

Burn ban on hold ...

Cooke County hires grant writers

by Janet Felderhoff

Members of Cooke County Commissioners Court addressed a lengthy agenda at the regular meeting held July 23.

John Stewart and George Wymer of Trott Communications outlined their company's five-year plan to improve communications. The County has been struggling with system for at least three years, according to EMS Director Bob Harbin. The initial study by Trott would cost the County about \$20,000.00. The representatives said the study addresses the situation from an operational perspective to tell what the options are for both equipment and policies to be solved.

Commissioner Phil Young said, "I think this is a worthwhile project. We

really need to check into this. There's no point in spending a lot of money on things that we don't need."

Jerry Lewis, Precinct #3 commissioner, cautioned that they not go too fast. County Judge Bill Harris said, "We need to find out where we are in funds before we fork over \$20,000 in the next three months." Precinct #4 Commissioner Virgil Hess remarked that the next item on the agenda should be discussed before a decision was made since it was seeking grants for such a study. A decision was tabled.

Gary Bottoms with Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG) explained a service offered to members by its Department of Grant and Resource Development. "There's money out there for almost everything," he said.

Bottoms said that they had already located three or four potential planning grants, but that there are no guarantees. They seek only in-kind, not matching grants.

"We do an unheard of grant proposal every six weeks," noted Bottoms. He said none of the counties in the three-county area has money and so they gin out another grant proposal every six weeks, ready to be signed and submitted. Bottoms asked that if Cooke County signs with them the Commissioners Court think about all of the County's various needs and submit a list.

There is a \$1,000 a month retainer fee and no other money is owed unless a successful and funded grant is written. He said the highest fee charged has been three percent and can

be less. The vote was unanimous to enter the agreement.

Cooke County got a reprieve on an outdoor burn ban. Young said, "At this time we're not up to the high mark which is 600. We're still under 500 at this time." Harbin said the Cooke County Firefighters Association had voted on Wednesday not to institute a burn ban at this time. The biggest fire this summer was 25 acres, he said. The ban was tabled until the next meeting.

Election judges and alternates for 2001-2002 were approved. County Clerk Evelyn Walterscheid said that Precinct #2 Republicans hadn't complied with a request to name an election judge. Therefore the alternate was named election judge and an alternate has yet to be appointed.

Judges and alternates are as follows (judge first, alternate second):

- Precinct 1 - Monica Lamb, Juanita Shasteen;
- Precinct 2 - Joyce Malinoski, no alternate as yet; Precinct 3 - Jim Goldsworthy, Harold Cheney; Precinct 4 - Anna M. Land, Juanita Leach; Precinct 5 - Marjorie Powell, Janice McConnell; Precinct 6 - Darren Baucum, Frances West; Precinct 7 - Jim Yeagan, Carolyn Hassell; Precinct 8 - Sharon McCormick, Susie McDonald; Precinct 9 - Elizabeth Mendenhall, Polly Williams; Precinct 10 - Doris Heying, Ken Leach; Precinct 11 - Frank Hacker, Brandi Dieter; Precinct 12 - Ann Knight, Ima Delle Barthold; Precinct 14 - George Jones, Pat Ford; Precinct 15 - William Black, Mary Hermes; Precinct 17 - Debbie Hess, Eddie Fleitman; Precinct 18 - See JUDGES, Page 2



Krystal Hale at the Capital, Washington, D.C.

Krystal Hale takes CCEC's trip to D.C.

Krystal Hale, a Muenster High School junior, won the all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. by writing an essay and delivering a speech on March 25 in Cooke County Electric Co-op's Government-in-Action Youth Tour contest.

She is the daughter of Tim and Debbie Endres and the late Kim Hale.

Competing with four other area students, her speech was entitled "How Electric Co-ops Improve the Quality of Life in America," detailing in particular the Co-op's provision of electric service to rural areas.

Runner-up in the contest was Angela Peyrot, a Callisburg High School senior. She is the daughter of Ezelle and Vickie Peyrot. Other contestants were Chris McLaughlin, son of Tim and Marcia McLaughlin of Gainesville; Cody Rowland, son of Jim and Peggy Rowland of Callisburg; and Eric Bayer, son of Leon and Lea Ann Bayer of Muenster.

The following is a description of the wonderful trip made by 130 youth from Texas and New Mexico, providing a lifetime of memories, meeting many new friends and seeing famous places and great national treasures in the Washington, D.C. area, June 14 through 26.

The trip began on Thursday, June 14 as the group gathered at the DFW Holiday Inn Select for orientation. The next morning they boarded three Greyhound buses and headed for the nation's capital. They arrived in Arlington, Virginia on Sunday, June 18 after spending one night in Jackson, Tennessee and one in Bristol, Virginia. Monday was Rural Youth Day, sponsored by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). One thousand, three hundred

youth from 43 states rallied on Capital Hill. They exchanged state pins and listened to several speakers. After the rally the group went to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, then proceeded to dinner at Union Station.

Tuesday was very busy as the youth went to Capital Hill to visit their congressman, tour the House and Senate Chambers, the Supreme Court, and the Library of Congress. In the afternoon they went to the National Archives, then had dinner at Pentagon City.

The next day the group toured the FBI, visited Ford's Theater, had lunch at the Old Post Office, and went to Washington National Cathedral. In the evening the NRECA sponsored a dinner/dance.

Thursday and Friday the youth visited several memorials, including the FDR, Iwo Jima, Jefferson, Korean, Lincoln, and Vietnam. They also went to the Arlington National Cemetery where the delegation participated in a Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown and watched the Changing of Guards. Also during these two days they went to the Smithsonian and Mount Vernon.

The group loaded back on the buses Saturday spending the night at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel in Tennessee. On Sunday a Celebration Service was held at Lookout Mountain in the Smokey Mountains. They arrived back at the DFW Select on Monday evening.

To date, more than 2,000 youth from Texas have experienced a first-hand glimpse of their nation's capital through the Youth Tour program. Krystal Hale is the eleventh student sponsored by Cooke County Electric Cooperative.



Go "Greased Lightnin'" - every guy wants a "souped-up" car! The Butterfield Stage production of Grease at the State Theater in Gainesville continues its record-setting run of performances this weekend. A matinee has been added Saturday afternoon. Call the State Theater for times and tickets. Pictured are, from left, Logan Brooks, Lance Morse, Martin Richardson, Michael Haseloff and Isaac Chase.

Lindsay ISD hires Coach Joel Pitman

by Janet Felderhoff

Members of the Lindsay ISD Board of Trustees met Monday, July 16. Joel Pitman of Ponder was hired as assistant coach. He will coach junior high and high school girls' athletics and assist with football and teach 8th grade History.

Librarian Phyllis Tucker resigned as an employee of Lindsay ISD effective June 28. The Board accepted her resignation. That position has not been filled.

Superintendent Travis Winn recommended that the Board renew its assessment and collection contract with the CCAD. "I feel like the Cooke County

Appraisal District (CCAD) is getting stronger and more efficient as time goes along," said Winn. "I think that they've got a ways to go, but at this point in time they're kind of the only balgame in town." He explained the fee to be assessed to LISD would be in relation to LISD's share of the CCAD budget.

Winn remarked, "I will say that their Board is fairly conservative. They haven't had any gigantic increases in the last few years. Doug Smithson (chief appraiser) is really growing now. He's being allowed to do some things and their services are getting better."

Carol Conaway remarked that she felt it would be better to wait until

August when the CCAD had a final budget approved. The Board agreed.

Principal Jerry Metzler noted upcoming events including the following: high school registration on Aug. 7; senior pictures on Aug. 9; orientation for 7th and 8th grades at 7 p.m. on Aug. 13 for students and their parents; kindergarten orientation 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Aug. 13; open house on Monday, Sept. 10 emphasizing kindergarten through 6th grades; school begins on Aug. 15.

Winn announced a budget workshop for Thursday, July 26 at 7 p.m. It will begin with a walk through of the facilities. He reported on repairs and painting going on this

summer.

In addition to classes set by the State, Metzler asked that LISD add events classes, all the weighted classes, Spanish II, Spanish III, Anatomy & Physiology, and Physics. The Board approved Metzler's recommendations to the FM Local policy.

In other business the Board:

- Approved extension of RSCCC Business Systems Service Agreement and WIN School Student System Service Agreement for 2001-2002.
- Approved transfer requests for six students.
- Declined endorsement of any TASB candidate since none of the candidates were known members of the LISD Board.

MISD School Board makes policy changes

by Janie Hartman

The Muenster ISD Board of Trustees met Wednesday, July 18, to discuss several changes in the student handbooks and code of conduct.

The Board approved the dress code for Pre-K through 12th grade with one exception, "Elementary students will be allowed to wear shorts the first and sixth six weeks only."

The Board also added the following to the district dress code "No tattoos are to be visible at any time," and a change from last year, "Shower type flip-flops are not allowed."

The Board also discussed the student extra-curricular handbooks, budget amendments, preliminary tax rate, preliminary budget, contractual obligations and maintenance tax notes, and the Architect's report on the Master plan.



Signs, signs, everywhere a sign, as more and more pro and anti merger messages clutter yards, fences and even pastures in the Muenster Hospital District. Voters have till the August 11 election to decide which "side" they wish to take. Photo by Janie Hartman

Chamber sets garage sale

For the sixth year, the Muenster Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a community-wide garage sale. This year's annual event will be held Saturday, Sept. 8.

Deadline for participants to sign up is 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24. Those wishing to participate should go by the Chamber office no later than 5 p.m. Aug. 24. There is a \$10 fee. Participants

will have their garage sale location placed on a locator map and the fee will help cover advertising the event. For more information, call the Chamber office at 759-2227.

Items not sold can be donated to the Salvation Army. A truck will pick up unsold items on Monday, Sept. 10 if participants so desire.



Vince Fontaine (Joey Stephens) and the WAXX girls (Candy Stephens, left and Jessica Koesler) attempt to get chaperone, Miss Lynch, (Susan Kyle) to relax at the prom, in the production of *Grease*.
Dave Fette photo



"Summer Lovin'" has to come to an end as Sandy (Elizabeth Fette) reflects on her goodbye to Danny. School friends include, from left Connie Richardson, Melissa Carpenter, Nikki Reed, Kristin McDaniel and Rachel Lively.
Dave Fette Photo

JUDGES

Continued from Page 1

Angelo Nasche, Celine Dittfurth; Precinct 19 - Barbara Felderhoff, Lorene Sandmann; Precinct 20 - Juhree Case, Pauline Bashaw; Precinct 21 - Laura Neusch, Evelyn Fuhrmann; Precinct 22 Jim Betty Gaertner, Barbara Barr; Precinct 30 - Stormy Melton, Jean Harrison; Precinct 33 - W. Taylor Vestall, Barbara Pybas; Precinct 34 Royce Oats, Tom Watson; Precinct 35 Richard Sparkman, Joann Hermes; Precinct 37 - Robert Eggleston, Willie Holt.

Early voting alternate is Bobbie Calhoun. No judge is appointed at this time.

Turtle Hill Subdivision's request to replat from six lots to five was approved. Hess said that the six lots

run along the golf courses fairway by #11. The owners want to create a buffer zone between the fairway and the lots. Hess said that they want to drop the west lot to keep the lots the same size. He added that originally they planned to construct the road to be a county road, but now plan to keep it a private road.

In other business Commissioners Court:

- Approved minutes from the July 12 Lake Ray Roberts Planning and Zoning Commission.

- Approved the repair of a telecommunications cable along the east side of CR 131, beginning approximately 951 feet north of Hwy. 82, extending approximately 1467 feet on CR 131.

- Approved resolutions for the bridges on Cheany Road, CR 232, CR 215, CR 207, CR 202 to be placed in the Match Fund Participation program for the Texas Department of Transportation.

- Approved entering into an agreement with Texas Association of Counties Health and Benefits Pool.

- Approved sole bid for a Warren Truss Bridge located on CR 222 in Precinct #2. Lemons House Moving submitted a bid for \$1,056.50.

- Approved request to install a fresh water line across CR 130, approximately 2000 feet east of the intersection of CR 130 and CR 109.

- Created a new zoning category (Heavy Industrial) for the Lake Ray Roberts area.

- Approved Nortex Communication's request to install a copper cable line from the intersection of CR 2133 and Lone Oak Road West to CR 200 and turn west to the intersection of CR 247.

- Approved interlocal agreement with the town of Oak Ridge and the County to maintain Oak Ridge's streets. The town will reimburse the County for manpower, equipment, and materials.

- Signed an agreement with Midwest Display, Inc. for holiday decorations on the courthouse. They will put up and take down decorations. The cost is \$2,750.00 for five years with a buy out option at that time.

Join the adventure before it's too late!

Hosting a high school exchange student starting this August is like bringing the world to your doorstep.

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Host families agree to room and board and to include them as a family member. One semester is available, as well as academic school year students. ALL STUDENTS SPEAK ENGLISH! Call to set up an interview with a representative or for more information at the Foundation for Intercultural Travel and speak to Maryann, toll free 877-439-7862.



Keep Muenster beautiful? With the Highway Department's mowing along Highway 82 this past week, trash that was hidden in the tall grass has been exposed, littering the roads into town.
Photo by Janie Hartman

LOOK WHO'S TALKING...

"I hate to see the hospital close, but it's inevitable. We're going to have to look at it as far as what's good for the community, what's good for the district..."
HERMAN CARROLL, Former MMH Administrator



"By participating in the Gainesville project, you have more control of the direction of healthcare in Muenster than by opting out."

MICHAEL L. OATMAN, C.P.A. Parrish, Moody & Fikes, p.c.

We are not looking to do bad things for Muenster. The reason for being in favor of merging is to have improved care for everyone here and in the entire county."

WERNER BECKER, Current and Long-Time MMH Board Member

"The hospital business is a volume business and rural hospitals cannot generate enough volume - you can't run on 3 or 4 patients a day"

KEVIN REED, Legal Counsel for MMH and TORCH

"I personally support and recommend that you vote for and support the merger of the two districts as the most reasonable method to improve medical treatment and facilities in this area."

EARL J. FISHER, Former Mayor and President of Muenster State Bank

"Though it is difficult to let go, we realize where the hospital can't continue with its present problems and lack of patients. So we feel the best for Muenster is to join together for the erection of a modern and well-equipped Cooke County Hospital..."

MARTIN AND BETTY KRALICKE, Longtime MMH Physician and Wife

"I will vote for the merger of the two hospital districts ... I am convinced this merger offers the best vehicle for the provision of care not only to the citizens of Muenster and Gainesville but to all people in and around all the other communities of Cooke County as well ... I can easily envision the complete loss of medical facilities in Muenster if continuance of the Muenster Hospital District is mandated."

DAVID BRIGHT, Former MMH Administrator

"To continue providing quality healthcare in our community, I support the merger with Gainesville Hospital District and the creation of a unified county hospital district ... I will vote FOR the merger."

JOAN WALTERSCHEID, Former MMH Director of Nursing

"Consider the merging of the two hospitals. Muenster will still have its clinic."

C. WILLIAM HERMES, Long-Time MMH Board Member

"Even though my heart cries to oppose the hospital district merger, my mind demands that I support it."

JUANITA BRIGHT, Wife of Former MMH Administrator

"We urge you to look to the future and help provide quality healthcare for all current and future residents of Cooke County."

AL FELDERHOFF, 35 yr. MMH Board Member

"In my heart, I really do not want to see the hospital discontinue inpatient care, but I understand the situation and feel that the merger of MMH and GMH is the best option"

ELEANOR FELDERHOFF, 15 yr. MMH Bookkeeper

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(USPS 367660) is published weekly except the last week in December for the entire year by The Muenster Enterprise, Inc., Post Office Box 190, Muenster, Texas 76252-0190

Periodicals postage paid at Muenster, Texas.

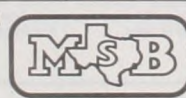
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE, P.O. Box 190, Muenster, Texas 76252

ISSN-0883-2544

2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, July 29, 2001 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Monday, July 30, 2001	Tuesday, July 31, 2001 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Storytime, 10:30 AM Muenster ISD Registration Seniors 8-11 AM Juniors 1-4 PM	Wednesday, August 1, 2001 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Library open 2:30 - 5:30 PM Immunization Clinic 9-11 AM, Cooke Co. Elec. Co-op Muenster ISD Registration Sophomores 8-11 AM Freshmen 1-4 PM	Thursday, August 2, 2001 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Library open 10 AM - 6:30 PM Muenster ISD Registration 8th grade 8-11 AM 7th grade 1-4 PM	Friday, August 3, 2001 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Cooke Co. Texas A&M Club Meeting, The Center Restaurant, noon	Saturday, August 4, 2001
Sunday, August 5, 2001	Monday, August 6, 2001 Texoma Cattle Women Meeting, 7 PM, Grayson Co. Farm Bureau, Sherman Bereaved Parent/Grandparent Support Group Meeting, 7 PM, Home Hospice Office	Tuesday, August 7, 2001 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Storytime, 10:30 AM Library open 10 AM - 6:30 PM Lindsay High School Registration 1-3 PM	Wednesday, August 8, 2001 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Library open 2:30 - 5:30 PM	Thursday, August 9, 2001 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Library open 10 AM - 6:30 PM Kiwanis Family Swim Night, 7-9 PM	Friday, August 10, 2001 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Saturday, August 11, 2001 Muenster VFD Barbecue-
MUENSTER HORNET BAND SUMMER SESSION 1 - 3 PM						

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From My Side of the Fence

by Ed Cler

Every once in awhile I think of some of the boys I went to school with at Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, Arkansas. Those were fun days, some 71 years ago and I think of some of the stunts we pulled, the food we ate, and how it was served.

Two tables, each about 4'x5', were butted together lengthwise so that they formed one table about 4'x10'.

The seating was usually arranged so that a senior sat on each end and was the Captain of that table.

Our table had Leo "Sluggo" Hoenig as Captain. On his right sat another senior we called Pocky, I can't remember his full name, on his left a junior called Smitty, I remember his name was Smith and he hailed from Missouri. Great guys.

The number four man sat on Pocky's right. He was a sophomore, and a real nice fellow. That left me, the lowest man on the totem pole, a freshman. I sat directly across the table from the sophomore, Rhody Chrisman.

Most of the food was placed on the table in bowls, with enough food for five hungry boys. Butter was served as a unit, each boy serving himself and passing it down the totem pole.

Well, I was last, and one day I must have been in a foul mood, because when the butter was passed to me, I

felt that I had been cheated. Rhody had a slice of bread pretty thickly coated and I asked him why he had hogged the butter.

He was such an even-tempered and mild-mannered young fellow that I was surprised when he took the slice of bread and threw it in my plate.

True, I wanted some butter, but I took that as an insult, and in a fit of anger threw the heavily buttered bread in Rhody's face.

By that time the Captain, who was responsible for the behavior of his underlings began to make his authority known.

Well, as I looked at Rhody sitting so straight up, quietly waiting for the buttered bread to drop off his forehead and nose into his plate, well I simply cracked up laughing.

Our Captain and the rest were doing their best to keep straight faces.

To make a long story short, Captain Hoenig asked me if I knew what he was going to do about my behavior. "Yep, yer gonna eat my dessert for a week, and ask me to apologize to Rhody."

With that I turned to Rhody, and still laughing said, "Rhody, I'm sorry. It won't happen again," and more laughter.

Rhody was a good sport, and in about a week I was back in the Captain's good graces too.



The bridge on West Eddy Street was opened last week after the Texas Department of Transportation accepted the project and gave the bridge back to the city of Muenster. Construction on the bridge began in March, but the street was closed to thru traffic in April 1999, when it was declared unsafe. Photo by Janie Hartman

Dr. Stephen Broyles to be profiled in "Who's Who"

Dr. Stephen D. Broyles of Muenster has been selected to be included in a biographical directory published by Marquis Who's Who, the leading biographical reference publisher of the highest achievers and contributors from across the country and around the world.

Dr. Broyles will be profiled in the 56th Edition, 2002 of *Who's Who in America*, which will be available in October. Dr. Broyles is the Dean of Administrative Services at North Central Texas College.

Since 1899, when A. N. Marquis printed the first edition of *Who's Who in America*, Marquis *Who's Who* has chronicled the lives of the most accomplished individuals and innovators from every significant field of endeavor - including politics, business, medicine, law, education, art, religion, and entertainment. Today, *Who's Who in America* remains an essential biographical source for thousands of researchers, journalists, librarians, and executive search firms around the world.

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MUESTER ENTERPRISE

Obituaries

Fred W. Ullmann 1945 - 2001

Fred W. Ullman of Lindsay died on July 19, 2001 at age 56, in his home.

He was born June 27, 1945 in Ardmore, Oklahoma to Frederick W. and Gladys Waldo Ullman. On July 16, 1966 he married Kathy McGowan in Gainesville.

He was a member of Muenster First Baptist Church, and a dispatcher for the Santa Fe Railroad for more than 36 years.

Survivors are his wife, Kathy Ullman; one son Jason Ullman of Dallas; one daughter and son-in-law Lori and David Brown of Houston; two grandchildren Cody and Matthew Brown; one brother John Ullman of Thackerville, Oklahoma; one uncle George Ullman of Marion, Texas; two aunts Gerta Geray of Gainesville and Wilma Easley of Marietta, Oklahoma.

Preceding him in death were his parents, and one granddaughter, Amber Brown.

Services were held Saturday, July 21 at 10:00 a.m. in Grand Avenue Baptist Church of Gainesville, officiated by Rev. Bill Ledbetter of Muenster First Baptist Church. Clement Keel Funeral Home directed burial in Fairview Cemetery. Pallbearers were J.D. Blankenship, Glenn Pullen, Mack Standard, Richard Shaver, Ronnie Porter, and John Russell.

For those who asked, the family suggested memorials to Cooke County Home Hospice, Box 936, Gainesville, TX 76240 or The American Cancer Society, Cooke County Unit, Gainesville, TX.

Landscaping courses to be offered this fall at NCTC

Landscaping may be defined as the use of plants outdoors to fulfill aesthetic and functional purposes. The term is identified with the outdoors, even though plants can be used to accomplish similar objectives indoors (sometimes called interiorscaping or plantscaping).

Landscaping is an activity in which the customer may determine beauty, as well as function. To one person, landscaping may mean a couple of fruit trees or just plants on the property. To another customer, plants in the landscaping must not only be carefully selected but also strategically arranged.

Landscaping enhances the surroundings, be they residential, commercial, or public areas. Landscaping means different things to different people. However, a good landscape is the result of careful planning and implementation of a sound design that includes the proper choice and location of plants, the functionality of the design, and the general aesthetic appeal.

"Whether done by professionals or by the homeowner, five basic principles should be followed for success; simplicity, balance, focalization, rhythm and line, and scale or proportion," said T.J. Davidson, chair of the NCTC Agriculture Department. "If contracted to a professional landscape designer, the design process includes an assessment of the owner's needs, site analysis, and preliminary design."

Davidson added that plants are selected according to climatic adaptation, local soil characteristics, features and size at maturity, and customer preference and level of maintenance desired.

The NCTC Agriculture department will be offering the course HALT1415 Landscaping, at the Gainesville Campus this fall. The class will meet on Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m., with a lab session scheduled on Tuesday at 12:30-1:50 p.m. and will be instructed by Doug Robison, NCTC agriculture instructor.

The class provides four hours of college credit for people wishing to obtain college credit. People wishing to take the course without receiving college credit, can participate in the activities by registering for the course through the continuing education process at the college.

This course will acquaint the student with trees, shrubs, grasses, perennials and annuals suitable for landscaping the home grounds, churches, schools and parks. Biological classification, plant characteristics, best combinations, propagation methods, digging, bagging, transplanting, pruning and care will be studied.

For more information regarding this or other agriculture courses, contact T.J. Davidson on the Gainesville campus office at (940) 668-4217, ext 353.

Letters to the Editor

Editor:

I provided a succession of hamsters with well-ventilated, spacious cages. They enjoyed climbing, treadmills, wholesome food, regular cage cleanings and frequent out-of-cage time. Nevertheless, they all died far short of normal life span.

After adopting two mice, I learned about the pine shavings I had used for the hamsters' bedding. Softwood shavings, particularly cedar and pine, have been linked to respiratory, liver and skin diseases in animals constantly exposed to them. This has been confirmed by veterinarians.

Initially, you notice nothing unusual. Later on, it never crosses your mind that the animals' illnesses or death could be related to traditional beddings. But autopsies have revealed afflictions associated with softwood exposure. People report improvements in animals' conditions after switching to other bedding. One study found that when given free choice, animals reject softwood shavings in favor of other types of beddings.

Most animal research laboratories - even though they often do horrible things to animals - avoid softwood

shavings (their toxic qualities would offset the findings of other toxicity tests). But people who are devoted to their pets are largely uninformed.

Studies have found that people in the woodworking industry who are exposed to softwood dust have higher than usual incidences of squamous cell cancers of the respiratory tract. Softwood shavings can aggravate other human respiratory ailments or allergies.

My mice are doing well with a nontoxic bedding made from reclaimed wood pulp waste. They also like soft tissue paper. Other safe beddings include those made from pressed paper pellets, alfalfa, grain by-products, aspen, straw, or recycled newspaper printed with soy ink (regular print can be harmful). Corn cob bedding is nontoxic, but there have been cases of smaller animals choking on the pieces.)

Joel Freedman
329 North Main Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424
716-394-6059
(The writer chairs the public education committee or Animal Advocates of Upstate New York. For further information, contact him at the above address.)

More Letters to the Editor on Page 6

LETTERS POLICY

THE MUESTER ENTERPRISE welcomes letters of up to 150 words on any public issue. Any letter that exceeds the word limit may not be considered for publication. We publish only original letters addressed to The Enterprise. An address must be included so the author's identity can be verified. All letters are subject to editing. The Enterprise reserves the right to decline publication of any submission. Letters must be signed. Letters written in the promotion of political candidates or propositions will not be considered for publication unless they are scheduled for publication one month or more prior to the election. Candidates or their supporters may purchase advertising space during the period just prior to the election in support of candidates or propositions. Letters written as cards of thanks may be charged classified ad rate and be placed in classified section of newspaper, at editor's option.

MERGER PLAN

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QUESTIONED - BONDS NOT APPROVED - BIG
DEBT - JUST WORDS

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KEEP ALL WE HAVE NO HOSPITAL DEBT
SCALE HOSPITAL DOWN TO FULL SERVICE
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THINK AGAIN

I have been involved in health care for 46 years. If you think having a hospital district without a hospital will lower our taxes —

THINK AGAIN

In regards to indigent care, a hospital district with a hospital is responsible only for the care that that hospital can provide. A hospital district without a hospital is responsible for the entire care & bill of any indigent in its district that any hospital provides.

For example, if a senior citizen (before Medicare age) has a heart attack and is taken to the metroplex for by-pass surgery and rehabilitation, the bill can easily amount to big bucks. Many of you are personally aware of what these bills can amount to.

If a young mother, without insurance has a complication of pregnancy or a premature birth, with the infant being in neonatal Intensive Care for months, the total bill could easily exceed a half million dollars.

For the last ten years, I have provided anesthesia for labor & delivery in a metroplex hospital that has a neonatal intensive care unit. I also have relieved Herman Carroll, the anesthesiologist for MMH, and can attest to how many young mothers are care flighted to the metroplex for delivery. The only reason that we have not been responsible for the astronomical bills, these mothers and infants incur, is because we have a hospital in our district.

What will happen if we have a hospital district without a hospital?

How high will our taxes have to go to pay just one of these bills? It can happen.

THINK AGAIN — IT'S THE LAW!

VOTE FOR THE MERGER

Paid for by Mary Trubenbach Biffle, CRNA, P. O. Box 287, Myra, TX 76253
CITIZENS FOR BETTER HEALTHCARE
Al Felderhoff - Chairman, Jimmy Jack Biffle - Treasurer,
PO Drawer L, Muenster, TX 76252

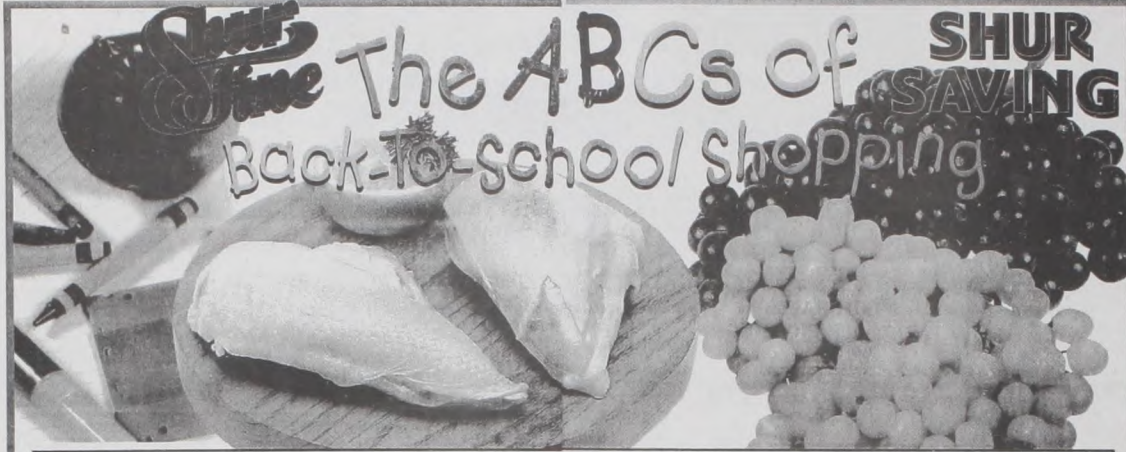
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- 1 LB. PKG. - PEELLED Mini Carrots **99¢**
- WHOLE SEEDLESS Watermelons **3⁹⁹** EA.
- LARGE GREEN Bell Peppers **3 \$1** FOR
- JUICY SWEET Cantaloupe **99¢** EA.
- NEW CROP Nectarines **79¢** LB.
- RED Plums **79¢** LB.
- FRESH BUNCH Cilantro **3 \$1** FOR
- WASHINGTON EXTRA FANCY RED DELICIOUS Apples **79¢** LB.
- FRESH White Onions **39¢** LB.
- JEWEL GREEN Limes **10 \$1** FOR

FAMILY PACK SPLIT
Fryer Breasts **79¢** LB. PREVIOUSLY FROZEN

RED OR GREEN Seedless Grapes **69¢** LB.

TRIMMED **Round Steak** **\$2.09** LB.

TRIMMED TENDERIZED **Round Steak** **\$2.29** LB.

Fischer's

Pork Hot Links **\$1.99** LB.

Smoked Sausage **\$2.39** LB.

SHURFINE QUALITY BONELESS **Hall Hams** **\$2.19** LB.

PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS CENTER CUT **Pork Chops** **\$2.99** LB.

FRESH **Ground Chuck** **\$1.59** LB.

SHURFINE QUALITY BONELESS **Whole Hams** **\$1.99** LB.

SNO-WHITE **Cauliflower** **2 \$3** FOR

SPICY PEPPERS **Jalapenos** **69¢** LB.

1 LB. PKG. - DOLE CLASSIC **Iceberg Salad** **99¢**

SHURFINE 12 OZ. PKG. **Meat Wieners** **69¢**

SHURFINE QUALITY 1 LB. PKG. **Sliced Bacon** **\$2.49**

SHURFINE 1 LB. PKG. **Corn Dogs** **\$1.49**

12 OZ. PKG. **All Beef Wieners** **\$1.29**

SHURFINE 1 LB. REG./HOT BREAKFAST **Sausage** **\$1.89**

12 oz. **Coca-Cola**

12 pk. **Coca-Cola**

\$2.50

Breaded **Catfish Nuggets** **\$1.49** LB.

REGULAR OR BAKING SODA **Pepsodent Toothpaste** **99¢** 6 TO 6.4 OZ. TUBE

SHURFINE JUMBOS **Cinnamon Rolls** 16.9 OZ. **2 \$3**

WESTERN FAMILY MINT OR PEPPERMINT **Mouth-wash** 33.8 OZ. BTL. **99¢**

SHURFINE 12 OZ. PKG. **Meat Wieners** **69¢**

SHURFINE QUALITY 1 LB. PKG. **Sliced Bacon** **\$2.49**

SHURFINE 1 LB. PKG. **Corn Dogs** **\$1.49**

12 OZ. PKG. **All Beef Wieners** **\$1.29**

SHURFINE 1 LB. REG./HOT BREAKFAST **Sausage** **\$1.89**

SHURFINE WHITE OR BOUTIQUE **Facial Tissue** 86-175 CT. **99¢**

SHURFINE CHUNK-OR-GRAVY **Dog Food** 20 LB. **\$3.99**

SELECT-GROUP **Shurfine Pickles** 32 OZ. **2 \$3** FOR

SHURFINE ASSORTED **Potato Chips** 5.5 OZ. **79¢**

SHURFINE **Mayonnaise** 32 OZ. **2 \$3** FOR

SHURFINE SELECT-GROUP **Salad Dressings** 16 OZ. **2 \$3** FOR

SHURFINE INSTANT CHOCOLATE **Milk Mix** 2 LB. **\$1.99**

SHURFINE **Orange Juice** 16 OZ. **99¢**

SHURFINE POTATO OR CLEAR-TALL **Hashbrowns** 32 OZ. **99¢**

CURLS, STEAK FRIES OR CRUNCHY SEASONED **Shurfine Potatoes** 28-32 OZ. **2 \$3** FOR

SHURFINE FROZEN SELECT-GROUP **Vegetables** 16 OZ. **\$1.09**

REG. OR W/ SNAPS **BLACK EYE PEAS**, **SLICED SQUASH**, **CHOPPED OR CUT LEAF SPINACH**, **ONION RINGS**, **CHOPPED OR BROCCOLI CUTS**, **WHOLE BABY OR CUT OKRA**

SHURFINE SOUP **Chicken Noodle** 10.75 OZ. **3 \$1** FOR

SHURFINE MINI **Corn on the Cob** 8 EAR. **2 \$3** FOR

SHURFINE **Buttermilk** 1/2 GALLON **2 \$3** FOR

SHURFINE **Aluminum Foil** 75 SQ. FT. **\$1.79**

SHURFINE **Foam Cups** 20 CT. 15 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE REG. OR CLEAR-TALL **Kitchen Bags** 15 CT. **99¢**

WESTERN FAMILY **Ibuprofen** 50 CT. **\$1.99**

WESTERN FAMILY EX-STR. 500 MG TABS OR CAPS **Aspirin Free** 24 CT. **\$1.29**

WESTERN FAMILY **Sleep Tablets** 16 CT. **\$1.99**

WESTERN FAMILY SELECT-GROUP **Cough Drops** 40 CT. **79¢**

WESTERN FAMILY **Bismate Tablets** 30 CT. **\$1.99**

SHURFINE **Aluminum Foil** 75 SQ. FT. **\$1.79**

SHURFINE **Foam Cups** 20 CT. 15 OZ. **89¢**

SHURFINE REG. OR CLEAR-TALL **Kitchen Bags** 15 CT. **99¢**

WESTERN FAMILY **Ibuprofen** 50 CT. **\$1.99**

WESTERN FAMILY EX-STR. 500 MG TABS OR CAPS **Aspirin Free** 24 CT. **\$1.29**

WESTERN FAMILY **Sleep Tablets** 16 CT. **\$1.99**

WESTERN FAMILY SELECT-GROUP **Cough Drops** 40 CT. **79¢**

WESTERN FAMILY **Bismate Tablets** 30 CT. **\$1.99**

SHURFINE **White Bath Tissue** 9 ROLL **2 \$3** FOR

SHUR SAVING **Macaroni & Cheese Dinner** 7.25 OZ. **5 \$1** FOR

3 PACK CHERRY OR ASSORTED **Shurfine Twin Pops** **79¢**

3 PACK SASSIFIQUE **Ice Cream Bars** **2 \$3** FOR

ASSORTED FLAVORS **Shurfine Ice Cream** 1/2 GAL. SQ. CTN. **2 \$4** FOR

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99¢	2\$3	3\$1	99¢	89¢

4\$1	\$1.00	\$1.89	2\$1	5\$1	79¢	\$1.69	2\$1	25¢	\$2.99	99¢	\$2.99	39¢	2\$1	2\$1	99¢	\$1.00	\$1.89
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2\$3	99¢	99¢	2\$3	\$2.49
2\$3	99¢	99¢	99¢	2\$3

\$1.09	\$1.09	\$1.99	99¢	\$1.99	2\$3	99¢	59¢
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\$1.59	\$2.59	2\$3	\$1.09	99¢	2\$1	2\$1	59¢
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\$1.99	\$1.49	99¢	69¢	\$1.99	99¢	\$1.99	99¢
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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor of the Muenster Enterprise,

The use of specific names in this article is only for identification purposes, not for personal attacks or attempts to degrade.

As I have stated before, I believe every person is entitled to his/her own opinions. However, I do not think that one should present their opinions as facts or lead one to believe that these opinions are facts. I am referring to some of the things being said by the anti-merger group in the first issue of the "Concerned Citizen News".

The first quote I refer to is by James Walterscheid and says, "It (the merger) does however guarantee the probability of much higher taxes with a tax cap of \$.75 per \$100 valuation." Are you aware Mr. Walterscheid that the current tax cap of the Muenster Hospital District and most other hospital districts in Texas is \$.75 per \$100 valuation? However, the tax cap does not determine ones tax, the tax rate does. The current tax rate of the Muenster Hospital District is \$.27119 per \$100 valuation. In my opinion, based on what has been said by the potential members of the Cooke County Hospital Board & the GMH auditors, the tax rate will be \$.18 per \$100 valuation. This will lower ones tax bill by 33%. As for the tax rate having to be substantially increased in the future, consider these facts:

- According to figures obtained from the Cooke County Tax Appraisal District the taxable value of the combined hospital districts is projected to be about \$1,420,190,000 for 2001;
- At a tax rate of .18 per \$100 valuation this gives the Hospital Districts a projected tax levy of \$2,556,342;
- According to GMH officials, \$1.7 million is needed for debt service of the proposed hospital, leaving in excess of \$500,000 to cover indigent and other costs of the new hospital.

If one assumes the tax rate will go up to the current tax rate of the Muenster Hospital District (in my opinion, a highly unreasonable assumption) which is \$.27119 per \$100 valuation, this would generate \$3,851,413 in tax revenue. This exceeds debt service requirements by over \$2 million.

The next quote I refer to is by Angelo Nasche and says "The election to Dissolve our Hospital District and turn over \$3 -- \$5-million of our community assets to a new County Hospital District is scheduled for Saturday, August 11th 2001." There are a couple items that are erroneous in this quote. First, the Muenster Hospital District's audited financial statements show a Fund Balance (also called net assets) of \$2,250,570. This figure is based on book values and one could easily argue that it is overstated (i.e. patient accounts receivable, net = \$833,353). Also, there is a reference to community assets; however, these assets are owned by the Hospital District, which consists of much more than the community of Muenster.

Mr. Nasche also refers to "the merger group auditor". These same auditor's, often referred to by the anti-merger group themselves, audit the financial statements of the Muenster Hospital District and begin their report on page 1 by calling it an "Independent Auditors Report". In fact, if the auditors could be expected to have any bias at all it would be against the merger since if the districts merge, the auditors would lose the Muenster Hospital District as a client.

A quote by John Aytes ends by saying "...and at a tax cost very much lower than what Gainesville will tax us!!" I will not repeat my analysis of why I think the tax rate will be lower if we merge. However, it should be understood that Gainesville would not tax the citizens of the Muenster Hospital District. All taxpayers of the Cooke County Hospital District will be taxed equally by the district. A taxpayer in Gainesville could not vote to raise the tax rate of a Muenster taxpayer without voting to raise his own tax rate.

Mr. Aytes also claims the Board of Six (obviously a name made up by him or his group, since I am not aware of any group that calls themselves by this name) moved to table all discussion on a subject. Neither a Board nor any group can make a motion, a Board Member must do this.

The next quote I question is by Rufus Henscheid and says, "None of the other hospitals asks us to pay millions of \$\$\$\$\$\$ in taxes to pay for their new facility." The first problem I have with this quote is the use of the word "their". Our new facility appears to be the correct terminology since the Cooke County Hospital District will own the facility and we will be a part of this District. Also, millions of dollars sounds excessive to me. This is based on preliminary numbers from the Cooke County Tax Appraisal District, which project the Muenster Hospital District's tax base at \$168,585,608 for 2001. At a tax rate of \$.18 per \$100 valuation this would result in a levy of \$303,454 per year for taxpayers of the old Muenster Hospital District, which is certainly less than we are paying now. In comparison, we should keep in mind that taxpayers of the old Gainesville Hospital District would pay \$2,252,888 per year.

To keep this letter from being any longer, I will ask only one more question. There is a comment signed by the "editor for the CC Citizen (I assume you meant CC News), but the editor is not identified. Could the public be made aware of whom or what group is the editor? The printing of this publication without identifying the people or group that paid for it appears to me to be a clear violation of the Texas election laws.

If anyone needs any facts on the merger issue, please stop by or call and I will be happy to help you locate reliable information, because I believe that one's vote should be based on the facts. I also believe and have heard, as many others also heard, that Christian people may disagree with one another in their opinions, but, this should not have a lasting effect on their relationships. There is only one main goal in life and one should not lose their focus on this goal.

Duane Knabe, CPA
P.O. Box 160
Muenster, TX 76252
759-4010

Paid Letter to the Editor

NEW COUNTY HOSPITAL FACT-FANTASY-SCAM?

Some interesting new developments, the Gainesville Memorial Hospital board has always said, "we will build a new hospital regardless of whether Muenster merges with us". They bought some land and people are asking, why haven't they started? The GMH Auxiliary News Letter hints that they are having problems with soil test on the location, and that financing hasn't been worked out. There seems to be no interest in buying the revenue bonds. Could it be that no one believes that the new hospital district will ever produce enough revenue to pay off the bonds? I have talked to several investors about these bonds and they indicate that they would be very risky and probably won't sell. This translates to, much higher taxes. Why should we give up our hospital district assets, land, buildings, St. Richard's Villa, our taxing authority and invest in a new hospital that is considered a financial risk. It says in the enabling legislation that the new board must set a high enough tax rate to cover the cost. If their promise to keep the tax rate at 18 cents is kept it could mean that a new hospital won't be built. If this happens I wouldn't be surprised if a group of investors conveniently stepped forward and saved the day by taking the whole thing off our hands for pennies on the dollar.

I cannot find in the legislation where a new hospital is required to be built, only that a new district will be created with a new board that has the power to do whatever they decide is best for the district. They could decide to sell to a group of investors to operate as a for profit hospital.

Do we want to be a part of this? If something like this really happens wouldn't it be better if we had sold our hospital ourselves? At least we would have something for our assets and we could keep our district and a small tax for a local ambulance. It looks to me like this merger deal is very risky. I believe we would be better off keeping what we have and running it the best we can, like we have always done. The financial statements prove that we can and if anyone wants more proof we have available a video that spells it all out.

Sincerely, James Walterscheid 2919 CR 302, Muenster, TX 76252

Paid Letter to the Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following item from the GMH Auxiliary Newsletter is the only item that mentions the soil or the financing.

The New Hospital: There is not a lot of obvious activity at present, but the architects are busy with soil samples and blueprints and hospital administration is working out the best financing with bond underwriters as we work toward the day we can finally break ground on the project. We are hoping for a positive vote for merger so that all communities in the county can celebrate with us as we begin construction of our new COOKE COUNTY hospital! You will be kept apprised of all developments.

To the Editor,

Since I no longer live in Muenster I have nothing to gain or lose in the upcoming election about the hospital district merger. However, I do care about Muenster and my relatives and friends who will be affected by the vote and have followed the debate in the *Enterprise* over the past months.

In looking at the issues, several points seem to point overwhelmingly to merger as the best option. For example, if I needed medical care while visiting Muenster, which facility would I choose: a 35+ year old hospital with aging equipment or a new hospital with state of the art equipment that was 10 miles away. The answer is obvious. If my parents need routinely scheduled surgery would I take them to the Muenster Hospital or to the new hospital close by. If a doctor was setting up a practice would he choose an aging hospital in a town of 1200 or a new hospital in the county's population center with the supporting facilities that will spring up around the hospital. The answers to those questions are pretty clear.

There are other issues to consider such as the cost to update the Muenster hospital, but the essential question is, where will you and your family seek medical care? After the Gainesville hospital is built, the use of Muenster's facilities will decrease even more placing a greater financial strain on the district. Merger seems to be the only reasonable conclusion.

Lynn J. Klement
17 Inverness Lane
West Columbia, Texas
77486

Paid Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am very confused by a letter submitted and printed in your paper on July 13, 2001 by one person for the merger, with his statement in the past.

He stated that Muenster has people capable of holding office and being on the new hospital board. My confusion is why, doesn't he trust these people to run our own clinic?

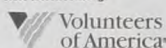
Talk about confused and being misled!!

Mark Sicking
Box 153
Muenster, TX 76252

Paid Letter to the Editor

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Dear Editor:

I have stayed out of this hospital fray until informed. Like many, I would like to use MMH but my specialists are elsewhere. Since helping search for doctors in the early 90's it was apparent to me we would never have the volume to keep the hospital. As one opponent to the merger said, he knows the hospital will have to close, but his group wants to keep the tax District to avoid being taxed by others.

When I reviewed the legal aspect of keeping a tax district to run a clinic, it is clear these new board members must not have reviewed the legal opinions on the subject. So if we do not vote to dissolve our district and join the new County-Wide District, what are taxpayers getting into? The answer should scare the daylight out of taxpayers, especially those on fixed incomes.

Kevin A. Reed, Board Certified Administrative Lawyer, referring to any district that closes their hospital, he says, "In event that District ceases to operate a hospital the District loses the ability to make the argument that it should pay for only those services that are offered by the District's hospital." "Further, if the District's indigent residents incur medical and hospital bills and those bills remain outstanding, it is unlikely that a court would allow the District to avoid paying those bills...." Anyone can get a copy of this legal opinion if desired.

Simply put, right now if someone receives care elsewhere and does not pay their bill, MMH would owe only for the type care MMH

provides in our District. Legislation that gave our District the right to tax for a "hospital", also takes away the protection when we no longer have a hospital. Without a hospital our District simply owes ALL MEDICAL BILLS of someone who lives in our District, but receives care elsewhere. One severe burn victim could easily cost millions. Our District would have no option except to increase taxes to pay for such a bill. We cannot hide behind our tax district and run just a clinic. The legal opinion is clear and the risk to taxpayers is too high.

Voters have a historic opportunity to set up a County-Wide District which will attract medical professionals we all need. If anyone believes the argument we can vote on it again next year, I ask you this, "who would want us?", "and what bargaining power will we have for a medical clinic and all of the facilities now agreed upon?" I hope those who want to keep the District are willing to raise taxes about triple to renovate the current hospital and hire specialists in order to keep the hospital open. That is what it will take. I am not willing to do that to those on fixed incomes.

While we are a stubborn group of people, some with a limp, most walk correctly and look towards the future. I will VOTE TO DISSOLVE our District and MERGE into a County-Wide District. How you walk and vote is your decision.

Paid for personally by Gary J. Fisher
508 N. Oak
Muenster, TX 76252

Paid Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor:

Many that signed the plan for merger are having second thoughts when they consider the following:

(1) If we merge, taxes can increase from .18 cents to .75 cents. A 20 million plus interest debt can easily become a 50 million payout for the new district tax payers.

(2) They did not know the new legislation has a provision - to allow us to vote again later to merge or not merge after one year. After one or two years we can evaluate our progress of medical services here in our area. Now we only have promises from boards that will not exist when the merger would take place. How many people would make an important trade before they know what they are getting?

(3) They do not see the words - guaranteed indefinitely - in the new House Bill 3132 of the promised medical services stationed in our community. But only words

from some merger advocates. A board decision and added legislation can close all down in our community within a few years. Then what, without our district we not have votes to survive. If we merge, it is all over with, all the benefit of the district would be gone forever.

(4) That our district can reduce our hospital, now or later, to a full-fledged clinic which should be almost self-sufficient, and taxes can be lowered to .18 cents or much lower taxes than a debt-ridden Cooke County district. Most people believe the new Cooke County Hospital District taxes would go up substantially.

(5) That we can work with Gainesville or any other nearby nonprofit hospital who will assist us with resident doctors and advanced services when needed. Recent contacts almost assure us of this.

Rufus Henscheid
P.O. Box 456
Muenster, TX 76252

Paid Letter to the Editor

As the election date draws near and our hospital and district are at stake, some of us remember all the years it has been in operation.

One can recall the many, many hours of volunteer service to help in the early years and to help sustain the hospital through the years. We can remember the Muenster Garden Club and how its members helped landscape the grounds and planted the pecan trees. Think of the talent shows that the auxiliary produced to benefit the hospital. There were many bake sales to raise money for certain pieces of equipment. How many of us helped to entertain prospective doctors in our homes? The last big money-making drive was for the modern birthing unit, and many people donated time, talent and money to make this possible. ARE WE GOING TO JUST GIVE THIS AWAY?

Many are doing this same volunteering of time, talent and money to save our district, especially the three new board members. We do not have to give up our district now. We have the option to vote on merger next year or any year in the future, but once the district is merged with Gainesville it is merged forever and we can never get our Muenster Hospital District back. Give them an opportunity to make it work.

VOTE AGAINST THE MERGER

Paid for by Janie Weinzapfel, Box 201, Muenster, Texas 76252

Lifestyle

Reiter-Stuckey vows exchanged in Houston July 7

by Elfreda Fette
 Danell Reiter of Houston, daughter of Roy Reiter of Muenster and the late Paula Reiter, became the bride of Thomas Stuckey of Houston, on July 7, 2001. The groom is the son of Kay Connor Stuckey of Houston and Joe Stuckey of Houston. The wedding was held in St. Paul's United Methodist Church of Houston, with Rev. Charles Ruehl officiating the traditional double ring vows at 11:00 a.m.

The bride is a 1994 graduate of Muenster High School and a 1998 graduate of Texas A&M University and currently is a medical student at the University of Texas, Houston Health Science Center.

A 1994 graduate of Second Baptist High School and a 1999 graduate of Texas A&M University, the groom is currently attending the University of Houston Law Center, and is a law clerk employed by a Houston Law Firm.

Pews in the center aisle of the church were marked with white satin bows, roses and English ivy.

Before an altar decorated with two arrangements of roses, calla lilies, peonies, hydrangea, Gerber daisies, tulips, and curly willow; and two menorah candle holders and two candelabra with lighted candles, the bride was presented by her father, Roy Reiter.

For her wedding she chose a formal bridal gown of Italian Matte Satin designed strapless, with the bodice hand-beaded with a floral pattern of iridescent

and silver beads and Austrian crystals. It featured a corset-style back and rounded, dropped waistline. The A-line skirt repeated the beading style at the hemline and around the border of the chapel-length train. Her headpiece tiara, designed by Winters and Rain, had a criss-cross pattern of authentic cultured pearls and Swarovski crystals.

She carried a bridal bouquet of white mini calla lilies, Virginia roses, and white hydrangea tied with white satin ribbon.

ATTENDANTS

Theresa Pogue of Corinth, a friend of the bride, was matron of honor.

Lacey Smith of Arlington, Candice Kubis of Muenster, and Sheri Robinson of Sweeny, Texas, friends of the bride, were bridesmaids. Lana Fisher of Muenster, bride's cousin was junior bridesmaid. Their two-piece platinum satin dresses made by Galina Bridal of New York were designed with halter self-tie straps and A-line skirts. They carried pink and lavender roses, white hydrangea and orchids. Stems were tied with satin.

Kendall Reiter, flower girl, sprinkled rose petals in the aisle for the bride's entry. Tanner Silmon was ring bearer.

Troy Stuckey of Arlington, groom's brother, stood with him as his best man.

Connor Tucker, groom's cousin of Tyler, Brian Reiter, bride's brother of Muenster, Lucian Bukowski of Houston, friend of the groom, were groomsmen.

Ushers were Eric Fisher and Karl Fisher of Muenster, bride's cousins.

Wedding music was presented by Bruce Powers, organist and Sharlu Melville soloist. Included were J.S. Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" for the seating of the families, Schubert's "Ave Maria," Clarke's "Trumpet Voluntary" for Processional, Wagner's "Bridal Chorus" at presentation of the bride, David Ashley White's "O God of Love," and Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer" solo presentations, and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" as the Recessional.

The four-layered white wedding cake with Amaretto filling was covered entirely with icing flowers, and was placed on a 22 inch silver plated base.

The two-layered chocolate groom's cake with chocolate caramel filling was decorated with chocolate dipped strawberries and the seal of Texas A&M University in the center.

Reserved tables held 36 inch trumpet vases with curly willow, roses, Gerber daisies, calla lilies, and peonies surrounded by lighted votive candles and rose petals. Other guest tables held eight inch glass bowls with curly willow, roses, Gerber daisies, calla lilies, and peonies, placed on 12 inch mirrors surrounded by rose petals and lighted votive candles.

The buffet table held a four-foot vase ice sculpture with a fresh flower arrangement of the same flowers.

Since returning from their wedding trip to Tahiti and Moorea in the French Polynesia, the couple is residing in Houston.

The seated rehearsal dinner hosted by Joe Stuckey and Kay Connor Stuckey on Friday, July 6 following rehearsal was held at Damian's Cucina Italiana in downtown Houston.



Mrs. Thomas Stuckey ...nee Danell Reiter ...

RECEPTION

A buffet lunch reception followed at Houston City Club, hosted by the bride's father, Roy Reiter. Preceding the arrival of the bride and groom, a piano player entertained guests.

Leigh Ann Tucker and Jennifer Brown presided at the guest book.

The bride's table held the registration book; a large fresh floral arrangement; wallet size photos of the bride and groom; a large framed bridal portrait; and baskets of rose petals for guests to mark the departure of the bride and groom.

NOTICE!

Bereaved Support Group
 The Bereaved Parent/Grandparent Support Group will meet Monday, August 6, at 7:00 pm at the Home Hospice Office, 1001 East Broadway in Gainesville. For more information call Kelly at 665-9891.

A&M Club
 The Cooke County A&M Club will meet at the Center Restaurant in Muenster on Friday August 3, at 12:00 noon. Club president Damian Krahl invites all current and former A&M students to attend. The Club meets in a different location each month.

New Arrivals

Fuhrmann

Richard and Carrie Fuhrmann of San Antonio proudly announce the birth of their third child, Zachary Ross, on July 20, 2001. He arrived at 7:44 p.m., weighing 8 lb. 1 oz. and measuring 19 3/4 inches in length. He joins an older brother, Matthew, age 5 and a sister, Jillian, age 3. Grandparents are Leon and Sandra Fuhrmann of Muenster, and Elmer and Katherine Greene of San Antonio. Great-grandparents are Ed and Aileen Cler of Muenster, and Irene Wilson of San Antonio.

Bryant

Jimmy and Susan Bryant of Forestburg announce the birth of a son, Richard Lane Bryant, on July 16, 2001 at 10:03 p.m. in Muenster Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 lb. 14 oz. and measuring 20 1/2 inches long. He joins a brother, William, age 4 1/2. Grandparents are Daniel and Colanda Fleitman of Gainesville and Ernestine Bryant of Valley View.

Moore

Tim and Trina Moore of Gainesville announce the birth of a daughter, Morgan Leann Moore, in Muenster Memorial Hospital on July 14, 2001 at 7:04 a.m., weighing 6 lb. 4 1/2 oz. and measuring 18 1/2 inches in length. Grandparents are Debra and Nicholas Robledo, Rhonda White, and Bill and Linda Moore all of Gainesville. Great-grandparents are Joann and the late Roger Schachel, C.L. and Utha Mae Woolsey and Connie Fox.

Killgo

Sherie and Kory Killgo of Coppell announce with pride and joy the birth of a daughter, Kristin Grace Killgo in Medical City of Dallas, on July 11, 2001 at 12:26 p.m., weighing 8 lb. 9 oz. and measuring 20 1/2 inches in length. She joins a brother, Philip, age 2. Their grandparents are Arthur and Evie Felderhoff of Muenster and Jack and Nell Killgo of Lancaster, Texas.

Baptisms

Fleitman

Makenzie Lynne Fleitman, daughter of Kenny and Jennifer Fleitman of Fort Worth, received the Sacrament of Baptism in St. Peter's Catholic Church of Lindsay on Sunday, July 15, 2001 at 11:00 a.m. officiated by Father Sebastian Beshoner OSB. Baptismal sponsors were Jeff and Cathy Glunt of San Antonio.

The infant is the granddaughter of Ms. Lynn Magee of Longview, Mr. David Magee of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Ms. Annette Fleitman of Lindsay and the late Henry Fleitman.

Attending the service, in addition to the above, were Karen Fleitman of Lewisville; Paul Hallum of Plano; Ronnie and Terry Fleitman and Elizabeth and John of Dallas; Wayne and Cyndi Fleitman and Dax, Dean, Briley, and Brenna of

Lindsay; Bobby and Mallorie Fleitman of Denton; Katelyn, Jacklyn, Jon, and Rachel Glunt of San Antonio; Clara Fleitman of Lindsay; George and Virginia Krahl of Gainesville; Diane Krahl of Gainesville; Susan Ramsey of Longview; Ronnie and Laura Dieter of Lewisville, and Fred Hughes of Denton.

All were guests for a noon meal in the home of Wayne and Cyndi Fleitman in Lindsay.



Summer Reading Program
 May 31 - Aug 9

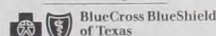
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30% Off All Remaining Aquarium Setups

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Musical Theatre Camp

July 30 - August 4

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

For children grades 2-8

Cost: 1 child - \$30

2 children per family - \$50

Learn basic musical theatre skills at this summer Musical Theatre Camp, as well as perform in a mini-musical written by the student directors, Jessica Koessler & Elizabeth Fette.

For more info or to sign-up, call:
 Jessica Koessler: (940) 759-4576
 Elizabeth Fette: (940) 759-2894

AUCTION LIST 2001

Ace Hardware - Lawn Mower
 Sylvia's Creations - Flower Arrangement
 Hess Furniture - End Table, Log Lawn Rocker
 Fleitman Backhoe - 16 yards gravel (10 mile radius)
 Lora's Flowers/Hamrics Tuxedo's - Large Silk arrangement
 Vickie's Cut-N-Up - 2 Haircuts
 Harvey & Della Schmidt - 2 Planter Baskets
 Nails by Dianna - Full Set of Nails
 Muenster Building Center - Portable Butane Heater
 Felderhoff Drilling - 300 ft. 5" Drilling Pipe
 Glenn's Paint & Body - \$100 Truck Accessory Gift Certificate
 Bart Henscheid - Trip to Ranger game for 3 people
 Virgil Henscheid - Crappie Filets
 JAWS - Bumper Winch
 J.H. Bayer & Sons - Deer Corn
 G & H Backhoe - 16 yards crushed rock (10 mile radius)
 Monday's Backhoe - 16 yards creek gravel (10 mile radius)
 Cooke County Co-op - Security Light
 "Buchshot" Hess - Fitter
 Community Lumber Company - BBQ Grill
 Joe & Laura Pagel - Coleman Lantern

CASH DONATIONS

1st National Bank, Saint Jo - \$1,000
 Muenster State Bank - \$500

RAFFLE

\$500 Savings Bond - FMW Insurance (Gary Fisher)
 1/2 Beef plus processing - Muenster Volunteer Fire Department
 1/2 Hog plus processing - Muenster Volunteer Fire Department
 50 Gallons Gas - Kountry Korner
 \$100 Savings Bond - Farm Bureau Insurance (John Bartush)
 \$100 Savings Bond - Catholic Life Insurance
 \$100 Savings Bond - D&B Construction (Bert & Dale)
 \$20 Gift Certificate - The Center Restaurant
 If anyone has items to donate, please call:
 Bert or Delanne at 759-4785

Tanner Neidhardt awarded grant to study in Columbia

Tanner Neidhardt, son of Jim and Davelyn Neidhardt of Lindsay, was awarded a Fulbright grant to study in Columbia, as announced by the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

With the Fulbright grant, which includes tuition, books, travel, and a stipend, Neidhardt will study for one year at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Columbia, focusing on civic movements and urban development in Columbia. The grant began July 15, 2001.

Tanner Neidhardt is one of approximately 2000 U.S. grantees that will travel abroad for the 2001-2002 academic year through the Fulbright program, America's flagship international education exchange program. Its purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the rest of the world.

Tanner Neidhardt is a Presidential and Byrd scholar, and graduated cum laude in 1999 from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. He is a graduate of Lindsay High School. At Rhodes he was a four year



Tanner Neidhardt

member of the Intercollegiate Mock Trial Team, and the school's soccer team; worked in the community and in Memphis city schools.

Familiar with Latin America, he studied Spanish in Bogota and in Santiago, Chile. He found them very friendly and always open to sharing the story of their country. Following his studies in Columbia, Tanner Neidhardt will return to the University of Texas School of Law in the Fall of 2002.



Michelle Pauline Mazurkiewicz of Galveston and Casey Matthew Kupper of Valley View have chosen Saturday, Aug. 18, 2001 for their wedding day. Their engagement and approaching marriage have been announced by her parents, Teresa and Steve Everts of Galveston, and Mike Mazurkiewicz of Hempstead. Parents of the Future groom are Billy and Lisa Kupper of Valley View. The wedding will be held in St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Bryan, at 2:00 p.m. The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Ball High School in Galveston and is a Cum Laude graduate of Texas A&M University in 2001. The future groom is a 1996 graduate of Valley View High School and a 2001 graduate of the University of North Texas in Denton. Attendants in the wedding are maid of honor Laila Goldouzian; bridesmaids Alaina Fullen; Jennifer Popp, groom's sister; Melanie Steller, bride's cousin; Kimberly Stobaugh groom's sister; and Sara Howell. Also Chandler Ferguson best man; Ashley Clifton; Jeff Ferraro; Matthew Spezia; Tony Okonski, bride's cousin; and D.J. Mazurkiewicz bride's brother. Flower girls will be Stephanie Marino, bride's godchild and Molly Stobaugh, groom's niece. Ring bearer will be Chris Walterscheid, groom's cousin. The couple plans to reside in Frisco after the wedding.



Tanner Neidhardt pets a baby llama as school children look on in a Bolivian Altiplano desert town. Courtesy photo

Forestburg Watermelon Festival and Parade Aug. 18

The Twenty-first Annual Forestburg Watermelon Festival and Homecoming will be Saturday, Aug. 18, 2001. The parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Forestburg School building. Trophies will be presented in the following categories: Judges Trophy - Best All Around, Riding Clubs, Individual Horse Rider, Floats, Commercial and Business, Antique Automobiles, Antique Farm Equipment and Miscellaneous.

There is no specified theme for this year's parade. Participants in the parade should be at the west entrance of the school by 10 a.m. or shortly after to receive identification tags and be aligned. Anyone can participate in the parade; however, to be considered in the judging for a trophy, entry forms must be returned to Charles Edwards, Route 1 Box 138, Forestburg, TX 76239 by 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17, 2001. Anyone desiring additional information may write to the above address or call 940-964-2289.

Texas Tech Univ. lists spring honor students

More than 3,900 Texas Tech University students qualified for academic honors lists at the end of the spring semester.

Students on the President's List earned a 4.0 grade point average while enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of class work. Local students who earned this honor are Kelly

Felderhoff and Raegan Koesler.

Students who carried 12 or more hours with a grade point average of 3.5 to 2.9 qualified for the Dean's List. Local students who earned this honor are Craig Hartman, Jeff Klement, Jacob Luke, Jesse Luke, and James Stoffels.

Cub Scouts activities scheduled

Muenster's Cub Scouts are invited to play Waffle Ball on Monday, July 30, at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Muenster Ball Field by the water tower. Watermelon will be served following the games. This activity is for Cub Scouts only.

On Thursday, August 2, from 7-9 p.m., the Scouts

and their families are invited to a Cub Scout Swim Night at the Muenster City Park Pool.

Any scout attending these two scheduled events and the Cub Scout Day Camp will fulfill their summer time requirements and will be eligible to receive the Summer Time Award.

Lindsay ISD sets school registration dates

Lindsay High School Registration will be held Tuesday, Aug. 7 in Room 115 in the High School. The schedule is as follows: Seniors, 1:00; Juniors, 1:30; Sophomores, 2:00; Freshmen, 2:30; New to district, 3:00.

Kindergarten registration will be on Monday, Aug. 13

in the elementary kindergarten rooms from 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Monday, August 13 will be 7th and 8th Grade Orientation in the Commons Area of the High School at 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, you may call Brenda Fuhrmann at 668-8474.

Muenster ISD 2001-2002 Class Schedules

Muenster students grades 7-12 may pick up their schedules on the following dates only!

- Tuesday, July 31
Seniors - 8 - 11 a.m.
Juniors - 1 - 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 1
Sophomores - 8 - 11 a.m.
Freshmen - 1 - 4 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 2
8th Grade - 8 - 11 a.m.
7th Grade - 1 - 4 p.m.

Note... New Students to the District need to come by the High School office to enroll. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., or call Principal, Phil Newton, or Mrs. Klement at 940-759-2282, ext. 602.

DID YOU KNOW

Antsy compost

Ants use the compost as a cafeteria; so store your garbage until you have for a layer, than cover it with 3-4 inch layer of material that won't interest them, like weeds, grass or straw. A hot pile will get rid of the ants.

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Sports

Sign up now for hunter safety course

July 30, 31, and Aug. 1 are the dates that Jim Gehrig will be offering his annual Hunter Education Course in Muenster. Classes are taught at Cooke County Electric Cooperative in the meeting room. On Monday and Tuesday they are scheduled from 6-9 p.m. and on Wednesday from 6-10 p.m. There is a non-refundable sign-up fee.

According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, if you were born on or after Sept. 2, 1972 and you are age 17 and over, you must successfully complete a Hunter Education Course or be accompanied by a licensed hunter 17 years of age or older; or under 12 years of

age, you must be accompanied by a licensed hunter 17 years of age or older.

Any individual may take the course on a voluntary basis and is encouraged to attend regardless of requirements.

The course is open to adults and youngsters and will include instruction in rifle, shotgun, handgun, and primitive sporting arms handling and safety; outdoor responsibility and ethics; laws and regulations; wildlife conservation and identification; hunting traditions; field care of game; and wilderness first aid and survival.

The minimum age of certification is 12 years.

Students 12 years of age or older successfully completing the course will be issued a Hunter Education certificate from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Those less than age 12 will receive a certificate of attendance, but must take the course again after turning 12 for proper certification.

For more information contact Jim Gehrig at 940-759-4112.

GUNPOWDER & ALCOHOL DON'T MIX

Fishing Tips

JIG COLORS FOR CLEAR WATER

When fishing slow moving lures like jigs or soft plastics in extremely clear water, it is a good idea to choose lure colors that blend with the background. A bass can more easily detect the lure as being phony. Slow present actions simply offer bass an indefinite opportunity to carefully scrutinize a lure. Many times an aggressive bass will approach a slowly presented lure, only to turn away after carefully studying it.

Under these conditions I will first opt for translucent plastic because they seem to blend best with the background making them before I pull up and leave the brush pile, I'll always pull a favorite crank bait through the brush. It gives them a totally different look, at a different speed and

might just be what the ole' biggun wanted in the first place. You just might land your biggest fish that you otherwise might have missed.

SHORT STRIKE SOLUTION

Fishing a fast-moving lure allows you to do several things. It lets you cover a lot of water in a short time, and it lets you catch the aggressive feeders. However, when fishing a spinner bait, crank bait or top water fast, you will experience quite a number of short strikes. When this occurs, have a Texas rigged worm handy on another rod and keep it close at hand. Follow up the missed strike with the worm and more often than not, the bass will hit again.

Use a worm or plastic craw worm in the summer and fall, and use a lizard in the springtime. Make your follow up cast as quickly as possible, in order to capture the feeding mood of the bass.

If fish are suspended, tie the hook from 12 to 24 inches above the sinker. Use a 1 or 1/0 hook for live bait, and a slightly larger size hook for plastic grubs. Use a 1/4 to 3/8 oz. "drop sinker," which doesn't even require a knot. Live minnows can be fished in brush for walleye or crappie. Plastic 4" grubs, especially curl-tail grubs can be vertically fished for walleye or bass. West Coast pro anglers have been winning a lot of money with this great new technique. It is dynamite in clear, deep water. Trv it!

Attention! Misd athletes!

HOW TO FISH THE DROP SHOT RIG

The drop shot rig seems to be America's newest hot technique for walleye, crappie, or bass. It is a vertical fishing technique, which can be super-successful when used in conjunction with a good, sensitive, bow-mounted fish finder.

All incoming 7-12 grade athletes must have a UIL physical before participating in any sport. These physical forms can be picked up at the high school office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The physical exam can be done by your family doctor or at the Muenster Hospital Clinic.

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Child's Name _____

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I give my child(ren) _____ permission to attend the Sacred Heart Cheerleader Camp on August 6-8. I understand Sacred Heart School, sponsors and the varsity cheerleaders will not be held responsible for any accident during the workshop.

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Ronald V. Washak, D.O. opens practice in Gainesville

"Respect" and "dignity" are two words that Cooke County's newest medical specialist uses a lot. But to him, they aren't just words to be used indiscriminately, they are a code by which he lives his life and manages his practice.

Ronald V. Washak, D.O., is a man who has always pushed himself to excel. His office walls are covered with diplomas and certificates of distinction. His research has been published in an impressive listing of professional journals.

Meet him, and right away, you realize you are dealing with a unique individual.

"It all comes down to one thing," Dr. Washak says with conviction. "There's one guy watching over you. You are judged on what you do in life."

"My goal has always been to treat people with dignity and respect," says Washak. "I want to treat the right way and for the right reason - I want to deliver appropriate treatment."

And, certainly, the ambitious physician can provide medical care on a variety of levels. The doctor is board certified as an ear, nose and throat specialist, as well as a plastic and reconstructive surgeon, cosmetic surgeon and hand specialist.

Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and raised in Port Washington, the doctor has led an interesting, if not easy, life. He has spent time in the military, flying Army helicopters during the Vietnam War, and then serving in the Army Reserves, retiring as a Major, Attending Physician, in the Medical Corps.

In between, he taught school and went to college, attending classes every chance he could in order to accrue graduate hours in art

education and course work in science and chemistry.

In 1975 his life was changed when he left teaching art and decided to pursue medicine.

He completed requirements for respiratory therapy certification in record time and served as head of respiratory therapy, cardiovascular intensive care at Children's Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. There, he made rounds with the medical students and found himself answering more of the questions than the physicians in training!

With encouragement from a highly placed physician in the system, Washak began his climb up through the ranks of medicine. In May 1977, he began a three-year physician assistant training program at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas. He completed the program in August 1980, graduating second in a class of 25.

Washak decided to stay in Texas and began work as the chief assistant to a neurosurgeon in Lubbock. Once again, he felt the desire to achieve more and he applied to medical school and was accepted at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth. He graduated with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree and another impressive array of awards in May 1985.

Washak performed his internship, general surgery and otorhinolaryngology/orofacial plastic surgery residencies at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, from 1985 to 1988. He was named Mead Johnson Pediatric Clinician of the Year and Outstanding Medicine and Surgery Clinician of the Year.

Washak served as Chief Resident from August 1988 to August 1990. It was during this time that he met and married his wife Joni.

Specialty training included four months in 1989 in Head and Neck Cosmetic Surgery.

Following completion of his physician training, Dr. Washak went into private practice in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. The Army Reserves called him into active duty for six months in 1990 for Operation Desert Storm, where he served on staff at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C.

From September of 1991

to August of 1993, Dr. Washak received additional professional training, performing a residency in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa, where he again distinguished himself as Chief Resident.

Dr. Washak had doggedly pursued his education and training, and now he was ready to return to the state that he had come to know during his helicopter training days at Fort Wolters and his physician assistant and medical school training in Dallas/Fort Worth.

"I knew the area," says Dr. Washak of his return to Texas. "And I liked the warm weather!"

Dr. Washak established a practice as part of the Baylor Health System - Baylor Medical Center, Grapevine, with an office in Colleyville. He stayed with the busy practice for 7 1/2 years, but decided to pursue other options after taking a beating in the competitive managed care environment of the Metroplex.

Short stints in Ohio and Missouri did little to restore his soul, and a recruitment visit to a little town in North Texas kept returning to his consciousness.

"I liked the small-town atmosphere of Gainesville," Washak noted. "The people were friendlier. I felt welcome on my visits here." That feeling of welcome translated into a decision to relocate to Cooke County this spring.

Dr. Washak and his wife Joni have two daughters, Catherine, 7, and Ashley, 2. The doctor, who has achieved so much in his lifetime, realizes that he has spent too much time away from his family over the years. He hopes life in Gainesville will allow him to better balance the priorities of family and career.

Dr. Washak is board certified in otorhinolaryngology (ear, nose and throat) and is a member of the American Osteopathic Colleges of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery and Ophthalmology.

He provides a full range of ear, nose and throat medical and surgical services for both children and adults.

Dr. Washak is also a board-certified plastic, reconstructive and cosmetic surgeon. He is a Fellow in the International College for

Surgeons and is a member of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery, the International Societies of Cosmetic Surgery and the American Academy of Cosmetic Breast Surgery.

Procedures performed by Dr. Washak include: reconstructive surgery, including repair and reconstruction of areas destroyed by accidents/trauma, reconstruction of congenital anomalies or congenital infant defects, and hand surgery.

In the area of cosmetic surgery, some of the procedures Dr. Washak can perform include liposuction, facelifts, rhinoplasty, breast reconstruction after mastectomy, breast reduction, breast augmentation, varicose vein repair (injections, stripping and laser), repair of torn ear lobes and eyelid surgery.

"I believe in patient care - ethics, compassion and caring," Washak stated. "I like to spend time with my patients. I want to know the patient and I want the patient to know me."

He laughingly acknowledges his "Type A" personality, saying he averages approximately 200-plus continuing education hours a year when the requirement is a mere 50.

Dr. Washak is a Diplomate of the National Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, and a dual member of the American Medical Association and the Osteopathic Medical Association.

He says he is excited about the new hospital being planned for the county and about his role in the growing medical community. "I am pleased to be able to offer the community something they didn't have."

Dr. Washak is officed in the Gainesville Memorial Hospital Medical Plaza, 1820 O'Neal Street,



Cooke County's newest addition to the medical community, Dr. Ronald V. Washak, D.O., (left) and his family Ashley, Joni and Catherine. Courtesy Photo

Gainesville, Suite 7. His office reflects a love of interior decorating (The doctor decorated it himself); Beverly Doolittle art, stamp collecting and trains.

He enjoys doing "family stuff" - videos, travel and church activities.

Washak says he looks forward to a busy practice and "giving back to the community." He takes great comfort in his Christian belief and states confidently that "God has his plan for me and I am trying to do the best I can to accommodate."

In his initial three months of practice, Dr. Washak has already been kept busy dealing with trauma cases in the emergency room, reattaching fingers and tendons and carefully repairing deep cuts and other traumatic injuries.

Dr. Washak sees patients by appointment Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Karyn Sawers is his office manager. For more information on Dr. Washak and his practice, call (940) 668-8274.

In The Service

Air Force Airman Levi B. Seeds has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Randy Seeds and Brenda Seeds, both of Gainesville.

Seeds is a 1999 graduate of Lindsay High School.

Texas Department of Health



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Be Present!

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Date: **Wednesday, August 1, 2001**
 Time: **9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.**
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Farm & Ranch

Draft farm bill retains flexibility

A draft farm bill proposed by the U.S. House of Representatives would increase net farm income by as much as \$4.1 billion per year through 2010, but also restore a counter-cyclical payment system using target pricing to help farmers offset low commodity prices.

"During periods of extremely low prices, this target price mechanism provides far and above what the FAIR Act (Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996) has provided to farmers in the past," said Dr. Abner Womack, director of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University. "This gives a firm statement of what everyone can expect in the future. It adds a buffering mechanism when farmers get into trouble. It's price-specific."

Counter-cyclical programs essentially act as price supports for farmers and are tied to a target price. If the market price is less than the target price, the difference would be made up to the farmer, according to the draft bill, after adjusting for a fixed program payment.

A collaborative analysis of the draft farm bill was conducted this week by economists at Texas A&M and the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute, a joint institute between the University of Missouri and Iowa State University.

The analysis indicates the draft bill would increase acres planted to grains and cotton, though reduce acreage of soybeans and other oilseeds.

The total projected increase of planted area

would be less than 1 percent.

A new twist would affect soybeans, which under previous farm bills were not a program crop. The draft bill calls for soybean farmers to become eligible for fixed-rate payments and counter-cyclical payments. The change calls for a reduction of the marketing loan for soybeans from the current \$5.26 per bushel to \$4.92 per bushel.

The bill would include the target pricing used in previous farm bills.

Target prices of \$5.76 per bushel would be used for soybeans, \$10.18 cents per pound for minor oilseeds was added -- which was not included before.

The draft bill also proposes increases in net farm income on an average of \$4.1 billion per year from 2003-2010, compared to an average increase in Commodity Credit Corporation outlays of \$4.8 billion over the same period. Average per-acre crop returns would increase by as much as \$17, with other projected increases in Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) net outlays of \$41.4 billion from 2002 through 2011.

Under the proposed bill, farmers can elect to use the historic acres for their farm, or switch to update their base, using an average of planted acreage for all crops on their farm from 1998-2001.

"There will be advantages both ways for producers, depending on their situation," said Pat Westhoff of FAPRI. "If, for example, they had a large corn base and have not been growing as much corn in recent years, they may want to retain that old base."

"However, if they have a lot of acres of soybeans and had a small historic crop base, they may want to switch to their new system."

The counter-cyclical payments aren't tied to current production acreage as current planting flexibility rules would apply.

Womack said the draft bill "would certainly minimize" the need for emergency payments to farmers during periods of low commodity prices.

"Over the past three years, we've had emergency legislation," Womack said, noting during that three-year period Congress has approved \$25 billion in emergency assistance.

Administration denounces vote on Mexican trucks

The Bush administration was not pleased with Tuesday's vote in the House to stop the Transportation Department from issuing safety permits that would allow Mexican trucks to operate throughout the U.S. The legislation passed as an amendment to the fiscal year 2002 transportation spending bill.

"The President believes very strongly that what the House did is wrong," said Press Secretary Ari Fleischer in a press briefing. "And let me review the facts on this matter. In the vote in the House of Representatives, they struck the president's request to hire additional inspectors on the border so that trucks can be inspected to make sure that they are safe."

"The House also—and I want to read this—the amendment that was agreed to says none of the funds of this act may be used to process applications by Mexico-domiciled motor carriers. They won't even allow applications to be filled out. The House action had nothing to do with safety; it has to do with banning trucks because they happen to be operated by our friends to the south. And the president thinks that's wrong."



The grasshopper invasion continues around Muenster as the pests eat away at crops, trees and other plants while enjoying the over 100 degree temperatures. Photo by Janie Hartman

Drought effects will continue

Ranch managers are being advised by range scientists at Texas A&M University to evaluate pastures to determine the impact of drought conditions experienced the past five years.

Reduced forage production, as well as the loss of trees and shrubs, are just a few of the problems ranchers are experiencing statewide due to previous droughts.

"Most of these died last year, but some of them are still showing stress and dying this year," said Dr. Charles Taylor, director of the Academy for Ranch Management at the Sonora Research Station.

The cumulative effects of drought have also resulted in the death of many grass plants, Taylor noted, primarily those that grow during the summer months.

While much of the state has had adequate moisture in the late fall and winter, summer rainfall has been severely reduced.

"The rainfall pattern for much of Texas has favored the growth of cool-season

forage more than the warm-season grasses that normally provide most of the forage for cattle," said Ray Hinnant, a senior rangeland research associate at Texas A&M. "This growth of cool-season grasses and weeds have provided strong competition for the warm-season forage for soil nutrients, water and light during the spring."

"Several successive hot, dry summers have resulted in widespread death of warm-season grasses. Warm-season grasses provide most of the forage for cattle, while trees and shrubs provide much of the food for white-tailed deer."

Hinnant noted the death of these plants not only reduces forage production this year, but production will be reduced even when the pasture doesn't receive adequate summer rains.

"Ranch managers need to evaluate the condition of their pastures and take appropriate actions to minimize future financial and environmental losses," Hinnant said.

Dr. Mort Kothmann, a rangeland ecology management specialist,

notes there is no quick fix for ranch managers who discover problems.

"Good grazing management will be required for several favorable growing seasons for the forage to recover," Kothmann said. "Excessive grazing will stress the remaining plants and retard recovery of the rangeland. Ranchers lacking knowledge of how to effectively manage their ranches to provide for plant rehabilitation may in fact make the problem worse."

Ranchers wanting to develop a management program to restore depleted rangelands can take part in basic rangeland management classes and advanced classes on rangeland ecology, grazing management and rangeland burning held throughout the year at the Texas A&M University Research Station in Sonora.

The next basic class is scheduled Aug. 2-4. For more information, call Hinnant at (979) 845-5580 or go to <http://rangeweb.tamu.edu/arm> to register for one of the workshops.

Energy-saving tips for the farm, ranch

America's farmers and ranchers depend on reliable energy to produce crops and livestock. While America formulates its long-term energy policy, there are several steps producers can take immediately to reduce energy waste and better manage energy on a daily basis.

Common sense points to properly maintaining equipment and buildings to retain maximum efficiency, turning off items not in use and combining tasks when possible to save both energy and time. The following suggestions come from the National Food and Energy Council.

- * Set the thermostat on water heaters as low as permissible for adequate sanitation requirements.

- * Match the correct size tractor and implement for a specific task.

- * Keep a list of all electric motors in use plus preventive maintenance records on each to be sure they are cleaned, lubricated and checked on a regular basis for optimum performance.

- * When using ventilation fans in livestock buildings, fan blades and shutters should be frequently and routinely cleaned to maintain efficiency.

- * When drying grain, use an accurate moisture tester to determine the precise moisture content to avoid over-drying and dry smaller batches in the bin so that air and heat pass through shallow depths allowing grain to dry easily, quickly and with limited amounts of energy.

- * Periodically check insulation in buildings for settlement and/or damage from rodents, birds or insects and replace as necessary.

- * Check tires on all equipment and vehicles to make sure they are in good condition and at proper tire pressure.

- * Evaluate tillage practices and employ no-till or reduced till options when possible.

- * Establish a fertilizer plan by researching alternative products as well as determining soil needs through soil testing.

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Sold at Friday's sale were 1,230 head of cattle compared to 1,156 head of cattle the previous week. Tuesday, July 24, the market conducted the sale of 371 Goats, 126 Sheep and 65 Hogs. The numbers from last week were 377, 224 and 101 respectively. Results of both sales follow:

Feeder Steers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.15-1.36; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.15; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.10-1.35; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.10; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 98-1.06; Nos. 2 & 3, 90-98; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 93-1.05; Nos. 2 & 3, 85-93; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 86-97; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-86; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 81-92; Nos. 2 & 3, 72-81.	Stocker Cows (per head) Pregnancy-tested, 3- to 9-year-olds - large frame, \$600-\$880; medium frame, \$500-\$600. Cow-calf pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - large frame, \$750-\$900/medium frame, \$550-\$750. Holstein baby calves, \$55-\$90; Crossbreds, \$110-\$205. Barrows & Gilts: US #1, 230-270, 48-53; US #2, 220-280, 46-48. Feeders (per head): 100-175 lbs., \$50-\$90; 25-90 lbs., \$20-\$30. Sows: Feeder, 400 or less, 32-36; Light wt., 400-500, 38-40; Med. wt., 500-600, 40-42; Heavy wt., 600-up, 42-44. Boars: 300 lb. up, 16-18; 200-300 lbs., 22-24; Light wt., NT. Sheep (per lb.) Feeder lambs: 40-60 lbs., 75-85; Light lambs: 60-90 lbs., 70-75; Fat lambs: 90-120 lbs., 65-70.	Barbados (per head) Lambs: \$25-\$45; Ewes: \$25-\$40; Bucks: \$50-\$150. Ewes: Stocker, 40-50; Thin, 15-30; Fat, 30-40. Bucks: Thin, 30-32; Fat, 34-38. Goats (per head) Kids: 20-35 lbs., \$20-\$30; 35-55 lbs., \$30-\$45; 55-75 lbs., \$45-\$65. Yearlings: 75-120 lbs., \$70-\$90. Nannies (per head) Stocker, \$50-\$70; Milk Type, \$50-\$90; Slaughter: Thin, \$25-\$35; Fat, \$50-\$70. Billies (per head) 120 lbs-up Breeders, \$90-\$150; Slaughter, \$50-\$90. Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny, \$50-\$70; 3/4 Nanny, \$70-\$90; Full Nanny, \$60-\$150. Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Billy, NT, 3/4 Billy, NT, Full Billy, \$150-\$170.
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