

Muleshoe Journal

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Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

December 1, 2005

Entries needed for Muleshoe's Christmas parade

Parade could be canceled if more don't enter

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Muleshoe's efforts to kick-off the Christmas season with a bevy of events on Saturday, Dec. 3, are in danger of losing one of the keystone events as the annual Christmas parade is dangerously close to being cancelled.

According to Amy Young, manager of the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, has announced that because of the extremely low number of entries received this year, the Christmas parade — which has been planned as a "lighted parade," is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Dec. 3 may have to be cancelled.

"If we can't get at least 20 entries by Friday, Dec. 2, at noon, we'll have to cancel the parade," Young announced.

As of Tuesday, Nov. 22, there had been only three entries registered with the chamber office.

The theme for this year's parade is "The Spirit of Christmas," and judges will be presenting awards in three categories: Best Light Presentation, Best Theme Presentation, and Best in Show.

Additional information may be received by calling the chamber office at 272-4248 or by emailing "chamber@fivearea.com."

Among the organizations that have scheduled events for Dec. 3 are the chamber of commerce, the Muleshoe Heritage Foundation, Bailey County EMS, the Boy Scouts, Compassionate Care and the Bailey County Extension Education Club.

The day will begin with the Bailey County EMS Pheasant Hunt Breakfast, being held at the Bailey County Coliseum, with the doors opening at 5 a.m.

Also on Saturday morning, area youngsters are invited to "Breakfast with Santa," from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Heritage Center Depot. The youngsters can get their photograph taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Muleshoe's Boy Scout Troop 620 will be handing out plastic bags to local residents Saturday.

Continued on page 3.



Getting ready for Saturday

Muleshoe's Jennyslippers, pictured above, are one of the organizations getting a float ready for Saturday's "lighted" Christmas parade. Organizations which plan to enter the parade must register with the Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture by noon on Friday.

April's Christmas Doll

(As part of the Muleshoe Journal's effort to help make Christmas a joyous for parents and children, the following serial story will be featured in the Journal beginning this issue.)

By Larry Thornton

Far to the north, in a land blanketed in snow, ice and magic where the months of spring or summer didn't exist, Morris the youngest

elf in Santa's village, made a startling discovery Mrs. Bea wasn't in her cabinet.

Ever since he started working in Santa's collection of workshops, Morris had been amazed by the doll, Mrs. Bea, and the other magical instruments and tools which Santa kept in this particular cabinet. In fact, on more than one occasion, he had been scolded by the head elf for

visiting with Mrs. Bea rather than getting his work done.

On the morning Morris discovered Mrs. Bea was gone, he had been told to sweep the workshop before the next shift of elves arrived for work. Although he knew he shouldn't, Morris took a peek in the cabinet, intending only to say a quick "good morning" to the doll. But where he should have found Mrs. Bea, sitting on the self with her painted smile, there was only empty space.

Puzzled about what could have happened to Santa Claus' magical doll and fearing that he would be scolded once more for bothering her, Morris quietly closed the cabinet door and went about his cleaning. Occasionally he would glance at the cabinet door as he worked, and wonder what became of the doll.

When the head elf toured the workshop a few minutes later, Morris almost told Santa's chief assistant about Mrs. Bea's disappearance, but decided against it at the last minute. As the head elf told Morris what a wonderful job he was doing, the youngest elf smiled sheepishly and remained silent.

Morris remained silent for several weeks. He listened for gossip about the doll in the village, but the topic was never brought up.

Eventually, Morris knew, Santa would stop by to see Mrs. Bea and the chances that he would do so became greater as Christmas drew nearer.

As the days passed, and still no one said a word about the doll being missing, something else began to trouble the youngest elf: Should he have told someone about his discovery weeks ago?

As Christmas drew closer, Morris decided his only

hope to avoid trouble was to locate Mrs. Bea himself. He didn't know how he'd accomplish the task or where she had gone to, but one day when everyone else was busy preparing for



Santa's Christmas Eve journey Morris left the North Pole.

Morris wasn't the only one to be displeased by the rapid approach of the Christmas Season. In central Oklahoma, a ten-year-old girl sitting on the steps in front of her house was also having troubled thoughts of Christmas.

April would have been a lot happier if it was May, or better yet October. May had always been one of her favorite months because school would let out for the summer. As for October, both her birthday and Halloween were in October, making it an extra special month.

This year's birthday party wasn't as big as the parties she'd had when her father was working. Her parents, Aunt Elizabeth and Tommy from next doors were the only people at the party, but April hadn't minded too much. "...Not really," she muttered to herself.

The sudden memories of her birthday saddened April

Continued on page 11



Photograph by Larry Thornton

Easy does it...

Kent Bradley of the Muleshoe Area Medical Center, pictured above on the left, helps the Hill-Rom truck driver offload one of the 11 overbed vanity tables that had been purchased by the Muleshoe Area Hospital Auxiliary. The beds, which Bradley said cost about \$550 each, will be used with the hospital's new beds, which hospital supply manufacturer Hill-Rom delivered a couple of months ago.

Local Weather

Thurs.
Sunny..... 57/32

Fri.
Mt. Sunny.... 74/40

Sat.
Pt. Cloudy... 68/28

Sun.
Mt. Sunny.... 61/23

Mon.
Pt. Cloudy... 49/20

Tue.
Mt. Sunny.... 43/23

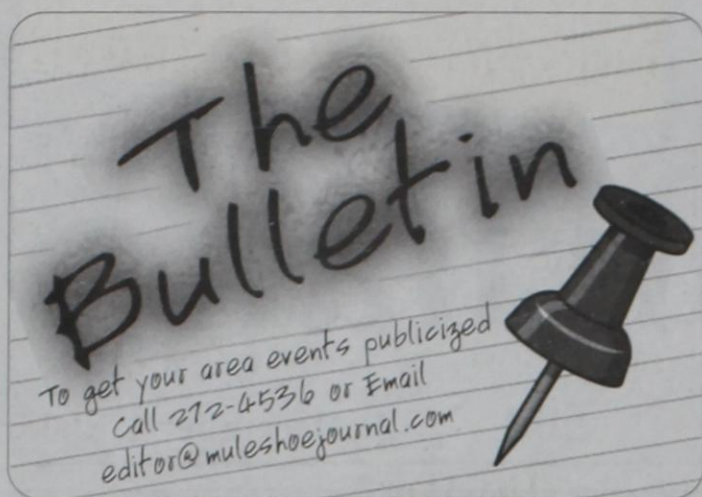
Wed.
Sunny..... 57/23

Give It A Thought

Giving thanks— make a list of all you have to be thankful for, think of all your blessings, write them down and you'll be surprised. We truly are blessed!

Words to ponder from Beverly

Missed your paper?
Call the Journal at 272-4536, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.



Pheasant hunt breakfast planned

The annual Bailey County EMS Pheasant Hunt breakfast is set for Saturday, Dec. 3, with the doors opening at 5 a.m. Tickets are \$5 per person. Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy will be served. The organization is also raffling a Browning BPS shotgun with the drawing to be held during the breakfast. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5. Call 272-4390 for additional information.

Annual Christmas Bazaar scheduled

The Bailey County Extension Education Club and Texas Cooperative Estension have announced their 27th annual Christmas Bazaar will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Bailey County Civic Center, at 2200 W. American Blvd. Admission is free.

Christmas concert set for Dec. 1

The sixth annual performance of "Christmas in the Country" is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m., at Trinity Christian Center Church.

This year's program will include classic Christmas music and Southern Gospel music featuring Reydon Stanford, Kenneth Richards and Sandy Watson of the Anchor Brothers.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted for Muleshoe's Meals on Wheels. Refreshments will be served during intermission. For more information, call 272-3877.

EMT classes to be offered

Bailey County EMS will be holding EMT-B classes beginning Jan. 23, 2006. Students must be registered by Jan. 13. For more information contact Chris Thompson at 272-4390.

Boy Scout food drive begins

The Boy Scouts will be delivering plastic sacks so that Muleshoe residents may donate non-perishable food for the local food bank on Dec. 3 at 8 a.m. Scout leaders ask that everyone out driving that morning to please watch for the scouts. The sacks will be picked up on Dec. 10 at 8 a.m.

Dimmitt to host Christmas gathering

Plans are underway for the 2005 Christmas Open House in Dimmitt on Saturday, Dec. 3. The Retail Merchants' Committee of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce selected "Bringing Christmas Home" as the theme for this year's Christmas promotion which offers shoppers the opportunity to win more than \$1,000 in Dimmitt Dollars, merchandise and gift certificates during the holiday season, with Lowe's Grocery Store providing free carriage rides for the community.

The Open House will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with Santa visiting the gazebo at 2:30 p.m. A big-screen TV with built-in DVD player will be raffled off on Dec. 23, with tickets available for purchase during the open house.

For more information or to purchase tickets contact the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce at 115 W. Bedford by calling 806-647-2524.

VFW Ladies Auxillary special meeting

A special meeting of the VFW Ladies Auxillary Post 8570 of Muleshoe has been set for Monday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., at the post, 203 E. Ash Ave.

The topic of the meeting will be the proposed disbanding of the auxillary. All members interested in the organization continuing are asked to attend. Contact Phyliss Carrion at 272-8570, after 7 p.m., for additional information.

Salvation Army bell ringers

Salvation Army bell ringers will be located at Lowe's Marketplace on West American Boulevard, according to Debbie Crabtree of the Bailey County Office on Aging. Proceeds collected by the bell ringers remain in Bailey County. Crabtree also noted that Lowe's has apple and pumpkin pies available for \$5 each, proceeds of which go to Meals on Wheels.

Newspaper is going online

Keep an eye on the internet as the Muleshoe Journal joins the "information highway" in the near future with an online edition.

Among the features of the website will be the availability for subscribers to download their newspaper, putting the problems and delays of out-of-state postal delivery behind them.

Other features will include on-line viewing of classified ads; subscriptions and ads may be placed online; sports highlights; and opportunities for advertisers to purchase a link to their websites at a low monthly fee.

At this time, the Journal's website is scheduled to open during the first weeks of December.

Compassionate Care gala set

Compassionate Care of Muleshoe has set its Christmas Gala for Dec. 3, from 2-4 p.m.

The event will be held at the Assembly of God Family Life building, 521 S. First St.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

There will be hors d'oeuvres, wassail and coffee.

Decorated theme tables will have a variety of specialty items — including boutique items — for sale and decorated chairs will be available for sale in a silent auction.

Heritage Thrift Store needs donations

Last month, hundreds of people shopped at the Heritage Thrift Store and bought thousands of articles. The articles they bought came from your generous donations.

"Because the needs of our community have recently been so great, the store is extremely low on inventory. We need everything but, in particular, there is a need children's clothes — especially sleepwear, shoes and warm clothing," a Heritage Center representative says.

Bring donations to the thrift shop, at 402 S. Main in Muleshoe, Friday or Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All proceeds from The Heritage Thrift Shop benefit the Muleshoe Heritage Center on West American Boulevard.

Hale Center Festival of Lights set

The Hale Center Festival of Lights has been set for Dec. 3, at 6 p.m. A musical program, featuring local talent, will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the lighting of thousands of lights in the Heritage Plaza, Library Plaza and the city park. The event is sponsored by the Hale Center Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture and the Hale and the Hale Center Beautification Association.

AA meeting

Those looking for help with problem drinking can do so at open AA meetings being held at 7 p.m. each Friday at the First United Methodist Church, at 507 W. 2nd, Muleshoe. Please use the west side entrance. For information about these meetings or AA in general call 806-965-2870

FUMC choir to perform

The Sanctuary Choir of the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe will present the John Purifoy cantata "Born a Savior, Born a King," at 11 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 4.

Sandcrawl Museum dinner planned

The Sandcrawl Museum of Olton will be hosting its first annual holiday dinner on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 6:30 p.m., at the Wild Plum Inn, 708 Main, Olton. The event will include live entertainment. Tickets are \$15 per person. Call 806-285-7772 or 806-285-3055 to place a reservation.

Financial seminar

First Baptist Church will be hosting Financial Peace University, a Dave Ramsey Financial Seminar beginning Jan. 29. Orientation dates are Jan. 15 and 17 at 6 p.m., and classes start on the 29 at 5 p.m. This is a 13-week study. Child care will be provided.

For more information or to reserve your seats call Tadd and Annie Young at 272-5883 or the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe's office at 272-4224, or contact Dave Ramsey at www.daveramsey.com

Annual Christmas Card Project

The annual Park View Christmas Card Project is under way.

Individuals wishing to contribute may do so by making their check out to "Christmas Card Project," and sending them to Christmas Card Project, c/o Joyeline Costen, P.O. Box 202, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or Joy Stancell, c/o Park View Nursing Home, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

If you don't wish to mail your donation, it may also be left with Stancell at the nursing home, or at the banks in Muleshoe.

There is a Dec. 16 deadline for donations.

County Questions

Who is listed as the first lineman hired by the Bailey County Electric Cooperative Association?

Answer on page 12.

Pampered Chef teams up with the Homemade Gourmet to get your holidays off to a tasty start!

Come taste the delicious treats that can be created when using the fine tools from the Pampered Chef with the scrumptious ingredients of Homemade Gourmet.

The event will take place Sunday, December 4, at the Bailey County Coliseum meeting room. The doors open at 3 PM. Register for door prizes from 3-5 PM. Come and go as you please. It's a great opportunity to sample treats while taking care of some of your Christmas shopping!

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Health

Hospice: Care beyond a cure

Submitted by *Mandi Seaton, Bailey CEA-FCS*

"Hospice" stems from the Latin word *hospitium* meaning guesthouse.

It was originally used to describe a place of shelter for weary and sick travelers. Today, 80 percent of hospice care is provided in the patient's home, a family member's home or nursing homes.

According to Andrew B. Crocker, Gerontology

Health Specialist, hospice is not a place but a concept of care designed to provide comfort and support to patients and their families when an illness no longer responds to treatment.

The goal of hospice care is to improve the quality of a patient's last days by offering comfort and dignity.

Hospice care neither prolongs life nor hastens death. Patients are usually referred to hospice when life

expectancy is approximately six months.

While patient must have a doctor's referral to enter hospice, the patient, family and friends can initiate the process.

Before providing care, hospice staff meets with the patient's personal health provider and a hospice physician to discuss patient history, current physical symptoms and life expectancy.

After an initial meeting with physicians, hospice staff meets with both the patient and family.

Hospice staff and volunteers offer a specialized knowledge of medical care, including pain management.

Hospice care is usually provided by a team-oriented group of specially trained individuals.

Prior to service, staff and patients also discuss pain and comfort levels, support systems, financial and insurance resources, medications, and equipment needs. A "plan of care" is developed for the patient.

Hospice is usually paid for through the Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurers. More than 90 percent of the hospice programs in the United States are certified by Medicare.

The hospice benefit is available to any Medicare beneficiary who receives Part "A," in-patient hospital

service coverage. It is the patient's right as a consumer to choose or deny hospice services.

Choosing hospice as well as choosing the hospice provider are important decisions for your end-of-life care.

Determining if a hospice is right for you may best be learned from interviewing different hospices and talking to those who are familiar with hospice programs in your area.

Hospice care is meant to ease the transition from life to death for both the patient and family. It is always important to remember that there is care beyond a cure for persons with a terminal illness.

For more information, contact Mandi Seaton, Bailey County extension agent — Family and Consumer Sciences, 306 West Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 806-272-4583.

You may also contact The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization at <http://www.nhpc.org>.

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Dec. 3 events announced

Continued from page 1. beginning at 8 a.m., as part of its annual food drive. Non-perishable food items intended for the Bailey County Food Pantry may be placed in the sacks and will be collected by the scouts the following Saturday, Dec. 10.

The Bailey County Extension Education Club and Texas Cooperative Extension will be holding its 27th annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the Bailey County Civic Center.

Compassionate Care's Christmas Gala is set for 2-4 p.m. Saturday, at the Assembly of God Family Life building. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

There will be hors d'oeuvres, wassail and coffee.

Decorated theme tables will have a variety of specialty items — including boutique items — for sale and decorated chairs will be

available for sale in a silent auction.

The lighted parade is set to begin at 6 p.m., with lighted floats and other entries traveling down Main Street.

After the parade, the community is invited back to the Heritage Center, where the structures and buildings have been decorated, the Muleshoe Junior and Senior High Choirs will be performing. This program is scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

The MHS Student Community Action Club has decorated the Janes Ranch House and a Christmas tree at the Heritage Center, and will be conducting tours of the facility. And hot cider, coffee and cookies will be served. Donations of non-perishable food items will also be collected at the center.

And, there are the businesses participating in Muleshoe After Hours. For details about this event, turn to page 14.

Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its annual Christmas parade on Saturday, December 3rd at 6:00 PM. Notice that this year the parade will be held in the evening! The theme for the parade will be "THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS."

We invite all to participate in this event. There is no entry fee. **All floats/entries must be turned in to the chamber no later than November 28th.** Because this is a night parade there will be no bicycles, pedestrians or horseback riders allowed.

All entries will be judged and awards will be given for the following categories:

- Best Light Presentation**
- Best Theme Presentation**
- Best In Show**

Judging of the floats/entries will begin at 5:30 PM.

If any additional information is needed please contact the chamber office at (806) 272-4248 or email us at chamber@fivearea.com. Please return the bottom portion of this letter to the chamber office at 115 E. American Blvd. Thank you in advance for your participation in this wonderful event.

Name of Business/Organization _____

Contact Person _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

Type of Entry _____



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— Ecclesiastes 11:6

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KNOW NOW O PHARAOH, THAT THE LORD HATH POWER!

SO! WE SHALL SEE!

SO! THE ISRAELITES THINK THEY CAN CONFOUND PHARAOH WITH THEIR MAGIC—HA!

COME, BROTHERS! LET EVERY MAN BRING WITH HIM AN ELALI SNAKE—THOSE THAT CAN REMAIN RIGID ON COMMAND!

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Obituaries

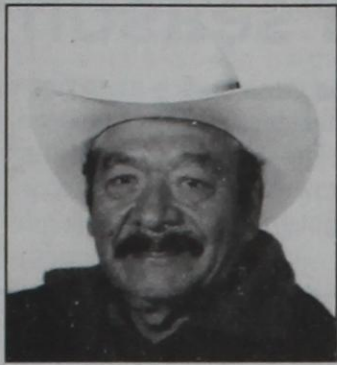
Isauro Vasquez

A church service for Isauro Vasquez, 71, of Muleshoe was held Monday, Nov. 28, at the Roca De Salvacion Iglesia Del Nazareno Church with the Rev. Rafael Quezada of Muleshoe officiating. Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Muleshoe.

Vasquez died on Nov. 22, 2005, in Mexico. He was born on Aug. 2, 1934, in Linares, Mexico, and married Consuelo Rodriguez in Mexico on Dec. 24, 1954.

Vasquez had been a resident of Muleshoe since moving from Mexico in 1981, and was a member of the Roca De Salvacion Iglesia Del Nazareno Church, Muleshoe. He worked as a laborer.

Survivors include his wife — Consuelo Vasquez of Muleshoe; eight sons — Francisco, Isauro Jr., Israel,



Isauro Vasquez

Hugo, Marco Antonio, and Rolando Vasquez, all of Muleshoe, and Alberto Vasquez of Snyder; five daughters — Margarita Gutierrez, Rosa Amelia Vasquez, Juana Maria Vasquez, Maria Consuelo Facundo and Maria Elizabeth Reyes, all of Muleshoe.

Also surviving are two sisters — Emelia Vasquez and Martha Camarillo, both of Mexico; one brother — Pable Camarillo of Mexico; 40 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Cuca Moran

A chapel service for Cuca Moran, 67, of Lazbuddie was held Tuesday, Nov. 29, at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Greg Guzman officiating.

Moran died on Nov. 27, 2005, in the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. She was born on July 4, 1938, in Terlingua.

Moran had lived in the Lazbuddie community for the past 28 years, after moving there from Dumas. She was a member of the Baptist church.

Moran was preceded in death by a son, Roy Moran,

in 1991, and by a sister and a brother.

Survivors include two sons — Erasmo Ramirez of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Juan Roel Moran of Lubbock; three daughters — Sonia Champion of Austin, Mary Ann Flores of Muleshoe and Sulema Solano of Lazbuddie; two sisters — Maria and Guadalupe Mancha, both of Odessa; three brothers — Miguel, Manuela and Enrique DeLaCruz of Hobbs, N.M.; 14 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Sam Lewis

A graveside service for Sam Lewis, 52, of Spring and formerly of Morton, was held Wednesday, Nov. 30, at Morton Memorial Cemetery, with Mike Scoggins officiating.

Lewis died on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2005, at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston. He was born on July

12, 1953, in Ft. Worth.

Lewis was a car dealer. Survivors include his parents — Billy Joe and Patsy N. Lewis of Spring; two sisters — Shonnie Daniel of the The Woodlands and Patty Scoggins of Katy; and a brother — Bill Lewis Jr. of Ft. Worth.

Jimmy Herring

A church service for Jimmy Herring, 67, of Springlake, was held on Saturday, Nov. 26, at the First Baptist Church of Springlake with the Rev. Glenn Harlin of Springlake officiating. Burial followed in Hart Cemetery, Hart.

Herring died Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2005, in Amarillo. He was born Oct. 7, 1938, in Tipton, Okla., and married Elaine Riley in Springlake on Nov. 23, 1957.

Herring was a lifetime member of the Springlake community. He was a horse trainer, and a Springlake High School graduate

Herring served in the U.S. Army during the Lebanon Crisis. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife — Elaine; daughter and son-in-law — Stephanie and Joe Cavazos of Cedar Creek; daughter — Sharla Parker of Lockhart; four sisters — Joyce Bradley of Arizona, and Linda Caudle of Tucson, Ariz., Sarah West of Norman, Okla., and Alice Connell of Stillwater, Okla.; three brothers — Johnny Olds of Stillwater, Okla., and J.D. Herring of Lubbock, Ted Herring of Plainview; and four grandchildren.

Benigno Pacheco

A funeral service for Benigno Sena "Benny" Pacheco, 78, of Clovis, N.M., Tuesday, Nov. 29, at Our Lady of Guadalupe with Father Sotero Sena officiating. Burial followed at St. Anthony's Cemetery in Hereford. Rosary was held on Monday, Nov. 28, at The Chapel in Clovis.

Pacheco died on Friday, Nov. 25, 2005, at Plains Regional Medical Center in Clovis. He was born March 30, 1927, to Rudolfo and Arcelia Sena Pacheco in Wilcox, Ariz., and married Tiodora "Lola" Griego on Sept. 4, 1950, in Hereford.

Pacheco served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a welder for AT&SF Railroad, retiring after 26-1/2 years, and a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe. For 26 years, Pacheco owned the Elite Hotel in Muleshoe and the Muleshoe Recreation Center.

Pacheco was preceded in dearth by his parents; two daughters — Sally Pacheco and Rose Mary Pacheco; and a sister — Antonia Romero.

Survivors include his wife — Lola Pacheco of Clovis, N.M.; two sons and daughters-in-laws — Benny Jr. and Pauline Pacheco of Clovis, and Luis and Aida Pacheco of Muleshoe; a daughter and son-in-law — Vivian and Juan Jimenez of Clovis; a sister — Elena Saiz of Albuquerque, N.M.; nine grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

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— A Cantata by John Purifoy —

during our 11 AM worship service Sunday, December 4, 2005.

Everyone is invited to attend.

507 W. 2nd Street

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.

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"Commonplaces Never Become Tiresome"

I was not particularly looking for wisdom when a friend and I walked into a Thai food restaurant recently; I was just looking for food and trying to make sense out of a menu filled with genuine Thai cuisine. What I ended up eating was excellent, but I'm still wondering about one menu item that just sounded interesting.

Larb.

L-A-R-B.

I still wonder what it is. A staple item in the Thai diet? A delicacy? The kind of thing a fellow just develops a taste for and says to his wife one evening after work, "Ya know,

when we cease to be curious and appreciative. We find that it is not a new scene which is needed, but a new viewpoint."

He is so right! Yes, there are times to take a trip, see new things, meet new people. But what most of us need far more is simply to open up our eyes to that which is beautiful and wonderful, joy-filled and life-giving, all around us every ordinary day in lots of ordinary places.

Because, you see, there aren't any simply "ordinary" days or "ordinary" places. And you never met an "ordinary" person. Our extraordinary God never created anything or anyone who was just "ordinary."

The more I think about it, the more I realize that "commonplaces" are what God uses to make our lives uncommonly rich and interesting, and those who spurn them are poor no matter what their income.

The way your wife strokes your hand during a movie.

The wry smile of your son when you tell him that being taller than you is disrespectful.

Early morning fog or a blanket of new snow creating a completely new world just outside your front door.

A clear, calm, crisp winter night and the smell of an oak fire warming the heart of a home.

The crackle of that fire in the hearth, its warmth on your back, and a book in your hand.

The taste of chocolate.

The easy laughter and good-natured joking of good friends.

Your favorite chair or your oldest pair of slippers.

Taking a snooze in the sun and realizing your dog is right about snoozes in the sun.

"Commonplaces never become tiresome." Thank God for them!

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

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I could really go for a big bowl of larb right now! Man, that would hit the spot!"

I still don't know what it is. But I do think I found a bit of wisdom.

On the wall of the restaurant. Well, to be completely truthful, it was on the wall of the restroom of the restaurant, a place where I surely wasn't expecting to find any wisdom.

It was a quotation at the bottom of a Norman Rockwell print. The words were Rockwell's words, which is what gave them even deeper meaning. Rockwell, arguably America's most beloved artist, a man who succeeded in capturing on canvas the warm heart and the living soul of this nation, wrote this: "Commonplaces never become tiresome. It is we who become tired

Thanks for reading the Journal!

Sports

Freshman Mules 'kick' the Bulldogs in season opener

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The freshman Mules kicked the Plainview Bulldogs last Monday night in their first home game of the season 65-33. The Bulldogs were tenacious in the opening frame but after that it was all Mules.

Plainview open the game with a trey. Dillon Gallman broke the scoring ice for the Mules with a free throw and Victor Vasquez stole a rebound from a Bulldog and put it up to knot the game at 3-3.

Brian Poynor pulled down

a defensive rebound and made the long outlet pass to Victor Vasquez streaking down the floor. Vasquez finished the break to put the Mules up for the first time.

Austin Wright tacked on a charity toss before Ray Ramirez found Wes Wood on an in bound play. Plainview made a free throw and dropped in a second 3-pointer to cut the Mule lead to 8-7 as the opening frame began to draw to a close. Gallman made the score 9-7 with a charity toss before the period ended.

Poynor exploded for nine

points in the second period and Vasquez added five as the Mules out scored the Bulldogs 24-10 in the period to take a 33-17 lead at intermission.

Lane Wood broke to the basket and Vasquez delivered him the ball for the reverse lay up as the second half got under way. Gallman scored back to back buckets as the Mules opened a 41-21 advantage.

W. Wood dropped in a three from the wing with 3:45 left in the third quarter. Nathaniel Chavez put back a rebound for a basket and

W. Wood finished a break as the period ended with the Mules in front 52-30.

L. Wood opened the final quarter with a strong drive to the hoop. Ramirez made a strong move to the basket with just over two minutes left in the game. Jeff Embry capped the Mules scoring with a 3-pointer from the corner.

Gallman set the scoring pace with 16 points and Poynor added 11. W. Wood and Vasquez each dropped in nine points and L. Wood had six. Chavez made four points, Wright and Embry

had three apiece and Paco Sital chipped in two points.

The Mules hosted the Brownfield Cubs Monday night and travel to Levelland

Dec. 5. The Mules are back on their home floor Dec. 12 when the Lubbock Cooper Pirates come to town.

Texico drops the eighth grade Mules, 50-30

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Texico Wolverines jumped out to a 15-2 lead in the opening frame against the eighth grade Mules in their home opener. Texico went on to drop the Mules 50-30.

D.J. Atwood and Austin Bamert each made a charity toss in the opening frame for the Mules only points. Texico scored the first two points of the second quarter.

Brett Poynor picked off a Texico pass and drove the floor for a lay up. Jared Skipworth was fouled in the back court and converted the front end of a one and one. Poynor made a pair of charity tosses after a Texico bucket.

Joseph Lopez was fouled grabbing a defensive rebound and made a charity toss. Kenny Hernandez stuck back a rebound before the half came to a close with the Mules trailing 28-10.

Atwood beat his defender and was hacked shooting. He made one free throw. Skipworth made both charity tosses after being blasted on a put back attempt. Texico went on an eight-point run before Lopez stuck back an offensive rebound.

Poynor stopped at the top of the key and found Austin Bamert open on the blocks. Bamert pinned his defender, turned and scored. Larry



A Brownfield Cub drives for the basket during Monday's game against the eighth grade Mules.

Richardson drove the lane to end the third period with Texico leading 38-19.

Atwood picked off a Wolverine in bound pass and took it strong to the hole

as the final frame began. Kyle Steinbock picked off a pass and led the fast break.

He drew the defense and flipped the ball to Richardson, to finish the

break.

Steinbock picked off an in bound pass and canned a 10-foot jumper to complete a six-point Mule run. Atwood drained a 15-footer to answer a Texico bucket. Poynor scored from 15 feet before Texico went on a six-point run. Bamert dropped in a free throw to cap the Mule's scoring.

Atwood and Poynor had six points each to pace the Mules. Richardson and Bamert had four apiece and Skipworth and Lopez each had three. Steinbock and Hernandez each chipped in two points for the Mules.

The Mules played host to the Brownfield Cubs Monday night and then go to Levelland on Dec. 5. The Mules return home to meet the Lubbock Cooper Pirates on Dec. 12.

First Women Co-ed Softball Tournament Winners

Winners of the first Women Co-ed Softball Tournament which was held in August, were as follows:



1st place... The O's

Team members — Dana Perez, Adrian Perez, Kit Diaz, Beto Diaz, Ricky Diaz, Robert Toscano, Ramon Toscano, Erica Diaz, Bea Olivias, Claudia Reyes, Joe Olivias, Michael Hardwick and Jenna Hardwick.



2nd place... The Knock-Out

Team members — Mario Posada, Mauricio Posada, Ruben Ruvalcava, Jorge Barron, Jessie Reyes, Joe Reyes, Woody Villa, Saul Elizaldo, Raquel Barron, Gloria Reyes, Crystal Casto, Shy Hernandez, Erika Sanchez, Stormy Kitchen, Sharon Villa, Laura Reyes and Tabatha Obenhouse.



3rd place... The Intimidators

Team members — Jay Cook, Kim Cook, Mike Friend, Salina Friend, Preston Gable, Jennifer Gable, Josh Clark, Irma Dominguez, David Ruiz, Diane Moore, Shephanie Moore, Chris Harp, Ashley Harp, Gypsy Bell and Joe Hernandez.

Publication of announcements in the Journal

The Muleshoe Journal invites your news of weddings, engagements, showers, anniversaries and births.

In order to be fair to everyone, we must limit the amount of space for certain events.

For weddings and quinceaneras 25 column inches, which includes a photo if desired, will be the limit. If the photo and announcement run longer, we reserve the right to eliminate parts of the story or the person placing the article may indicate which portions may be left out. However, if a longer write-up is desired, it may be purchased in the form of an ad.

For anniversaries, if two photos are included, the limit will be 25 inches. It will be 15 inches if only one photo is used. That space will be free for anniversaries of 50

years or more. A fee may be charged for other anniversaries.

Birth announcements with one-column photos are run free of charge with names of immediate family, including grandparents and great-grandparents. Please understand that the permission of both parents is required for a birth announcement to be published.

Small stories describing showers are run free of charge after the fact and may include the names of the principals, items served at the showers, a brief description of the decor and the names of special or out-of-town guests. A deadline of six months after an event will be the rule.

Drop by for a form or send the information via e-mail to editor@muleshoejournal.com. The deadline is Monday noon.

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Sports

Seventh grade Mules' outscored by the

By Delton Wilhite
Sports writer

The seventh grade Mules spotted the Texico Wolverines nine points in the opening frame in their home opener Monday night. Despite knocking down five treys in the contest they could not catch up. Texico took the win 38-25.

Nick Hurtado nailed the Mules first trey in the opening period for the Mules only points. Texico led 12-3 at the end of the first quarter.

Chris Babcock knocked down a trey to open the second period from the wing to cut the Texico margin in half. The Wolverines then put eight unanswered points on the board before Zack Toscano made a pair of free throws.

Mark Quezada nailed a

trey from the wing as the clock went under a minute. The Mules had scored eight in the frame but had given up 11 points. The Wolverines led 23-11 at the intermission.

The Mules stayed with the Wolverines in the third quarter with both teams putting seven on the board. Cooper Washington made a pair of free throws after being fouled on a put back attempt as the second half began.

Washington dropped a cross-lane pass to Juan Sanchez to cut the Texico lead to 25-15. Babcock trimmed three more off the lead with a trey. The Wolverines recovered to put five on the board before the period ended.

The Wolverines opened the final frame with a six-

point run. Washington broke the run with a put back before Texico scored their final two points with 1:42 left in the game.

Sanchez scored on the inside with just over a minute left on the clock. Babcock took a pass just inside the arc, took a step back and nailed his third trey of the game as the clock ticked down.

Babcock led the Mules with nine points and Sanchez and Washington each made four. Hurtado and Quezada had a 3-pointer each for the Mules.

The Mules entertained the Brownfield Cubs Monday night and then travel to Levelland Dec. 5. The Mules return to Muleshoe on Dec. 12 to host the Lubbock Cooper Pirates.

Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

We sincerely hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

The computer classes at the center have been suspended until the second Thursday in January. If you want to use the computers, just come on in and we will try to help you.

We have a busy schedule for the senior citizens during the month of December.

We are planning an open house for Wednesday, Dec. 7, from 2 to 5 p.m. We invite all to come by and see what we have at the center.

We are proud of the center and the activities that our senior citizens can enjoy. Refreshments will be served.

All of you who have signed up for the Lubbock trip to the Cactus Theater, to see "On Golden Pond," plan to leave the center on

Dec. 12, at 4 p.m. We will travel to Lubbock in the Church of Christ van and will eat at Furr's cafeteria. A good time is planned for all.

On Dec. 13, American Hospice and Home Health will be at the center checking blood pressure and sugar content for all interested senior citizens. They will be here from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

The board of directors will have their monthly meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 14, beginning at 1 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

A pot luck supper is planned for the seniors on Dec. 17 at the center, beginning at 4 p.m. Everyone should bring their favorite dish and a white elephant present to have for a game we will play. We will have music, fun, and lots of good food, so plan to be

here. A blood drive has been planned for Monday, Dec 19 at the center. We will have more information on this later.

Menu for Monday, Dec. 5 thru Friday, Dec. 9:
Monday, Dec. 5 — Chicken and dumplings, peas and carrots, tossed salad and peach cobbler.

Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Beef roast, gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, salad, roll and cherry cobbler.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 — Meatloaf, sauce, corn, spinach, rolls, pineapple gelatin.

Thursday, Dec. 8 — Salisbury steak, gravy, corn, pickles, salad, rolls and brownies.

Friday, Dec. 9 — Fish or chicken strips, coleslaw, french fries, hush puppies, purple plums and cookies.

Wildlife Refuge News

The early morning sandhill crane count on Nov. 23 at the Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge had 30,000 cranes on Goose Lake. The refuge duck population is at 3,500 with the majority being northern pintails.

The sandhill crane population at Grulla National Wildlife Refuge has plummeted to 2,500. There is very little surface water left on the lake.

FUMC choir to perform

The Sanctuary Choir of the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe will present the John Purifoy cantata "Born a Savior, Born a King," at 11 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 4.

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 3, 2005

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Bailey County Civic Center

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County Questions

(1) In August 1964, what Muleshoe business moved to a new location at South First and Ave. B?

(2) Who was the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture's 1983 "Woman of the Year?"
Answers on page 12.

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Can you meet the challenge? You can choose to attempt, challenge and compete for the prestigious

1st Annual Xtreme Challenge Award!

It will be given out at the end of the 12-week period. You must be enrolled by 12/29/05. Final contest pictures are to be taken on March 26, 2006. Recognition will be provided to all participants who successfully complete the challenge. Don't wait - participate!

See Xtreme Fitness staff for more details now!

Register for \$50 with the Customer Service Desk, then pick up your free t-shirt and instructions from the Xtreme Fitness Staff.

(Review the following for prize details)

What is the Challenge program? Each participant's body will be assessed for an initial baseline and to determine each individual's obtainable body goal. This goal will be unique to each individual. Every participant will be encouraged to participate in the trainer-guided semiprivate training workouts offered 3 times a week. Additional fitness and dietary advice will also be available at these scheduled sessions. At the end of 12 weeks, a final assessment on each participant will be taken to derive a final result. All participants must be cleared for exercise by their physician, be 18 or over, and sign an informed consent for exercise and testing.

Why do this? You will get to get in on a great program that is not offered any other time of the year. You will be able to not incur any additional gym fees and you will obtain nutritional suggestions, cardiorespiratory guidance, two professional photographs, have fun learning new ways to stay fit, and a chance to create a healthy life-style forever!

Where do you sign up? You do not have to be a member of Xtreme Fitness. You will be offered a special incentive rate for the Challenge during the 12-week period. If you choose to be a member, you will have unlimited access to Xtreme Fitness, 308 Main, Muleshoe.

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Ana's House of Beauty - Family Hair Salon - Muleshoe Motor Co.
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SUPER SATURDAY
DEC. 3RD

Each Saturday in December will have a theme with store discounts that correlate with that theme. There will be activities and holiday fun and Carolyn's will stay open till 9 PM on each of these Saturdays for your shopping convenience.

Reason for the Season Sale

20% OFF ALL NATIVITIES, CROSSES, AND ANY MERCHANDISE IN THE RELIGIOUS SECTION OF THE STORE, INCLUDING ALL WILLOW TREE FIGURINES!

Jack Stone & Paul Chaisson will be performing at Carolyn's after the parade!

Other Super Saturday Events: Saturday, Dec. 10th - "A Cowboy Christmas" with Santa & Mrs. Claus at Carolyn's from 11 AM till 2 PM; Saturday, Dec. 17th - "A Merry-achi Christmas" with two performances by Mariachi Mi Tierra and Poncho Claus visiting with the kids, door prize drawings every hour; Saturday, Dec. 24th - "A Bah, Humbug Christmas" - Open till 7 PM on Christmas Eve.

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This year, the Muleshoe Journal is participating in the Newspapers In Education or NIE program. Each week, we'll provide newspapers to teachers and students in 4th-6th grades via the Muleshoe school system. In conjunction with NIE, we will print this fun page aimed at that same age group each week.

What this means is a guaranteed audience-both young AND young at heart! If you would like to advertise on this page, contact our office at 272-4536. Ads can be changed as you need them to be! All you have to do is call! Requires at least a six month commitment.

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6 months \$11.25 week

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Where's Pinch? Can you find him?

Newspaper Fun!
 Created by Annimills © 2005 V1-N48

December Days

I like December. The days are shorter and cooler but there are lots of fun things to do. Use this calendar all month to remind yourself of the exciting, joyous holidays. This calendar has a lot of mini puzzles for you to figure out. Have fun and happy holidays!

<p>1 Parks Day This woman refused to sit in the back of the bus. Many people stopped riding the bus until they got more equal rights.</p>	<p>2 National Month of December.</p>	<p>3 What is it? Its name is narcissus. It comes in white and yellow. It is very fragrant. It is easy to grow inside the house. It is a favorite of December.</p>
<p>4 Cookie Cutter Week Draw the shape of the cookie cutter that you think is used the most.</p>	<p>5 Write to a Friend Month So write!</p>	<p>6 Gazpacho Day Gazpacho is a Spanish, tomato-based cold _____.</p>
<p>7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</p>	<p>8 Bad Hair Day</p>	<p>9 This is one of the first Christmas Seals issued in 1907. True or False?</p>
<p>10 Nobel Prize Day Mark an "X" in front of the 5 subjects that are given prizes: <input type="checkbox"/> peace <input type="checkbox"/> chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> cooking <input type="checkbox"/> physics <input type="checkbox"/> literature <input type="checkbox"/> medicine</p>	<p>11 UNICEF 1946 ...was started by the U.N. to bring and clothes to children after World War II. True or False?</p>	<p>12 Giving! This is a good time to think about giving to others. Maybe you can collect toys or canned foods or warm... P_i_s_t_i_Day</p>
<p>13 and 14</p>	<p>15 National Day</p>	<p>16 Las Posadas After the religious procession it's time for a party and to break a piñata. True or False?</p>
<p>17 Wright Brothers First Flight 1903 A kite? True or False?</p>	<p>18 National Bingo Month This game was called "Beano" before it was changed to "Bingo." Yes or no?</p>	<p>19 Carolling Day Okay! Okay! So here I come a wassailing ... Draw your favorite game here!</p>
<p>20 Games Day</p>	<p>21 First Day of Winter - the shortest day of the year. Which of the lines above is the shortest?</p>	<p>22 True or False? First time electric Christmas lights were put on a tree - 1882.</p>
<p>23 Birthstone: Turquoise This blue-green stone is often used with silver in jewelry making. j_e_w_e_l_e_r_y</p>	<p>24 "...The stockings were hung by the chimney with care..." Clement Clarke Moore</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day Christmas! M_____</p>
<p>26 Kwanzaa begins Hanukkah begins</p>	<p>27 A golden cake chock full of nuts and _____! _____ cake Day</p>	<p>28 National Quilter's Day Color-in this quilt.</p>
<p>29 Ball Invented</p>	<p>30 Fit these New Year words in the puzzle: friends, twelve, hats, horns, bells.</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve Bells ring at _____ (midnight)</p>

For fun and puzzle answers, check out the mice working hard on the puzzles on our website: www.newspaperfun.com. Write to me at Forest@newspaperfun.com.

Answers: 1. Rosa, 2. The, 3. flower, 4. soup, 5. false, they are stickers like stamps, not real seals, 10. no Nobel for cooking, 11. true, 12. Polio, 13. and 14. clothing, 15. Firefighters, 16. pirates, 17. false, 18. yes, 20. Pinch's favorite game is Twister, 21. they are the same length - the different ends make them look different lengths, 22. true, 23. jewelry, 25. Merry, 26. both holidays use candles, 27. fruit, 29. Bowling, 31. twelve.

What Month Am I?

Read the clues below to fill in this crossword puzzle. The name of this month will appear below the arrow.

- the _____ of this month is also the _____ of the year
- this sport is played on an ice rink
- it can get chilly outside so you may need a _____
- the _____ drops this month
- this is one of seven _____ that have 31 days
- _____ teams work hard this month to get into playoffs
- this is the _____ month of the year
- the season of _____ begins this month

Find your crayons and colored pencils. Color all the pictures. Do all the puzzles.

temperature
 months
 winter
 jacket
 football

hockey
 end
 twelfth
 have fun

Engagement



Wentworth, Byers engaged

Steve and Karen Wentworth announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Wentworth of Ft. Worth, to Russell Byers of Fayetteville, N.C.

The prospective groom is the son of James and Terry Byers of Muleshoe. He is a graduate of Muleshoe High School, and is currently serving in field artillery meteorology with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

The prospective bride is a graduate of Midland High School and Texas Christian University, and is currently employed with the General Services Administration as an accountant.

The wedding has been set for Dec. 30, at 6:30 p.m., at Shady Oaks Country Club in Ft. Worth.

Cotton News...

from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

West Texas cleanup dates announced by state

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Department of Agriculture and Texas Cooperative Extension are getting together to clean up the Texas countryside during the month of December.

The Texas Country Cleanup events are free of charge and open to all Texas residents, not just farmers and ranchers. Participation is voluntary and confidential.

The joint effort is made of a series of six waste pesticide collection events across the West Texas region. Collection dates have been set up for Pampa, Dumas, Hereford, Slaton, St. Lawrence and

Fabens beginning Dec. 5 and ending Dec. 16.

High Plains residents will be most interested in the collection dates at Hereford on Dec. 9 and Slaton on Dec. 12.

The program will accept leftover banned or unwanted agricultural pesticides, home chemicals including pesticides, paints and thinners, antifreeze, household batteries, aerosol cans, photographic chemicals, mercury thermometers, herbicides, gasoline, cleaners, pool chemicals, fluorescent bulbs used motor oil and oil filters, lead acid batteries and other

automotive products.

The program cannot accept used tires, radioactive materials, explosives, compressed gas cylinders, herbicides containing 2,4,5-

TP (Silvex), pesticides or wood preservatives containing pentachlorophenol in quantities greater than five gallons.

Congress faces budget reconciliation

By Shawn Wade, PCG

With the passage of budget reconciliation legislation by the House of Representatives on Nov. 18 the stage is set for leaders from the House and Senate to attempt to iron out a unified plan for budget reconciliation when they return from the Thanksgiving break.

The Senate, which passed its budget reconciliation bill several weeks ago, approved a package of cuts totaling \$35 billion including \$3 billion in agriculture program cuts. The Senate bill essentially matched the budget reconciliation savings target for total mandatory spending reductions agreed on earlier this year.

Unlike the Senate, the House's budget reconciliation bill was significantly affected by an effort to achieve additional savings over and above the previously agreed to target levels.

The additional House savings are being sought as a means to offset relief costs in Louisiana and neighboring states in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Overall the House agreed on a total of \$49.5 billion in mandatory program savings with approximately \$3.6 billion resulting from agriculture program cuts.

While the House and Senate have approved

similarly structured cuts in agriculture programs some major differences do exist. One of those differences, which will play a significant role in shaping the conference report is the Senate's decision to cut ag program spending deeper than necessary in order to come up with enough money to include a two-year extension of the MILC program.

The Senate's MILC provision has already influenced things in the House where Republican leaders had to agree to support the measure in conference to secure enough votes to pass the budget reconciliation bill last week.

Another wild card in the deck is the level of pressure the Bush Administration will put on Republican leaders during the conference. A recently released Statement of Administration Policy on budget reconciliation shows that the Administration has several ideas it would like to have included in the final conference report.

One agriculture item specifically mentioned in the SAP is the proposed elimination of the cotton Step 2 program at the end of the current cotton marketing year on Aug. 1, 2006.

Thank You!
Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Holiday Coat Drive



A warm word of thanks goes to each individual, family and all of the fine local merchants who helped with our recent Holiday Coat Drive.

Because of your generosity and love,

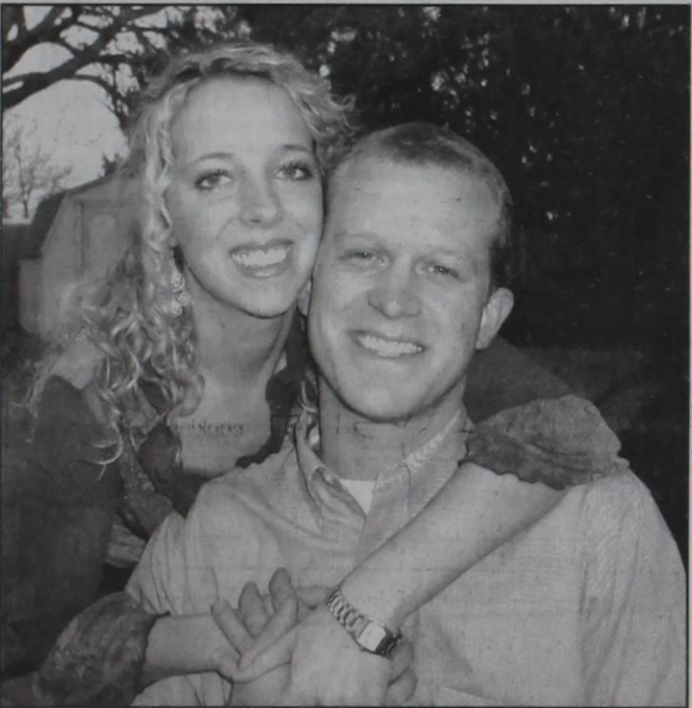
476 coats

were collected, then distributed to people in our community who needed them.

We're thankful for you and for God's Blessing, and we look forward to another great Holiday Coat Drive next year!

Your friends and neighbors at 16th & D Church of Christ

Bridal Shower



Robinett, Claborn shower held

A bridal shower honoring Lindsay Robinett and Jason Claborn was held on Sunday, Nov. 20, at the home of Doyce and Janelle Turner.

Hosts and hostesses for the event included: Doyce and Janelle Turner, Judy and Paul Wilbanks, Anita and Bob Black, Tisha and Jeff Boehning, Kathy and Derrel Embry, LeAnn and David Gallman, Sherry and Tommy Gunstream, Melody and Pete Herringa, Patti and Phil Kent, Joan Lewis, Linda and Hal Wood, Ruth and Fred Locker, Pam and Mike Miller, Juana and Curtis Shelburne, and Sheila and Joe Bob Stevenson.

Among the gifts received were framed western art, a Texas clock, and a candle stick and candle.

Special guests included: Celia and James Kinsey of Lubbock, Jobey and Janet Claborn of Muleshoe, Jonell

Claborn of Clovis, N.M., Steve and Vicki Buckley of Dimmitt, Deacon Buckley, Derek and Whitne Buckley of Lubbock and Brooke Buckley, also of Lubbock

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Country Christmas Jubilee

Arts & Crafts Show

Friday, Dec. 2nd & Saturday, Dec. 3rd
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in Friona

Show hours:

Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Unique gift ideas for everyone on your list plus that "special something" for yourself!
Baked goods • Clothing • Decor & More!

Door prizes throughout both days!

Concession stand & holiday spirit!

Make this holiday one that has you singing out with glee. Get into the spirit at the Country Christmas Jubilee!



Hospital Report

The Muleshoe Area Medical Center has released the following list of admissions:

- Nov. 18 — No report.
- Nov. 19 — No report.
- Nov. 20 — No report.
- Nov. 21 — Maria Toscano.
- Nov. 22 — Berta Combs and Clemetina Rivera.

Compassionate Care of Muleshoe presents the 3rd Annual Christmas Gala Saturday, Dec. 3 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM First Assembly of God Family Life Building Admission is FREE Decorated Theme Tables Refreshments Boutique & Themed Items For Sale

Baby's First Christmas

The Muleshoe Journal will be printing a special Christmas section devoted to personal greetings especially written by our readers. We're calling these greetings "A Family Christmas." Ads for this section start at \$45 and we encourage families to include a photo - or two! It's a great way to send Christmas greetings to your neighbors, family and friends near and far. If you have a baby celebrating his or her first Christmas, let the Muleshoe Journal make it a memorable one by including a special greeting to your little one during this once in a lifetime event! It's sure to be something you'll treasure for decades to come. Call 272-4536 and speak with Leah or Delia about getting your personalized Christmas greeting printed. "A Family Christmas" will appear in the Dec. 22, 2005 edition.

Club News

Student, Community Action Club members meet, discuss plans

The Student Community Action Club met Nov. 21 at Abby Lawrence's house.

SCAC president Brady Black called the meeting to order and asked chaplain Brant Hamilton to open the meeting with a prayer along with the treasurer's report by Myles James.

Club member Cody Clark then introduced the guest speaker, J.O. Parker who spoke to the club members about his involvement for the last 43 years in the Muleshoe Volunteer Fire Department.

Parker said he enjoys helping out the community and the people in need.

Under old business, the SCAC member's drew names for gift certificates awarded to the people who helped out at the Fall Festival.



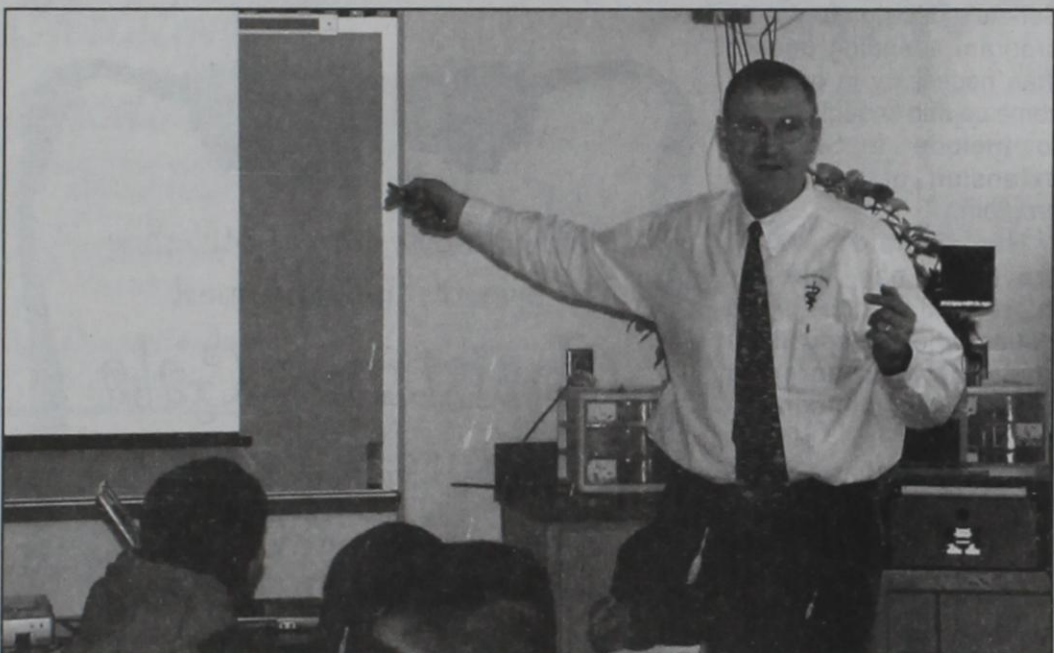
Fireman J.O. Parker, pictured above on the left, is welcomed by SCAC member Cody Black at the recent SCAC meeting.

The PTA provided gift cards in appreciation for their help with the festival.

The members also discussed the successful canned food drive raising more than 1,500 cans for the Muleshoe Food Pantry

The SCAC T-shirt committee took orders on the upcoming club shirt.

The members also discussed their plans to meet in Nov. 27, at the Muleshoe Heritage House, to decorate the depot for Christmas.



Smoking program presented to seventh grade

Dr. Larry Johnson, a professor of Veterinary Integrative

Biosciences, at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A & M, spoke to

Hollye Hooten's seventh grade science classes at Watson Junior High recently.

Dr. Johnson is associated with the PEER (Partnership for Environmental Education and Rural Health) program.

PEER sends Texas A & M scientists to visit rural middle schools to conduct demonstrations and experiments on environmental health topics to increase student awareness, interest in science and to motivate students by helping them relate science instruction to real world situations.

Johnson spoke to the seventh graders on "Smoking and the Respiratory System," during which he compared the actual lungs of a smoker and nonsmoker.

County Questions

On Memorial Day, 1985, why did people gather at Needmore?

Answer on page 12.



SCAC hosts food drive

Muleshoe High School's Student Community Action Club hosted a canned food drive competition between the Muleshoe High School and Watson Junior High recently, raising approximately 1,500 cans of food for the Bailey County Food Pantry. Pictured above are Stuart Precure, Monica Posadas, Brady Black, Hillary Tipps, Carlos Bustillos, Tiffany Standard and Ashley Cisneros.

SPC to hold workforce development classes

South Plains College is holding registration for upcoming workforce development classes to be held at the WorkSource Career Center, 203 Main Street in Muleshoe.

All classes will be held from 6-9 p.m. Contact SPC concerning course costs.

The upcoming classes are:

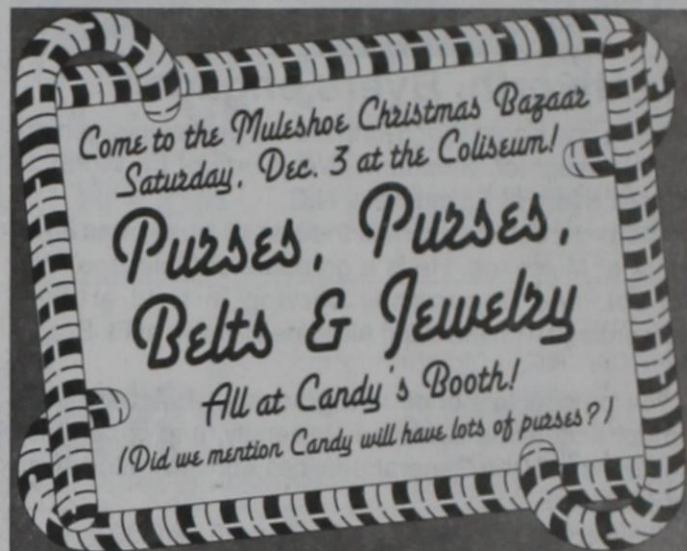
- Introduction to Excel - December 5-14; Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Intermediate Excel - January 6-15; Monday and Wednesday.
- Introduction to Computers and Windows - January 9-30; Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Introduction to Word - January 12-February 2; Thursdays.

To register or for more information, contact 806-747-0576, extension 4906.

Job training for seniors available

Sally Farr of Experience Works will be conducting a job fair in Muleshoe on Monday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. until noon, at the Heritage Depot, West American Boulevard, to help senior citizens, ages 55 and up, receive the training they need to upgrade their job skills.

For additional information, contact the WorkSource office in Muleshoe at 272-7540.



Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce Business & Employee of the Month

If you've had great service from an individual or business in our community, get them recognized for their excellent customer service by nominating them for the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce's Business or Employee of the Month award! Write down their name and a brief description of why they deserve the award (use extra paper if you need to), clip this form and mail it to the Chamber office, P.O. Box 356, or drop it off at the Chamber office, 115 E. American Blvd., Mon.-Fri., 10 am to 4 pm. The "employee" selection can be different than the "business" selection.

Employee of the Month

Reason: _____

Business of the Month

Reason: _____

4-H News

The Bailey County 4-H Club met on Monday, Nov. 14, at the Masonic Lodge in Muleshoe.

Cami Jo Vandiver, Club President, presided over the meeting.

Kayla Preston, Sarah Whitworth, Bailey Bales, Shelbi Harrison, Jenna Whitworth, Baylee Bessire, and Courtney Mardis were recognized for participating in the Bailey County Food Show on Oct. 23.

Bailey Bales placed first in the Junior Nutritious Snacks Category in District 2's 4-H Food Show, in Levelland, on Nov. 12.

Also participating in the District 2 Food Show were Sarah Whitworth, Shelbi Harrison, Jenna Whitworth, and Baylee Bessire.

Cody Black was recognized for having his 4-H photography project

chosen as this year's cover for the Texas Cooperative Extension holiday greeting card.

It was announced that Clay Pena was the top salesman for the meat sales fundraiser.

Canned soups and crackers were donated to the Bailey County Food Pantry as this month's Community Service project.

Nellie Baker, Jennifer DeLeon, and Denise Dunham provided red beans, sausage, and rice for dinner at the meeting.

Nelda Blackwell and Rick Seaton, 4-H shooting sports coaches, presented a program on "gun safety."

The next 4-H meeting will be Dec. 12.

For more information about 4-H, contact the Bailey County Extension Office at 272-4583.

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April's Christmas Doll... Continued from page 1

even more, and she glanced over at Mrs. Bea, the gift she'd received from her parents.

April recalled the brief look of pain on her father's face as she unwrapped Mrs. Bea and realized it wasn't the doll with the golden hair and sparkling pink dress which she'd seen on television and for which she repeatedly asked.

Although she had tried not to show it, April knew that her parents knew she was disappointed. She thanked them for the gift and hugged them both, but her heart wasn't in it. In fact, she didn't even have the heart to name her new doll.

Ever since she saw the first commercial about the golden-haired doll with the pink dress, April knew she would get the doll... she just knew it. So, before the afternoon was over, she had already decided to name it "Arika." That way, the doll would have the same initials as April. April Browning ... Arika Browning, both "AB." The thought thrilled her.

But when April got Mrs. Bea instead, she just couldn't name it "Arika." Several days passed before the new birthday gift received a name. For some reason, the name popped into April's head when a neighbor who had dropped by one morning for coffee with April's mother asked about the doll's name.

"...Uh, Mrs. Bea," April replied, more interested in the slight tingling she felt in her head than the conversation with the neighbor.

"Is that short for Mrs. Browning?" the neighbor asked.

"No, just Mrs. Bea." Then April went outside to play, soon to forget about how her new doll acquired its name.

"Oh, Mrs. Bea," April said to the doll as it rested next to her on the bottom step of the porch. "It's just a few days until Christmas, and there's not any presents under the tree yet."

Things hadn't improved much in the Browning household during the months since April's birthday. Although her father was working part-time now, and there had been plenty of food on the table — even if too much of that was vegetables — April didn't have many hopes about the present of which she continued to dream. Since there weren't any presents at all under the tree in the living room, there was absolutely no chance that April would get "Arika" for Christmas.

Several days after Morris left the North Pole, Santa did indeed go to Mrs. Bea's cabinet. With Christmas Eve only a week away and the final preparations for this year's trip being made, it was time for him to prepare his final Christmas list.

Long ago, Santa had learned that what a child really wanted or needed didn't always appear in the letters sent to him, so he began to sit and listen to children's thoughts as they traveled north from places around the world. Then when the world's population began to grow, he made Mrs. Bea to help him listen. For most of the year, she chose to sit quietly in the

seclusion of her cabinet, listening to the dreams and sometimes the tears of the world's children.

Every once in a while throughout the year, Santa would stop by and they would work on the list for the next Holiday season. Although Mrs. Bea was a magical creation, and not really a living being, he deeply appreciated her assistance. It was a hard thing to be able to listen in on the too often troubled

traditionally held there — the north wind continued on with the delivery of snow and sleet which it was scheduled to drop over Kentucky.

The streets of Chicago can be rough even when you aren't four-feet tall and wearing a pointed cap and shoes with curled toes and a tiny bell. Fortunately, the business district in which Morris eventually found himself had enough department stores with their



thoughts of the world's children, and know that your magic wasn't sufficient to take all the hurt or longing away. Between their efforts and those of all the elves and creatures who helped Santa, at least a few of each child's dreams would appear under the tree or inside a stocking on Christmas Day. But now, with this year's Christmas list still incomplete, especially large portions in the United States, Mrs. Bea along with all the information she'd accumulated since the last time Santa had visited her was missing.

Morris' trip south would have lasted days beyond Christmas had he been limited to "normal" means of transportation. Anyone who deals with elves on a frequent basis can tell you that few things can outdistance an elf. Of course, there are the obvious things such as Santa's sleigh pulled by its magical reindeer, or an angel. Elves, you see, travel like the wind. To be more accurate, they travel with the wind.

Throughout the centuries, elves have maintained their friendships with the various winds circling the globe, and have come to rely on this relationship for transportation. When Morris left Santa's village it was a simple matter to catch a ride on the next icy gale headed south.

Fortunately, however, since all winds blowing from the North Pole are blowing south, the wind he asked was one which would carry him to North America. It's a long way from the north coast of Canada to Oklahoma and Mrs. Bea, but it's a lot closer than the other route through the snow-covered forests of Siberia.

After dropping the young elf off at Chicago — which incidentally got its nickname of "the windy city" from the annual air current convention which is

seasonal holiday decorations that his attire if not his physical stature was almost totally ignored.

Still, it wasn't long before Morris' quest started to attract a little attention. While he was walking through the toy department of a rather large department store, Morris suddenly had the feeling he was being watched. He looked around, looking down the aisle up at the toy shelves surrounding him, but didn't see anyone or anything. With a shrug of his shoulders, he went back to his search.

Expect for the odd feeling he had, it had been a very uneventful day. Neither the department store's elves nor the toys lining all the shelves knew anything about Mrs. Bea. And while he hadn't actually expected any type of answer from the dolls, since even in Santa's workshops the number of dolls created greatly exceeded the number of magic dolls, he was more surprised by the reception he received from what he believed to be fellow elves.

Although Morris couldn't see anyone watching him, he was right about being watched. While the young elf was familiar with life at the North Pole, he had a great deal to learn about mankind and the trappings of "civilization." Overhead, its lens concealed by a dark plastic inverted dome, was a remote-controlled camera operated from a console store's security department.

Harry Lipton, the head of the department store's small security force, continued to watch the television screen showing the short man in the elf costume in the toy section. "You're sure he's not extra holiday help," he asked the security officer seated next to him.

"Not absolutely. We don't have a name yet to check out with Personnel, but it was one of the store elves who called him to our attention. ...This guy was asking a bunch of weird questions about a doll," the officer said, nodding toward

the television screen.

"Could he be shopping?" asked Lipton.

"...For a magical doll?" said the officer.

Lipton glanced over at the officer. "Are you serious?" he asked.

The officer gave a quick smile. "A stocker got close enough to hear him talking to the stuffed animals. Think he's a nut?"

Lipton sat back in his chair, and began to rub his chin slowly. When the small man on the screen turned and walked further down the aisle, Lipton leaned forward and pushed a series of buttons on the console. Just as the small man was about to walk out of view, the screen switched to another view — this one showing the man's approach.

"You'd better bring him up here for a talk, just to be safe," Lipton said as he sat back in his chair again.

"Should I call the police," asked the officer. Lipton shook his head and said, "Not until we know what we've got."

Back in the North Pole, a very puzzled Santa Claus was doing his best to learn Mrs. Bea's whereabouts. A quick check of the remaining cabinets in the workshop revealed nothing else was missing.

"I just don't know where she could be," Santa said, as he ran his fingers through his thick white beard. Percy, Santa's chief assistant, shrugged his shoulders. "Someone must have taken her," he said. "She couldn't have just walked away... she's a doll."

Santa chuckled softly. "After all these years, Percy, you still haven't realized there isn't such a thing as 'just a doll.' Maybe I've had you pushing pencils and counting the supplies too

long? Each doll we make is special ...they have to be. They're like piggy banks storing love until some little girl needs to make a withdrawal to give to someone who needs a little more love."

Santa suddenly rose from his chair by the fireplace and walked across the room to his big rolltop desk. "Just a moment," he said as he wrote a name down on a long sheet of paper. "So, Bobby McClure wants a new pair of gloves. We'll have to see what we can do about that. It's going to get very cold in Montana this winter."

"Doesn't that ever bother you?" Percy asked.

"What, taking a moment to write down someone's Christmas wish?" The elf nodded his head.

"No, not really. But trying to write a note when I'm helping Mrs. Claus pull taffy

can be tricky." Santa's chuckle turned into a full-blown belly laugh. "The last time... you almost had to come cut me loose," he added as he held his sides from mirth.

It was several minutes before their conversation returned to Mrs. Bea's location. "Dolls are special, and Mrs. Bea is 'extra-special'," Santa said. "She was created from a Christmas wish of my own, and to be perfectly honest, I don't know what all she can do. Walk? Probably, if she wants to... and maybe many other things besides, but if we don't locate her, it will be a sad Christmas for thousands of hopeful children."

(Watch for "April's Christmas Doll" to be continued in next week's issue of the Muleshoe Journal.)

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Christmas concert set for Dec. 4 at Earth

Faith Lewis, harpist, and Jean Warren, violinist and vocalist, pictured on the left, will present a Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec. 4. The concert will begin at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Earth, located at 101 NE First in Earth. The public is invited to attend for an evening of music as the birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated in song.

SPC to host New Student Experience

South Plains College will be hosting New Student Experience sessions on Dec. 8 and Jan. 11 from 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Levelland campus. The fee is \$15 for students including lunch on campus. The New Student Experience is an opportunity for students and parents to visit the South Plains College campus and the community of Levelland. All new or

transfer students with less than 15 credit hours are encouraged to attend the experience.

The experience will allow students to meet faculty and staff, explore career choices, learn about campus life and organizations, meet with an academic advisor, register for spring classes and learn about financial aid options.

There also will be a special question and answer session for parents.

Any student wanting to attend must have college placement scores or exemptions on file in order to attend New Student Experience.

To check their test status the student can refer to their acceptance letter. If testing needs to be arranged the student must register in person or mail their testing fees.

For more information about testing, contact the Levelland campus at (806) 894-9611, ext. 2530 or for the Reese Center, Bryon Martin Center or Plainview Center contact (806)885-3048, ext. 4689.

For testing information or to RSVP for New Student Experience, visit www.southplainscollege.edu/counseling.

For more information, contact 806-894-9611, extension 2366.

Christmas Card Project under way

The annual Park View Christmas Card Project is under way.

Individuals wishing to contribute may do so by making their check out to "Christmas Card Project," and sending them to Christmas Card Project, c/o Joyeline Costen, P.O. Box 202, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or Joy Stancell, c/o Park View Nursing Home, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

If you don't wish to mail your donation, it may also be left with Stancell at the nursing home.

There is a Dec. 16 deadline for donations.

Addresses for charitable giving

- Muleshoe Heritage Foundation Center, P.O. Box 201, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, (806) 272-4429 or 5873.
- American Cancer Society/Bailey County Relay For Life, c/o Kim Cook, 201 E. Fir, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- MOST Scholarship (given to all graduating MISD seniors yearly), c/o Superintendent 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 Scholarship Fund, c/o Janice Bradshaw, 669 CR 21, Muleshoe, TX 79347; or call 965-2619; or drop by the Muleshoe State Bank to talk with Janice
- Bailey County Food Pantry, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Meals on Wheels, 300 1st St., Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Lazbuddie EMS and Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 125, Lazbuddie, TX 79053
- Park View Nursing Home, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- New Mexico Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, N.M. 88130-9411
- Muleshoe Masonic Lodge No. 1237, P.O. Box 521, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Inc., 104 E. Ave. C, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 272-5727

County Answers

Questions and answers selected for "County Questions" are from *Tales and Trails of Bailey County, 1918-1988*.

- Page 2 — Tom Berry.
- Page 7 — (1) Harvey Bass Appliances. (2) Nelda Merriott.
- Page 10 — Filming of a Blue Bell IceCream commercial.

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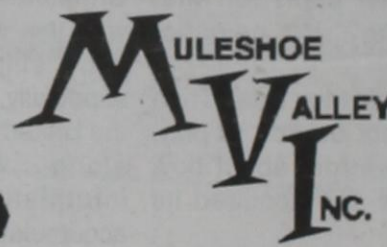
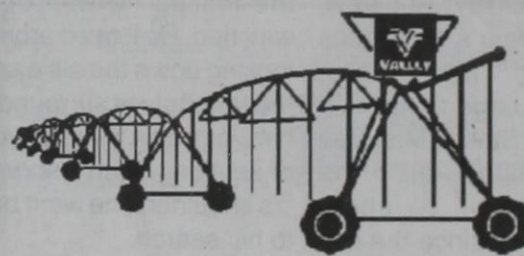
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CHRISTMAS ARTS & CRAFTS BAZAAR - Sponsored by the Bailey Co. Extension Education Assoc. For more information on this event, contact Gail Gladden at 272-3024.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PARADE - Sponsored by the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture. For more information on this event, contact the Chamber office at 272-4248.

LIGHTING RECEPTION AT THE MULESHOE HERITAGE CENTER - For more information on this event, contact the Muleshoe Heritage Center at 272-5875.

MULESHOE AFTER HOURS - Sponsored by the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Hosted by our Local Merchants. For more information on this event, contact the Chamber office at 272-4248

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