

Ground broken for County's Abigail's Arms shelter



Cooke County took one step closer to the fruition of a dream last Friday as the official groundbreaking took place for Abigail's Arms shelter for abused women and children. Those present included Board members, staff, and supporters. Among those pictured participating are, from left, front - Director Kim Cook and land donors Bernice and Jess Cason. Pat Springer photo

By Pat Springer

Regina Nelson stood in the cold, damp air Dec. 9 at the site of the future shelter of Abigail's Arms and told her story of abuse and desperation. Dozens of people had gathered to witness the groundbreaking of the shelter that would support and protect women and children of physical and sexual abuse.

"Two years ago, I was in a very dangerous situation. A friend referred me to Abigail's Arms. There wasn't a safe place for me to go. Through Stephanie, a staff member at Abigail's Arms, I found out about resources available to me. My life is much different now. Abigail's Arms offers courage, counseling, and resources. Now they will be able to offer a safe place to be as well," Nelson said.

The 9,000 square foot facility located off Hwy. 82 and Aspen in Gainesville will have secure parking for clients, a playground for children, offices for 10 staff members, shelter for up to 44 women and children, client access to kitchen and dining facilities, a children's play therapy room, a community meeting room, computer lab, family room, forensic interview area, cutting edge technology and security, and will be staffed 24 hours a day,

seven days a week.

Jess and Bernice Cason, who were in attendance at the historical groundbreaking ceremony, donated the land on which the shelter will be built.

Michelle Baldwin, director of VISTO, told the gathering VISTO, in conjunction with Abigail's Arms, would administer the Pathways Program.

"The Pathways Program is designed to teach and train women to lead a life of independence," Baldwin said.

Derrell Comer, a local attorney, explained that in 1983, a telephone line was set up for women who had been victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault to call for help. From that humble beginning, the Cooke County Family Crises Center was born which has evolved into Abigail's Arms.

The name, Abigail's Arms, is taken from the story of Abigail in the Bible, 1 Samuel 25. Abigail's story showed her to be a wise woman of courage who felt called upon to risk her life in the defense and support of those who depended upon her in their vulnerability.

Director of Abigail's Arms Kim Cook said, "We will offer warmth, safety, counseling education, and children's services to the residents of

See SHELTER, pg. 2

Commissioners set rules for gas line construction across County roads

By Janet Felderhoff

Construction of a high pressure pipeline through the western part of Cooke County is imminent and it will be crossing some County roads in Precincts #3 and #4. Commissioners Court determined what stipulations they wanted placed on those crossings and drew up a contract which they approved on Monday, Dec. 12.

Precinct #4 Commissioner Leon Klement noted that the 30" line is a high pressure line and they want to be sure that it is buried deep enough so that the County crews do not accidentally damage it while doing roadwork. The contract requires that the line be bored under the County's roads that it crosses and that it be a minimum of 5' deep under the roads and right-of-ways. It also contains a \$2,500 damage clause.

Precinct #1 Commissioner Gary Hollowell stressed that the County is only allowing the pipeline to cross the County's roads that are in its path and not allowing the pipeline to follow road easements. He said, "There have been people concerned that we are allowing the pipeline to run in road right-of-ways.

That's not so."

Grayson County Health Department Director John Teel told Commissioners Court that he's only been in his new position about six months. When he started, he was instructed to reach out to the east and west neighboring counties. He was present to offer two things.

First, Teel asked Cooke County to take part in a grant application from the Susan G. Koman Foundation. Grayson County has applied for and received the breast health grant for 12 years. It allows for 400 to 500 mammograms and breast exams in Grayson County annually at reduced rates. In Cooke County, since it is population based, it is expected to provide about 200.

Commissioners approved adding Cooke County to the grant application that will be handled by Grayson County. If accepted, Cooke County residents can have their mammograms done at NTMC.

Next, Teel asked permission for the Grayson County Health Department to host a flu shot clinic in the Commissioners Courtroom on Dec. 14. The Department has 1,000 flu vaccines left

that will expire if not used in a month or two. The Court agreed. A \$15 fee would be charged.

CareFlite President Jim Swartz attended Court to ask the County to renew its membership. The cost has been \$10 per family annually. That cost is being increased to \$11 per member family. All family members living in a household are covered under a member's card.

Swartz noted that over the course of the program, CareFlite transported eight County employees or their family members for a savings of about \$35,000 to those families had they not had the CareFlite program. The County voted to renew its membership.

Anyone in Cooke County can become a CareFlite member. To join, go to CareFlite.org and fill out an application. The cost for individuals there is \$49 per one year and \$79 for two years.

Cooke County Republican Party Chairman Bob Eggleston and Democratic Chairman Ron Melugin signed a resolution between the two Parties in Cooke County to hold a joint election for the March Primaries. Commissioners Court approved the joint contract so that the two Parties can share polling places and election officials to reduce costs.

County Clerk Rebecca Lawson announced polling precincts to be consolidated

See COUNTY, pg. 4

Human remains found near Lindsay

By Janet Felderhoff

Cooke County Sheriff's Department has a mystery to unravel since the discovery of a human skull on Nov. 18. That day, a man plowing in a field along Hwy. 82 west of Lindsay uncovered a skull.

Cooke County Sheriff Mike Compton stated that they contacted Search One

Rescue who came to Cooke County and a search ensued. That search revealed a vertebra and lower jaw. This was just prior to Thanksgiving weekend. There was rain and then they conducted a more thorough search, but found no more human remains.

Cooke County Sheriff's Investigators Sgt. J. P. Patterson, Sgt. Cody Patrick, Sgt. Keith Bartlett, and Texas Ranger Rob Pettigrew located identification belonging to a missing Georgia man.

It is suspected that the remains are that of Steven Marchi of Atlanta, Georgia. The 43-year-old man's vehicle was found abandoned in the Gainesville Wal-Mart parking lot and towed by the Gainesville Police Department on Sept. 19. Marchi was not entered into the system as missing until after Sept. 19. Sheriff Compton noted that a delayed hit occurred on the missing persons search in November.

In the Wal-Mart parking lot, a person was seen on camera who is believed to be Marchi. "I don't know that we've ever confirmed with a family member or anything that is was him, but it is believed to be him," said the Sheriff.

According to Cooke County Sheriff Mike Compton, they do not yet have a positive ID and will not for some time. "We have to get the DNA description out of Georgia, and then we've got to get it compared to the skull and the other remains that we found. It will probably be six months, because the University of North Texas Anthropology Department will be doing it and it takes a long period of time to get it done."

It is unknown why Marchi would have traveled to Texas or how he would have ended up in the field west of Lindsay. "Now it's just going to be a long wait on the DNA to get back," concluded Sheriff Compton.

On Jan. 1, NCTC to be tobacco-free

North Central Texas College students returning to any NCTC campus after the holiday break will be coming back to a campus that has been declared totally "tobacco-free."

This means that the use of tobacco products of any kind—not only cigarettes, cigars, and pipes, but also "smokeless" products such as snuff and chewing tobacco—will be prohibited in all buildings and properties that are either owned, rented, or leased by the college.

The tobacco prohibition, officially effective Jan. 1, applies not only to students but also to all college employees and campus visitors.

"And the tobacco use ban applies also to the land or grounds associated with college buildings at all campus locations, as well as the college farm, Equine Center

arenas and barns, pastures, and other acreage," said Robbie Baugh, NCTC director of campus operations.

Although college parking lots are also to be tobacco-free for pedestrians, Baugh said students, staff, and visitors may use tobacco products inside parked and moving vehicles while on campus grounds as long as the vehicles are not owned or operated by NCTC. Tobacco use in college vehicles is also prohibited off campus, whether or not they are in transit.

"The College's governing Board and Administration understand that this is not a trivial or easy thing for our students and employees who use tobacco," Baugh said, "and we are trying to be as sensitive as possible to their feelings."

See NCTC, pg. 2



Nicholas Gehrig enjoyed a visit with Santa, who arrived in Muenster late last month to find out what children wanted for Christmas and if they were being good. Janie Hartman photo

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Obituaries

Gilbert Bindel 1935 - 2011

Graveside services for Gilbert J. Bindel, 76, of Gainesville were held at 3 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 15 at Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. A celebration of life led by Byron Berry was held following the graveside at 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Gilbert was born Nov. 13, 1935 to Frank and Mary Fleitman Bindel. He died Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011 at his home.

He graduated in 1954 from Sacred Heart Catholic School in Muenster. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Army. While stationed in Germany, he had the opportunity to visit many of his Fleitman relatives, which he enjoyed. After his discharge, he returned to Muenster where he joined VFW Post #6205 and was a life member. He served as commander of VFW Post #1922 from 1964-66, and was Post Quartermaster from 1977-2010. He attended Cooke County Junior College and North Texas College.

Gilbert married Joyce Rosson Berry on Dec. 26, 1964. He later moved to Gainesville and was employed by the USDA Soil Conservation Service in the administrative field where he received many Service Awards. He retired in 1984.

Survivors include his wife Joyce of Gainesville; daughter and son-in-law Denise and Martin Tamez of Marietta, Oklahoma; stepson Byron Berry of Rosston; stepdaughter Brenda Russell and husband Mike of Frisco; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; sister and brother-in-law Gertie and Arnold Wimmer of Muenster; brother and sister-in-law Harold and Betty Jean Bindel of Muenster; sister and brother-in-law Marcella and William Koerner of Pilot Point; brother and sister-in-law Leonard and Sylvia Bindel; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister Adeline Livingston; and brothers Wilfred Bindel and Gerald Bindel.

Honorary pallbearers are Donnie Koerner, Ben Bindel, Darren Bindel, Wayne Wimmer, Zach Haverkamp, Colby Berry, and Colton Berry.

Jean Park 1936 - 2011

Jean Ann Park, age 75 of Forestburg, died Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011 at 3:46 p.m. at the Life Care Hospital in Fort Worth after a battle with injuries suffered from an earlier auto accident. No services are planned at this time. Arrangements were under the direction of McCoy Funeral Home.

Born Nov. 13, 1936 in Newport, Delaware to Earl and Elsie Conway Chambers, Jean married Donald Frank Park on May 16, 1964 in Metropolis, Illinois. They moved to Forestburg in 1972 where they made their home on Pilots Loop, just a few miles east of Forestburg. Jean was truly a homemaker. As stated by her children, "Mom, you dedicated your life to your family and made us the men that we are. We are forever grateful and love you very much. Don and Bill Park." Jean was a lovely, caring lady.



Jean Park

Survivors include sons and daughter-in-law Don and Seleah Park and Bill Park, all of Forestburg; and three grandchildren.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband on March 21, 2003; parents; and brother William Wayne Chambers.

NCTC continued from pg. 1

"However, as the official policy adopted by the Board says, we are also committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all the other students, employees, and campus visitors who do not smoke or use tobacco."

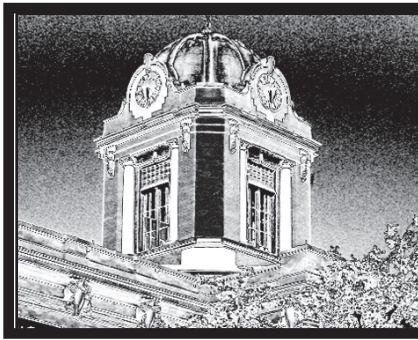
Baugh said it was in light of findings of the U.S. Surgeon General that exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke and the use of tobacco products are significant health hazards that the Board made its decision to declare all NCTC campuses tobacco-free.

He explained that the Board actually voted to institute the tobacco ban back in January, almost a year ago, allowing time for the College to make preparations, to get the word out well in advance, and to make resources available for those who might wish to stop smoking or using other tobacco products.

Baugh said the new NCTC policy is also based in part on evidence that tobacco use influences underage students, not to mention the fact that it accumulates unsightly tobacco litter that's expensive and troublesome for College custodial and maintenance personnel to keep cleaned up.

"But with all that said," he stressed, "it is definitely not the College's intent to 'preach' to people or to try to tell them how to live their lives. Our intent is solely to assure clean air for all who come to the College and to provide a safe and healthy environment for the large majority who do not use tobacco."

For more information about the NCTC tobacco-free campuses policy, interested persons may go online to www.nctc.edu/TobaccoFree or contact Robbie Baugh at 940-668-7731, extension 3338.



Cooke County working for you featuring County Court

By Janet Felderhoff

Cooke County Court At Law Judge John Morris explained that the County Court is a general jurisdiction court. It hears criminal cases such as criminal misdemeanors which he said although they are called civil cases, they are actually crimes, and juvenile cases of those who are between 10 and 16 years of age. The civil cases involve monetary damage of \$200,000 or less. Mental health hearings and probate cases are heard in County Court. Juries are set twice a month.

Besides Judge Morris, there is a court reporter who records all of the court proceedings, a bailiff who provides courtroom security, and a court coordinator who manages the docket, setting all cases and hearings.

According to Judge Morris, most of the people he sees in his office are those who are charged with or are involved with some sort of misdemeanor criminal activity. A common misdemeanor action is a DWI or driving while intoxicated, he said. Thefts of property under \$10,000, marijuana and certain other smaller amounts of drugs, probating a will after the death of a county resident, and establishing a guardianship would be other reasons to come to the County Court. Juvenile hearings are private and not open to the public he stated.

Judge Morris explained that until 2001, Cooke County had a constitutional county court which meant that the judge could

be either a lawyer or a layman. Most, but not all, of the county judges over the years were lawyers, he said. When the Legislature created the County Court At Law in 2001, it took all court jurisdiction away from the County Judge. The county judge now has no judicial duties although he is called the county judge, explained Judge Morris. Now the county judge for the court at law must be a lawyer who has practiced law for at least four years, be over 25 years of age, and have lived in the county for two years.

The County Courtroom is on the south side of the second floor. Both the District and County courtrooms will now have towering ceilings as did the original courthouse. People will again be

able to look down on court happenings from above.

Judge Morris remarked, "We don't have as many spectators today as we once did. A lot of people used to come in and watch hearings and trials. They don't do that anymore unless you have a specific interest. We will have room for probably 150 spectators, but rarely does our court have more than 35 or 40 people in there. It will be a lot of unused space."

Judge Morris concluded, "We're looking forward to getting over there and hope that it works very well. Each time I have a jury panel in, I ask them to come and see their new County Courtroom. Your tax money paid for it and I think you should know where the different offices are."



County Court staff, from left, back - Judge John Morris, bailiff Dudley Ivie; front - Brandy Hammond and Traci Reynolds. Janet Felderhoff photo

Fuhrmann dies

Marcus Fuhrmann of Gainesville died at the age of 87 on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011. His funeral Mass was held Wednesday, Dec. 14 at St. Peter's Church in Lindsay. The complete obituary will be in next week's *Muenster Enterprise*.

DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO Dec. 13, 1946

Mrs. Robert Knabe sustains fractured ankle in a fall at her home. Gilbert Endres, formerly a partner with his brother Urban in the earth moving contracting business, became the sole owner last week, so Urban can give full attention to his new Ford agency. Obituary: Edward "Buddy" Fetter, 43. Richard Cain writes his family that he's enjoying the school of auctioneering in Iowa. Frank "Wimpy" Kathman advertises fruit cakes from the Purity Bakery. Arnold Swirczynski joins Lou Wolf at the Hotel Barber Shop this week. New Arrival: a son to the Rufus McElreaths.

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 15, 1961

Season's worst brings ice storm and 12 degrees. Gene Hoedebeck is new fire chief.

Leonard Hartman recuperates from gallstone surgery. New Arrivals: Sandra to Jim and Frankie Hermes; Sharon to Leroy and Rosina Schmidlkofer; Rose to Thomas and Barbara Felderhoff. Jeanette Klement gets nurse's cap. Postmaster Arthur Endres urges patrons to do Christmas mailing now.

25 YEARS AGO Dec. 12, 1986

Christmas Parade a success; Santa arrives in town. Boy Scout Murlin Evans achieves Eagle Scout rank. Wilmer Walterscheid of Texas A&M University is awarded President's Meritorious Service Award. Obituaries: Mrs. Katie Fuhrmann, 83; Sr. Bernadine Bangle, 81; Rachel Fleitman, stillborn infant of Jerry and Billie Fleitman; Lillie (Mrs. C.W.) Martin, 77.

SHELTER

Cooke County.

In 2010, Abigail's Arms served 403 people affected by domestic violence. Of those, 182 were victims of family violence and 59 were victims of child sexual assault, 214 of those needed shelter. Currently those clients are transferred to shelters in Grayson or Denton counties, or, if there is no room, put up in local motels. The goal is to keep them safe and to help them rise above their situation.

theme, the Gainesville High School choir sang a moving rendition of "Rise Above the Wall," a song that speaks to the clients helped by Abigail's Arms.

Following an introduction of staff and Board members, Kim Cook invited them to pick up a shovel and ceremoniously "break ground" for the Abigail's Arms shelter.

Construction is expected

to begin in a couple of weeks with completion of the project anticipated in late summer 2012.

Every family deserves shelter from the storm. With the completion of Abigail's Arms, that shelter will be available to women like Regina Nelson, her children, and the more than 400 others help by this faith-based shelter.

Carrying on with that

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THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE
(USPS 367660) is published weekly
by The Muenster Enterprise, Inc.
Post Office Box 190,
Muenster, Texas 76252-0190
Periodicals postage paid at Muenster, Texas
76252 and additional offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE,
P.O. Box 190, Muenster, Texas 76252
ISSN:0883-2544

Muenster ENTERPRISE
Serving Muenster and Cooke County since 1936
(940)759-4311
PO Box 190
Muenster, Texas
76252
Publisher
Scott Wood
Janet Felderhoff
jfelderhoff@ntin.net
Linda Flusche
muensterenterprise@ntin.net
Janie Hartman
jfhartman@ntin.net
Alvin Hartman
Texas Press Association
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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR To list your event, call 759-4311 BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY!

Sunday, December 18, 2011	Monday, December 19, 2011	Tuesday, December 20, 2011	Wednesday, December 21, 2011	Thursday, December 22, 2011	Friday, December 23, 2011	Saturday, December 24, 2011
Muenster Museum open 1-4 pm		Library open 10am-6:30 pm MMH Board mtg. 7 pm SH Choir Christmas program	Library open 1:30-5:30 Kiwanis mtg. noon Center NO Rel. Ed class	Muenster Museum open 1-4 pm Library open 10am-6:30 pm	Muenster Museum Open 1-4 p.m	Library CLOSED
		Muenster School District	Sacred Heart Catholic School NO School	No School - Christmas Break	Christmas Break	
Sunday, December 25, 2011	Monday, December 26, 2011	Tuesday, December 27, 2011	Wednesday, December 28, 2011	Thursday, December 29, 2011	Friday, December 30, 2011	Saturday, December 31, 2011
Muenster Museum CLOSED		Library open 10am-6:30 pm	Library open 1:30 -5:30 pm Kiwanis mtg. noon, Center NO rel. Ed. Class	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm Muenster Museum open 1-4pm	Muenster Museum open -1-4 Deadline for KMB photos & hours	Library CLOSED JC Dance - New VFW Hall
		NO SCHOOL	CHRISTMAS	BREAK CONTINUES		NEW YEAR'S EVE

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LIFESTYLE

Ray Blockuses celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Ray and Betty Ann Blockus, who divide their time between Shickshinny, Pennsylvania and Muenster, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Nov. 25. They were married in St. Stanislaus R.C. Church in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania by Fr. John Barlik.

Betty Ann is the daughter of Aileen Hoenig of Muenster and the late Tony Hoenig. She is a 1958 graduate of Sacred Heart High School and

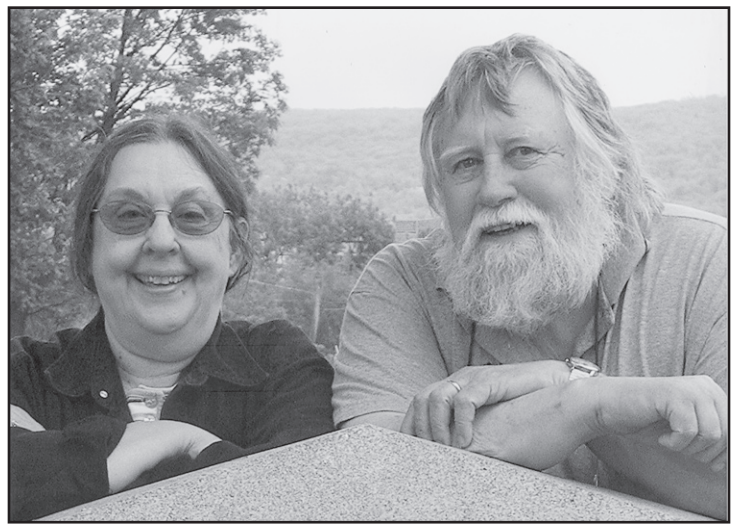
Draughton's Business College in Wichita Falls. She retired from her career as a certified professional insurance counselor in 2006. Betty Ann is a member of the Insurance Women of Wyoming Valley, Friends of the Library in Nanticoke, Willing Hands Quilters, and the Muenster Museum.

Mr. Blockus retired in 2001 after a 35-year newspaper career, having worked as a reporter, copy editor, col-

umnist, and editorial page editor for *The Times Leader* of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. On several occasions during that time, he won top honors awarded by the Associated Press and Pennsylvania Newspaper Publisher's Association. Ray, a member of the National Press Club, also is a former professor of Journalism and English at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre. Throughout the years, Ray also has authored nu-

merous children's fiction stories and articles for various magazines as a free-lance writer, two of which featured Muenster and its annual Germanfest in *Texas Highways* magazine in 2009.

The couple marked their anniversary with an extended visit to the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, where they mingled with countless whitetail deer, black bears, owls and, occasionally, human beings.



Betty Ann and Ray Blockus

Hermes and Hodge wed in Keller

Leah Marie Hermes of Fort Worth and Cody Ryan Hodge of Fort Worth were united in marriage on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011 at 10 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Keller.

The bride is the daughter of John and Diane Hermes of Lindsay, and the granddaughter of Erwin and Clara Fuhrmann of Lindsay and the late Joe and Catherine Hermes. She is a 2000 graduate of Lindsay High School and a 2004 graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington. The bride is a civil engineer with Halff Associates in Fort Worth.

Parents of the groom are David and Debbie Foster of Benbrook, and the late Vance Hodge. His grandparents are Eddie and Joyce Epley of Lago Vista, Texas, and the late Jake and Mildred Hodge. The groom graduated from Southwest High School in 2002 and is a 2007 graduate of Texas A&M University. He is a civil engineer with Halff Associates in Fort Worth.

Escorted and given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a white, strapless, taffeta, ruffled, A-line gown with beaded lace appliques on the bodice and side draped skirt. It had a chapel length train. She wore a white fingertip length, two-tiered veil with crystal-accented edge and carried a bridal bouquet of white roses.

Kimberly Hermes of Lewisville, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Rose Hermes of Lindsay, sister of the bride, and Kristen Hodge of Fort Worth, sister of the groom. Each attendant wore peacock blue short, sleeveless, cotton dresses with V-neck

and skirt pleating. They carried small bouquets of white roses similar to the bride's.

Best man was Ronnie Pletsch of LaGrange, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Brian York of Corpus Christi, and Ryan Lupo of Sugarland, both friends of the groom. Nathan Hermes of Lindsay, brother of the

bride, and Joseph Davis of Dallas, cousin of the bride, served as ushers.

Fr. James McGhee officiated the Catholic Mass. The church organist played "Air from Water Music" by Handel as the mothers were seated; "Sleepers Awake" by Bach for the attendants processional; "Canon in D"

for the bride's processional; "Ave Marie" by Schubert for the devotion to the Blessed Mother; and "Hornpipe from Water Music" as the recessional. Cara Pritchard was the vocalist.

Following the ceremony, a reception for 100 was given by the bride's parents at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Bedford. The meal was catered and served by Rohmer's Restaurant of Muenster, and was followed by a dance with music provided by DJ Stewart Turnage.

The bride's table was decorated with candles and fresh white roses, accented with peacock blue. On the entrance table were a guest book, photos of the couple, and a monogrammed candle. Family members assisted with the reception. A slide show featuring photos of Leah and Cody from birth to present played throughout the reception. Tables were decorated with white tablecloths. Chair covers were accented with peacock blue chair sashes. Blue sashes also added color to the tables, with candles and monogrammed "H" vases decorated with blue ribbon and filled with fresh white roses and greenery.

The groom's family hosted a rehearsal dinner on Friday, Oct. 28 at Cousins Bar-B-Q in Fort Worth.

Following a honeymoon in Maui, Hawaii, the couple is at home in Fort Worth.



Mr. and Mrs. Cody Ryan Hodge ... 'nee Leah Marie Hermes ...

Christmas is not a time or a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and good will, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

Calvin Coolidge

New Arrival



Gunnar Richardson Richardson
Rusty and Brandi Richardson of Muenster joyfully announce the birth of their son Gunnar Lang Richardson. Gunnar was born Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2011 at 4:03 p.m. in Presbyterian Hospital of Denton. He weighed 6 lb. 15 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Welcoming their brother to the family are siblings Landri 7, Stormi 5, and Seger 3. Proud grandparents are Herman and Shirley Grewing of Muenster and Johnny and Frances Richardson of Nocona.

Silence is a source of great strength. Lao Tzu

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Happy Birthday Ryan

Benefits offered to join the Hospital Auxiliary

Muenster Hospital Auxiliary is currently conducting its annual membership drive for 2012. Since sending out postcards brought in many dues, but many were not contacted due to unknown or incorrect addresses, it was decided to reach out through ads and a story in the *Muenster Enterprise*. Besides the satisfaction of helping patients and staff, there are a number of benefits offered to active members.

Benefits offered to active members include a reduced fee of \$10 per month to the MMH FIT Center and membership to CareFlite at \$10 per year. To be eligible for these benefits, a member must pay his or her \$10 annual dues, attend four meetings a year (two before benefits start), and assist with at least two Auxiliary projects.

Some things the Auxiliary does include decorating for various holidays, providing patient tray decorations, upkeep of flower beds and planters on Hospital patio and in front of the MMH Clinic, hosting Hospital's annual picnic, purchasing new equipment. Fundraisers include Chili Supper and Christmas Bazaar.

This is not just a women's group. Men are welcome. Some wish to support the Auxiliary by membership, but not be active. This type of member is also welcome, but not eligible for the benefits.

If you are interested in joining the MMH Auxiliary for 2012, mail you name, address, contact phone number, and email (if applicable) to Adelia Wilson, MMH Auxiliary, P.O. Box 370, Muenster, TX 76252.

Please, indicate if you wish to be active or inactive. Active members will be notified prior to meetings.

SHCS annual Christmas concert slated for Dec. 20

Sacred Heart will be presenting its annual school-wide Christmas concert on Dec. 20 beginning at 7 p.m. The concert will feature students from Montessori pre-school and elementary school, as well as the Sacred Heart Junior High and High School Choirs. It will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Muenster, and admission is free.

The elementary school will be presenting *Sing with Us the Christmas Story*, a collection of sacred holiday favorites arranged by Teresa Jennings, in a sing-a-long fashion with the reading of the Christmas story. The High School Choir will be

presenting Lloyd Larson's Advent cantata *Follow the Star, Follow the King*. It can best be described in Mr. Larson's own words, "Throughout the biblical narrative, light is a metaphor for God's goodness and great love. The scriptures that tell the Advent and Christmas story are punctuated with themes of light. *Follow the Star, Follow the King* is the journey from spiritual darkness to light, culminating in the birth of King Jesus. This cantata is a distinctive blend of scripture anticipating and celebrating the Messiah's coming, beloved carols, and original new music which capture the mystery and majesty of this season."

Don't get your tinsel in a tangle!!
Come to **Girlfriends Boutique** and get all of your shopping wrapped up!!

Shop late on Thursdays
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The way it was

By Alvin Fuhrman
The First Germanfest

The first phase of the new Germanfest Park and Pavilion are now nearing completion. I would like to tell you about Germanfest and how it started 35 years ago and expanded through the years. Many of you born after 1976 may not even know how Germanfest started and grew through the years.

The bicentennial of the United States was approaching in 1975. Gerald Ford was president of the United States and had urged towns to have special celebrations to honor the occasion. Also, new signs had just been posted on Hwy. 82 proclaiming Muenster to be the "Home of German Hospitality." The Chamber had just started up again after being inactive for a number of years with Bertha Hamric as president. The membership agreed to a weeklong celebration. Bertha appointed a committee to plan the big bicentennial celebration.

The founding committee consisted of Leonard Endres, chairman; Bertha Hamric, Jane Monday, Alvin Fuhrman, David Bright, Al Wiesman, and Lawrence Bruns.

The Bicentennial and German Week celebration was held at the new Community Center, which had just been completed. The parking lot was not paved and everyone stumbled over the rocks and gravel to walk around. A large 60 x 120 ft. tent was erected along the north side of the parking lot, running east and west. The tent was packed with local organizations sponsoring food, arts, services, and entertainment booths. Electrical problems plagued the booths serving food. There were too many cookers and not enough power.

We had a weeklong celebration, with something taking place almost every night: Wednesday night featured Opening Ceremonies and a Bicentennial Pageant at the public school;

Thursday night offered a Queen Pageant in the Community Center where Barbie Hess was chosen Queen. Pia Woodall of Irving brought her folk dance group of young girls to dance on an improvised stage on the west entrance of the Community Center. Alois Wiesman manned the information booth and supervised the guest book, a job he continued for many years. Al Walter supervised security and continued to do so for the next 10 years. Almost everyone in Muenster had a job that week.

Dan Hamric and Ronnie "Rumpy" Hess directed a 10 mile Fun Run, which started and stopped in front of the celebration on Main Street. We were amazed at the number of runners in the first Fun Run and the number of people who attended our first Germanfest.

There were also softball tournaments, horseshoe tournaments, tricycle races, skate board contests, bicycle rodeos, tug-of-war, turkey

shoot, motorcycle rodeo, arts and craft show, with plenty of German food, beer, and soft drinks.

Friday night, the first of three dances took place in the Community Center and was scheduled to feature "Cherry Rhone." But the group disbanded shortly before Germanfest, and other bands took their place.

On Saturday night, the "Polka Patriots" played. A prelude to Germanfest, each year, for the past 17 years, a bus load of the Dallas Frohsinn Singing Society members would join the Muenster Men's Choir for a concert and dance in the Community Center. Previous years, this would take place in February. Starting that year, the dance was changed to Saturday night to correspond with the Centennial celebration. The choirs held a joint concert, singing German songs separately and together. The Dallas Frohsinn Schammelkapella Band played dinner music and led the sing-along at intermission. This event was very popular and the place was packed, with some people seated in the meeting rooms of the Community Center. Tables were resold when someone would leave. The choirs also performed on the west entrance to the Community Center.

And on Sunday night, the festival closed with the Centennial Ball. Barbie Hess was Queen of the Ball and we danced to the music of the "Art Tofte Band." Everyone dressed up in their finest and the band played into the night. We were very tired by then, but we enjoyed every minute of it.

After paying all the bills the first year, the committee thought they had made \$25. When the second year came around, Edgar Dyer and the FFA boys and girls were asked to clean up the grounds again. They said they would be glad to; however, they hadn't been paid the previous year. There went the \$25 profit from the first year.

Germanfest has continued for 35 years, and next week I will tell you more about how it grew and expanded into the celebration we have today.

Baptism

Felderhoff

Clara Grace Felderhoff, daughter of Chad and Elizabeth Felderhoff, was baptized on Nov. 27 at Sacred Heart Church in Muenster. Fr. Ken Robinson presided at the Christening. Clara wore a hand-made handkerchief cap given to her mother Elizabeth by her father, and to be carried on Clara's wedding day. Her baptismal gown was worn by her father Chad and made by his mother. Godparents for the infant were Mitch and Aubree Felderhoff. Attending the baptism were Clara's parents; Godparents; maternal grandparents Norman and Margie Trout; paternal grandparents Ronnie and Sharon Felderhoff; paternal great-grandparents Raymond and Helen Metzler and Arthur Felderhoff; uncles Dustin Felderhoff and Mathew Trout and guest Jaron Henning; great-aunt Janie Metzinger; Brad and Ronda Metzler and their children Rebecca, Jessica, Colby, Cory, and Samuel were also in attendance. A celebra-

tion dinner was given by the Felderhoff grandparents at their home. A specially decorated baptismal gown cake was the centerpiece for the table. The honoree was presented with keepsakes of the occasion which were blessed by Fr. Ken after the dinner.



Clara Felderhoff

Elvis is in the building!!!



Muenster Health and Rehab stepped back in time to enjoy the amazing singing and dancing talents of rock-n-roll idol... Elvis! He'll be back to perform at their Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Pictured above, from left, Kathleen Nolan, Lauren Bayer, Kristina Krum, Paulette Reyling, Elvis (Dennis Thornbury), Mandy Silletti, Ann Darland, Heather Tidwell.

The only blind person at Christmastime is he who has not Christmas in his heart.
Helen Keller

and their polling places for the March Primary election. These included new precincts created due to new precinct lines drawn after the 2010 Census. They were all approved.

Commissioners tabled approval of election judges since not all had yet agreed to serve. Republican and Democratic party representatives will serve as co-judges for the Primary.

Precinct #2 Commissioner B.C. Lemons has in his Road & Bridge inventory an asphalt zipper purchased by the previous commissioner. He does not use it and would like to sell it. It was purchased new on a lease/purchase agreement for \$130,000 and still has \$112,000 owed on it. In order to sell the equipment, it must first be declared surplus by Commissioners Court.

County Auditor Shelly Atteberry explained that the equipment could not just be returned because that would be like allowing a voluntary repo and that would hurt the County's chances of being able to purchase through financing in the future.

Atteberry suggested surplus the item and attempting to sell it with a reserve of \$112,000. This method was decided on and the item declared surplus.

Following an executive session, the Court voted to make an exception and continue to pay the health insurance of an employee who sustained serious burns in a gas explosion at his home. They agreed to continue to pay the premiums through January 2012.

In other business conducted at the Dec. 12 meeting, Commissioners Court:

- Approved certificate of substantial completion for the County Courthouse Restoration Project.
- Approved FY2012 interlocal agreement with Noah's Ark SPCA/Humane Society. It was noted that there is a \$50 fee per animal dropped off at Noah's Ark and an \$85 adoption fee per animal.
- Approved agreement with Muenster Library for 2012.
- Approved agreement

with Denton Regional Medical Center for inmate health care services.

• Approved request by Cooke County EMS to apply for an Oklahoma Medicaid number in order to bill Oklahoma Medicaid for EMS services.

• Approved indigent burial of Marilyn McGilvray.

• Approved the surplus of a Zenith Sentry 2 television from the Cooke County Library allowing it to be sold at auction.

• Accepted a donation in the amount of \$20 to the County Library in memory of Juhree Case Davenport and William "Bill" Newton from the Cooke Cooke Republican Women.

• Accepted donations to the Cooke County Historical Commission for book publishing from North Central Texas College in the amount of \$200, from Muenster State Bank in the amount of \$500, from Landmark Bank in the amount of \$100, and from Prosperity Bank in the amount of \$100.



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November 5, 2011

Dear Patient,

According to our records, you are currently a patient of mine or have been a patient of mine within the past year. It has truly been a pleasure to have served you but, I will be leaving the Muenster Hospital District effective December 18, 2011.

This notice is being provided to you pursuant to Texas Medical Board Rules §165.5. As such, you will need to contact MMH Family Health Clinic at 940-759-2226 in order to either obtain a copy of your medical records or to arrange for a transfer of your medical records.

It has been a great privilege to serve you and your families over the past year. I also would like to encourage you and your family to continue your support for Muenster Memorial Hospital and MMH Family Health Clinic.

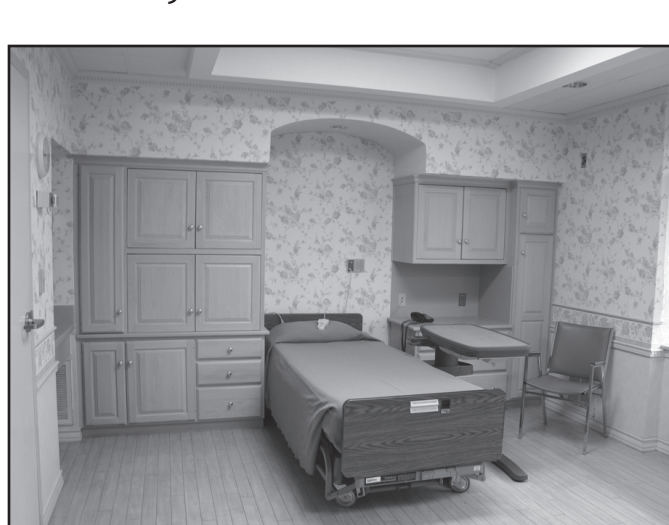
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Dr. Roa

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Muenster Junior High takes 2nd in District UIL competition

On Dec. 2, Muenster Junior High students traveled to Era to compete in the District 17-1A District Junior High UIL competition. Altogether, Muenster ISD accumulated 605.5 team points and finished second as a

team. Individual results of the meet are as follow:
7th Grade Art - 2nd Place Amy Luttmer, 3rd Place Macie Pagel, 4th Place Bailey Klement, 1st Place Team-Muenster;
8th Grade Art - 1st Place

Zane Kemp, 1st Place Alaina Reiter, 1st Place Kimber Walterscheid 1st Place Team - Muenster;
7th Grade Calculator Applications - 4th Place Brad Henscheid, 6th Place Billy Felderhoff 2nd Place

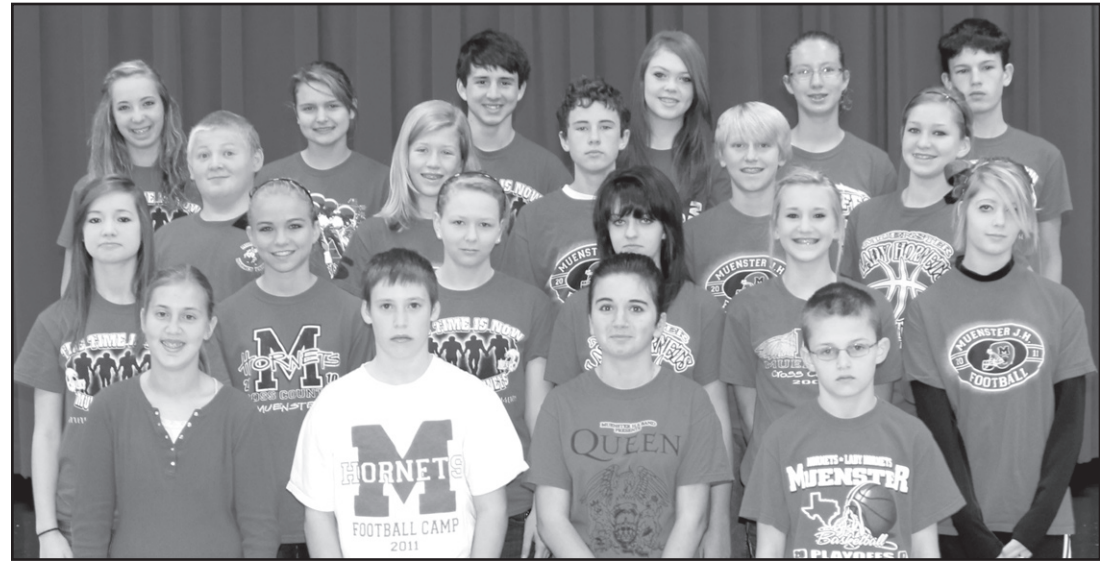
Team-Muenster;
7th Grade Dictionary Skills - 3rd Place Morgan Eldridge, 3rd Place Team-Muenster;
8th Grade Dictionary Skills - 2nd Place Kimber Walterscheid, 4th Place Reagan Weger, 2nd Place Team - Muenster;
7th Grade Editorial Writing - 2nd Place Macie Pagel, 3rd Place Morgan Eldridge, 4th Place Haiden Shook;
8th Grade Editorial Writing - 3rd Place Kimber Walterscheid;
7th Grade Impromptu Speaking - 3rd Place Haiden Shook, 6th Place Katie Kresge;
7th Grade Listening Skills - 1st Place Macie Pagel, 2nd Place Team - Muenster;
8th Grade Listening Skills - 1st Place Sammy Saucer, 3rd Place Kimber Walterscheid, 1st Place

Team - Muenster;
7th Grade Maps, Graphs & Charts - 5th Place Mark Davis;
8th Grade Maps, Graphs & Charts - 1st Place Sammy Saucer, 2nd Place Jordan Buddy, 1st Place Team-Muenster;
7th Grade Mathematics - 3rd Place Brennan Binder, 6th Place Mark Davis, 2nd Place Team - Muenster;
8th Grade Mathematics - 2nd Place Jordan Buddy, 3rd Place Mason Davis, 4th Place Kimber Walterscheid, 1st Place Team - Muenster;
7th Grade Modern Oratory - 1st Place Emma Wood, 3rd Place Macie Pagel;
8th Grade Modern Oratory - 2nd Place Russell Griffith, 5th Place Karli Mouring;
7th Grade Number Sense - 2nd Place Mark Davis, 3rd Place Brennan Binder, 2nd Place Team - Muenster;

8th Grade Number Sense - 5th Place Jordan Buddy, 3rd Place Team - Muenster;
7th Grade Oral Reading - 1st Place Devon Brinkley, 5th Place Allison Haubold, 6th Place Emma Wood;
8th Grade Oral Reading - 1st Place Karli Mouring, 5th Place Claire Schneider;
7th Grade Ready Writing - 3rd Place Macie Pagel;
8th Grade Ready Writing - 5th Place Alaina Reiter, 6th Place Reagan Weger;
8th Grade Science - 2nd Place Mahayla Bohl;
8th Grade Social Studies - 1st Place Sammy Saucer, 2nd Place Team - Muenster;
7th Grade Spelling - 1st Place Morgan Eldridge, 3rd Place Team - Muenster;
8th Grade Spelling - 6th Place Kimber Walterscheid, 3rd Place Team - Muenster;
8th Grade Chess Puzzle - 1st Place Dalton Williams.



Muenster ISD 7th graders placing in the District UIL competition were, from left, back - Bailey Klement, Mark Davis, Zina Haverkamp, Morgan Eldridge, Katlain Hogue, Katie Kresge; middle - Sawyer Sanders, Haiden Shook, Katie Hudson, Amy Luttmer, Macie Pagel; front - Bryce Herr, Allison Haubold, Brennan Binder, Emma Wood, and Mathew Porter. MISD photo



Muenster ISD 8th graders placing in the District UIL competition were, from left, back - Claire Schneider, Nicole Rains, Russell Griffith, Kimber Walterscheid, Abby Walterscheid, Trace Klement; third row - Dalton Williams, Alaina Williams, Kyle Grewing, Dylan Gressett, Katie Pagel; second row - Alison Morris, Kelsie Sicking, Jordan Buddy, Reagan Weger, Allie Walterscheid, McKenna Proffer; front - Natalie Walterscheid, Zane Kemp, Mahayla Bohl, and Sammy Saucer. MISD photo

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Students and teachers for the month of October were announced at Muenster ISD. They are, shown at left, from left, front - 7th Grader Devin Brinkley and Kindergartener Braeden Hacker; back - Elementary Principal Lou Heers, 5th/6th Grade Math Teacher Deanna Hellman, High School Science Teacher Molly Sicking, and JH/HS Principal Sharon Browning. MISD photo

Lunch Menus

WEEK OF DEC. 19 - 23
MUENSTER ISD
 No School.
LINDSAY ISD
 Mon. - Pepperoni pizza strips w/marinara sauce, fresh carrots, oranges.
 Tues. - Barbecue on a bun, pickle wedges, chips, mixed fruit.
 Wed. - Corn dog, baked beans, applesauce.
 Thurs. and Fri. - No school.
ERA ISD
 Mon. - Chicken spaghetti or fish sticks, green beans, breadstick, fruit.
 Tues. - Peanut butter and jelly apple, pickles, chips.
 Wed., Thurs., and Fri. - No school.

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Cooke County Republican Women presented awards to Americanism Essay Contest winners. Shown are, from left, above - Sacred Heart Catholic School Junior/Senior High School English Teacher Glenda Mitchell with Isaac Barnhill, 3rd place winner in the Senior Division and Morgan Swank, 2nd place winner in the Senior Division; below - Lynne Compton, RW Caring for America chairman, with Ashtyn Polk, 2nd place winner in the Junior Division, and Lindsay ISD Junior High School English Teacher Elizabeth Freeman. Courtesy photos

FCCLA visits Muenster nursing home residents

On Sunday, Dec. 4, the residents of MMH Rehabilitation Center were visited by members of the Muenster FCCLA chapter. While there, the visiting members decorated the doors of the residents with various Christmas themes. The doors were

decorated by teams and then judged by Advisor Joni Sturm and President Brooke Walterscheid. The second place door was decorated by Hannah Bayer and Adrien Rohmer and the first place door was decorated by Kendi Bayer,

Erin Hess, Shelbi Sicking, and Sydney Huchton. Other involved members included Lana Heers, Emily Hellman, Lauren Rohmer, Michelle Sicking, and Sadie Stoffels. This tradition of decorating has been repeated by the members of FCCLA for 10 years.

This is the tradition of having secret pals. Participating members give gifts to their assigned pal throughout the week while the receiver is left wondering. The secret pals were revealed at the monthly meeting on Tuesday Dec. 13.

Another service project is a canned food drive for the local pantry. Each member was asked to bring one or two cans of food to the Dec. 13 meeting.

Submitted by FCCLA VP of Public Relations Kendi Bayer



Christmas door decorations winners in the FCCLA contest were, from left, at left - 2nd place team - Hannah Bayer and Adrien Rohmer; below - 1st place team - Erin Hess, Shelbi Sicking, and Kendi Bayer. Sydney Huchton is not pictured but was part of this group. MISD photo



The man who never alters his opinion is like standing water, and breeds reptiles of the mind. ~ William Blake

Christmas gift suggestions: to your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect. Oren Arnold

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New Year's Eve (PG-13)
Fri-Thurs
11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
The Sitter (R)
Fri-Thursday
12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15
Fri & Mon-Thurs
2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15
Arthurs Christmas 2-D (PG)
Fri - Tues 12:10, 2:30, *4:50, 7:00*, 9:10*
Mission Impossible-Ghost Protocol (PG-13)
Wed 12/21 Special Viewing
12:01am
Wed & Thurs 12:30pm, 3:30, 7pm, 9:50
Girl with Dragon Tattoo (R)
Wed 12/21 Special Viewing
12:01am
Wed & Thurs 11:30am, 2:50pm, 6:10pm, 9:30pm
FRI 12-16/12-12

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SPORTS

Tigerettes win Red River Shootout

Sacred Heart hosted the Muenster Knights of Columbus Red River Shootout last week.

Five Tigerettes and two Tigers were named to the All-Tournament Team. Karli Anderle was named MVP. Mikaela Bartush, Kaitlin Hesse, Danielle Berend, and Kelsey Reeves also made the team. Tigers John Paul Hesse and Keith Metzler made the boys team.

The Tigers lost all three of their games.

DAY 1

Sacred Heart came up short against The Hill School 40-36. A.J. Miller led the scoring for the Tigers with 13 points. Hayden Schilling added 8, Austin Aldriedge 5, Isac Walterscheid and Austin Springer 4 each, and John Paul Hesse 2.

SH 8 10 7 11 36
H 6 10 11 13 40

DAY 2

The Tigers fell to Calvary 58-26. Nick Zimmerer scored 9, Springer 5, Miller 4, Aldriedge 3, Schilling 2, and 1 each by Walterscheid, Hesse, and Michael Weinzapfel.

SH 7 6 4 9 26
C 11 20 9 18 58

DAY 3

No Tigers points in the 1st quarter led to the 57-20 Sacred Heart loss to Bethesda. Low scorers were Weinzapfel 4, Springer, Schilling, Miller, and Walterscheid 3 each, and 2 apiece by Metzler and Aldriedge.

SH 0 8 3 9 20
B 12 20 8 17 57

The Tigerettes won the tournament, winning all three of their games.

DAY 1

The Tigerettes took a 58-25 victory over the Junior Varsity Lady Cats from Whitesboro. Karli Anderle led all scorers with 15 points. Peyton Reiter added 10, Karleigh Reeves 9, Bailey Walterscheid 8, Kaitlin Hesse 6, and 5 each by Mikaela Bartush and Kelsey Reeves.

SH 21 17 10 10 58
W 4 7 6 8 25

DAY 2

Anderle scored 15 points in Sacred Heart's 48-29 win over Calvary. Bartush and Devan Henry added 9 each, Hesse 6, Ka. Reeves 4, Ke.

Reeves 3, and Danielle Berend 2.

SH 8 8 14 18 48
C 6 5 4 14 29

DAY 3

The final tournament game for the Tigerettes was a lop-sided 56-17 Sacred Heart win over Bethesda. Nine girls scored points. Anderle put in 14, Hesse 10, Walterscheid and Ka. Reeves 7 each, 5 apiece by Kylie Hess and Berend, Ke. Reeves 4, and 2 each by Reiter and Bartush.

SH 14 18 19 5 56
B 0 4 4 9 17

Another victory in earlier action last week Tuesday night improved the Tigerette record to 10-2, at the cost of the team from Poolville, 56-34. Nine Sacred Heart girls

put points on the board. Anderle led with 12, Ka. Reeves added 11, Henry 9, Hesse 8, Walterscheid 6, Berend 4, and 2 each from Reiter, Bartush, and Ke. Reeves.

SH 11 21 8 15 56
P 7 7 9 11 34

Sacred Heart vs Gainesville

"This was a good test," noted Coach Jon on the Tigerettes' hard fought 54-52 loss to the Gainesville Lady Leopards. "It was an up and down game and came down to possession basketball down the stretch." Anderle led the scoring with 20 points. Bartush added 12, Ke. and Ka. Reeves both scored 6, Berend 4, and 2 apiece by Hesse and Reiter.

SH 13 21 6 12 52
G 15 12 15 12 54

JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL

Muenster vs Collinsville

The Muenster Junior High girls took three wins from Collinsville Monday. In a "B" game, Katie Kresge scored all 16 points in the Lady Stingers' 16-14 victory.

The 7th grade team took a 34-16 win over the Lady Pirates. Bailey Klement scored 14, Haiden Shook 11, Macie Pagel 6, Zina Haverkamp 3, and Amy Luttmer 1.

The 8th grade also had a big win, 32-10. Natalie Fangman led all scorers with 17 points. Katie Pagel added 6, Claire Schneider 5, and Allie Walterscheid 4.

Lindsay vs Era

The junior high Lady Knights won two of three games against Era Monday. The "white" team dominated the boards with a 33-6 victory. Myrick scored 16 points. Polk added 7, Harrison 6, and Hedrick 4.

Only two scored in Lindsay's 45-9 "black" team loss. Elizabeth Hellman put in 7 points and Sarah Otto 2.

The 8th grade girls pulled out a 26-20 win. Ali Anzaldua scored 10, Alison Gunderson 8, with Sarah Snider and Erin Early each getting 4.

Next action will be after the Christmas break.

The junior high Knights won all three games at Era Monday night.

The "grey" team won 27-5, led by Alan Richards' 10 points. Dawson Anderle added 6, Tanner DeBorde 5, and 2 each by Seth Sampson, Cohen Hunter, and Louis Krahl.

In the second game of the night, the "white" team took a 42-12 win from the Bees. Seven Lindsay boys scored. Cole Barnes and Zach Hundt led with 8 each. Luke Metzler and Reed Harrison both added 7, Yancey Otto 6, John Michael Fuhrmann 4, and 2 by Austin Schully.

The night ended with the Lindsay "black" team swatting the Bees 50-26. Andy Dieter was high scorer with 14. Blake Hoepfner added 8, John Rohmer 7, Hunter Ellender and Logan Cook 6 each, Roshan Patel 5, and 2 each by Garrett Martin and Doug Case.

MUENSTER BASKETBALL CONTINUES

From the football field to the basketball court, the Muenster Hornets played their first round-ball game last week Tuesday at Celina. The Hornets had a strong 1st quarter to hang on to the lead the majority of the game. The 3rd quarter ended with the Cats ahead by 1. The final score was Muenster 48, Celina 42.

Cole Walterscheid led the

Hornets with 15 points. Tyler Anderle added 10, Blake Grewing 9, Dalton Koelzer 7, Landon Presnall 6, and Andy Flusche 1.

M 16 7 8 17 48
C 9 8 15 10 42

Last weekend, the Lady Hornet varsity team took part in the Southern Oklahoma Classic, finishing 3rd place in the tournament.

Game one saw Muenster

fall to the team from Turner, Oklahoma 56-44. Demi Koelzer and Lana Heers each scored 10 points. Amber Walterscheid added 9, Allison Pagel 6, Emily Hellman and Michelle Sicking 4 each, and Andi Felderhoff 1.

Round two was a 67-52 victory over the Nocona Lady Indians. Koelzer led the scoring with 23 points. Heers added 14, Pagel 13, Felderhoff 10, and Walterscheid 6.

The State-ranked Lady Hornets were handed their fourth loss of the season Tuesday night in Krum, allowing the Lady Cats a 47-41 victory. Koelzer was high point maker for Muenster with 13. Pagel added 8, Heers 6, Felderhoff 5, Sicking 4, and 2 each by Hellman, Walterscheid, and Rohmer.

Lady Knights in Oklahoma Tournament

The Lindsay Lady Knights were in tournament play last weekend in the Madill Winter Classic.

Thursday, the Lady Knights defeated Kingston 54-45 in the first round of the tournament. Three Lindsay players popped in double digit scores: Megan Caillier 15, Sydney Ott 13, and Jalyn Anderle 13. Jordan Fleitman added 8, Hayley Skinner 3, and Taylor Atkins 2.

L 17 9 12 16 54
K 8 10 15 12 45

Lindsay was out-matched Friday in round two, losing to Gunter 62-31. Coach Don Neu noted that the Lady Knights played flat and the Lady Tigers are a very solid team. Caillier scored 10, Fleitman 6, Ott 5, Skinner, Hannah Zimmerer, Atkins, and Anderle 2 apiece.

The Lady Knights fell in the 3rd place game to Pilot Point 54-47. Down by 13, Lindsay battled to get within 4 and had to foul at the end. Caillier scored 15, Fleitman 13, Anderle 10, Ott 8, and Zimmerer 1.

Just a joke

A man stopped by a booming oil field to give a man a lift into town. They drove through once beautiful farmland now scarred by bulldozers and drilling rigs, cluttered with pumps and tanks. Guessing that his passenger was a farmer living in the area, the driver steered the conversation to the tall tales he had heard of quick riches for both speculators and land owners.

The local man acknowledged that many of the stories were factual. "You own a farm here?" The driver asked. "Yeah" was the reply.

"Any oil wells on it?" "Yeah, six big producers."

"What in the world are you going to do with all the money you'll be getting?" The farmer gazed for a moment across the scarred field and answered, "Why I'm gonna buy me a farm that ain't got no oil on it."

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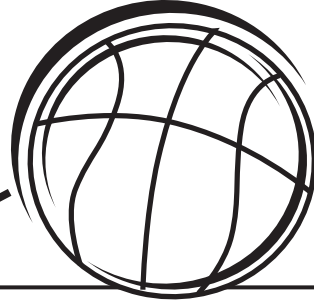
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Muenster basketball action photos by MISD Yearbook Staff



IT'S BASKETBALL TIME



Sacred Heart basketball photos by Pat Springer

Named to the Sacred Heart Red River All-Tournament Team were, above, from left - Mikaela Bartush, Kelsey Reeves, Karli Anderle, Kaitlin Hesse, and Danielle Berend. Below - Keith Metzler and John Paul Hesse.



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 Accepting sealed bids until Jan. 6 at 5 p.m. Submit all bids to Robert Miller, 227 South Hickory, Muenster, Texas 76252. Seller reserves the right to reject all bids. Call 940-759-2955 or 940-736-3225 for questions or viewing the property. Seller will pay for owner's policy of title insurance, deed, and 1/2 usual closing/escrow fees. All other costs paid by buyer.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Muenster, Texas (the "City"), will meet in the Muenster City Hall, 400 North Main, Muenster, Texas 76252 at 6:30 p.m. on the 9th day of January, 2012, to adopt an Ordinance and take such other action as may be deemed necessary to authorize the issuance of the City of Muenster, Texas Certificates of Obligation, payable from City ad valorem taxes and surplus net revenues of the waterworks and sewer system of the City, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$1,750,000, bearing interest at any rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum interest rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined within the discretion of the City Council, and maturing over a period of years not to exceed forty (40) years from the date thereof, for the purpose of evidencing the indebtedness of the City for all or any part of the cost of construction and/or equipping a new City water line, ground storage tank, pump improvements, and a new booster pump station; and the cost of professional services incurred in connection therewith.
 WITNESS MY HAND AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE CITY OF MUENSTER, TEXAS, this 5th day of December, 2011.
 Joey Anderson
 Mayor
 City of Muenster, Texas

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FARM & RANCH

Fewer cows and calves will lead to strong cattle market in 2012

A classic case of supply and demand is predicted for the cattle market in 2012, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service economist.

Declining cow numbers due to drought will lead to fewer calves, causing tighter supplies across the U.S., said Dr. David Anderson, AgriLife Extension livestock economist. "I think we will continue to maintain historically high prices," Anderson said recently at the Brock Faulkner-Brazos Valley Fall Cattleman's Clinic in Bryan.

Anderson said his 2012 target prices for 600 pound steers are \$131-\$138 per hundredweight during the first quarter, \$136-\$144 in the second quarter, \$137-\$147 in the third quarter, and \$133-\$143 in the fourth quarter.

The historic drought this year marked the biggest one-year decline in Texas cow numbers ever with more than 600,000 sold by cattle producers, Anderson said.

"What does this mean? We've got fewer cows and calves, which means higher prices," Anderson said.

Cattle on feed numbers are high, which is consistent with a drought, Anderson said. Feedlots have been "staying current," he said, selling animals to packing operations at a steady clip.

Meanwhile, slaughter steer prices hit a high of \$125 per hundredweight in April and a low of \$105 in June, Anderson

said. "They went back up to \$119 per hundredweight in October," he said.

That's likely the result of buyers making sure enough beef is in grocery stores to satisfy first-of-the-month specials, Anderson said. "Prices shoot forward, then back off as grocery outlets buy what they need, then pull back due to the economy."

Nationally, a 12% decline in 2011 in beef cow inventory is the second largest decline in history since 1934-1935 (18%), as 550,000 head of cows were sold off during that time. In 1996, a decline of approximately 400,000 cows was recorded during that drought year, Anderson said.

"In 2012, beef production is predicted to be down 4%,"

he said. The choice-select spread has choice beef selling for "huge amounts" more than select because exports are booming, Anderson said.

"We have growing demand for choice beef," he said.

Trends of consumer buying patterns indicate during the beginning of the recession in 2008, consumers were trying to "stretch their dollar by buying more hamburger," he said. "As a result, hamburger, chuck, and rounds have reached record prices."

However, there's been growing demand for steaks, Anderson said, so "perhaps the economy is not as bad as some might think since there is some willingness to buy more steaks."

Source: Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Farm dust regulations bill passes House

The House Energy and Commerce Committee passed HR 1633, the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011, with bipartisan support on a 33-16 vote.

The bill prevents the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from changing its current standard for coarse particulate matter for one year and exempts "nuisance dust" from federal regulation where such dust is already regulated under state, tribal, or local law.

"HR 1633 achieves two important goals: regulatory certainty in the short term, and common sense for rural America in the long-term. EPA would no longer be in the business of regulating rural dust except in cases where it is not already being regulated and the benefits of EPA regulation outweigh the costs," said Committee Chairman Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.)

County Agent's Report

Registering your water well is a good idea

When investigating the amount of water in the aquifers below Cooke County, the groundwater levels have declined significantly from the time that records were first kept until the now. Because of this, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) designated us as part of a Priority Groundwater Management Area beginning in 2007. The Texas Water Development Board estimated water level declines in the Trinity Aquifer for the entire area of Cooke County. The degree of decline depends on where you are located. Water levels are estimated to have dropped anywhere from 50 feet of water decline up to 800 feet of water decline. These estimations are based on well readings prior to major Barnett Shale water usage and prior to the severe drought of last summer.

In 2009, the North Texas Groundwater Conservation District was created. This was done during the 81st Legislature, under SB2497. This District has regulatory powers for groundwater in Collin, Cooke, and Denton Counties. Regulations passed by the district require all new wells to be registered and all non-exempt wells to be registered and metered before July 1, 2011.

To understand how this affects you, it is necessary to understand the term exempt and non-exempt wells. A non-exempt well is any well that is used for any purpose other than solely for domestic, livestock, or poultry, and that is capable of producing more than 25 gallons per minute (36,000 gallons per day). An exempt well is any well used for any purpose other than solely for domestic, livestock, or poultry, and that is not capable of producing 25 gallons

per minute (36,000 gallons per day).

Many county residents will fall under the category of owning an "exempt well." Still, exempt well owners are encouraged to register to help the District more effectively monitor groundwater usage and to protect the existing wells. By registering your well, the district will know where it is. They will keep this in a database and will know they need to protect it if a new well is proposed. The district is in the process of determining "setbacks" which will limit the proximity to an existing well that a new well may be drilled.

To register your well or to learn more about possible meters or fees associated with non-exempt wells, check with the North Texas Groundwater Conservation District at: <http://northtexasgcd.org/Home.html> or (855) 426-4433.

Dates to remember

Dec. 17 - 1st Annual Cooke County 4-H Christmas Classic (Jackpot Show), Callisburg Show Barn. Show starting with lambs at 9 a.m. followed by goats, then swine.

Horse slaughter ban lifted

Last month a bill that lifted the prohibition on inspection of U.S. horse-slaughter facilities was signed, effectively lifting the ban passed in 2006.

The change in policy comes after investigations, reviewed the ban on federal inspection of facilities and its unintended consequences.

Reinstating a humane, accountable, and legal management tool is good for horses, good for owners, and is good policy.

The June 2011 report by the GAO said the ban depressed prices for horses in the U.S. and led to a surge in reports of neglect and overcrowding of sanctuaries.

The ban also developed the market for Mexican slaughter facilities, where processing regulations are relaxed.

Horse meat is exported to France and countries in Asia for human consumption and also used by zoos and circuses in the U.S.

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Feeder Steers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.75-2.30; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.40-1.70; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.75-2.15; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.30-1.50; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.55-1.81; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.25-1.40; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 1.55-1.73; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.20-1.35; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 1.40-1.62; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.15-1.30; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 1.30-1.42; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.10-1.25. Feeder Heifers (per lb.) 200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.60-2.00; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.20-1.50; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.50-1.72; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.20-1.35; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.50-1.65; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.20-1.35; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 1.35-1.54; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.15-1.25; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 1.35-1.44; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.15-1.20; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 1.25-1.35; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.10.	Stocker Cows (per head) Pregnancy-tested, 3 to 9-year-olds - Large Frame: \$900-\$1100; Medium Frame: \$700-\$800. Cow/Calf Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - Large Frame: \$1200-\$1350; Medium Frame: \$900-\$1000. Baby Calves: Holstein: N/T; Cross Breeds: \$100-\$225. Barrows & Gilts (per lb.) US #1, 230-270: 75-84; US #2, 220-280: 70-75 Feeder Heifers (per lb.): 100-175 lbs.: \$70-\$140; 25-90 lbs.: \$25-\$59 Sows (per lb.) Feeder, 400 or less: 42-54; Light wt., 400-500: 42-50; Med. wt., 500-600: 42-45; Heavy wt., 600+: 42-45 Boars: (per lb.) 300 lb. up: 7.50-10.; 200-300 lbs.: 1.50-1.18 Light wt.: 35-50 Sheep (per lb.) Feeder lambs: 1.30-2.05; Light lambs: 1.50-1.85; Fat lambs: 1.40-1.50 Ewes (per lb.) Stocker: .60-.65 Thin: N/T;	Fat: NT. Bucks (per lb) Thin: -.75-.80; Fat: N.T. Barbardo (per head) Lambs: N/T; Ewes: \$45-\$125; Bucks: \$1.20-\$2.45. Goats (per head) Kids: 20-40 lbs., \$25-\$50; 30-65 lbs., \$25-\$80; 55-75 lbs., \$50-\$100. Yearlings (per head) 75-120 lbs., \$90-\$160. Nannies (per head) Stocker: \$75-\$110; Milk Type: \$30-\$65 Slaughter; \$90-\$125; Thin, \$30-\$65 Billies (per head) 120 lbs-up Breeders: \$130-\$185. Slaughter: \$120-\$150. Boer Goats (per head) 1/2 Nanny: NT; 3/4 Nanny: NT; Full Nanny: NT, 1/2 Billy: NT; 3/4 Billy: NT; Full Billy: N/T.
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