



Evelyn Walterscheid was honored by Commissioners Court for 44 years of loyal service to Cooke County. Honoring her were, from left, Commissioners Jerry Lewis and Virgil Hess, Judge Bill Freeman and Commissioners Bill Cox and Phil Young. Janet Felderhoff Photo

## Commissioners honor Walterscheid on retirement

**By Janet Felderhoff**  
There were hugs and words of praise and appreciation as Cooke County Commissioners Court paid tribute to Evelyn Walterscheid, Cooke County Clerk. The occasion was the Dec. 23 Commissioners Court meeting, the final meeting for 2002 and the last time that Walterscheid would serve as secretary for Commissioners Court. Her retirement becomes official Jan. 1, 2003.

A proclamation was unanimously adopted to honor Walterscheid for her years of service. It states: "Whereas, Evelyn Walterscheid was employed as Deputy Clerk in February 1959; and Whereas, Evelyn Walterscheid was duly elected and assumed the position of Cooke County Clerk, January 1, 1995; and Whereas, the Office of Cooke County Clerk requires hard work, personal sacrifice, dedication, professionalism, and enthusiasm; and Whereas, Evelyn Walterscheid has loyally served the citizens of Cooke county and exhibited all the characteristics of a professional in the performance of her duties for the past 44 years; and Whereas, Evelyn Walterscheid has become an icon of Cooke County Government; and Whereas Evelyn Walterscheid has always been an asset to

each Commissioners' Court, precisely recording the minutes of each meeting, and Therefore, we the Cooke County Commissioners' Court hereby proclaim this 23rd day of December 2002, as Evelyn Walterscheid Day in Cooke County, honoring her loyalty, dedication, excellent work, and contributions to the Citizens of Cooke County."

As she reflected on her time with the County Evelyn remarked, "The years have been most interesting and educational. I love the work, but it is time to step down and let someone else do the job."

On Feb. 9, the County would have employed Evelyn for 44 years. She began as a deputy clerk working under County Clerk Riley. While in office Riley became ill and Evelyn

handled much of his work. Frank Scoggins was then elected to the County Clerk position. He hadn't worked in the office before and had no idea of all it involved. Evelyn at that time had 12 years experience and helped him learn the job. After he retired she ran for and was elected to the County Clerk position beginning in 1995. "They are always changing. When they change the rules, it changes the way of doing things and we change with it," said Walterscheid.

Evelyn revealed that she has no big plans for her retirement. "I've never stayed home before," she said. "I'll have to see what that's like. I'll take it one day at a time." She did say that if needed she's willing to help out at the County Clerk's Office. She said that there is a lot to learn about the job.

## Cooke County officials accept duties Jan. 1

On Wednesday, Jan. 1, at 10:00 a.m. in the Cooke County Court House, District Judge Jerry Woodlock swore in all the Cooke County officials who were elected by the people of Cooke County in the November General election. This year will be particularly historical, in that it will be the inauguration of Cooke County's first elected County Court at Law Judge, John Morris.

By decree of the Texas Legislature Cooke County was assigned a County Court at Law, which is unusual in that there is also a sitting District Judge and a County Judge. It gives a

great deal of importance to the County and the growth that is expected. Judge Bill Harris was the County Court at Law Judge appointed by the Commissioners Court last December to fill that position until the voters of Cooke County could cast their votes for whom they wished to serve.

Other County elected officials installed represent both Republican and Democrat parties and were elected by those in the County. Those sworn in were District Clerk, Pat Payne; County Judge, Bill Freeman; County Clerk, Rebecca Lawson; County Treasurer, Judy Hunter; County Surveyor Delbert

West; County Commissioners Bill Cox and Virgil Hess; and Justices of the Peace Dorothy Lewis and John Roane.

The Republican Women's Club coordinated the reception with the help of the elected officials, members of the courthouse, Tom Thumb, Fischer's Market, Kaden's Florist, Wal-Mart, attorneys Jim Hatcher and Byron Berry, and the community. The reception was held in the Commissioners Court Room immediately following the swearing-in. January 1 is the state mandated date for all county swearing-ins. The public was invited to witness this historical point in time.

## Laura Blanton steps into position as Cooke County Environmental Health Officer

**By Janet Felderhoff**  
At the Dec. 23 meeting of Commissioners Court, Laura Blanton was hired as the Cooke County Environmental Health Officer. That position was left vacant upon the death of Carl Walterscheid who was serving in that capacity. Blanton is the secretary for both the County Commissioners and the Environmental Health Office. She has been doing much of the Environmental Health Office paperwork since Walterscheid's recent illness and death and is familiar with the requirements.

Blanton plans to continue to serve as secretary for the Commissioners while serving as the Environmental Health Officer. She must become certified to make site inspections. County Judge Bill Freeman said that she should have her DR certification by February or March.

"We have basically promoted from within," said Judge Freeman. "This will save the County about \$30,000 a year in salary and benefits."

Duties of the Environmental Health Officer include checking and approving new septic systems and investigating complaints on existing systems that may be out of compliance or not working. Retired Environmental Health Officer John Pipes has been filling in for the county until a replacement could be appointed and certified.

At times when Blanton must be out of the office, calls will be transferred to the County Judge's office where his secretary will take care of them.

Cooke County will soon have an "Adopt a County Road Program". Anticipated start date is April 1, 2003. Bill Cox said that he had been working on the program for quite some time. He spoke with Harris

County about their program and a program for Cooke County was adapted from that of Harris County. The County's responsibility will be to provide the signs and to be sure that the trash collected is picked up and disposed of. It was decided that the County could make the signs for display on adopted roads. Cost for the program will come from each precinct's Road and Bridge funds. Phyllis Griffin of Cooke County 4-H will be in charge of the program. She said that two safety programs would be required per year.

Cooke County did not sign a contract with Dickens County to house prisoners. Judge Harris wasn't comfortable with the way the proposed contract was worded. It will be considered after being rewritten.

Graves Professional Services was contracted to do paint and repair work to the showers in the Cooke county Jail as dictated by the Jail Standards Commission. He will charge the County \$5,600 plus 10% since he can do only one shower at a time. This requires shutting down a cell block for about a week and finding other places to house those prisoners. If they must be moved out of Cooke County this could be an additional cost to the county of \$23,000 to \$28,000.

West Bay Exploration Company requested permission to conduct a 2-D Seismic Field Operation along County Roads #416, #483, #429, #414, and #477 in Precinct #4. Hess noted that this operation consists of using thumpers on the county roads. The company is responsible for any damages incurred.

County Clerk Evelyn Walterscheid currently serves as Veteran's Land Appraiser for Cooke County. She is retiring and was asked if she would like to retain that position. She

declined. It was then voted to appoint Rebecca Lawson to that position since she will be County Clerk as of Jan. 1.

With a vote of 4-1, it was decided that the Commissioners Court would continue to meet at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Commissioner Phil Young said he preferred 9 a.m. Commissioners Bill Cox and Virgil Hess preferred 10 a.m. so they could take care of things at their county barns first. Also Hess noted that the bills aren't always ready on the Friday before the meeting and the later time allowed them to see the bills before the meeting. Judge Freeman and Commissioner Jerry Lewis said they were indifferent as to the time.

Cooke County 911 Rural Addressing Maps are getting low. Another printing is needed. Discussion was held as to whether a charge should be made for the maps. County Clerk Evelyn Walterscheid noted that customers ask if there is a charge when they pick up a map. Commissioner Bill Cox said he doesn't like the idea of charging for them. Commissioners Virgil Hess and Jerry Lewis agreed with him. Hess remarked that the last time maps were printed the road numbers were too small to read easily. Judge Freeman suggested that they get to see the maps before they are printed this time. It was agreed to print new maps, but to have Commissioners check them prior to the printing. There will be no charge to individuals for the maps.

In other business Commissioners Court:

- Renewed Juvenile Pre and Post Adjudication contract with Denton County to house female juveniles.
- Approved joint resolution establishing an

## MMH Auxiliary to install officers Jan. 7 at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m., the Muenster Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will meet to install officers and officially begin to operate under as an affiliate of the Texas Associate of Hospital Auxiliaries (TAHA). All who are interested are invited to attend the meeting, which will be held in the administration office of the hospital.

Serving as officers are Fay Hamric, president; Christine Weinzapfel, vice-president; Deb Klement, secretary; and Rosalee Bayer, treasurer.

Enough money remained in the organization's treasury when it disbanded several years ago that fund raising is not a priority and the group can focus on other service projects.



Jayna Biffle (20) controls the ball under the basket in the KGAF/NCTC Holiday Classic championship game. Also pictured is Tigerette teammate Jennifer Hoedebeck (41) and Lady Knights Lindsay Williams (13) and Elaine Hess (42). See pages 8 and 9 for tournament story and more photos. Photo by Janie Hartman



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Actively demonstrating community involvement and leadership, Williams serves as President of the Gainesville School Board and the Planning & Zoning Commission. He is a certified real estate appraiser, holds the GRI designation, and has served as President of the local Board of REALTORS® on four different occasions. Greer has been active in the local Board of REALTORS®, serving as

past Director, and was the #1 Sales Agent for Residential Property in Cooke County for 2001, also receiving the RE/MAX 100% Club Award.

Weinzapfel is active in the local board of REALTORS, currently serving as Secretary, and is the incoming Vice President for 2003. She also is involved in several community organizations, including Cooke County Home Hospice, Muenster Kiwanis Club, and is the Cooke County United Way 2003 Campaign Chair. Weinzapfel received the RE/MAX President's Club Award for 2001.

Providing full service in Cooke, Denton, Wise, Montague, and Grayson county, RE/MAX First Realty is located at 305 E. California in Gainesville, TX 76240, and can be reached at (940) 665 0376, or by visiting [www.remamax-texas.com](http://www.remamax-texas.com).

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# Lindsay ISD receives good audit report

by Dave Fette

The 2001/2002 audit report was presented to the Lindsay ISD School Board at their regular monthly meeting on Dec. 16, 2002. Hess and Rohmer, P.C., Certified Public Accountants gave an unqualified opinion meaning all information was available and properly presented by Lindsay ISD. Melody Rohmer and Brian Hess were both present at the meeting to give a detailed explanation of the accrual method and the regular fund accounting method they were required to use and how they reconciled together to show \$4.1 million in assets for the District. They noted that general fund variances were all positive and that the District has properly complied with all laws and regulations applicable. "It is a very clean report and you have done a very good job," said Brian Hess.

Included in the report were notations that during the year the District had expenses that were \$423,056.00 less than the \$3,477,727.00 generated in tax and other revenues for governmental programs, thereby increasing the District's net assets by approximately 11.46 percent.

Total cost of all the District's programs increased slightly from last year. The general fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$1,496,251.00.

In addition to financial

auditing, the Texas Education Agency also requires the auditing entity to evaluate and report on applying agreed-upon procedures for State Compensatory Education. Lindsay ISD receives no state funding for this program because their test scores are high. However, the District is still required to have procedures in place for "at risk" students. The program deals mainly with students at risk of dropping out and the discipline and alternative education methods used to deal with the problem along with adherence to campus and district improvement programs. Lindsay ISD spent a total of \$79,000.00 to comply with State Compensatory Education Procedures.

Both reports from Hess and Rohmer, P.C. were accepted by the School Board.

Other items of discussion or action included:

- Pam Horn presented a copy of "Who Moved My Cheese?" a book written by Spencer Johnson, M.D., to each Board member, Mr. Winn, and Mr. Metzler. She said the book addresses dealing with change and it was in appreciation for the hard job they do for the school. Horn requested that when they finished reading them, that the books be donated to the library for the students and faculty to read.

- When considering the general operating checks,

Board member Carol Conaway protested payment of a \$96,000 bill to the Radisson Hotel in Denton for an overnight stay for the Superintendent's Retreat. She said it was too close by and not justified. Superintendent Winn said the program ran late, started early and his eyesight did not permit long drives at night. Board President Danny Nortman said "protest noted." All checks were approved for payment.

- During the principal's report, Jerry Metzler included information on the beginning of basketball season, wins by the two hay judging teams in local competition, and the updated, improved, easier-to-use school website: [www.escll.net/schools/Lindsay](http://www.escll.net/schools/Lindsay)

- Superintendent Travis Winn presented information during his report concerning Ram-Tech Company and their design/build service for gymnasiums. Also the new jump pit pad purchased from Gill for approximately \$6,400.00, the replacement of curbing and sidewalks at the elementary school, and new lighting installed at the elementary school. Carol Conaway asked about detailed presentation of data relating to food suppliers for the cafeteria. She said she had made the request in September to be ready for October or at least November. She wanted the detailed spread sheet

comparison of the different item prices from each food supplier ready for the next Board meeting, adding that, "This is the same kind of problem we have had in the facilities maintenance area." Nortman agreed with her request while Board members David Arendt and Wayne Fleitman stated they did not agree with the necessity of the detailed comparison.

- The Board agreed to request consulting services from Tom Zimmerer for roof repairs.

- The Board agreed to delaying four items requiring painting from the facilities maintenance list until summer to allow an in house painting crew to do the work. Approval of the finished maintenance list was tabled pending inspection of certain items.

- Hayes, Coffey and Berry was designated the preferred legal firm for Lindsay ISD.

- The Lindsay PTC proposed raising \$5,184.00 for new furniture for the elementary school library and asked the District to put in the first \$1,500.00. The School Board approved and PTC will raise the rest of the money.

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## 2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, January 5, 2003 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM Confirmation Retreat	Monday, January 6, 2003 MSD Teacher Work Day - NO SCHOOL City Council meeting, 7:30PM	Tuesday, January 7, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Grief Support Seminar, Home Hospice Office, 6-8PM MSD School Resumes MMH Auxiliary meeting, 7PM, Administration Office	Wednesday, January 8, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center SHS Alumni/Parent meeting, 7:30PM, Community Center meeting room Religious Ed Class, 7PM	Thursday, January 9, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Friday, January 10, 2003 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Saturday, January 11, 2003
Sunday, January 12, 2003 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Monday, January 13, 2003 VFW meeting, 8PM	Tuesday, January 14, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Grief Support Seminar, Home Hospice Office, 6-8PM	Wednesday, January 15, 2003 Religious Ed Class, 7PM	Thursday, January 16, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Friday, January 17, 2003 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Saturday, January 18, 2003

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## Vera Conrady Metzler 1928 - 2002

by **Elfreda Fette**

Mass of Christian Burial was held for Vera Conrady Metzler on Friday, Dec. 27, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. in St. Peter's Catholic Church of Lindsay, officiated by Abbott Jerome Kodell OSB, Father Nicholas Fuhrmann OSB, and Father Camillus Cooney OSB all of Subiaco Abbey, and Father Ron Scheible OSA of St. Peter's Church. Mrs. Metzler died at age 74 on Dec. 24, 2002 in Kindred Hospital of Fort Worth.

Survivors include her husband Clarence "Dutch" Metzler and daughters and sons-in-law, Emily and Andy Klement of Muenster, Cindy and Mike Berend of Graham, Renee and Al Izadi of Atlanta, Georgia, Linda and Johnny Herndon of Mesquite, and daughter-in-law, Louise Conrady of Windthorst; and sons and daughters-in-law Roy and Diane Conrady of Windthorst, Ted and Deedy Conrady of Windthorst, and Mike and Tammy Metzler of Denton. There are 19 grandchildren, five step-grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Also surviving are a brother, Willie Hoff of Windthorst, and sisters Magdalene Berend of Windthorst and Beatrice Gremminger of McKinney.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Leo and Amelia (Wolf) Hoff, and her first husband and her son Leslie Conrady and other relatives Dolores Roewe and Leona Flusche.

Vera Conrady Metzler was born on Apr. 20, 1928 in Windthorst. On May 14, 1946, she married Edmund Conrady in Windthorst. He preceded her in death on Mar. 29, 1975. On Aug. 11, 1990 she married Clarence "Dutch" Metzler in Lindsay. She was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and a member of St. Ann's Society. A homemaker, she was devoted to her family, and beloved by her grandchildren.

Rosary service was held on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. in St. Peter's Church. Taking part in the Mass of Christian Burial with Abbot Kodell and Father Nicholas, Father Camillus and Father Ron was altar server Erika Metzler, a granddaughter. The First Reading, from the Old Testament was given by Cindy Berend, a daughter; the Second Reading, from the New Testament was given by Repee Izadi, a daughter. The Gospel and Homily were given by



Vera Conrady Metzler

Abbott Jerome Kodell. Offertory petitions were read by Valerie Conrady, a granddaughter. Offertory gifts of bread and wine were presented at the altar by friends, Andy Bezner, Rudy Dieter, and Weldon Bezner. Eucharistic Ministers were Andy Klement, son-in-law, Andy Bezner, friend, Mike Metzler, son-in-law, and Rudy Dieter, friend.

Music Ministers were all members of the Angelic A/Cappella Choir of Sacred Heart High. Ruth Felderhoff, Pam Fette; also Roger Dieter and Emily Klement.

The Angelic A/Cappella Choir sang "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" for the entrance; the Responsorial Psalm 23 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"; "You Are The Christ Everlasting" for the gospel acclamation; "Silent Night" one verse in German, three in English at Offertory; the "Our Father"; "Servant Song" at Communion. For the Meditation, Roger Dieter and Emily Klement sang "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"; The Angelic A/Cappella sang "Song of the Angels" at the incensing, and concluded with "In the Day of the Lord" as the recessional, with introduction by Pam Fette and Roger Dieter.

The Eulogy and Remarks of Remembrance were given by Allison Klement Rix and co-written by Kristin Klement, granddaughters. Allison stated in part: "Today we celebrate the life of Vera Josephine Pauline Hoff Conrady Metzler, a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and dear friend. Vera planned this day to a 'T' - she loved having friends and family here... loved to entertain a crowd... she would have loved having the Subiaco clergy here for Mass. She spent 20 years serving in their care... she loved the beautiful music... she loved to sing and dance... she loved said 'It is OK to sing and

dance even in a grocery store..."

"She passed her Catholic Faith on to her children and grandchildren... her devotion to the Mother of Jesus... and the Rosary... all of us have figurines or pictures she gave us, as 'something to remember her by,' as if we could forget a character like her!... We will always carry with us her loving and generous heart and her Great Spirit!... Raising a family during the Depression Era was never easy, but their faith, Vera's and Ed's, never wavered... they believed in the continued sense that God Is Near!... As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this week, we offer heartfelt love and thanks to Dutch and the Metzler family, and also to the community of Lindsay for providing so much love - her family for the past 24 years..."

"How many of you recall her habit of honking the horn as she approached our homes... We are tempted to wonder, 'did Grandma honk her horn to announce her arrival into heaven?' that reunion in Heaven must have been glorious on Christmas Eve."

Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery of Windthorst at 1:00 p.m. Friday was under direction of Clement/Keel Funeral Home of Gainesville. Pallbearers were grandsons, Kevin Conrady, Adam Klement, Denny Berend, Lee Berend, Kyle Berend, Cameron Izadi, and Clay Conrady. Graveside services were officiated by Henry J. Ostermann, of the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and a friend and classmate of Vera Hoff Conrady Metzler.

A family meal was served by the Catholic Mothers Society in Windthorst Cafeteria.

Memorials may be sent to the Father Cletus Scholarship Fund, Subiaco Abbey, c/o Abbott Jerome Kodell, Subiaco, AR 72865, or to the Leslie J. Conrady Scholarship Fund, c/o Windthorst ISD, Windthorst, TX 76389.

Relatives and friends attended the funeral from Gainesville, Lindsay, Muenster, Windthorst, Denton, Fort Worth, Subiaco, Arkansas, Fairfax, Virginia, Nacogdoches, Saint Jo, Scotland, Dallas, Graham, Wichita Falls, Bowie, Atlanta, Georgia, Nocona, Ringgold, Bryan, Oklahoma City, Austin, Abilene, Burk Burnett, Archer City, Henrietta, Idalou, Poolville, Lubbock, Stamford, Wylie, and Washington, D.C.

## Frank A. Benenate 1920 - 2002

Frank A. Benenate died on Dec. 13, 2002 in Farmers Branch, Texas at age 82. He was the husband of former Lindsay resident Elsie Bezner Benenate.

Frank Benenate was born on Feb. 12, 1920 in Sicily to Joseph and Pasqua Parrino Benenate. Survivors include his loving wife of 57 years, Elsie Benenate; five children Dr. Joe Benenate of Dallas, Marguerite Kell and husband Don of Farmers Branch, Jane Benenate of Farmers Branch, Frank Benenate Jr. of Carrollton, and Marie Goldis and husband Mark of Carrollton. There are ten grandchildren Brandon, Zeke, Jacob, Amy, Brianna, Joey, Jacquelyn, Jessica, and Tony Benenate and Drs. Chanel and Ed Assi. Also three great-grandchildren Cole, Blake, and Madelyn. There are two sisters Fran Peppitone and Lucy Ahee; three brothers Bill, Leo, and Joe Benenate.

Frank A. Benenate was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1941 to 1945; he was a member of Mary Immaculate Catholic Church in Farmers Branch. He owned and operated Benny's Quality Meat Market in Dallas. He enjoyed being a part of the Meals on Wheels program and the Hobby Crafters for the Children's Workshop during the Christmas season, and was proudly a member of United We Stand.



Frank A. Benenate

A Rosary Service was held on Monday, Dec. 16, 2002 at Mary Immaculate Catholic Church at 7:00 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. Burial at Calvary Hill Cemetery was directed by Rhoton Funeral Home. Pallbearers were grandsons Ed Assi and Brandon Kell, son-in-law Mark Goldis, grandsons Jacob Benenate and Zeke Benenate, and nephews Jim Zimmerer, Skipper Bezner, and Rick Bezner.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggested memorials sent to Mary Immaculate Church Building Fund.

McCoy Funeral Home now offers great discounts on pre-arranged funeral prices. The following are examples of these savings.

### Male

Age	Funeral Amt.	Pay Period	Monthly Pmt.	Total Pmt.
36-50	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$121.80	\$4,384.80
51-60	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$145.20	\$5,227.20

36-50	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$82.20	\$4,932.00
51-60	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$96.00	\$5,760.00

### Female

Age	Funeral Amt.	Pay Period	Monthly Pmt.	Total Pmt.
36-50	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$118.20	\$4,255.20
51-60	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$79.80	\$4,788.20

36-50	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$142.20	\$5,119.20
51-60	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$93.60	\$5,616.00

Come in and let us calculate your exact savings, which is based on your age and health condition.

\*\* Above rates are for males and females in somewhat healthy condition.

## Robert (Bob) Pels 1944 - 2002

by **Elfreda Fette**

The death of Robert "Bob" Pels sent a shock wave across this community, and almost disbelief when parishioners heard the announcement at church Sunday morning. He died at 1:25 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2002 at his home in Muenster, at age 58, so suddenly, so unexpectedly. When his wife noticed his breathing problem, she called 911, but he died very suddenly of apparent heart complications.

Survivors are his wife, Linda Pels of Muenster; daughters Gina Pels and Wendy Pels; and son Jonathan Pels, all of Muenster, and one grandchild. Also his mother, Gen Pels of Muenster; sisters, Mary Lamkin of Muenster, Dolores Eberhart of Lindsay, Beverly Stevens of Era, Carol Fuhrmann of Longview, and Joanie Huneycutt of Gainesville; brothers Gerald Pels of Houston, Kevin Pels of Coppell, and Clifford Pels of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Preceding him in death was his father, Ed Pels.

Robert Pels, known to hundreds of friends as "Bob," was born on Feb. 22, 1944 in Muenster to Edward Caspar Pels and Genevieve Irene Yosten Pels. On Aug. 14, 1971 he married Linda Gilbert in Sacred Heart Church.

In 1962 he graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Muenster. In 1967 he graduated from Southwestern State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma. He owned and operated Muenster Pharmacy for more than 30 years. During the past three years, he has done relief work in pharmacies in Gainesville, and most recently in Decatur. He was a big football fan; and he loved to fish. Some of his



Robert "Bob" Pels

favorites were oldies music, and old John Wayne movies.

A giving, loving man, he was well known area wide, and was respected by a wide circle of friends. A dedicated family man, he never missed anything his family was involved in. His family and friends will treasure his memory.

A Rosary Service was held Monday, Dec. 30 in McCoy Chapel at 4:00 p.m. led by Imelda Rohmer. Vigil at 7:00 p.m. was led by Father John Ohner OSA, pastor of Sacred Heart Church.

Mass of Christian Burial was offered in Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. by Father John Ohner OSA. Altar servers were Andy Davis, Steven LaChance, and Clayton Truebenbach, three friends and classmates of Jonathan Pels.

The First Liturgical Reading, from the Old Testament, was given by Kevin Pels, a brother. The Second Liturgical Reading, from the New Testament was given by Valerie Warner, a niece. Offertory Petitions were read by Jerry Pels, a brother.

Offertory gifts of bread and wine were presented at

the altar by Marissa and Jeffrey Pels, niece and nephew. Eucharistic Ministers were Rita Bayer, Regina Pels, Imelda Rohmer, Janet Voht, and James Walterscheid.

Music Ministers were Christy Hesse, Diane Grewing, Linda Flusche, and Ruth Felderhoff. Sacred songs included "I Am The Resurrection," "You Are Mine," "Like A Shepherd," "Edelweiss Blessing," "Be Not Afraid," and "The Lord Is My Shepherd."

The eulogy and Remarks of Remembrance were given by Kelly Lamkin, a niece. She said, in part... "Uncle Bob, went to his heavenly home on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2002, leaving his home here peacefully in his sleep... He was more than your pharmacist, he was your friend... he went above and beyond the call of duty for you... He was a loving, giving, caring husband, father, papaw, son, brother, uncle, and friend..."

"His daughter Gina recalled that he taught her how to drive a standard... daughter Wendy recalled that he taught her how to fish... son Jon recalled going to Ranger ball games with him, and watching football every Sunday... they all remember wonderful family vacations..."

"Bob was a loving and attentive husband to Linda... his brothers recall that he was a prankster... He was many things to many people, who will treasure his memory. Thank you all for coming here today to honor him."

Burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery was directed by McCoy Funeral Home of Muenster. Pallbearers were nephews Toby Eberhart, Eddie Lamkin, Craig Huneycutt, Jared Pels, Danny Stevens, and Dustin Dietz.

## Alvin Sicking 1946 - 2002

As we approached deadline on this week's issue of the *Muenster Enterprise*, word was received of the death of Alvin Sicking of Myra, but making available only the following information: Alvin Sicking died at age 56 on Dec. 26, 2002 at Denton Regional Medical Center. Mass of Christian Burial was scheduled for Monday, Dec. 30, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. in St. Mary's Catholic Church of Gainesville, officiated by Father Don Brennan OSA. A Rosary Service was held Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in Geo. J. Carroll Chapel. Burial in New Resthaven Cemetery was directed by Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. Pallbearers were Jimmy Mosman, Ronald

Mosman, John Mosman, Doug Schmitz, Clarence Neusch, and David Sicking.

Alvin Sicking was born on June 24, 1946 in Cooke County to Alfred and Irene Luttmir Sicking. He was a lifelong Cooke County resident, and was engaged in farming.

Survivors are his mother, Irene Sicking of Myra; a brother Don Sicking of Myra; sister and brother-in-law Doris and Cecil Hermes of Sherman. Preceding him in death were his father; and a sister Lynette Hermes in 2000.

Because of time constraints and an extremely brief deadline, we were unable to seek other information.

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### BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

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**Two-Step Stool**  
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### BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

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## Obituaries

### Col. Enoch E. Broyles 1918 - 2002

Enoch Ernest Broyles passed away peacefully at age 84 the morning of Dec. 5, 2002 at Good Samaritan of Denton. He was the father of Stephen Broyles, former Muenster City Manager, now the Dean of Administrative Services at NCTC.

A Memorial Service was held on Monday, Dec. 16, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of First United Methodist Church of Denton, with Rev. Bill Crouch officiating.

Enoch Ernest Broyles was born Apr. 7, 1918 in Gallipolis, Gallia County, Ohio to George and Nancy Ada Lee Broyles. In June 1945 he married Georgina Marie Weaver in Baltimore, Ohio. She preceded him in death in December 1972. In August 1976 he married Peggy Meek Shaw in Austin, Texas.

In his youth, as a grade school student, he had attended Oakridge Elementary, and graduated from Liberty Union High School in Baltimore, Ohio in 1936; and worked at Fairfield Paper Co., until entering the Army Air Corps in 1941. He graduated from Victorville Bombardier School in November 1942 as a second lieutenant and immediately started instructing Army Air Corps Cadets at Victorville, California to be bombardiers. He then attended navigation school and radar training at Boca Raton, Florida and then began instructing cadets at



Col. Enoch E. Broyles

Longley Field, Virginia. In June 1944, he went overseas, left for Italy, joined the Second Bomb Group at Foggia, Italy and was promoted to captain.

He was separated from his crew, and assigned as the group bombardier. When he arrived, the group's bombing was at an all time low of 12% accuracy within one thousand feet. Under his leadership, the average improved to 80%, in about six months time, and the Group led the 15th Air Force in accuracy which it held at the end of the war in Europe. Col. Broyles led the mission on ten air raids to Polesti, Romania, a heavy oil production center for the Nazi Forces. On one mission, he was hit by enemy flack, but was able to complete his mission. He

was promoted to Major in 1945.

After the war in Europe was over, he returned to the States where he was assigned to a crew going to the Pacific Theater of Operations at Guam. He flew on several missions to Japan in a B-29 aircraft and later dropped many supplies to POW camps.

When he returned to the States, he was assigned to Buckley Field, Colorado as Operations Officer for the 7th Geodetic Control Squadron; was moved in 1949 to Macdill Air Force Base, Florida; and from there the Air Force sent him to study electrical engineering for two years. His next assignments included Special Weapons Command in Albuquerque, New Mexico; AOB School at Mather Air Force Base, California; SAC Air Force Base at Roswell, New Mexico; and then he was moved to Texas for the first time, with the Air Force Plans Division at Carswell Air Force Base. In June 1959 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel; assigned to Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts; and later assigned to the Plans Directorate 7th Air Division in West Ruislip, England; then assigned as Base Commander at East Kirby, England. He was the first bombardier navigator to become a Base Commander.

Col. Enoch E. Broyles was returned to Westover AFB to the 99th Bomb Wing. While serving there, he was

promoted to full colonel in 1962 and became Director of Materiel. In 1964 he was assigned to the 3rd Air Division and later to Seoul, Korea as the Commander of the Air Force Advisory Group to the Commander of the Korean Air Force. His next assignments were to Director of Personnel at Minot AFB and lastly to March AFB as 99th Air Force Director of Personnel. He retired in February 1971 after 30 years of continuous service; retiring to Austin, Texas and in 1977 moved to Denton, Texas. He attended UNT and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1979. Employed by FEMA; retired again in 1984 they moved to Lake Kiowa, Texas. When his health failed, he and his wife Peggy moved to Good Samaritan.

Survivors of Enoch E. Broyles are his loving wife, Peggy; six children and their spouses, Dan and Mike Ronan of Houston; Stephen and Kay Broyles of Muenster; Millie and Jack Foster of Sugarland, Texas; Jeff and Mary Broyles of El Granada, California; Beth and Randy Honeycutt of Denton; and Jennie Maples of Denton. Also eight grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. Also one brother and one sister.

For those who have asked, the family has suggested memorials sent to Ann's Haven Hospice, First United Methodist Church of Denton, or Whaley United Methodist Church of Gainesville.

## Estes comments on banning ATV's from riverbeds

Legislation filed on Thursday by Senator Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo) and supported by agriculture interests, environmental advocates, and state officials, will ban off-road vehicles from operating in public riverbeds.

Officials worry that use of riverbeds by all-terrain vehicles will cause irreversible damage to our fisheries, wildlife, and ultimately, the quality of our water. "I understand the concerns," said Senator Craig Estes (R-Wichita Falls). "Many of our farmers and ranchers have cited this as a problem that negatively impacts their irrigation systems, cattle, and private property

rights." Estes noted that this legislation would in no way prevent boats and other water craft from using public rivers, nor would it affect adjacent landowners' ability to drive in the riverbeds for reasonable purposes related to usual and customary agricultural purposes, for purposes related to mineral rights, or in the case of an emergency.

"It's clear that there are a few folks who have abused Texas waterways and forced this issue to the forefront," Estes said. "I will continue to monitor the situation and take input from constituents so that I can make the right decision at the appropriate time."

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Elfreda & Dave,

December 16, 2002

I would be very remiss in my duties, if I didn't take the time to write a letter-to-the-editor concerning St. Richard's Villa's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15th. I have never attended a more gala event, than this one! The home was beautifully decorated, not only in the foyer and dining room, but each of the residents' rooms, as well. The staff had made each family a Christmas ornament with a picture of their loved one on it. A treasure to be cherished for years to come! The refreshments were delicious and plentiful. Mildred Lawson and her band played wonderful Christmas songs for all to join in the caroling, and Santa Claus made the rounds! The staff members assisted Santa in place of his busy elves, and a wonderful and memorable time was had by all! Each member of the staff is to be congratulated on a job well done! I was amazed that they had wrapped Christmas presents to make sure that each and everyone of the residents received a brightly colored, wrapped gift. I learned that they have a craft store set up each year to make the money to be able to provide gifts for those residents who do not have family members near enough to attend the party. This party took a lot of work, planning, and preparation, and it was so well done. Someone evidently planned their work, and worked their plan!

I hope, God willing, I will be there this time next year to celebrate the birth of Christ with my wonderful mother, and all the other members of our extended family at St. Richard's Villa, including the residents and the staff.

Next year, it will be my privilege to come laden with extra gifts for some of those whose family is unable to attend. I would like to suggest that some of you might keep this in mind, as well. If you were unable to stop by this year for the celebration, please try to stop by some Sunday morning at 9:00 to join the residents in song and prayer. You will find it a most enjoyable experience! The wisdom and blessings gained from all of these wonderful people is truly phenomenal! Please come, you'll be glad you did! May you have a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year, too!

Sincerely, Judy (Cain) Hartman

## Cooke residents come through again

While United Ways in surrounding areas and across the country are shaking their heads and wringing their hands, Cooke County United Way (CCUW) and its 16 agencies are in celebration. Why? It is because the residents of Cooke County came through for them.

Cooke County United Way surpassed its goal of \$340,000. What does that mean? It means simply that Cooke County residents understand that by giving to CCUW they are helping their friends, neighbors, and loved ones. Not everyone reading this will need the services of the 16 agencies that CCUW helps fund, but most know someone who has or will need to use them.

Most area residents have felt the economic crunch since 9-11. A lot of people felt compelled to send funds to our eastern neighbors when those unspeakable events unfolded. We came together, as a country, and showed our support in anyway that we could.

As the year went on, we began to realize that those events didn't just affect those "over there." Some of our local companies began

feeling the crunch and had to layoff hard-working people. Then, the "trickle down" effect began. Breadwinner layoff means no money coming into the home, which means no income to buy groceries, pay rent/utilities, medicine, and other essentials. With layoffs, there is a higher likelihood of depression and/or anger, which can lead to arguments, abuse, and/or neglect. This can also lead to single parent households where that parent needs to find work, any kind of work, which means they may have to work evenings, nights, and weekends, which leads to no one being home for their children. This unavoidably leads to "latch key" children who may turn to substance abuse, hanging out with the wrong crowds, and seeking attention, even if it is negative attention.

So what is this leading up to? Why, with all this gloom, were the United Way Executive Director Karen Graham, the Division Leaders, and the Board members working tirelessly to ask for donations during these troubled times? I'll tell you why - because CCUW sponsors agencies

that can assist with all this and much more.

Whether you were able to give \$5 or \$5000, YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE by allowing the CCUW to allocate funding to agencies like:

**VISTO** - not only runs a food bank, but assists families who can't pay their rent and may be evicted from their home. VISTO assists them with paying an electric bill so they will have heat/ac. Do they just hand out the money? No. They assist their clients with setting up a budget and showing them alternatives that maybe they hadn't thought of.

**Friends of the Family** - gives safe havens to families of abuse. FoF has counselors and therapies that help them get through the rough times. They have programs that help women and children realize that they don't have to stay in abusive relationships and that "hands aren't for hitting."

**CASA** - gives a voice to children in our court system. CASA makes sure that children are heard.

**Cooke County Child Welfare** - responds to "cries for help". CCCW works with

families to make home life better. They do drug testing to make sure that the home is safe. As a last resort, when everything else has failed, they will move the child to a safe, loving environment.

**Substance Abuse Council** - educates and sponsors programs to teach about the negative affects of abusing drugs and alcohol.

**Community Service Advisors** - assists seniors in leading their lives with dignity and respect. CSA will assist them in finding jobs if that becomes necessary. They also will assist with Medicaid/Medicare services.

**Home Hospice** - assists loved ones in their final days and who are there for the family with education and grief counseling.

**Reading and Radio Resource** - assists those of any age that are visually impaired and those with learning disabilities.

Youth Programs around the county which help focus energies in a positive direction are **Boy Scouts of America**, **Boys Baseball**, **Cooke County Youth Center**, **Cooke County Youth Fair**,

See UNITED WAY, pg 10

### Letter to the Public:

I am inviting you to visit Gainesville Convalescent Center, 1900 O'Neal, Gainesville, Texas, to find out more about good care and rehabilitation. While working with the Area Agency on Aging of Texoma, I could not point anyone to a specific nursing center for care, but I do know who was doing a continual good job caring for people and which facility was willing to change to make things better. I chose to leave the Area Agency on Aging of Texoma to work here. The Gainesville Convalescent Center would be my choice if I had to have nursing care for any period of time. The facility staff is setup to provide for the many additional care needs of individuals. You really need to make a point of visiting this home for future possible care needs. We will have a "Medicare and You 2003" mini-seminar 1/20/03 at 3p.m. ... you're invited. Just call to let me know how many to plan for.

Gainesville Convalescent Center has a secured unit for those who tend to wander. Also, the 12 bed unit for adults with developmental disabilities has a Qualified Mental Rehabilitation Professional who provides special classes for those persons to help retain their abilities.

The knowledgeable and caring nursing staff gives attention to the special needs of each individual, providing for their choices. Several of the staff have been with the Gainesville Convalescent Center for over five to sixteen years and the Administrator, Mina Creech, has an excellent history as a licensed Texas Nursing Facility Administrator and with our community.

The residents enjoy spacious rooms with a view of the lovely grounds covered with great oak trees and the use of a large patio area. Each resident room connects to a bath area with a wheelchair accessible shower. During the next couple of months, you will notice expansion and renovation work being done to provide additional public spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Your visits and questions are welcome. I am a certified Benefits Counselor II by the Texas Department on Aging and can answer your concerns about public benefits available and assist you with applications. Call me at (940) 665-2826, ext. 24, and set up your personally guided tour today.

Sincerely,  
Shirley Rector, Director of Community Relations

13-15

## From My Side of the Fence

by Ed Cler

In browsing through some reading material loaned to me by my son-in-law, Leon Fuhrmann, I read an article, written by Mark Newhall and published in the magazine, *Farm Show*.

Mr. Newhall is editor and publisher of the magazine, and I found his article not only very interesting, but also some of it downright humorous. I hope, if you read the article, you will enjoy it as I did.

The article follows:

### Wide As A Horse's Rear End

The U.S. standard railroad gauge (width between the two rails) is 4 ft. 8 1/2 in. That seems like a very odd number. Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and early U.S. railroads were built by English expatriates.

Why did the English build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Why did they use that gauge then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons which used that wheel spacing.

Okay! Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So who built those old rutted roads? The first long distance roads in Europe were built by Imperial Rome for their legions. The roads have been used ever since. And the ruts in the roads? Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made by Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. The United States standard railroad gauge of 4 ft. 8 1/2 in. derives from the original specification for an Imperial Roman war chariot.

Specifications and bureaucracies live forever. So the next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's rear end came up with it, you may be exactly right, because the Imperial Roman war chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the back ends of two war horses.

Thus, we have the answer to the original question.

There's an interesting twist to the story about railroad gauges and horses' behinds. When we see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs.

The SRBs are made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory had to run through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So, the major design feature of the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over 2,000 years ago by the width of a horse's rear end!



## 100th anniversary celebrated by St. Peter's Church

St. Peter's Society in Lindsay celebrated their 100th anniversary at the 10 a.m. Mass on Dec. 22. The Mass was offered for all the living and deceased members of the society. During the gathering song all the members processed in a group as Nick Schroeder and Larry Wyrick carried in a banner commemorating the anniversary. Diane Hermes made the banner. During the Mass Damond Fuhrmann, Ted Fuhrmann, and Larry Wyrick brought up the offertory gifts. After Mass the members gathered at the Wooden Spoon for a meal and business meeting. During the meeting Erwin Fuhrmann presented a short history of the society.

The society was organized by Father John Troxler, O.S.B., and founded on Dec. 21, 1902, while the parish was building the first church. The society certainly helped rebuild the church after it was damaged by a tornado in May 1917. In 1941 it was recorded that the society had their annual picnic and made \$277. In 1949 the society made \$1307 on a raffle and gave it to Father Conrad for use on the new hall. In 1951 the society paid \$300 for a new statue of St. Peter for the church. The society has had many projects over the years and at one time even gave money to the Young Ladies' Society and the Young Men's Society to keep them going. In the 1960s

the membership declined somewhat. In the 1970s the society had bingo every month for 10 years. Dances and raffles were held in the 1970s and 1980s. But the main purpose of the Society is to foster religious life and activities, to aid the pastor in his work, and to promote moral activities in the parish. The society belonged to the Catholic State League for many years until it was disbanded.

A list of those members present at this anniversary celebration was recorded. Father Ron Scheible commented that they were fortunate to have such hardworking forefathers who made the parish what it is today.

## Samantha explores 3

Samantha Nicole Muller, daughter of Wayne and Deann Muller of Muenster, celebrated her third birthday on Dec. 7. Her actual birthday was Nov. 23. A party was held in the home of her parents with a Dora the Explorer theme. Guests enjoyed cake and ice cream and watching Samantha open her presents.

Those attending were: her parents, brothers Ethan and Logan; grandparents Ross and Janet Felderhoff, and Steve and Sharon Muller; and great-grandmother Aileen Knabe; aunts, uncles, and cousins Jody Felderhoff, Gary Muller, Kenny, Kim, Kara, and Kirk Felderhoff, Keith and Tiffany Felderhoff, and Kaitlyn and Ryan Felderhoff; and friend

Kathleen Henley. Unable to attend but sending birthday wishes were: great-grandpa Arnold Knabe, godmother Kayla Felderhoff, and aunt and uncle Judy and Larry Muller.



Samantha Muller

## Meeting Notice

### Grief Support Seminar

Home Hospice will be conducting a Grief Support & Guidance Seminar on Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28. The seminar will be held at the Home Hospice office at 1001 E. Broadway in Gainesville from 6 to 8 p.m.

The sessions will address various topics involved in the grief process. The purpose of the seminar is to assist bereaved persons to deal with their grief and to find positive ways to cope with this painful experience.

Anyone who needs assistance is welcome to attend the Grief Support & Guidance Seminar or any of the support groups. There is no charge for any of these services. Call Home Hospice to register for the seminar at 940-665-9891.

## NCTC launching surgical technology instruction as a new career field

Before its first students even begin classes, North Central Texas College's surgical technology program is enjoying strong support from the regional medical community and has a growing pool of applicants for a limited number of student openings. The first classes begin Jan. 13.

"Surgical technology is an interesting and satisfying career field and there's a

tremendous need in local hospitals," said Judy McHatton, coordinator of the NCTC Surgical Technology Program. McHatton said the program will take students through a one-year course of classroom and laboratory instruction along with supervised clinical experiences designed to prepare them for work in surgical support.

Starting salaries for CSTs

in the local market range from \$10-\$18 per hour, said Maurice Robeson NCTC dean of applied sciences. However, graduates willing to work in a more urban setting or accept overtime will find more lucrative income is possible.

The job of a surgical technologist, usually called a "scrub tech" or a "scrub nurse" in a hospital setting, is to set up operating rooms with surgical instruments, equipment, sterile linens and sterile fluids and be responsible for maintaining a sterile field throughout a procedure. They must be able to assemble, adjust and check sophisticated operating room equipment such as miniature cameras and high definition television monitors to ensure that they are working properly.

Prospective students who believe they may be interested in entering the NCTC Surgical Technology program should contact McHatton at 940-497-8040.

## New Arrivals

### Hacker

Jimmy and LeAnn Hacker of Muenster are parents of their second son, Bryce Steven Hacker, born on Dec. 18, 2002 in Denton Community Hospital at 8:08 a.m. weighing 7 lb. 14 oz. and measuring 18 1/4 inches long. He joins a brother Devon Hacker, age 5. Grandparents are Steve and Dianna Klement of Muenster and Jim and Linda Hacker of Myra. Great-grandparents are Sis and Tony Klement and Richard and Anna Herr of Muenster, Joyce and Lewis Riegler of Gainesville, and Anna Margaret Tempel of Muenster.

### McMinn

Ruth Elizabeth and William Howard McMinn of Muenster announce the birth of a son, James Cole Alexander McMinn in Gainesville Memorial Hospital on Dec. 27, 2002 at 7:57 a.m. weighing 8 lb. 1/2 oz. and measuring 19 inches long. He joins a brother,

William Chase McMinn, age 15 months. Grandparents are Lore Halley of Saint Jo, Cheryl Barber of Mustang, Oklahoma, and Kathy McMinn of Gainesville. Great-grandmother is Hildegard Halley of Saint Jo.

### Harrison

Clay and Tana Harrison of Muenster are parents of a son, Cooper Ray Harrison, born on Dec. 10, 2002 at 3:08 p.m., weighing 8 lb. 1/2 oz. and measuring 21 inches long. He joins two siblings, Cole Harrison, age 13, and C.J. Harrison age 9. Grandparents are Tommye and Jerry Perry of Eastland, Texas and Debbie and Mike Harrison of Lockney, Texas. Great-grandparents are Dorthy Poole of Garland and Velma Harrison of Lockney, Texas.

### Klement

Mark and Carol Klement proudly announce the birth of their son, Matthew Mark,

born on Dec. 30, 2002 at 10:13 p.m., weighing 8 lb. 15 1/2 oz., and measuring 21 inches in length. He is welcomed by his sisters, Taylor, Shelby, and Bailey. Grandparents are Frank and Angela Haverkamp of Lindsay and Walter and Eleonore Klement of Muenster.

### Dennington

Chris and Tonya Dennington of Gainesville announce the birth of a daughter, Regan Nicole Jennington, in Gainesville Memorial Hospital on Dec. 16, 2002 at 2:56 p.m., weighing 6 lb. 9 oz. and measuring 18 inches long. She joins siblings Chris Dennington, age 5 and Dylan Dennington age 3. Grandparents are Ted and Debra Black of Gainesville and Earline and Danny Dennington of Gainesville. Great-grandparents are Tillie Otto of Muenster and Phyllis and Harless Hurt of Gainesville.

## Nortex Communications celebrates Christmas and looks to New Year

Nortex Communications celebrated its annual Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 7. The party, held in the company's meeting room, celebrated the accomplishments of the past year and looked forward to a new year. Alvin Fuhrman, President & CEO, highlighted a year of accomplishments including growth in key services, the introduction of digital cable television and improvement in quality and reliability for all services.

Nortex was pleased to announce that an "Emergency Alert System" was added to the cable television system in 2002. This alert system (EAS) can be activated by the weather bureau in case of inclement weather or by civil defense should a situation develop that may endanger the public. Another benefit implemented this year is live televised coverage of Sacred Heart Sunday morning services to allow viewing for those who are unable to attend.

Moving from company highlights, Fuhrman recognized several long-time employees. Service awards were presented to: Gracie Fuhrman, Director of Administration, for 45 years of service; Donna Walterscheid, Administrative Coordinator completed her 20th year of service; and Richard Corley, Accountant was recognized for 15 years of company service.

Awards for service completed this year were also presented to: Brian Hess, Central Office Supervisor for 10 years of service; with employees

receiving 5 year awards including: Lead Construction Technician, Terry Bartel; Robin Sparks from accounting; Lester Tucker, cable maintenance coordinator; and Deano Bayer and John Klement both in the construction department.

Two new employees were also introduced to the family and friends of the company. Included were Sara Lanier, customer service representative, and Carolyn McPherson, marketing coordinator. These individuals brought the company total to 53 employees with a total of 536 years of combined telecommunications experience.

Finally, Fuhrman extended his appreciation to all the employees for a good year and their dedication and hard work. He concluded by reminding all in attendance the importance of the services Nortex provides and the people served. The goal of Nortex Communications continues to focus on providing excellent customer service and the most advanced telecommunications services to the rural communities they serve.

The Schneiders catered the dinner for the party and the evening was completed with a Bingo session that included prizes for the winners.

## Create a backyard sanctuary

\* Relax and enjoy the process. Take your time; there's no rush when you're enjoying yourself. This is an uncommon opportunity for you to leave any "Type A" tendencies behind. Who knows? Maybe you'll discover the virtue of patience.

Courtesy of ARA Content

The family of Kay Poynor Tompkins wishes to Thank each and everyone for all the Flowers, Food and Prayers. We regret that due to circumstances out of our control we are unable to personally thank each and every one of you. Your kindness and sympathy at this time are more appreciated than any words can ever express.

Thank You,

Frances Poynor, Billy, LouAnn and Debbie Poynor, MaLynn, Chris and Bryson Burns, Carla and Larry Borgman and Brittianny, Elvin and Mattie Dennis

"Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same"

L.S.A.S.

## Weight Watchers Community Meetings

Invites You to a Visitors Meeting

In Muenster

Join us at the Public School Library

Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 PM

For more information call: 800-651-6000

ONLY \$132 for 12 weeks

(New Members Pay \$10 Registration Fee)

L.S.A.

## Your Community Healthcare Providers At GMH Home Health Wish You A Happy, Healthy New Year!



SEATED (LEFT TO RIGHT): Beth Schully, Physical Therapy; Carolyn Grier, Administrative Assistant; Grace Trammell, Aide; Twila Beam, Aide; Norma Leslie, Business Office Manager. MIDDLE: Teresa Harrison, Occupational Therapy; Judy Fletcher, RN, Administrator. BACK: Mary Ann Pawless, RN, Patient Care Coordinator; Karla Broyles, RN, Case Manager; Terry White, Aide; Dian Wright, RN, Case Manager; Jackie Bryan, Physical Therapy; Kathleen Cravens, RN, Case Manager. NOT PICTURED: Barbara Plumlee, RN, Case Manager; Rita Bayer, Physical Therapy; Donna Mixon, Speech Therapy; and Cecilia Davis, RN, Case Manager.

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## Horses: The Story of Equus gallops onto the Omni's giant screen Jan. 10, 2003

Six thousand years ago, an inspired man rode on a horse for the first time. With that one act, not only were horses saved from extinction, but mankind gained the ability to explore the planet as never before. Today, there are more than 60 million horses on Earth. Now the Omni Theater brings the fascinating story of three of these animals to the giant screen with the IMAX film *Horses: The Story of Equus*, opening Jan. 10, 2003.

*Horses: The Story of Equus* will show daily at the Omni Theater through May 22, 2003. The Omni Theater is located at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, 1501 Montgomery Street in Fort Worth's

Cultural District. Ticket prices are \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors (60+), and \$5 for children (3-12). For show times and information, call 817-255-9300 or go to [www.fortworthmuseum.org](http://www.fortworthmuseum.org).

## CCRW monthly meeting features honored teacher

Because of the holidays and everyone traveling, the Cooke County Republican Women will not be having their monthly meeting Jan. 2, but instead will be holding their meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 9, at the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce located at 101 South Culberson in Gainesville.

The speaker will be one of Cooke County's own, Mrs. Barbara Dorff. Mrs. Dorff and her husband, Jim, were members of this community for several years. Barbara taught kindergarten, pre-K and middle school students learning English from a curriculum she still uses, while her husband served First Methodist Church as their senior minister.

Barbara was recognized by the state of Texas as the most outstanding teacher in the state for the year 2001-2002. She has recently been recognized by OELA and

Washington's Department of Education as one of three teachers to receive the "Rising Star Award", which was given to an elementary teacher, a middle school teacher and a high school teacher. Barbara is representing the middle school award.

How fortunate we are to have Barbara come and speak to us about education and the needs of Texas from a teacher's point of view. She was also privileged to be invited for lunch at the White House. And why not? Laura came to Gainesville to help her unpack her boxes when she moved here. "Not only will we get an insight on education in Texas, but maybe a little on White House hospitality," said Pat Peale.

The public is invited, and light refreshments will be served. For any information you may call: Pat Peale, President at 940 665-7708.

## Girl Scouts cookie sale January 10

Beginning Friday, Jan. 10, the more than 5,500 Girl Scouts of Cross Timbers Council, including Muenster, will continue the tradition of selling Girl Scout cookies.

"Selling Girl Scout cookies is more than making money for girls' programs, events and activities. It's a way to teach the girls about money management, budgeting and working together as a team, while having fun," said L. Kimberly Karl, CEO of Cross Timbers Council.

Money raised from the cookie sale goes directly to support Girl Scouts Cross Timbers Council and the troops who sell cookies.

With an ever-increasing concern for the safety of the girls, many troops have begun exploring new creative ways to sell cookies. The door-to-door approach is still popular and successful, but booth sales have had incredible success in the past few years.

From Feb. 14 to Mar. 2, Girl Scout troops will be seen around town in front of major stores setting up cookie booths and selling cookies.

For more information about the cookie program or to join Girl Scouts, contact the council toll free at 877-664-1220 or visit the Girl Scouts Cross Timbers Council web site at [www.girlscoutscouncil.com](http://www.girlscoutscouncil.com).

*Our family wishes to thank the many friends who expressed sympathy in so many ways during the recent passing of Martin Krahl. Words cannot express our sincere appreciation and love to all who shared our grief. We wish to thank Monsignor King and priests Fr. Jim, Fr. Don, Fr. Ron, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Cooney for their prayers and assistance with the service and their prayers. We wish to thank all of our parishes of St. Mary's, St. Peter's, Sacred Heart, St. John's and Immaculate Conception for help with food, music, liturgy, and in many other ways. We wish to thank all of those who sent flowers and messages of hope and comfort. Thank you to the folks at Element-Keel Funeral Home for their caring and help. We will certainly treasure your kindness throughout our lives.*

May God bless you all.

The family of Martin Krahl

Nancy, Lynn, Gary, Elaine, Grant, Brenda, Damian and Stephanie, their families, and grandchildren.

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NCTC music instructor Shane Studdard and Gainesville Rotary Club president elect Kathy Bauer. Courtesy photo

## Ask the debt experts... advice from Myvesta

*Q: My daughter has gotten herself into a terrible debt situation. She and her family live in a beautiful home with two lovely daughters, but I just found out that she has \$25,000 in credit card debt. We've helped her with money problems before, but this time the debt is much bigger. I think credit cards are to blame; they're just so easy to get. What should we do?*

**A:** The best thing you can do is find her a professional who can get to the root of the debt and help her deal with the issues. For instance, is she a compulsive shopper? Is she masking emotional issues and making herself feel better by shopping? There could be other issues, too, that need to be uncovered and solved.

It's easy to blame credit cards for debt problems, but they typically are not the cause of money troubles. Credit cards are just a

delivery mechanism for credit. You mentioned that she and her family live in a beautiful home; is their mortgage too big to manage? That is often the case with our clients, especially in the low interest rate environment of the last couple of years. People are buying bigger and bigger homes that they can't afford. We've seen the average mortgage debt of people who come to us for help, jump from \$127,000 to \$168,000 in just the last year.

If you truly want to stop the cycle of debt, you need to examine the underlying issues that are leading her to live a lifestyle that is more than she can afford.

You're right to think twice before bailing her out again. If she thinks you'll always come to her rescue, she'll have no reason to change her spending.

By Steve Rhode and Mike Kidwell

## The Mobile Vision Clinic comes to Gainesville

The Mobile Vision Clinic of the Lions District 2-E2 Organ & Eye Bank will be coming to Gainesville next year. The mobile unit contains equipment to do eye testing, glaucoma screening, and dispensing of eyeglasses to those in need (those who do not have adequate resources). The exact location and date of the mobile unit's one-day visit to Gainesville will be announced at a later date.

The Gainesville Lions Club has brochures on donation and donor cards (with DONOR stickers for drivers licenses). The Club is also happy to visit any other service club and/or civic or private organization in order to provide more information and/or to show an 11-minute video concerning transplantation. The Organ and Eye Bank

accepts and encourages both equipment and monetary donations. In fact, any individual or organization can become an Honorary Life Member in the LOEB with a donation of as little as \$125. A donation of \$500 will "purchase" a Silver Life Membership, a Gold Life Membership is \$1,000, and a Diamond Life Membership is \$2,500 --- (all contributors receive a plaque and pin).

Contributions under \$125 can be given to the Lions Organ & Eye Bank White Cane Program. For further information on any of the above, please contact Gainesville Lions Club White Cane Chairman Larry Covington at 612-2097 or by e-mail at [larcov@swbell.net](mailto:larcov@swbell.net).

Written by Martha McCool

## Beef recipe shared

**Green Enchilada Pie**  
 2 lb. ground beef  
 1 Tbsp. chili powder  
 1 (13 oz.) can evaporated milk  
 1 small can green chilies  
 1 can cream of mushroom soup  
 1 can enchilada sauce  
 1 medium onion, chopped  
 1 lb. Cheddar cheese, grated  
 1 pkg. corn tortillas  
 Brown the ground beef. Add the chili powder, salt,

and garlic powder. Mix together evaporated milk, cream of mushroom soup, green chilies, and 1/2 can of enchilada sauce. Pour over the meat. Line bowl with tortillas. Layer meat mixture, onions, and cheese. Repeat layers. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Ann Knight, Texoma CattleWomen

## Kathy Bauer presides over Gainesville Rotary Club

Local resident, Kathy Bauer, was in her element during the month of December as presiding officer of the Gainesville Rotary Club. She is currently the president elect, but was substituting for President Jerry Parr while he was convalescing from open heart surgery.

During the last meeting before Christmas, the club was entertained by the NCTC Singing Group led by Shane Studdard, a professor of music at the college. Kathy had to re-arrange the club's normal routine so that the group could return to their campus and resume their studies.

In addition to the regular carols, two songs of ancient times were presented. The oldest one, "Of The Father's Love Begotten", was written around the year 400 AD. "Still, Still, Still" is more recent, but one of the favorites of choirs around the world.

After the program Kathy presented a check of \$300 to Shane to be used where ever the choir chose to spend. Kathy then presided over the remainder of the meeting, and wished all a Merry Christmas, concluding with recitation of the Four Way Test.

submitted by Reagan Vestal

## Take the Goodwill seasons challenge

Goodwill Industries of Northeast Texas, Inc. is going to issue a challenge this year during the time that people usually do their cleaning; they generally clean out and scale down when the seasons change. If you donate 25 items per season, you will donate 100 items to Goodwill in 2002. That's 25 for Spring, 25 for Summer, 25 for Fall, and 25 for the Winter. What perfect timing! Goodwill Industries as an institution celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year. Help them celebrate by donating one item for every year that Goodwill has given service to communities across the United States.

It's time for Summer Cleaning! Goodwill challenges every resident in Northeast Texas to go through their house and garage and donate at least 25 reusable items that they no longer need or use! Think of the storage space! Think of how organized we could become if we did this

on a regular basis. Now is the time to donate that table, sofa, chair, or the bedroom suite you don't like! Clean your closets and make room for some fresh new summer clothing! Give them your outdated lamps, wall hangings, small appliances, and the toys your children have outgrown! They'll even take your cars, boats, trailers and RV's, whether they are running or not.

Goodwill Industries takes your donations, processes them, and sends them out to one of our 11 retail stores for sale to the public. The proceeds from the sale of your donated items goes to teach new job skills, provide job placement and employment to people with disabilities, disadvantages or other barriers to employment. What a great feeling to know that your discards are going to provide financial independence and a better way of life for people right here in your community!

## Office technology classes attract a variety of students

Officials are expecting increased enrollment in Office System Technology courses at North Central Texas College in January 2003 as more students take advantage of training they can quickly apply in work and study.

Technological advances have changed both the skill sets and job roles of office professionals who carry job titles like "administrative assistant," or "secretary," said Debbie Huffman, Office Systems Technology Instructor at North Central Texas College.

Responding to diverse needs of professionals in the modern business environment, NCTC has created degree and certificate programs in Office Systems Technology (OST).

Students in the program can work towards a one-year certificate in OST or a two year Associate of Applied Science Degree. "Credits will also transfer to four year colleges who offer bachelor of applied arts and sciences degrees," said Huffman. "We are working closely with the University

of North Texas. Midwestern also has a B.A.A.S. degree."

Office Systems Technology classes include such courses as keyboarding and document formatting, word processing, business math and machines, administrative office procedures, introduction to accounting, computerized accounting, records and information management and desktop publishing. Students who complete the word processing, spreadsheets, database and presentations courses will be prepared to take exams for Microsoft Office User Specialist (MOUS) certification in Word, Excel, Access and Power Point.

Students and prospective students interested in OST degrees or courses are invited to contact Huffman at 668-7731, Ext. 416, or e-mail her at [dhuffman@nctc.edu](mailto:dhuffman@nctc.edu). "We can design an academic plan and schedule coursework to help students meet their specific educational goals," she said.

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Sacred Heart High School Voice of Democracy winners were, from left, Lauren Sepanski, Cindy Hartman and Andrea Bonnin. Courtesy photo

## Paige White wins VFW Auxiliary youth essay contest

"My Pledge to America," the Patriots Pen Youth Essay Contest sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars #6205, has announced the local winner. Paige White, eighth grade student at Sacred Heart School received the 1st place award from chairperson, Frances Bayer, president of the local VFW Auxiliary #6205. Paige's entry has advanced to the District I level. Miss White is daughter of Andy and Leslie White of Muenster.

The Sacred Heart School teacher who gave guidance to the 38 7th and 8th grade students who participated in the Patriots Pen Contest. Honorable mention on a local level was given to Sacred Heart students Stephanie Krawietz, Lauren Sepanski, and Micah Flusche.

After competing in District, the winner advances to the State level and then 1st in State competes on a National level for 20 places for M.S. Savings Bonds totaling \$52,500.

Paige White, VFW youth essay winner and Sacred Heart teacher Glenda Mitchell. Courtesy photo



## In My Opinion

by Elfreda Fette

Receiving two standing ovations during and after their Christmas concert Sunday, Dec. 22 at 6:00 p.m. in Sacred Heart Church brought smiles and elation to the seventeen members of the Angelic A Cappella Choir. Reaction of their parents showed pride and satisfaction, all richly deserved emotions.

You who attended, if you came in with Christmas blues or Christmas blahs, the seventeen lilting voices of the young ladies tried to chase away your listless disinterest, and frequently succeeded. And there was a full house audience waiting and anxious to listen. Many came because they remembered having attended before at Angelic A Cappella concerts, when they went home smiling, humming, and even with a little two-stepping, inspired by the singing. Others came to hear, inspired by the reputations the young lady singers are earning often by word of mouth, with wonderful performances at other times, not only for the holidays, but for other occasions.

There were many people attending who had not heard them before. It was fun, becoming aware of their surprises as they listened and, more importantly, just watched and appreciated the rapt attention the girls paid to their teacher and director, Pam Fette. Their eyes never left her hands.

They are trained to sing in a wide range of musical styles, including sacred music, folk songs, madrigals, popular and show tunes. They understand that 100% effort and dedication is required of them. They are committed to achieving excellence as honor students, athletes, and community service volunteers. Since formation of the choir in 1999, they have succeeded in District and State TAPPS competition. They are dedicated to giving praise to God, and joy to all others through their music and a beautiful musical experience.

Their Christmas concert offered a varied program. "What Yo' Gonna Call Yo' Pretty Little Baby?," a spiritual, was just delightful, sung by Tiffany Richey. "Silent Night" sung in three languages: German, Jacqueline Flusche; Spanish, Amy Trevino; and thirdly in English with the choir was peaceful, loving and restful. "He Shall Feed His Flock" solo by Katie Cox was impressive. "And the Angels Sing/Angels We Have Heard On High" solo by Kate Sepanski, truly melodious, with the choir humming. "Coventry Carol," a trio, sung by Katie Cox, Brittany White, and Christine Fetsch, beautiful and tender.

The full program follows: Piano Prelude Music by Barbara Brady, accompanist; "Good Cheer," "Let All Who Sing Be Merry," "Joyfully Sing," "Carol of the Bells," "Deck the Nutcracker Hall," "The Drum Carol (with Patapan)," "Good King Wenceslaus," "He Shall Feed His Flock," "And the Angels Sang," "What Yo' Gonna Call Yo' Pretty Little Baby?," "Bring a Torch Jeanette, Isabella," "Rocking Carol," "What Do the Stars Do?," "Silent Night," "Mary, Did You Know?," "Candle In Your Heart." The closing song was "I Love You Lord," with the choir joined by former members of the Angelic A Cappella (who have graduated and are away at college) at the invitation of Pam Fette, director, and also joined by Anne Poole and Ruth Felderhoff, accompanists and assistants.

Members of the Angelic A Cappella Choir are: seniors Katie Cox and Tiffany Richey; juniors Andrea Bonin, Lisa Endres, Karen Gehrig, Kate Sepanski, Laura Taylor, and Amy Trevino; sophomores Rose Bartush, Jacqueline Bauer, and Christine Fetsch; and freshmen Angela Cox, Jacqueline Flusche, Joelle Fuhrmann, Chelsie Switzer, Brittany White, and Sarah Whitecotton.

## VFW Auxiliary announces Voice of Democracy winners

Veterans of Foreign Wars #6205 announced the local winners of the Voice of Democracy Patriotic Audio Essay Competition. The 2002-03 theme was titled "Freedoms Obligation" and was open to 9th through 12th grade students.

Local winners from Sacred Heart High are: 1st, Kate Sepanski, daughter of Bob and Linda Sepanski; 2nd, Cindy Hartman, daughter of Don and Kathy Hartman; and 3rd, Andrea Bonin, daughter of Carmen Bonin and Vince Bonin. Forty-eight students participated under the guidance of teacher, Mrs. Jo Bedowitz.

Muenster Independent High School local winners are: 1st, Nathan Sicking, son of Mark and Mary Sicking; 2nd, Melinda Walterscheid, daughter of Glenn and Jean Walterscheid; and 3rd, Anna Jackson, daughter of Jay and Laura Jackson.

Twenty-five students participated under the guidance of teacher Mrs. Martha Koesler.

Local chairperson of Voice of Democracy was Auxiliary #6205 President Frances Bayer. The Veterans of Foreign Wars provide the monetary awards for all the local winners which amounts to a total of \$350.00.

The two local VFW #6205 1st place winners competed on a District I level against 20 to 25 other area 1st place winners on Dec. 15. The 1st place in the District went to the Sherman VFW entry, 2nd was Bonham, and 3rd was the Lewisville entry. The 1st place of District advances to compete on a State level and the 1st place winner of State will advance to compete on a National level for scholarships totaling over \$141,500, with National 1st place being a \$25,000 scholarship.

## College information hotline available in January 2003

The Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC) announces its 18th annual toll-free College Information Hotline (877-275-7007). Hotline 2003 will be available Jan. 18 and 19, 2003, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time). The College Information Hotline, which is the largest project of its type in the nation, provides information about post-secondary educational opportunities to students and their families.

The College Information

Hotline is available to anyone in the state who has questions about any aspect of college admission, financial aid, degree programs, housing, student life and activities, or special programs. Callers may also request information from specific colleges and universities or information about any college in the United States. Spanish-speaking counselors and admission representatives from more than 25 public and private colleges and universities in Texas will be on duty.

## National Science Foundation awards grant to North Texas technology consortium

As a participant in a newly launched technology initiative, North Central Texas College will utilize a National Science Foundation grant to upgrade information technology education to better equip students to enter this area's high tech workforce, said Maurice Robeson, NCTC dean of applied sciences.

The North Texas Regional Technology Consortium (NTRCT) kicked off the technology grant program in Frisco Tuesday, with Robeson, NCTC President Ronnie Glascock and other NCTC officials in attendance. The efforts center on a two-year, \$600,000 project grant from the National Science Foundation to the NTRCT to improve the region's technical education system.

The consortium-which includes NCTC, Collin County Community College District (CCCCD), Richland College, Grayson County College, the University of North Texas and business partner Texas Instruments-hosted a ceremony in Frisco Tuesday at CCCC's Preston Ridge Campus. Higher education officials, business representatives and community leaders gathered for the program launch and to commemorate the grand opening of CCCC's "Technology Convergence Lab."

The grant is an Advanced Technology Education grant from the National Science Foundation with \$322,355 in year one. Projects within the grant are designed to enhance and improve college offerings in technical fields. Consortium partners will target the skills needed by regional companies to create technical workers who are well equipped to enter the workforce, said Robeson.

"Specialized technology workers will always be a key component of our economy," said Robeson. "As the technology industry in North Texas evolves, it is critical to model student academics according to the highest demand fields. The National Science Foundation is visionary to

support projects of this nature, and we are excited to be a part of it."

There are an estimated 230,000 high-tech workers in North Texas. The Texas Workforce Commission predicts that the state will need up to 57,000 new systems analysts, database administrators, and computer support specialists within the next seven to ten years. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of Technology Policy, even the slowest growing occupation, computer programmers, is expected to grow at more than twice the average for all other occupations in the nation, currently projected at 14.4 percent growth.

"The NSF grant program is an important initiative to help equip students with the latest expertise needed by the high-tech industry," said Ezra Pernermon, workforce development manager of Texas Instruments. "TI, as well as other companies in the region, continue to need quality engineers and technical graduates, even during economic slowdowns. One way to fill the need is to cultivate the natural talent of students here in the area."

See SCIENCE, pg 10



Muenster High School Voice of Democracy winners are, from left, Anna Jackson, Melinda Walterscheid and Nathan Sicking.

## Lunch Menus

### WEEK OF JAN. 6-10

#### SACRED HEART

Mon. - Cooks' choice.

Tues. - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, garlic toast, broccoli, applesauce.

Wed. - Chicken enchiladas, ranch style beans, green salad, pears, bread.

Thurs. - Beef stew, cornbread, green salad, pineapple chunks.

Fri. - Ham hoagies w/trimmings, potato salad, peach cup.

creamed potatoes, green beans, pears, bread.

Tues. - Ham or turkey sandwich, baked beans, carrot and celery sticks, pickles, iced cake.

Wed. - Chili w/beans, creamed potatoes, pickles, peaches, crackers.

Thurs. - Lemon pepper chicken, lettuce salad, peas, pineapple, bread.

Fri. - Hamburger w/trimmings, tator tots, ice cream.

#### ERA ISD

Mon. - Pepperoni or cheese pizza, corn, strawberry applesauce, tossed salad, sugar cookie.

Tues. - Chicken spaghetti or mini corn dogs, green beans, tossed salad, fruit mix, breadstick.

Wed. - Chicken fried steak or chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, peaches, tossed salad, hot roll.

Thurs. - Frito chili pie, shredded cheese, tossed salad, pinto beans, pear halves, chocolate chip cookie.

Fri. - Hamburger, sliced cheese, trimmings, French fries, ice cream.

#### MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - No school.

Tues. - Beef tacos w/cheese, Spanish rice, refried beans, lettuce and tomatoes, peaches, cake.

Wed. - Ham and cheese sandwich, lettuce and tomatoes, chips and salsa, cookies, pears.

Thurs. - Chicken pot pie, lettuce salad, w/dressing, pineapple, hot rolls.

Fri. - Hamburgers w/cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions, French fries, applesauce, ice cream.

#### LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Chicken nuggets,

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**THANK YOU**  
 The Muenster Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank the following students of Sacred Heart Honor Society for decorating the light poles and KMB Park.

Travis Frosee	Christine Fetsch
Jonathon Krahl	Joseph Davis
Patrick Knapp	Michael Voth
Oliver McElroy	Clint Fuhrmann
Joseph Skotnik	Chris Fuhrmann
Stephen LaChance	Also thanks to the following adults:
Jacqueline Bauer	Jack Murdock
Jordan Smith	Henry Starke
Laura Taylor	Carol Grewing
Kim Hess	Gary Fisher
Michelle Bayer	
Jon Pels	

*You all did a great job.*

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# Tigerettes/Wildcats win KGAF-NCTC Classic

The 15th Annual KGAF-NCTC Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament was held last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the NCTC gym. Fifteen teams participated, including Sacred Heart, Lindsay, Era, Callisburg, Valley View, Nocona, Alvord (boys only), and Slidell.

Action began Thursday morning at 11:30 a.m. and concluded Saturday night with the Sacred Heart Tigerettes and the Callisburg Wildcats taking home the championship trophies. The Lindsay Lady Knights and the Knights both settled for runner-up, with the Tigers finishing in 3rd place.

Earning special recognition for tournament play included, from Sacred Heart, All-Tournament, Raney Bauer, Jayna Biffle, and Marty Farrell. Farrell was also the Outstanding Academic All-Star. Chris Hoedebeck was named Outstanding Sophomore. Making All-Tournament from Lindsay were Elaine Hess, Emmy Trammell, Rhett Rimmer, and Mitch Creed.

In the girls championship game, the Tigerettes pulled out a 56-39 victory in the final quarter of play against the Lady Knights.

The score was tied 9-9 with 6:40 remaining in the second quarter. Forty seconds later, Sacred Heart had a 4 point lead. Baskets by Katie Schneider and Raney Bauer kept the point spread at 4, but 2 points each by Emmy Trammell and Elaine Hess tied the game 15-15 with 3:45 on the clock. Baskets by Courtney Hartman, Hess and Schneider and two free throws by R. Bauer tied the game 19-19. With 9.8 seconds left in the first half, Mallory Block hit two free throws to give Lindsay a 2 point lead.

getting 6 points, and Jana Truébenbach putting the icing on the cake with the final basket with 11 seconds on the clock, for a 56-39 win.

"Raney and Jayna took over the offense in the second half," Coach Jon noted, as they scored 27 of the 37 points. "This was a nice team effort." The Tigerettes had only 11 turnovers.

by Rhett Rimmer closed the score to a 4 point difference. Callisburg hit 2 more and Creed a basket for a 40-34 score to end the quarter.

The Cats had a 10 point lead, 48-38 with 4:49 remaining in the final period. Creed hit 2 points, Richard Klement a free throw, and Brandon Kiesel a 3-pointer for a 50-44 score with 2:01 on the clock.



Lindsay Knight Mitch Creed (20) moves around a defending Valley View Eagle in early tournament action. Photo by Dave Fette

Ten Tigerettes scored in the championship game. Raney Bauer and Jayna Biffle were high scorers with 18 and 16 points. Courtney Hartman added 5, Maggie Farrell and Jana Truébenbach 4 apiece, and 2 each by Stephanie Henscheid, Whitney Wimmer, Mary Jane Callahan, and Jacqueline Bauer. Karen Gehrig scored 1.

Farrell and Biffle each pulled down 10 rebounds. R. Bauer had six assists and three steals, with Gehrig also getting three steals and four assists.

Katie Schneider scored 11 points for the Lady Knights. Elaine Hess added 9, with

Callisburg worked the clock to 49.1. After a Lindsay time-out, the Cats were fouled immediately and made both shots for a 52-44 score. The Knights missed a 3-point shot, Callisburg rebounded and was fouled. With 34.5 seconds on the clock, both shots were good for a 54-44 score.

Hinds hit a 3 pointer, Callisburg inbounded the ball and was fouled with 21.5 seconds remaining in the game. Both attempts from the line were no good,

## KGAF-NCTC Holiday Classic

### GIRLS

Valley View 55	Valley View 60	Slidell 33	Lindsay 39
1:00 Sat	1:00 Th	4:00 Fri	4:00 Sat
Lindsay 64	Lindsay 54	Slidell 55	Sacred Heart 7:00 Sat
Era 48	Era 42	Era 72	
Callisburg 64	Callisburg 40	Era 42	
4:00 Th	4:00 Th	7:00 Fri	Sacred Heart 56
Callisburg 52	Callisburg 40	Sacred Heart 58	Sacred Heart 54
1:00 Fri	1:00 Fri	7:00 Th	
Nocona 44	Nocona 46	Nocona 46	

### BOYS

Alvord 52	Alvord 65	Slidell 67	Slidell 68
11:30 Fri	11:30 Th	11:30 Th	5:30 Fri
Valley View 59	Valley View 54	Lindsay 84	Lindsay 50
2:30 Th	2:30 Th	5:30 Sat	Callisburg 8:30 Sat
Valley View 44	Lindsay 57	Slidell 32	
11:30 Sat	11:30 Sat	5:30 Sat	Callisburg 56
Alvord 2:30 Sat	Era 43	Era 35	Sacred Heart 48
Nocona 43	Era 33	Callisburg 44	Callisburg 55
2:30 Fri	2:30 Fri	5:30 Th	Callisburg 56
Nocona 40	Nocona 40	Sacred Heart 54	Sacred Heart 30
		8:30 Fri	
		Nocona 35	8:30 Th

lead from 4 to 9 early in the 3rd quarter," added Coach Jon. Twenty fourth quarter points assisted in giving Sacred Heart a 12 point victory.

Callahan and R. Bauer were leading point makers for the Tigerettes with a dozen each. Biffle added 9, Farrell 8, Gehrig and Wimmer 5 apiece, Truébenbach 4, and

See CLASSIC, pg 9



Action from the Holiday Classic. Above Tigerette Raney Bauer (33) pulls down a rebound against Nocona. Also pictured are Mary Jane Callahan (31), Stephanie Henscheid (10) and Jacqueline Bauer. At left, Lady Knight Emmy Trammell moves the ball down court against Sacred Heart's Karen Gehrig. Photos by Dave Fette & Janie Hartman



Jack Biffle (30) moves in under the basket for the shot in tournament action against Nocona. Also shown is Marty Farrell (32). Photo by Dave Fette

The Lady Knights kept the lead through most of the third quarter, until a stolen ball by R. Bauer, who also made the basket, gave the lead to the Tigerettes with 1:10 on the clock, the first time since 2 minutes in the 2nd quarter. With seconds ticking off the clock, R. Bauer got another basket. Block got 2 for Lindsay, then Bauer hit a 3-pointer with 1.8 seconds for a 32-28 Sacred Heart lead going into the final quarter.

Both teams continued to exchange baskets, with the Tigerettes edging out a 10 point lead with six minutes remaining in the game. With 4:20 on the clock, baskets by Cheryl Knabe, Block, and Hess closed the score to 43-38. The Lady Knights got one free throw, then allowed Sacred Heart to control the remainder of the game, with R. Bauer and Karen Gehrig adding free throws, Jayna Biffle

Emmy Trammell and Mallory Block each getting 7. Whitney Neu and Cheryl Knabe scored 2 apiece, and Lori Kasperek 1.

The boys championship game between the Knights and the Wildcats was a battle to the end, with Callisburg getting the win from the free throw line.

Callisburg took an early lead, 16-8 going into the 2nd quarter, and never allowed the Knights to take control of the game. Baskets by Mitch Creed closed the score to within 5 points, 20-15, with 3:50 remaining in the first half. The Cats then took a 29-20 half-time lead.

Creed scored two baskets early in the third period, then Callisburg got 4 points before Chuck Hinds hit a 3-pointer for a 33-27 score with 2:46 on the clock. The Cats came back with a 3, then a Creed basket and a 3

the Knights rebounded with Mitch Creed hitting a 3-pointer to close the score to 54-50 with 9.2 seconds remaining. An intentional foul was called against Lindsay, with the Cats missing both shots. Callisburg inbounded and was fouled again with 3.7 seconds on the clock. Both throws went in the basket for a 56-50 score. A last second shot by Lindsay was unsuccessful as the buzzer sounded.

The following is tournament information submitted to the Enterprise from the coaches.

#### Tigerettes 58 Nocona 46

The Tigerettes faced the Lady Indians in their first tournament game. The scoring was evenly matched the first half, with Sacred Heart having only a 1 point lead. "Courtney hit two 3s and Jayna took over the boards to lead us over Nocona," Coach LeBrasseur noted as the Tigerettes outscored Nocona 33-22 the second half for the win.

Biffle dropped in 17 points and pulled down 13 rebounds to lead Sacred Heart on the boards. R. Bauer added 10 points, J. Bauer 8, and 6 each by Gehrig and Hartman. Wimmer and Farrell both scored 3, with Callahan and Jennifer Hoedebeck getting 2 apiece, and Truébenbach 1 point.

SH 9 16 16 17 58  
N 8 16 12 10 46

#### Tigerettes 57 Era 42

Friday, Sacred Heart handed Era a defeat and advanced to the championship round. "We did a much better job running our offense," noted Coach LeBrasseur.

The teams had an early low-scoring first quarter with Era hitting 9 free throws to stay in the game, trailing by 2 at half-time. "Whitney Wimmer hit a 3 and then a steal to push our

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# Sacred Heart gets Pre-Christmas victories

The Tigerettes and Tigers both brought home victories from Slidell before Christmas break.

The Tigerettes outscored the Lady Hounds 64-38 to improve their undefeated season record to 13-0. "I like where this team (Sacred Heart) is at. We show signs of being a very good basketball team and hopefully after the holidays we will get back into the gym and work on some of our weaknesses," commented Coach Jon LeBrasseur.

Jayna Biffle led all scorers with 18 points, Raney Bauer added 11, with Jana Truebenbach scoring 9. Mary Jane Callahan dropped in 8 points and pulled down 11 rebounds.

Karen Gehrig also scored 8 and had four assists. Whitney Wimmer put 6 points on the board, and Maggie Farrell 4.

SH	16	9	24	15	64
S	12	5	10	11	38

Jack Biffle led the Tigers to an exciting 52-51 win by scoring 20 points. The teams were tied 41-41 going into the final quarter. Two 3-pointers by Biffle assisted in edging past the Greyhounds on the scoreboard.

Marty Farrell scored 16 points for the Tigers, with Chris Fuhrmann adding 6, Jared Zimmerer 5, 2 each by Clayton Truebenbach and Chris Hoedebeck, and 1 point by Clint Fuhrmann.

SH	13	12	16	11	52
S	11	15	15	10	51



Muenster Gymnast participated at a meet in Sherman recently. Winning trophies were, from left front, Michelle Sicking, Brooke Hess, Kristen Miller, Paige Hennigan, Chelsea Lieneer, Hayley Hess, Natalie Valliere, Paige Herr, Olivia Haverkamp; back, Jessica Knabe (coach's helper), Sydney Hoedebeck, Kate Weger, Dalana Sicking, Amanda Dangelmayr, Rose Henschel (coach). Courtesy photo

## Muenster's Lady Hornets get 40 point win over Saint Jo

Muenster's Lady Hornets took home a big victory Friday, Dec. 27 with a 71-31 win over the Lady Panthers of Saint Jo. Muenster jumped into an early lead and never looked back.

Jami Gerstberger was the game's high scorer, hitting seven 3-pointers for 21 points. Brooke Endres added 12 points, with Melinda Walterscheid and JoAnna Felderhoff each scoring 10. Robyn Hermes put in 7, Lisa Felderhoff 6, Amanda Felderhoff 3, and Megan Lippe 2. Stephanie Cook and Candice McCrary were leading pointmakers for Saint Jo with 10 and 9 points.

The Lady Hornets will begin district action tonight, Friday, Jan. 3, at Lindsay.

M	18	19	18	16	71
SJ	6	7	10	8	31

## CLASSIC, continued from pg. 8

Hoedebeck 2. Gehrig also pulled down nine rebounds, took five steals, and had four assists. Sacred Heart hit 25 of 41 free throws.

SH	7	13	17	20	57
E	6	12	11	13	42

**Tigers 54 Nocona 35**

Twenty Tiger points in the 2nd quarter gave Sacred Heart a 10 point half-time lead in their opening tournament contest. Three Tigers scored in the double digits. Jack Biffle put in 17 points, Marty Farrell 14, and Chris Hoedebeck 12. Chris and Clint Fuhrmann each added 4, and Clayton Truebenbach 3. The Tigers dropped in 11 of 15 free throws against the Indians.

SH	6	20	11	17	54
N	8	8	4	15	35

**Tigers 30 Callisburg 55**

In round two, Sacred Heart had trouble finding the basket with three low-scoring quarters that got

them behind the Wildcats 21 points going into the final period. Biffle scored 9 points in this game, with Farrell adding 7, Hoedebeck 6, and 2 apiece by Clint Fuhrmann, Zach Barnhill, Truebenbach, and Zimmerer.

SH	2	6	8	14	30
C	15	13	9	18	55

**Tigers 72 Slidell 54**

Sacred Heart was awarded the 3rd place trophy after defeating the Greyhounds Saturday afternoon. Farrell scored 24 points to be the game's leading point maker. Hoedebeck added 15 and Zimmerer 12, scoring double digits. Clint Fuhrmann and Biffle each added 9, Truebenbach 2, and Daniel Bartush 1. The Tigers dropped in 18 of 30 free throws.

SH	18	12	18	24	72
S	11	11	10	22	54



The Sacred Heart Tigerettes - champions of the 2002 KGAF-NCTC Holiday Classic. Photo by Janie Hartman

### GAME WARDEN NOTES

"Just the facts, Ma'am..." -- A Shelby County game warden received a call concerning a young man who had shot at a doe in his yard. The caller said the shooting was much too close to their home and said the shooter needed some guidance. When the warden asked the caller how old this person was, she said, "I'm not sure, but he is old enough to have tattoos all over him." The 18-year-old violator was charged with discharging a firearm across a public roadway and not having a Hunter Safety Certification.



Winners of the Classic Tournament were, above left, Lindsay Lady Knights, runner-up; above right, 2nd place Lindsay Knights; at left, 3rd place finisher, Sacred Heart Tigers; and below left, Callisburg Wildcats, boys' champions. Photos by Janie Hartman



## Junior Varsity Action

**Sacred Heart 43 Slidell 30**  
The Tigerettes improved their record to 8-1 in a Dec. 19 victory. Coach Jon LeBrasseur noted that Melissa Thomas and Hannah Hess both played nice games. "Their defense was outstanding," Katie Flusche and Shannon Hartman were high scorers with 12 and 11 points. Nicole Bayer added 9, with Lisa Endres and Hess each getting 3, Thomas and Joelle Fuhrmann 2

apiece, and Brittany White 1.  
**Sacred Heart 57 Slidell 33**  
The JV Tigers took a big win over Slidell behind the power shooting of Paul Bartush, who scored 28 points in the contest. Wes Wimmer added 10, Adam Taylor 8, and Andy Davis 6. Stephen LaChance and Timmy Otto each scored 2, and Mark Gehrig 1.  
SH 16 16 11 14 57  
S 14 6 6 7 33

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**SCIENCE** ..... cont from pg 7

One goal of the National Science Foundation grant plan focuses on creating a virtual educator-to-educator training center across the consortium, incorporating information from the National Workforce Center for Emerging Technologies. These will provide technology training to community college and high school faculty.

Another goal of the grant will focus on cooperative development of technology curricula that will provide students multiple routes to pursue their degrees. Through the grant program, the colleges will work with selected school districts and universities to build solid articulation (transfer) agreements for IT-related associate's degrees. The grant will also have a component extending education opportunities to underserved populations and groups not traditionally represented in math, science and technology careers.

Specific fund uses at NCTC will include enhancing the NCTC computer and electronics labs and professional development for instructors, said Robeson.

COCCD's Convergence Lab, the first of its kind at a

Texas community college, also made its public debut Tuesday. It features state-of-the-art Wide Area Network (WAN) hardware and software from a variety of manufacturers, giving students an unparalleled opportunity to learn how to integrate different technologies and solve real-world problems. NCTC and other consortium partners will have remote access to the lab so students can gain hands-on experience with technologies such as optics, wireless, voice-over IP, security and general computer networking from multiple vendors. The NSF grant will fund equipment that enables remote access to the Convergence Lab. This is the second grant that the consortium has received from the National Science Foundation. A previous grant was awarded in 1999. The consortium also plans to add an additional community college district to the group during the second year of the grant.

For more information about the North Texas Regional Technology Consortium or the National Science Foundation, contact Helen Sullivan at 972.377.1648 or NTRTC@cccdd.edu.

Submitted by Eric Williams

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 Auditions for Sandy, the dog, are open!!! Sacred Heart's Musical Theater Department will present Annie this Spring and we are searching for the right dog to play Sandy. If you think you have the pet who could make a good stage dog, contact Pam Fette at 759-2894 for more information.

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**Legal Notices**  
 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Tony Stephen Rohmer, Deceased, were issued on December 23, 2002, in Cause No. 15551, pending in the County Court of Cooke County, Texas, to: Marjorie Ann Rohmer. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
 J/O: Chuck Bartush Jr. P.C.  
 Attorney at Law  
 P.O. Box 68  
 Muenster, TX 76252.

DATED the 23rd day of December, 2002.  
 J/O: Chuck Bartush Jr. P.C.  
 Attorney for Estate  
 State Bar No.: 01865000  
 P.O. Box 68  
 Muenster, Texas 76252.  
 Telephone: (940) 759-2913  
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Reviewed bids submitted for diesel fuel and gasoline for 2003 from S&J Oil and Douglass Distributing. Approved Douglass bids, which were the lowest.  
 Approved purchase of Dictaphone System for Cooke County Sheriff's office at a cost of \$16,249.00. Amended Sheriff's budget by \$11,711.00 out of fund balance to allow outright purchase and save expense of paying interest. New system allows for immediate playback to check for address accuracy, etc.

## COMMISSIONERS continued from pg. 1

Interjurisdictional Emergency Management Plan with Callisburg.  
 Approved request by Temple Construction to install a fresh water line across County Road 136, approximately 100 feet west of FM 678 and across CR 136, approximately 1/2 mile west of FM 678 in Precinct #1.  
 Approved \$589.00 purchase of a chair for John Morris for use in the County Court At Law Judge's office. Judge Bill Harris had his own furniture. Morris will bring some of his own furniture.  
 Accepted low bid of \$4,600.00 from Davco Co. Roofing to repair roof of Juvenile Probation Building. Others submitting bids were C & S Roofing and Cooke County Roofing.

## THC celebrates 50th Anniversary in 2003

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is celebrating 50 years of serving as the state agency for historical preservation in 2003, and Gainesville is a key part of the celebration. A set of banners commemorating 50 years of preserving Texas heritage will fly proudly on the Cooke County Courthouse square and throughout the downtown area. These special banners will be displayed prominently in communities across Texas throughout the year.  
 "Preservation is a cooperative effort," said THC Executive Director Larry Oaks. "Communities with the vision to preserve their historic resources create new jobs, revitalize downtowns and increase heritages tourism. Preservation of its past is important to a community's future."  
 Gainesville Mayor Kenneth Kaden and Cooke County

Judge Bill Freeman agreed that, "the rich history of Cooke County and the City of Gainesville is the fabric that binds the community together and provides the strength and vision to embrace the future."  
 Restoration of county courthouses, more than 12,000 historical marker dedications, conservation of French explorer Robert Cavalier Sieur de La Salle's ship the Belle and the Texas Main Street Program are examples of some of the many successful and exciting projects the THC has initiated since its inception in 1953. The THC believes the past is the key to strong future communities, and looks forward to serving as the state agency for historic preservation for 50 more years and beyond. For more information about THC programs and initiatives, visit the THC web site at [www.thc.state.tx.us](http://www.thc.state.tx.us).

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 Jack Schapp, Certified General Real Estate Appraiser, Broker and Auctioneer

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## UNITED WAY ... cont from pg 4

and Muenster Youth Council. Southwestern Diabetic Foundation - has camps for not only Cooke County children, but also from around the country. They never turn a child away because of financial hardship, but will work with them through insurance and/or scholarships.  
 American Red Cross - Not only do they respond to national disasters, but respond local as well. ARC is there to assist with the immediate needs of those affected by fire, tornadoes, and floods. They also come to the call of the area emergency workers by supplying nourishment and water for firefighters while they fight fires. Nourishment to local police and emergency personnel during stakeouts/standoffs or during times where they will be on scene for long periods as in major car accidents or chemical spills.  
 ARC has many classes available, open to the community and workplace, to teach Adult/Child/Infant CPR and first aid. They also instruct a class on the use of the AED (automated external defibrillator).  
 They have begun an American Red Cross Youth Corps division, which trains area youth to respond, alongside the adult volunteers, with CPR/First Aid and Disaster Relief efforts. They have responded to local fires and ran a canteen for the emergency workers. They have been a tremendous asset.  
 This is such a brief synopsis of what these 17 wonderful agencies do with your "donated dollar." I would encourage you to take some time and speak to these wonderful, caring people and find out all about the other services that they do which were too numerous to list here. Each agency is ALWAYS in need of volunteers (which in turn make their donations go further). So even if your budget is tight, a couple of hours a week will be very valuable.  
 So when you wonder where your money goes when that Cooke County United Way representative shows up asking you to give, or when your employer sponsors a "fund drive" asking its employees to give, remember that it goes a long way. Don't see it as a "have to" thing, but as a worthwhile effort, by members of our community, to lend that helping hand to our neighbors and loved ones that may need a boost to get over some tough times. It's never too late to give. As this year's slogan suggests, "It's you, It's me, It's all of us" helping one another.  
 One Local Agency assisting 16 agencies assisting Cooke County residents with their daily and long term needs - now that is a "trickle down" effect that we can all live with.

Submitted by Carla Rickert

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# Farm & Ranch

## Food Prices rise in fourth quarter

Following two quarters of significant drops, retail prices for food at the supermarket rose in the fourth quarter, according to the latest American Farm Bureau Federation Marketbasket Survey. The informal survey on the total cost of 16 basic grocery items showed an increase of 71 cents from this year's third quarter survey.

The \$35.69 average paid by volunteer shoppers for the 16 items, although higher than the second and third quarter averages, is actually down 33 cents from the first quarter survey average of \$36.02. While survey averages have fluctuated in 2002, food remains affordable overall. Since its inception in 1989, the AFBF Marketbasket Survey average has increased at a rate lower than other cost of living increases.

"Yes, food prices rose in the fourth quarter, but I think the key is that the average is still below first quarter levels," said AFBF Senior Economist John Skorbjurg. "Essentially that means food prices have remained flat to lower over the four quarters of 2002."

Of the 16 items surveyed, 11 increased, three decreased and two were unchanged in average price compared to the 2002 third quarter survey.

Sirloin tip roast showed the largest increase, up 27 cents to \$3.12 per pound, followed closely by corn oil, up 21 cents to \$2.39 per 32-ounce bottle. After falling 21 cents per pound in the third quarter, cheddar cheese rose 21 cents, back to \$3.45 per pound.

Other items that increased in price included:

- \* Oat cereal, up 15 cents to \$3.00 per 10-ounce box
- \* Bacon, up 14 cents to \$2.88 per pound
- \* Whole fryers, up 12 cents to \$1.05 per pound
- \* Vegetable oil, up 11 cents to \$2.20 per 32-ounce bottle
- \* Eggs, up 7 cents to \$1.12 per dozen
- \* Mayonnaise, up 6 cents to \$3.00 per 32-ounce jar
- \* Ground chuck, up 6 cents to \$2.09 per pound
- \* Whole milk, up 6 cents to \$2.81 per gallon

After being the largest gainer in price in the third quarter, russet potatoes plummeted 61 cents in the fourth quarter to \$2.02 per 5-pound bag.

"Although potato prices remain volatile, they now appear to be a solid value for the holiday season," Skorbjurg said. "In addition, the price shift signals that the potato price increases in the early part of the year due to tight supplies may be lessening."

Two other items marked decreases in average price including all-purpose flour, down 10 cents to \$1.35 per 5-pound bag; and pork chops, down 4 cents to \$3 per pound.

The remaining two items, red delicious apples at 99 cents per pound and white bread at \$1.22 per 20-ounce loaf, experienced no change from the third-quarter survey results.

Despite steady increases in grocery store average prices over time, the share of the average food dollar

received by America's farm and ranch families has actually dropped. According to the most recent Agriculture Department statistics, America's farmers and ranchers receive merely 19 cents out of every dollar spent for food, down from 31 cents in 1980. Using that across-the-board percentage, the farmer's share of this quarter's Marketbasket average total would be about \$6.78.

AFBF, the nation's largest general farm organization, conducts its informal quarterly Marketbasket Survey as a tool to reflect retail food price trends. A total of 97 volunteer shoppers in 29 states participated in this latest survey, conducted in November.

## TDA secures specific exemption for use of Tilt to control ergot on grain sorghum

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that the Texas Department of Agriculture has been granted approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to issue a Section 18 specific exemption to use Tilt fungicide (propiconazole) to control sorghum ergot on grain sorghum. The specific exemption allows the use of Tilt now through Dec. 14, 2003.

The specific exemption for Tilt applies to all grain sorghum-producing counties in Texas. All applicable directions, restrictions and precautions on the EPA-registered product label for Tilt fungicide, as well as restrictions within the EPA approval notice, must be followed.

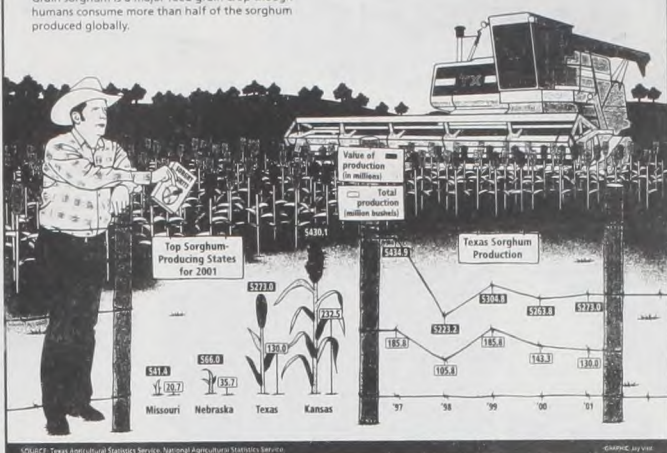
For more information, contact your county Texas Cooperative Extension office or TDA at 512-463-7407. A copy of the EPA Approval Notice is available on TDA's web page ([www.agr.state.tx.us/pesticide/exemptions/pes\\_tilt03.htm](http://www.agr.state.tx.us/pesticide/exemptions/pes_tilt03.htm)).

## Sweet Sorghum

Many people may not know exactly what sorghum is, yet the grain is grown on nearly 10,000 farms in Texas. Texas' 2001 crop was valued at more than \$270 million, about a quarter of the U.S. total. Grain sorghum is a major feed grain crop though humans consume more than half of the sorghum produced globally.

### Texas at a Glance

Texans can find sorghum in everything from tortilla chips to breakfast grits, and from cereal to beer. Sorghum is also used in livestock and fish feed, molasses and even sheetrock.



## Administration drafts new diesel rules

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of Management and Budget are drafting rules to reduce emissions from diesel-powered equipment such as tractors, irrigation machinery and bulldozers. The proposed rules reportedly would cut off-road diesel emissions by as much as 95 percent.

The rules would make

engine manufacturers install devices that would reduce exhaust gases, increasing the operating costs for those manufacturers and purchasers of off-road diesel equipment. "This is going to impose some cost on the industry and consumers, but these regulations are going to give us enormous benefits that will far

outweigh those costs," said EPA Administrator Christine Whitman.

"What we've seen preliminarily is that there will be a whole lot of costs for us and very uncertain benefits in terms of improving air quality," said American Farm Bureau Federation lobbyist Rebeckah Freeman.

## Texas Farm Bureau delegates address water, energy issues at annual meeting

As the Lone Star State's population continues to grow and water supplies continue to shrink, Texas Farm Bureau delegates took a hard look at this precious natural resource at their 69th annual meeting.

Continuing to recognize that Farm Bureau policy needs to move beyond the all-inclusive rule of capture to address realities such as water marketing and potential water shortages, delegates favored a number of changes in both ground water and surface water policy. Recommendations adopted at the state level became policy for the organization to follow in the coming year.

In addressing water marketing and the potential impact on those in an area who choose not to market their water, and continuing opposition to any state control of groundwater, delegates recommended that groundwater conservation districts be allowed to set unrestricted fees on water leaving their district. They also supported a requirement for districts to assess a mitigation fee on high impact municipal or industrial users, and suggested districts use revenues from this fee to mitigate any damage to landowners.

Delegates opposed legislation resulting in unfunded mandates for conservation measures for historic water use, and supported legislation requiring any new appropriations or any new water permits be subject to conservation requirements. "Municipalities and water utilities that have taxing authority or collect fees for water, should be required to impose water conservation measures," delegates said, noting that both urban and rural areas should be responsible for wise water use.

In the area of eminent domain, delegates strongly supported enactment of legislation requiring that

landowners be compensated for the value of natural resources if the property is being condemned to acquire those natural resources, including groundwater. Addressing surface water, delegates opposed condemnation of surface water rights except for "domestic, essential municipal or livestock use necessary to sustain life."

In the ongoing Rio Grande Valley water crisis, where Mexico has failed to deliver water to Rio Grande reservoirs as specified in the 1944 water treaty between the U.S. and Mexico, delegates reaffirmed their support for Texas and U.S. government efforts to solve the crisis. They supported federal and state programs designed to help Texas agribusiness as a result of Mexico's treaty non-compliance, and supported financing of improvements for water delivery systems along the Rio Grande River. They also opposed efforts to amend reclamation laws that would negatively affect the priority of water allocation for agricultural use and would reduce the U.S. Secretary of Interior's authority to direct water usage.

In other action, in an effort to help Texas and the U.S. develop alternative energy sources, delegates supported the creation of a renewable fuel producer assessment fund, financed by an assessment on each gallon of ethanol or biodiesel produced. The resolution suggested that this fund be matched with funds from the State of Texas fuel, ethanol and biodiesel production account, overseen and administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

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Steers: 300-400 lbs. \$95 to \$110;  
400-500 lbs. \$85 to \$95;  
500-600 lbs. \$78 to \$85;  
600-700 lbs. \$76 to \$82;  
700-800 lbs. \$75 to \$79.50;  
Heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$90 to \$100;  
400-500 lbs. \$82 to \$90;  
500-600 lbs. \$75 to \$82.50;  
600-700 lbs. \$72 to \$77.50;  
700-800 lbs. \$70 to \$74.50  
Packer Cows: Utility Boning, \$36 to \$40; Canner/Cutter, \$28 to \$34.50;  
Bulls, \$42 to \$52  
Bred Cows: Choice, \$700 to \$775;  
Med.-Good, \$600 to \$700;  
Med.-Poor, \$400 to \$500;  
Cow-Calf Pairs Choice, \$750-\$825;  
Medium-Good, \$600-\$700;  
Medium-Poor, \$500 to \$600

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Feeder Steers (per lb.) Nos. 2 & 3, 75-88; 300-400 lbs. No. 1, 84-94; Nos. 24-32, 105-117; Nos. 2 & 3, 90-105; 300-400 lbs. No. 1, lbs.; No. 1, 83-90; Nos. 2, 96-107; Nos. 2 & 3, 85-96; 400-500 lbs. No. 1, 91-105; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-91; 500-600 lbs. No. 1, 84-84; Nos. 2 & 3, 60-74; 700-800 lbs. No. 1, 66-82; under 250 lbs. - Large Frame, \$675-\$875; Slaughter Cattle (per lb.) Medium Frame, \$500-800 lbs. No. 1, 73-79; Slaughter Bulls: Yield \$675; Grade 1-2, 1,200-2,050 lbs., 42-55 Slaughter \$20-\$55; Crossbreds, \$80-170.  
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PREFERRED TRIM  
BONELESS BEEF

**Rump  
Roast**

LB. **\$2**

BONELESS - SKINLESS  
**Chicken Breast** LB.

**\$1.40**

Fischer's  
1/2 - 1/2  
FULLY COOKED  
**Sausage** LB.

**\$2.20**

MARKET SLICED  
**Pressed Ham** LB.

**\$1.50**

WRIGHT MINI-PIT HALVES  
**Ham** LB.

**\$2.00**

FAMILY PACK (PREVIOUSLY FROZEN)  
**Split Fryer Breast** LB.

**80¢**

**Spiral 1/2 Hams** LB.

**\$1.90**

PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF  
**Top Sirloin Steak** LB.

**\$2.50**

ECKRICH ASSTD. FUN KIT 10.6-12.2 OZ.  
**LunchMakers** 2 FOR

**\$3.00**

TENDERIZED - FISCHER'S  
**Round Steak** LB.

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WISCONSIN APPROX. 5 LB. LOAF  
**Muenster Cheese** LB.

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| BAMA Grape Jelly 32 OZ. <b>\$1.00</b>  | ASSORTED FABRIC SOFTENER Downy 64 OZ. <b>\$3.00</b>                  |
| ASSORTED SIZES Pampers 35-48 CT. <b>\$1.10</b>   | ASSORTED FABRIC SOFTENER Bounce Sheets 80 CT. <b>\$4.00</b>          |
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| FRITO-LAY ASSORTED 9 OZ. Canned Dips 2 FOR <b>\$4.00</b>   | ASSORTED Dawn Ultra 25 OZ. <b>\$2.00</b>                             |
| 12 OZ. CRISPPIX, 13.5 OZ. CINNAMON CRISPPIX, 12 OZ. SPECIAL K REG/BERRIES Kellogg's Cereal 2 FOR <b>\$4.00</b> | TREE TOP APPLE Cider or Juice 64 OZ. <b>\$2.00</b>                   |
| PRINGLES ASSORTED Potato Crisps 5.13-6 OZ. <b>\$1.00</b>   | HUNT'S ASSORTED 8 OZ. Tomato Sauce 4 FOR <b>\$1.00</b>               |

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| TOWNTALK Wheat Bread 24 OZ. <b>79¢</b>                           | DELMONTE - REGULAR OR LITE Sliced Peaches Only 15 OZ. <b>89¢</b> |
| SHURFINE ASSORTED Cake Mixes 18.25 OZ. <b>79¢</b>                | DOLE ASSORTED Pineapple 20 OZ. <b>99¢</b>                        |
| GRIFFINS Flake Coconut 14 OZ. <b>79¢</b>                         | SHURFINE Flour 5 LB. <b>79¢</b>                                  |
| SHURFINE Chocolate Chips 12 OZ. <b>99¢</b>                       | GRIFFINS Mustard 32 OZ. <b>69¢</b>                               |
| SHURFINE REGULAR OR MINI Marshmallows 10 OZ. 2 FOR <b>\$1.00</b> |  |

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| TROPICAL Kiwi Fruit 5 FOR <b>\$1.00</b>   |
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| CELLO PACK WHOLE Mushrooms 8 OZ. <b>\$1.00</b>  |
| SPICY Jalapeño Peppers LBS. <b>2 \$1</b>  |
| SALAD SIZE Avocados 3 FOR <b>\$1.00</b>   |
| RED RIPE Roma Tomatoes 10 FOR <b>\$1.00</b>   |
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| JUMBO Garlic 5 FOR <b>\$1.00</b>  |
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