tyree Williams ran under the ball for a 74-yard TD. The Wildcats ran for the two points to take a 21-14 lead with 2:11 left in the third period.

The Mules touched the kickoff before it rolled out of bounds at the Mule 32. The Mules were operating into the stiff breeze but it only took three plays to get to the end zone. Vasquez picked up three on first down to get the Mules started.

Riley hit Clayton on a crossing route and he ran through tackles to the Wildcat 40 for a 25 yard gain. Riley spotted Colby Carpenter on the fly down the Littlefield sideline.

The Wildcat defender went for the interception but Carpenter made the catch at the 16 and went in the end zone untouched. Rodriguez knotted the score at 21-21 with a minute left in the period.

Neither team could mount a scoring drive in the final period.

Littlefield got the ball on the 25 for the first attempt in over time. The Wildcats converted on a fourth and inches by half a football. Littlefield scored on the ninth play and kicked the extra point.

The Mules took their turn from the 25 and had gained seven yards to the 18 for their fourth down try for a first.

Lady Mules fall to seventh-ranked Lady Lions

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mules bolted out of the gates early against the number seven ranked New Deal Lady Lions.

The Lady Mules raced out to an 8-2 lead before New Deal finally began to show some life.

The Lady Mules led 12-9 after one period but the Lady Lions had opened a 25-17 by the end of the half. New Deal was only able to add three points to their lead

in the second half to defeat the Lady Mules 47-36.

Ashley Grumbles got to the back side and Sarah Johnson fed her the ball to get the Lady Mules going. Grumbles continued through the first period by taking a charge, put back an offensive rebound, driving the score on a fast break and driving through the zone defense for her eight first period points.

Morgan Smith scored on an in bound play and Chi

Hernandez scored two from the charity line for the Lady Mule 12 first period points.

The Lady Mules were limited to five points in the second frame while the Lady Lions poured in 16 to take a 25-17 lead at the half.

Hernandez must have had a toe on the line when she drained a long two. Grumbles finished a break before the Lady Lions could get started.

New Deal scored on an

in bounds play. Hernandez spun into the lane and banked in a short jumper. Johnson pushed the ball ahead to Ashley Cisneros running on a break. Cisneros lay up cut the New Deal lead to 25-27 with just under three minutes left in the period.

New Deal scored five points before Kelsy Tipps scored on an in bound play to end the period trailing the Lady Lions 27-32.

Smith interrupted an 11-point run by New Deal to start the final quarter. Hernandez, Grumbles, and Smith each made two from the charity stripe. Tipps ended the Lady Mule scoring with one from the line.

Grumbles led the Lady Mules in scoring with 14 points with eight coming in the first quarter. Hernandez and Smith recorded eight points each and Tipps added three. Cisneros scored two and Johnson made one.

The Lady Mules traveled to Springlake-Earth on Tuesday night to take on the Lady Wolverines.

They will play in the Nazareth Invitational Tournament over the week end.

The Mules will travel with the Lady Mules to Springlake and they are entered in the Shallowater Invitational Tournament over the week end.

JV Lady Mules take New Deal victory

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Lady Mules pushed their season record past the .500 mark with a 35-31 win over the New Deal Lady Lions Tuesday night. The Lady Mules hosted the Lady Lions in the Muleshoe Athletic and Convocation Center.

New Deal owned a 9-0 lead over the Lady Mules before Val Olivas made a long pass down the floor to Yvonne Gardea running on a break with less than two minutes left in the first period.

Olivas was fouled on a put back attempt and made both charity tosses. New Deal scored before Olivas drove the right side

of the lane to cut the Lady Lion lead to 11-6 as the first period ended.

Gardea made her first of three free throws as the second quarter began. Amber Fuentes made both shots from the line to cut the New Deal lead to 13-11 at the intermission.

The Lady Lions had no answer for Gardea in the third period as she scored 10 of the Lady Mules 12 points. Gabby Perez added two points. The Lady Mule defense held New Deal to 10 in the period knot the game at 23-23.

Gardea extended her scoring streak into the final frame with a lay up to finish a fast break on a pass from Melissa Mendoza. Gardea

made four of nine free throws for eight points in the final frame.

Tori Alvarado, Tessa Burris, Olivas, and Fuentes, each added a free throw in the final period as the Lady Mules took and extended their lead.

Gardea set the scoring pace with 23 points. Olivas added five points, Fuentes three and Burris and Alvarado chipped in one each.

The Lady Mules traveled to Springlake-Earth to tangle with the Lady Wolverines Tuesday night. The JV Lady Mules and Mules are to host the JV Muleshoe Invitational Tournament over the weekend.

HOOP IT UP!

Varsity Girls Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Nov. 29-Dec. 1	Nazareth tourney	Naz.	TBA
Dec. 4	Farwell	There	6:30
Dec. 7	Shallowater	Here	6:00
Dec. 11	River Road	There	6:00
Dec. 14	Highland Park	Here	6:00
Dec. 18	Tulia	There	6:00
Dec. 21	Dimmitt	Here	6:00
Dec. 27-29	Littlefield tourney	Little.	TBA
Jan. 4	Brownfield	There	6:30
Jan. 8	Bushland	There	6:00
Jan. 11	Friona	Here	6:00
Jan. 15	River Road	Here	6:00
Jan. 18	Highland Park	There	6:00
Jan. 22	Tulia	Here	6:00
Jan. 25	Dimmitt	There	6:00
Feb. 1	Bushland	Here	6:00
Feb. 5	Friona	There	6:00

Look for other schedules to follow.

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County trash problem continues...

Although Bailey County Precinct 1 employees have worked hard during the past couple of months clearing away truckloads of illegally dumped trash, the problem continues. Pictured above, County Commissioner Butch Vandiver looks over some of the trash that has been thrown into a ditch east of CR 193 on CR1018. According to Vandiver, the county has information concerning the identity of the offenders and the county attorney will be contacted in regards to filing criminal charges. Individuals having information about such illegal activities are urged to contact the sheriff's department.

Holiday message offered from trauma services

The summer months are not the only time we are concerned with drinking and driving. With the holidays coming up we need to think about drinking and driving again.

No matter how many times we've heard it, there are people who just don't get it. In fact, every 30 minutes, someone in this country dies in an alcohol-related crash.

Last year alone more than one million people were injured in alcohol-related

traffic crashes. Every single injury and death caused by drunk driving is totally preventable.

Around the holidays, parties and other celebrations, combined with increased stress and fatigue, increase the risk for impaired driving-related fatalities.

Risking lives — your own and others' is no way to celebrate the holidays.

Nine out of ten Americans who participate in social events where alcohol is

served feel that people should use designated drivers.

Include alcohol-free beverages, along with awareness of guests' consumption make your party safer.

- Plan ahead:
- Don't risk it! If you plan to drive, don't drink.
 - Choose a sober designated driver.
 - Take the bus or a cab.
 - Spend the night where the activity is being held.
 - Report impaired drivers

to law enforcement.

This holiday season, celebrate responsibly and don't take a chance, there is just too much to lose.

College News

If your college student is graduating or has made the Dean's or President's List, in order for that information to appear in the *Muleshoe Journal*, we must receive notice from the respective educational institution.

Your son or daughter must sign a release in the busar's office so the information can be sent to us.

Once permission to share information has been granted, the college or university should send the info via email to: editor@fivearea.com.

Heritage center open for the holidays

The Muleshoe Heritage Center will be open during the holiday season, and guided tours will be available weekdays from 1-5 p.m.

The heritage center is also available for Christmas celebrations, reunions, club activities and parties. Call 272-5873 or 272-4741 for additional information or to reserve a time.

Happy Holidays!

Christmas Open House
December 3rd - 8th

Most All Gift Items..... 20% Off
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Some Gift Items..... 50% Off

Refreshments will be served.

Western Drug & Something Special Gifts

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Parents Night Out

Saturday, Dec. 8th

Make plans now to get some Christmas shopping done from 7-11 p.m. while your kids enjoy time at Little Feet, Big Dreams!

Just \$10 per child

LITTLE FEET, BIG DREAMS

1426 W. Ave. B, Muleshoe • 272-7612

Health

Antibiotic resistant staph Infection

Submitted by Mandi Seaton, Bailey CEA-FCS

Recent news of infections and even fatalities related to antibiotic-resistant staph infection, known as MRSA, has shed light on the need for good hygiene and appropriate care for minor injuries to reduce the risk of infection.

Doctors are seeing an increasing number of patients with skin infections caused by *Staphylococcus aurea* ('staph') bacteria that are resistant to many antibiotics, also called methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* — MRSA.

Until recently, most people got MRSA infections while in hospitals and nursing homes.

They are now becoming more common among people without medical problems, including children.

Staph is a type of bacteria. MRSA is a particular type of bacteria that has become resistant to a specific group of antibiotics called beta-lactams, including penicillin, amoxicillin, oxacillin, and others.

People actually carry staph bacteria on their skin and in their nose without being infected.

The infections begin when the bacteria enters the skin through a cut or scrape or even through a break in dry

skin. The staph/MRSA infection can be spread with skin to skin contact or through a shared object or surface. Anything that has touched the skin of a staph/MRSA infected person can carry the bacteria to the skin of another person.

Symptoms of a staph infection include redness, warmth, swelling, tenderness, boils and blisters.

Handwashing is the single most important step to take in preventing staph/MRSA. Keeping your body and environment clean is one of the best ways to prevent spreading this infection.

Do not share personal items such as towels, deodorant, soap, razors, makeup, etc., with anyone suspected having a staph/MRSA infection.

Avoid skin to skin contact with anyone suspected having a staph/MRSA infection.

Even when precautions are taken to prevent infection, sometimes it cannot be avoided.

If you suspect a skin infection, see your doctor or healthcare provider immediately.

Early detection can help prevent the infection from getting worse.

Whether at home or in public places, staph and MRSA infections should be treated carefully to reduce the risk of spreading the infection and to increase the chances for healing with fewer complications.

For more information regarding antibiotic-resistant staph and MRSA, access the website <http://fcs.tamu.edu> and click on HealthHints on MRSA — Antibiotic resistant staff, or contact Mandi Seaton, County extension agent — Family and Consumer Sciences, Texas Cooperative Extension, Bailey County, 806-272-4583.

new McSkillet™ BURRITO

MAKE YOUR BREAKFAST COMPLETE

Our new **McSkillet™ Burrito** is freshly prepared with savory sausage, skillet potatoes, steamy scrambled eggs, green and red bell peppers, melted cheddar jack and American cheese, topped with authentic fire-roasted salsa all wrapped up in a warm, flour tortilla. Now, hunger doesn't stand a chance.



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 **I'm lovin' it®**

Pheasant hunt breakfast set

The Bailey County EMS Organization will be hosting its annual Pheasant Hunt Breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 1, beginning at 5 a.m., at the Bailey County Coliseum.

Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Raffle tickets are also available for a Browning BPS 12 gauge shotgun.

For additional information, call 272-4390.

TRIPLE ARTIST DAY AT CAROLYN'S

Saturday, Dec. 1

The "Wow" factor is tripled as Carolyn brings in three artists to showcase their work!

Kenneth Wyatt's Mobile Art Studio will be set up in Carolyn's parking lot and will feature his famous prints, books and sculptures.

You will certainly enjoy viewing all of his fine work in a heated mobile studio and the best part is that it's all for sale! A Kenneth Wyatt piece would be an ideal Christmas gift for anyone!

Gourd & Bronze Artist Theresa Martin will also be at Carolyn's this day.

Theresa has won numerous awards for her gourd work and was a featured artist at this year's Cowboy Symposium. Her creative and delicate detailing sets her artwork a step above the norm.

Jewelry Artist Mozelle Goble completes the artist trio on hand Dec. 1.

Mozelle creates a variety of styles of jewelry. Carolyn praises her most for her work with turquoise. The warmth and natural variation of her work with the blue stone is amazing. At very affordable prices, the handcrafted combinations she puts together are guaranteed to turn heads.

Carolyn's

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'Tis Always Christmas at Carolyn's!

We helped the squirrels gather...

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 ...lots of acorns to squirrel away in their nests.


LOWE'S MARKETPLACE
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 Muleshoe, Texas
 272-4585

Whirls of Squirrels!
 Do you watch squirrels scampering in your yard or in the park? At this time of year we are busy gathering and storing acorns for the colder season that is on its way!

We are members of the rodent family! But, aren't we cuter than rats? We are related to chipmunks and woodchucks. We can eat acorns, nuts, seeds, fruits and tree buds.

Read the clues below to fill in the puzzle about squirrels:

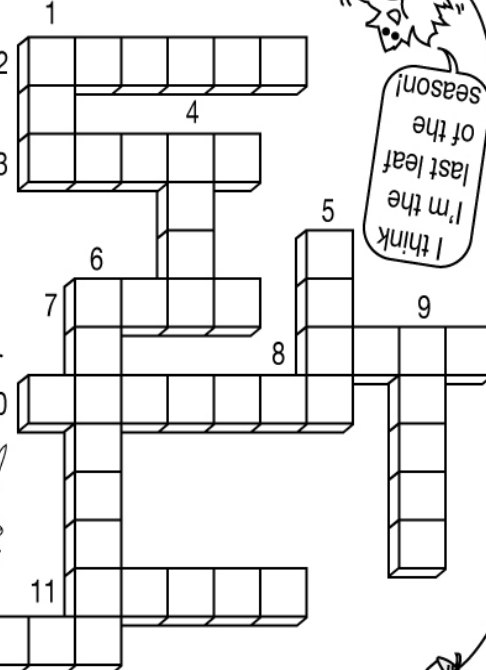
- may be as small as a mouse or as large as a _____
- gray, golden brown, red, black, white
- four sharp front ones, can bite through the hardest nutshells
- used for steering, balance, shade and warmth
- used to hold, bury food
- over one _____ kinds of squirrels
- squirrels bark, squeal and chatter
- clean themselves a lot
- find nuts with this keen sense
- ground squirrels have these in cheeks to carry food
- make these in tree hollows, branches, in ground
- fruits, nuts, berries, seeds, insects, eggs

pouches nests cat wash
 tail smell food teeth
 talk thousand colors paws

Circle the two acorns that are the same on the top half of this page.

I think I'm the last leaf of the season!

Not so, Joe! I'm still here.




BAILEY COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
 305 E. Ave. B
 Muleshoe, Texas
 272-4504

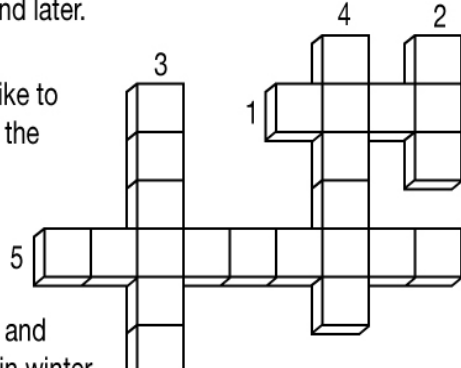
In the fall, I gather all the acorns I can find. When I'm done I want to have some fun, so I throw a big squirrel party!

I send invitations on oak leaves to all the squirrel family. **Fill in the puzzle below to find out who comes.**

- These squirrels build their nests in branches and hollows. They do not store food, but bury it to find later.
- These are the noisiest squirrels. They like to live in forests. They are the smallest of the tree squirrels, but they are very fast.
- These squirrels sleep during the day. They move and eat at night. They climb to high spots in trees, then jump and glide!
- These members of the squirrel family - like woodchucks, prairie dogs and marmots - have burrows in the earth. They store food and hibernate in winter.
- These ground squirrels have dark and light stripes on their faces. They carry food in cheek pouches to store food for the winter, but they don't hibernate.

Free "December Days" Puzzle!
 Join our free reading club: www.readingclubfun.com Play the mini game, read Forest's diary, then go to the puzzle area to print my new **December Days word search puzzle**. Have fun!

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A Nutty Feast!
 Squirrels love nuts! How many different kinds of nuts can you name? The nuts below were served at the party. **How many can you find and circle?**

almond pistachio
 pecan filbert
 peanut hazelnut
 chestnut acorn
 walnut cashew

**C H E S T N U T K E D V S Z P I F G
 B H U T F R D E A C G N A C E P I L
 T A L M O N D V G D A M O U T V L Y
 C R D W S Q A U G B F S O Y G F B G
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 M P O I J H T L F T U N L E Z A H O
 N R O C A F A B U T F E D Y H G U J
 V I U E A W C T E D I T U N A E P O**

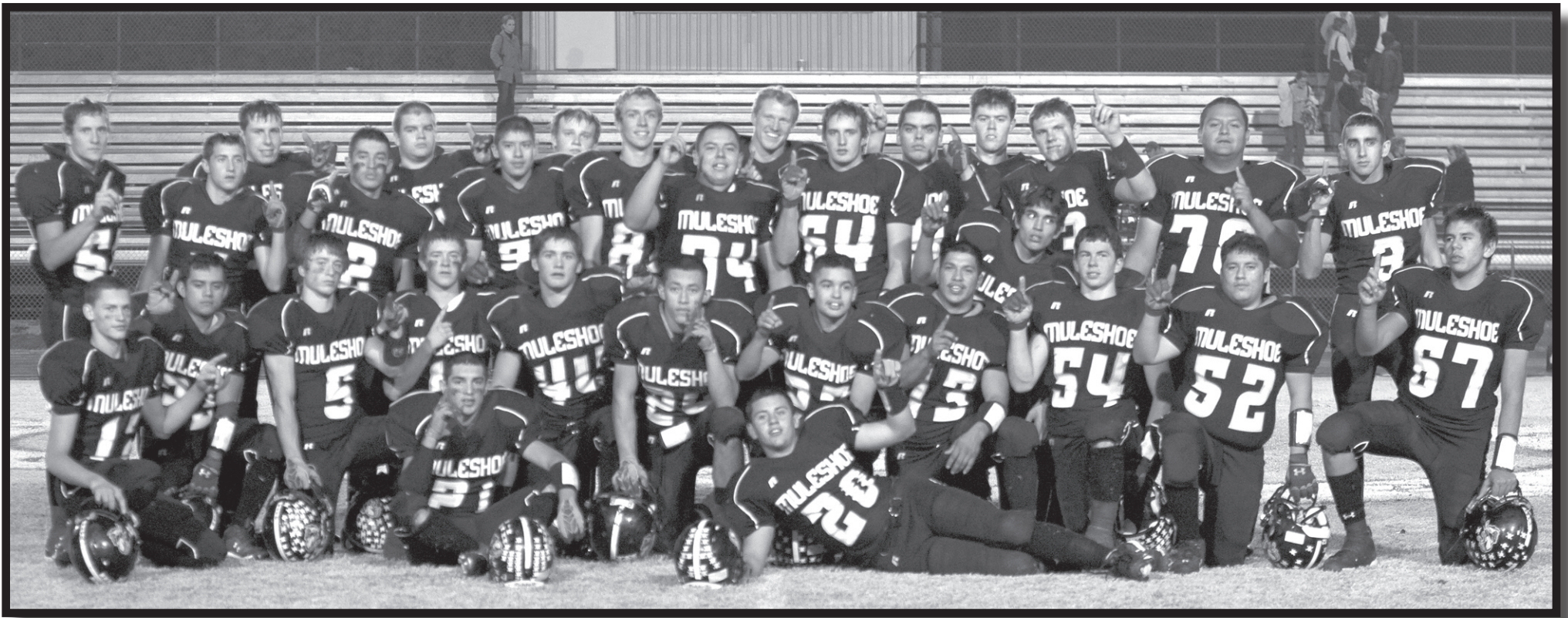
Whereeee!

Look at Flit, the flying squirrel, flapping in to the feast!

He's always been a bit squirrely!

Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills LLC © 2007

CONGRATULATIONS ON A FANTASTIC SEASON MULES! WE'RE VERY PROUD OF YOU!



YOU'RE ALWAYS #1 IN OUR HEARTS!

<p>Muleshoe Tire 107 Main Street Muleshoe 806-272-4594</p>	<p>Alvarado Party Rentals 806-272-5588 Eddie & Rachel Alvarado</p>	<p>Trés Bella Salon 1519 W. American Muleshoe 806-272-7516</p>	<p>Burton Service Center 803 W. American 806-272-5330</p>	<p>Muleshoe Animal Clinic & Muleshoe Vet Supply 1484 US Hwy. 84 806-272-3061</p>
<p> Five Area Organization 302 Uvalde • 272-5533</p>	<p> Muleshoe Valley Inc. 2601 W. American 806-272-4266</p>	<p>Little Feet, Big Dreams 1426 W. Ave. B Muleshoe 806-272-7612</p>	<p>Hi-Tek Automotive & Muffler Service 322 N. 1st, Muleshoe 806-272-3480 Joe, Shaun & Eddie</p>	<p> H&R BLOCK H&R Block 104 E. Ave. C Muleshoe 806-272-3332</p>
<p> Lowe's Marketplace 401 W. American Muleshoe 806-272-4585</p>	<p>Central Compress 205 Railroad Ave. Sudan 806-227-2388</p>	<p>Leal's Restaurant 1010 W. American 806-272-3294</p>	<p> Pizza Hut 1412 W. American Muleshoe 806-272-4213</p>	<p>Muleshoe Pea & Bean 1680 CR 1044 Muleshoe 806-272-5589</p>
<p><i>David & Belinda, Marshal & JoAnne say "We're proud of you Marshal & all our other Muleshoe Mules!"</i></p>	<p><i>"The Heinrichs & the Jeffers are proud of you. You're winners in our hearts!"</i></p>	<p><i>Carroll, Terry, Andrew, Adrienne & Emily say "We're proud of you Patrick and all the Mules!"</i></p>	<p>United Supermarkets 104 W. 9th St. Muleshoe 806-272-3120</p>	<p><i>Todd, Starla, Colt, PaPa Frank, Grandend, Papa Ronnie & Granny say "We love our Mules!"</i></p>
<p> Ray Lee Equipment 2800 W. American 806-272-4296</p>	<p>O&C Erection Sprinkler Service Authorized Poxy-Coat Dealer "We're proud of our Mules!"</p>	<p> Bailey County Electric Co-op. 305 E. Ave. B 806-272-4504</p>	<p> Bailey County Farm Bureau 1612 W. American 806-272-4567</p>	<p> Pearson Meat Co. 401 S. Main • 272-4703</p>
<p> i'm lovin' it 1315 W. American 806-272-3333</p>	<p>Ruben Leal Plumbing 307 E. Dallas Muleshoe 806-272-3588</p>	<p> MEMBER FDIC 202 S. 1st Muleshoe 806-272-4515</p>	<p>Bratcher Motor Supply 107 E. Ave. B Muleshoe 806-272-4288</p>	<p>Boehning Dairy "We give the Mules a 21 hoof salute!"</p>

Fullmer Cattle Co.
"Congrats to the Bi-District champs. We love our Mules!"

"If I were asked to give what I consider the single most useful bit of advice for all humanity, it would be this: Expect trouble as an inevitable part of life, and when it comes, hold your head high. Look it squarely in the eye, and say, "I will be bigger than you. You cannot defeat me.""
— Ann Landers

Que & Debbie say "Great year Doc! We're proud of you!"

4-H News

Eight members of the Bailey County 4-H Club participated in the Dist. 2 4-H Food Show and Nutrition Quiz Bowl, in Levelland on Nov. 10.

Food show participants include Shelbi Harrison, daughter of Sherri Harrison and Alan Harrison; Bailey Bales, daughter of Lori and Kem Bales; Laurel, Bethany, and Hudson Nitzel, children of Deb and Grant Nitzel; Kayla Preston, daughter of Karie and Curtis Preston; and Megan Pierson, daughter of Jo and Wayne Pierson.

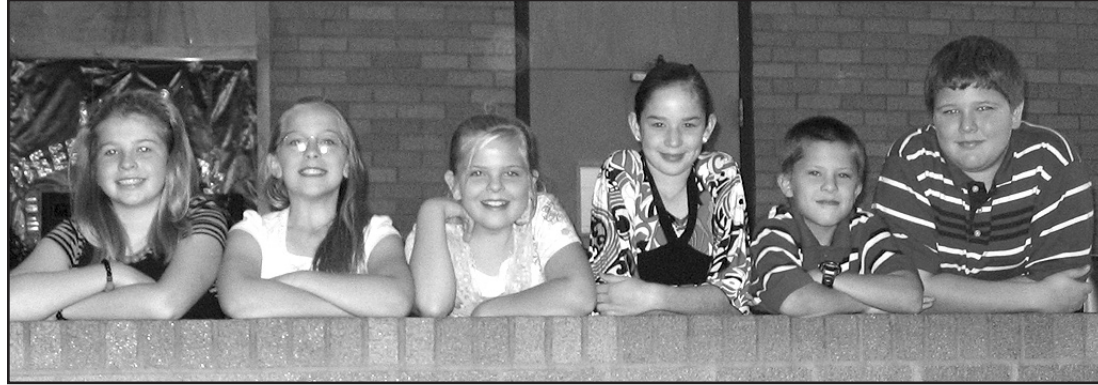
Bailey Bales received first place in the Intermediate, Bread and Cereal division. Laurel Nitzel received first place in the Intermediate, Nutritious Snack division.

The Junior Nutrition Quiz Bowl team members include Bethany and Hudson Nitzel and Kayla Preston.

Intermediate Nutrition Quiz Bowl team members include Bailey Bales, Laurel Nitzel, and Judd Baker, son of Zonelle and Rodney Baker. Both teams advanced several rounds in the competition.



Food show participants — Shelbi Harrison, Bailey Bales, Bethany Nitzel, Laurel Nitzel, Kayla Preston, Megan Pierson and Hudson Nitzel.



Quiz bowl team members — Bailey Bales, Bethany Nitzel, Laurel nitzel, Kayla Preston, Hudson Nitzel and Judd Baker.

Moore to appear at First Assembly of Muleshoe

The congregation of the First Assembly of God of Muleshoe announce special services with the Rev. Renee' Moore of Muskogee will be held on Dec. 2, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service and the 6 p.m. evening service.

Moore has traveled extensively, conducting revival services and ministering in a variety of different churches to various group including: Youth, women and single adults.

She has also conducted music ministry in countries such as Jamacia, Mexico, Russia and Ukraine.

Throughout these special services, Moore will share her own struggles and victories over fear, suicide

and depression.; as well as a near death experience at the age of three that left her severely neurologically impaired for many years.

"I believe the second coming of Jesus Christ is very close at hand," Moore says. "We, as the church, should be diligent in making preparation for his soon return.

For additional information, call 272-3017.

4-H announces kolaches recall

Double B Food — producers of the Wheeler Bran Kolaches that were sold by Bailey County 4-H — has announced a voluntary recall of Kolaches that were produced the week of Oct. 29, 2007, in regard to food safety concerns.

To date, no illnesses have been reported in connection with this recall action.

Only product code #5788-W is being officially recalled by the USDA.

Double B Foods confirmed that if the Kolaches are heated in accordance with the "heating instructions" on the carton and the internal temperature reaches 165 degrees then any food safety concerns in regards to this recall would be eliminated.

For further information regarding this recall, consumers can call Double B's toll-free hotline at (866) 966-4661.

Christmas Card Project is under way

The Christmas Card Project is now under way. This year's monies will go toward refurbishing an unused area into a chapel.

Your checks may be mailed to: Christmas Card Project, 1100 W. Avenue J, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, or dropped off at Park View Nursing Care Center at the

same address. You may also drop off donations at Muleshoe State Bank and First Bank.

Dec. 17 is the cutoff date to make donations.

Thank you for reading

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1633 American · Muleshoe

*Single Patty Burger, Add-ons Extra. Limited Time Only!

Thank You

From the Muleshoe PTA

We are happy to say that this year's PTA Fall Festival was a success. This would not have been possible without the support of the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muleshoe Cowboy Church United Supermarkets D&K Feed and Tire Family Hair Salon Western Drug Agriliance Mohawk Auto Parts Sparkle Cleaners Pearson Meat Co. John Deere Muleshoe Animal Clinic Lasting Impressions The Apple Shack Wayne Copley Trucking Blackwater Agri. Assn. Vision Furniture Muleshoe High School SCAC Muleshoe Heritage Center Dr. Robert Lepard Muleshoe Metal Art Kettner Farms Muleshoe State Farm Minsa Corp. Wilson Drilling Co. C&H Equipment MB Express Dinner Bell Restaurant Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diminutive Gardens/Alice Liles Lowe's Marketplace Muleshoe Pea & Bean Fast Glass Williams General Store Leal's Restaurant Family Dollar Fry & Cox Leal's Tortilla Factory Savage Muleshoe Public Library Interim Health Care Sonic Vasquez Sprinkler Service Muleshoe State Bank Carolyn's Christmas Creations Trinity Church Youth Group La-Tea-Da Tearoom Janice Bradshaw Dale Oil Co. J.D. & Julie Cage Western "66" Five Area Organization Sunland Peanuts Complete Feed & Seed West Texas Gas Photo Makers Muleshoe Police Department Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.
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We would also like to give a special thank you to the administrators, teachers and parents who gave their time and energy to make this year's festival a success. We could not have done it without you!!

A Christmas Carolling Parade

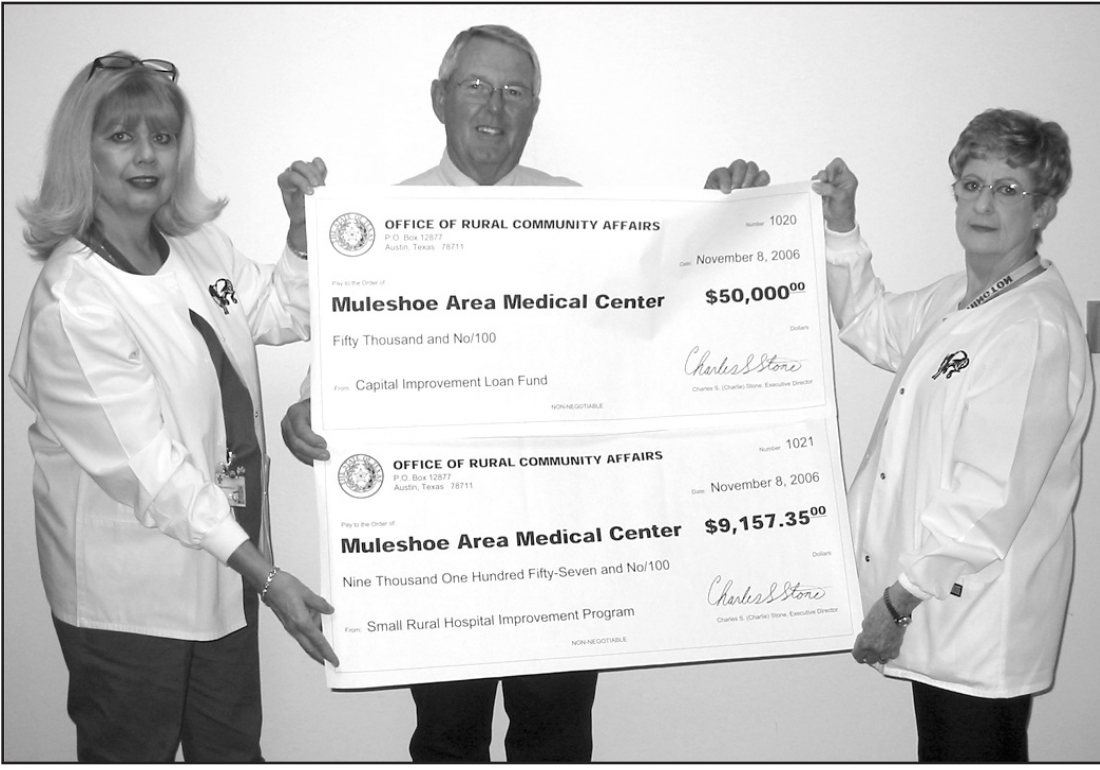
Brought to you by the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture

JOIN THE FESTIVITIES!
SATURDAY, DEC. 1ST
3:00 P.M.

COME OUT AND BRING THE CHILDREN TO MULESHOE'S CHRISTMAS PARADE!

CALL THE MULESHOE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT 272-4248 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Visit with Santa and enjoy hot cocoa on the chamber deck after the parade!



ILENE MORTON, RAY MASON AND MARGARET HEATHINGTON

MAHD recognized for contribution to project

The Office of Rural Community Affairs honored Muleshoe Area Medical Center in August at the Panhandle RPC meeting in Amarillo for having secured two grants for the amount of \$59,157.35 from the agency.

The recipients throughout the state received more than 3.1 million in grants awarded by ORCA between Sept. 1, 2006 and Aug. 31, 2007.

The funds supported a variety of local undertakings, including local infrastructure development (planning, capacity building, water, wastewater) projects, disaster relief, healthcare accessibility enhancements, medical facility improvements, and healthcare professional recruitment endeavors, to name a few.

"We commend the efforts of every recipient for their dedication to supporting their rural Texas community,"

said ORCA Executive Director Charles S. Stone. "ORCA was created to assist rural Texans with building their own communities, and I applaud everyone who applied for funding to address the needs of their community."

ORCA's door is always open for comments and suggestions regarding the agency, and any rural issues of concern. Contact ORCA at P.O. Box 12877, Austin, Texas 78711 Phone: 512-936-6701 Toll free: 800-544-2042 Email: orca@orca.stae.tx.us Fax: 512-936-6776 On the web: www.orca.state.tx.us

As the state agency dedicated solely to rural Texas, ORCA makes the broad resources of state government more accessible to rural communities. ORCA was created by the 77th Legislature to facilitate and focus the State's health, economic development, and community development

programs targeting rural communities in Texas.

The agency ensures a continuing focus on rural issues, monitors governmental actions affecting rural Texas, researches problems and recommends solutions, and is a coordinator and provider of rural-focused state and federal resources.

Holiday pleasures without the guilt

The holiday season, Oct. 31 through Jan. 1, can be the most fattening time of the year for some people, says Sue Church, Texas Cooperative Extension family and consumer science agent in Potter County.

"Holiday Pleasures Without the Guilt" will be the topic at the monthly Extension Senior Seminar, Church said.

The presentation will begin at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Potter County Extension office, Kimble 4-H Center, 3301 E 10th Street.

Susie Spurlock, extension agent — family and consumer sciences for Sherman County, and Church will demonstrate techniques for reducing sugar in baked goods while maintaining the "goodie factor."

In addition, they will give tips on using convenience foods such as a rotisserie

chicken to create a variety of different dishes and show how to cut recipes down to serve singles or doubles.

"After the demonstrations, you will be invited to sample the recipes," Church said. A handout with the recipes will be available.

Senior Seminars are

sponsored by the Potter County Extension Coalition on Aging and Amarillo Senior Citizens' Association. They are free to the public.

For more information, contact the extension office in Potter County at 373-0713.

Publication of Obituaries

Obituaries printed in the Muleshoe Journal are printed free of charge and contain the following types of information: date and details of funeral and place of burial; date and place of birth and parents names; date of marriage; limited biographical information, including the highest level of schooling achieved, service in the Armed Forces, profession (and retirement information if applicable); names of relatives who have preceded the person in death; names of survivors (including husband and wife, parents, in-laws, brothers, sisters, grandparents (only the number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren) will be included; and where memorials may be directed. We will be pleased to run a one column black and white photo at no charge. A larger photo or a color photo will cause the obit to be paid. Please keep in mind that everything must be submitted by your funeral home.

Subscribe!



Hospital receives chairs

Julie Cage, Pam Miller and Margaret Heathington, RN, are shown above with one of three newly purchased sleep chairs, provided by the Muleshoe Area Hospital Auxillary. The chairs will be used by family members of patients who choose to stay with there loved ones in the hospital.

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Muleshoe FFA competes at district, area

Muleshoe FFA was represented at the District LDE competition on Nov. 11.

At the District level Muleshoe had 13 contestants competing in five contests. Among the students to place in the competition, and

the area in which the local students competed were:

- Radio — Caitlin Wills, Corie Ann Black and Cassie Kirby.
- Senior Creed division — Steven Richards.
- Junior Creed — Tyson Turnbow and Sergio Montejano.
- Senior Quiz — Team I

consists of Austin Bamert, Craig Black and Clara McBane; Team 2 members consists of Colt Ellis, Jackson Myers, Eli Symm and Dal Whalin.

Team 2 was able to move on to the Area Competition, using Craig Black as an alternate at WTAMU, and finishing ninth in Area.

Births

Gabrielle Alexander

Sonya and Matthew Alexander of Canon City, Colo., proudly announce the birth of a daughter, Gabrielle Renee Alexander, on Nov. 20, 2007, at 12:03 a.m. at St. Thomas Moore Hospital in Canon City.

Gabrielle weighed eight pounds, five ounces, and was 20-1/2 inches long.

She has a brother — Caleb, 5, and a sister — Haleigh, 2.

Her grandparents are Jimmy and Vickie Alexander of Canon City, David and Kay Gray of Muleshoe, and Dennis and Margie Smith of Baxter, Tenn.

“Listen, my son, to your father’s instruction and do not forsake your mother’s teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck...”
Proverbs 1:8-9, NIV

Nursing recruiter seeks area students

Vickie Bordelon, nursing recruiter for South Plains College Nursing Program, will offer a presentation for interested Licensed Vocational Nurses and individuals who want to transition into the Registered Nursing Program.

The event is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 11 at the SPC Muleshoe Extension Center, 621 W. Second St. After the presentation, students who are not compliant with the Texas Success Initiative can take the Accuplacer Test. The cost is \$30 for all three parts of the test or \$20

for one or two parts. Students must have valid photo identification and social security cards at the time of testing. For information or questions regarding the test, contact Juli Wood, SPC Testing Coordinator, at 806-896-9611, ext. 2367.

Pheasant hunt breakfast set

The Bailey County EMS Organization will be hosting its annual Pheasant Hunt Breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 1, beginning at 5 a.m., at the Bailey County Coliseum. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Raffle tickets are also available for a Browning BPS 12 gauge shotgun. For additional information, call 272-4390.

Talk station to host blood drive

United Blood Services offers a way to kick back for an hour this hectic holiday season — while you are donating lifesaving blood you can review your shopping list, plan a holiday meal, or just plain relax.

Donate blood on Thursday, Dec. 6, at Xcel Energy Talk Station, from 8 a.m. until noon, in the donor bus. Call 806 965-2194 to make an appointment today.

Blood donors must be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old. Bring a photo ID and donor card if you have one.

Alzheimer’s support group to meet

The Bailey County Alzheimer’s Disease Support Group will be meeting Thursday, Dec. 13, at noon, at Park View Nursing Care Center.

Shelly Moss, CEO for King’s Manor Care Center, will provide the program. Lunch will be served.

For more information contact Debbie Crabtree, Bailey County Aging Services, 272-3647, or Mandi Seaton, Bailey County extension agent — Family and Consumer Sciences, 272-4583.

NEWSPAPER POLICIES

EDITORIALS are the opinion of the newspaper. They are written by staff members of the Muleshoe Journal. They are not signed because they express the position of the publisher, owners and the newspaper staff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by readers of the newspaper. They are brief expressions of opinion, most concerning issues of local interest. Letters must be legible. They may be edited for content, length and space, or number of endorsements. All letters must be signed by the writer and must include a daytime telephone number for verification. Third party and unsigned letters will not be published.

COLUMNS are the personal opinion of the writer whose byline appears. Columns from readers should address an issue of local concern and general interest. Columns may be edited for content, length and space.

Letters to the Editor and Columns can be sent to:

Editor - Muleshoe Journal

P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, Texas 79347

FAX 806.272.3567 or e-mail editor@muleshoejournal.com

Consignments

by Elidia

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Bovina Feeders is looking for dependable, responsible people to work in feedmill, processing and yard. Competitive wages, 401K program and insurance. Please apply in person or call 806-825-2103. 2ch11-22

Farwell Feed Yard is hiring feed truck drivers/yard maintenance help. Applicants must be at least 18 yrs. of age and must pass a pre-employment physical and drug screen. If interested please come by the office of Farwell Feed Yard and pick up an application. ttch9-20

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE IS MONDAY AT 5 PM, INCLUDING AD CHANGES!

Major Tanker Truck Company looking for good qualified drivers who are willing to work with the following benefits: Scheduled Days Off, Nice Equipment, Competitive Mileage Based Pay, Medical Insurance, 401K Plan, Paid Vacation, Quarterly Safety Awards and a **\$4,000 Sign-on Bonus**. Multiple driver positions available, if you are 25 yrs. of age or older, have an excellent driving record with current Class A CDL w/ HazMat/Tanker and 2 yrs. driving experience, we would like to hear from you. Please call Tom Smith @ 1-888-339-0599. **SIGN-ON BONUS OFFER ONLY VALID FOR APPLICANTS WHO APPLY WITH THE NEXT 2 WEEKS.** 2ch11-22

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Teacher Assistant: Sudan (full-time) Department:
Head Start Assist in preparation of lesson plans and activities, maintain records; interact with children; maintain a safe, healthy learning environment conducive to learning. High school diploma/GED required. Must be flexible and able to adapt to change in the workplace. Must submit to TB tests, a physical and must pass a regular criminal history checks. Must be willing to take and pass a drug/alcohol test. Must possess and maintain a valid Texas motor vehicle operator's permit and maintain an insurable MVR history. MVR background checks are conducted by the agency. Ability to maintain physical condition and stamina to perform the assigned duties. Continuous standing and walking for most of the 8 hours. Occasional pushing, pulling, bending and lifting of weight over 25 lbs. 3ch11-15

Jarvis Products Corporation is seeking a second shift mechanic to work on meat machinery tools. Contact number: 806-674-3497 or 860-830-2076. 2ch11-22

Elevator Help Needed - The AGP Grain Marketing elevators are in need of elevator help for various locations. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and must pass a pre-employment physical and drug screen. Must be able to work in grain dust. If interested, please pick up applications at the main office in Bovina or call 806-251-1521 local, or toll free at 866-583-7362. 4ch11-22

Plant Operator Muleshoe, TX
Great company, great people, great benefits. Plant operator will take hourly readings, monitor analytical equipment, use MS Word and MS Excel, climb ladders, use various wrenches and supervise plant activities. Can get full major/medical, dental, vision, 401K. This is a great job and possible career for someone willing to start from the bottom and work their way up. Will train the right person. Pick up application at 930 FM 1760 Muleshoe, TX and ask for Chris or call 806-786-0778 or 806-925-6654. 2ch11-29

Experienced cook needed at La-Tea-Da Tues.-Sat., 8:30-2:30. Must know how to cook tea-room type food. Looking for a permanent employee. Applications will be thoroughly verified. Please come by after 2:00 Tues.-Sat. for application, 104 E. American Blvd. No phone calls please. ttch11-15

Now hiring cooks, drivers and managers. Apply at Pizza Hut of Muleshoe, 1412 W. American Blvd. 272-4213. 3ch11-15

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School board takes action

Continued from page 1
from the school bonds sold to finance the district's ongoing construction projects.

Until the monies are needed to pay for portions of the construction work, the school district is able to receive interest on the deposited funds — up to a

federal cap, further offsetting the construction costs.

According to McNeill, the school district received \$1,370,646 in investment income during 2006-07. While the excess earnings totaling \$239,405.20 for the first year of bond interest will be set aside for payment to the federal government

at the end of the bond programs fifth year, she pointed out that the school district is still able to capture the interest on this amount until the payment is made. The school board also:

- Recognized the achievements of some of the district's FFA students and its boys and girls cross country teams.

"I think it's pretty exciting that while I been here in Muleshoe, when we've competed in district we've won," said Muleshoe High School Principal Barbara Ward.

- Received a report on the choir trip planned for later in the school year from choral instructor Lorissa Mason.

- Approved the high school campus improvement plan. Plans for the other district campuses were approved at a previous meeting.

- Approved minutes from previous meetings as distributed.

- Reappointed board members Mike Riley, Thurman Myers and Daniel Guzman to the Bailey County Appraisal District Board.

Critical issues...

Continued from page 1

Nick Bamert. "We have to get them involved (in the community) and help them take ownership."

- The overemphasis on state testing that focuses on college preparation and its affect on the school district's dropout rate.

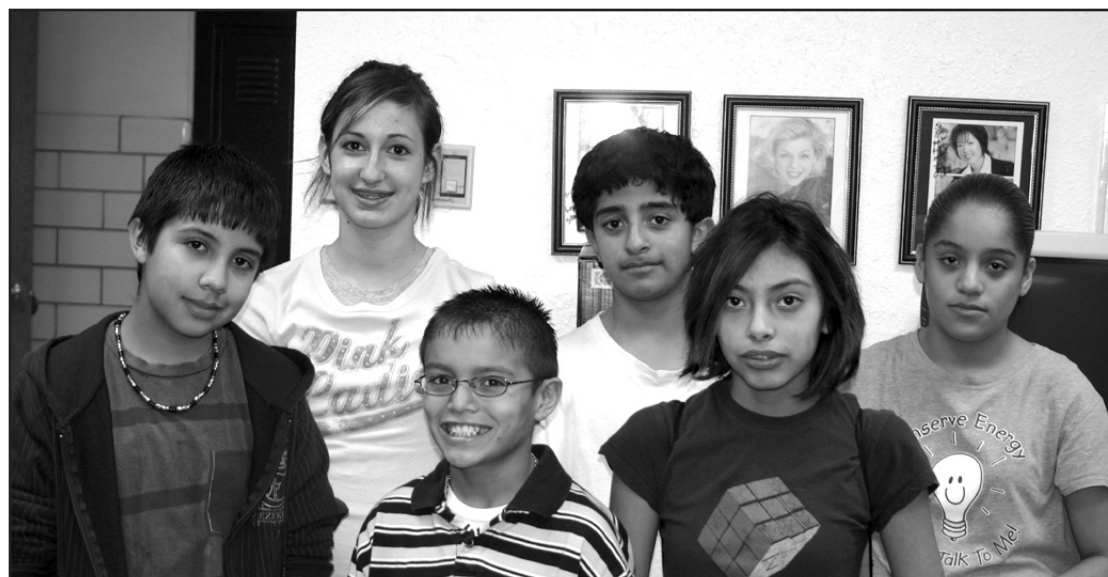
The board members noted that the district somehow had to address the needs of students who didn't wish to continue on to college, but needed additional skills to enter a trade or the general workforce.

- The school district's ongoing drug abuse problems.
- The district's construction budget and time frame. "The high school will be the big deal," said Sheets. "We've only got so much money to work with."

- The promotion of the school district and the many accomplishments of its students.

"We need to promote everything our children are doing," said board member Cindy Purdy. "That's what we're about... our kids."

"If you're driving through our community, I want you to know that our kids are the best thing going for our community," she added.



Students of the Week...

The Students of the Week for the week of Nov. 15 were recently honored by Watson Junior High. These students, pictured above, included Patrick Mendoza, Alyssa Leal, Felipe Espinoza, Evelyn Contreras, Matthew Barron and Bonnie Elezarraraz.

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