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VOLUME 78 NUMBER 25

14 PAGES

MAY 9, 2014

City increases benefits to firefighters, honors Knabe

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

Muenster's Volunteer Fire Department got a well-deserved pat on the back during Monday's regular City Council meeting. Although the Muenster VFD and its members provide service at no charge to the City and surrounding communities, the City does give some gratuities.

Mayor Joey Anderson remarked of the pensions and other gratuities being paid to members of Muenster VFD and its retirees, "When you compare that to the work that each one of those volunteer firemen provide to the City, it's immeasurable. I think the City does what they can more out of recognition of the effort that they do. But, there does come a time when you try to improve upon that."

City Administrator Stan Endres proposed that the City double what it had been paying. The amount being paid has not changed for decades - at least not since the 1960s.

Currently, the City pays each member \$1.25 per drill attended. The fire chief is paid \$22.50 per quarter or

\$90 per year. A fire department member can retire when he reaches age 56 and has at least 20 years of service. A retiree is paid \$25 per month. After his death, his spouse receives \$16.75 until her death.

Endres said that it was suggested giving the firefighters a \$20 credit on their water bills. He checked with a TML attorney in Austin and was told it would be legal to do so since that is a nominal fee.

It was proposed by Endres that any firefighter who is certified and attends at least 75% of the drills and meetings get \$20 per month credit on their water bill. "This is kind of an incentive to get them to get their certification," Endres added.

The cost to give added benefits should be about \$4,500 more than was paid last year and a loss of about \$3,600 in water revenue. He suggested making the changes effective when the new budget year starts on Oct. 1.

"I don't think it's too much," Endres commented. "It is not near paying the firemen what they are really worth, but I think it's a start."

Asked how many members



Janet Felderhoff photo

Herbie Knabe, at left, accepts a plaque of appreciation presented by Mayor Joey Anderson from the City of Muenster for his many years of service as a firefighter and fire chief with the Muenster Volunteer Fire department.

of the MVFD are certified, Herbie Knabe, former chief, responded, "Twelve or 13 are certified - very basic certification, four are intermediate and going to be master, and three are certified through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. What Texas Commission of Fire Protection means is that they have somewhere around 300 hours of training. They had to take five to six months out of their lives to go and get that training to get that certification. The rest of us have got a thousand hours or more in over the years. It adds up. That is just training."

Fire Chief Bert Walterscheid noted, "We have trouble every year getting guys to take off a week and go to fire school. I've been six times and I'm going to go back this year. It sure would be nice if we had a carrot dangling out there. We've got some guys real close to certification. They could go that week and they'd have it."

Certification also helps

See MVFD, pg. 2

FCCLA team snags first at State



MISD photo

Muenster FCCLA members, from left, Alaina Kubis, Erin Schniederjan, and Jenna Sicking pictured with their Junior Chapter Service Project Manual STAR Event first place award. It was presented at the FCCLA State Leadership Conference. See story on page 8.

Relay for Life set for Saturday in Lindsay

Cathy Krahl
Staff Writer

In Cooke County there were approximately 400 people affected by cancer as tallied in last year's Relay for Life, according to Chris Hamilton, co-chair of this year's Relay for Life. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 10 from noon to midnight at Henry Schroeder Stadium in Lindsay.

The annual event is to remember those who have died of cancer, honor those who fought the battle and survived, and to raise money for cancer research.

The opening ceremony will begin at noon with survivor

and caregiver laps. Then at 1 p.m., a free hamburger lunch for survivors and caregivers will be provided by the Dieter family.

"We have over 145 survivors registered so far this year," Hamilton said.

Throughout the day, there will be entertainment for all, including dunking booth, bounce houses, carnival games, hair coloring, face painting, group games, jazzercise, hair conation station (for locks for love), and theme laps. Team fundraisers will occur during the afternoon. Concession stands will be open all day, serving a variety of meal options and

See RELAY, pg. 2

Walterscheid honored for Board service

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

In May, Danny Walterscheid will have served 13 years on the Muenster Hospital Board of Directors. He did not sign up to run for another three-year term. When his term expires this month,

Vote this Saturday!

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

There are two contested elections in Muenster this Saturday, May 10. The Muenster ISD Board of Trustees and the Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors have slates of candidates.

Place 3 and Place 4 on the Muenster ISD Board of Trustees have terms that expire in May. Place 3 is currently held by Ben Bindel. He is opposed by Matt Sicking. Place 4 is now held by Doug Hermes and he is opposed by Brandan Walterscheid. The candidate receiving the most votes for each place will be seated on the Board.

There are four candidates running for three positions on Muenster Hospital District's Board of Directors. This is an at-large election with the three candidates who receive the most votes being seated. They will serve three-year terms beginning in May.

Seeking (re)election to the Hospital Board are incumbents Jon Reed and Don Richardson and candidates Paul Becker and Steven Fisher. Danny Walterscheid did not file for another term

See VOTE, pg. 2

his tenure on the Board will end. He began his service in 2001.

At the regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, April 22, the Board honored Walterscheid for his service. He was presented with a plaque that read, "Thank you for 13 years of commitment, dedication, and hard work."

Board President Ronnie Weinzapfel made the presentation. He stated on behalf of the Board, "Thank you for your service to the Hospital Board. Walterscheid, said, "It's been a very good experience for me. I'm the public's connection more so than anything. It's been a pleasure. I've learned a lot."

Administrator Michael Kent reported that the Hospital did not get the Texas Department of Agriculture

grant applied for to fund a new nurse call system. He presented two proposals - one for \$93,000 and the other for \$79,000.

"The current system we have has reached its end of life and there are no parts left," noted Ken of the nurse call system.

Rabid skunk bites man

Muenster Arena Animal Hospital reported Wednesday afternoon that they had received a report from the State that a skunk they had sent off for testing was positive for rabies.

The rabid skunk bit a local man at his home on County Road 495 near Muenster. He was working outside his home during daylight hours when the incident occurred. The skunk was shot and sent for testing.

Area residents are warned to get their pets vaccinated and be watchful for animals acting strangely. If bitten, seek medical attention immediately. If you do kill an animal suspected of having rabies, take precautions not to be exposed. Wear gloves if handling the dead animal and try to have as little contact as possible.

Muenster girls medal in State Golf



Scott Wood photo

Members of the Muenster Lady Hornet golf team line up to accept their State Bronze medals last week. Erin Hess is receiving her 2nd State medal at the ceremony, after finishing as the State runner-up individual golfer. Following her in line are Emma Wood, Claire Schneider, Kassie Dangelmayr, and Kimber Walterscheid. Watch for State results and photos in next week's Muenster Enterprise special tribute to the team.

MVFDcontinued from pg. 1

with the City's ISO fire rating. Fire Commissioner Pat Stelzer made a motion that the City give certified firefighters \$20 credit on each water bill if they are certified and make 75% of the drills and double what the City is now paying. That will give retirees \$50 per month, members \$2.50 per drill or meeting attended, widowed spouses \$44.75 per month, and the fire chief \$180 per year.

Mayor Anderson then said, "On that same category of not being able to give enough recognition, I want to ask Herbie to come up here." Anderson then presented Knabe with a plaque of appreciation. Knabe volunteered 49 years of service, 36 of them as fire chief, and he continues with the fire department. Anderson noted that the City really appreciated everything that Knabe has done.

With summer quickly approaching, the City Council turned its attention to street paving projects. Mayor Joey Anderson noted that there is \$183,000 set aside in this year's budget for street maintenance. He asked Endres for his recommendations on how it should be spent.

Administrator Endres said, "We paid the contractor last year \$175,000. We could probably spend four times that if we wanted to. Nearly every street in town could use some type of repair if we had the money to do it, but we don't." He selected a few streets that had been on the repairs needed list. That included Second and Third streets between Walnut and Sycamore, streets that were originally an oil and chip job that was not done properly. There are also about 13 loca-

tions that water leaks and repairs have damaged the streets and another seven or eight streets with damage caused by garbage trucks. "There are a lot of places that need to be done, but we are limited to what we can do," Endres continued.

The poor condition of an area of Seventh Street by the Cemetery was discussed. It was thought that somebody tried to blade ice off of it with a tractor during one of last Winter's ice storms, causing the damage. Endres suggested just putting a bandage on it for now. "There are several other streets around both schools that need done, but they've both got major construction going on and there will be trucks and things going in there. It would be better to wait until next year when the construction is done."

The Council approved that Endres place advertising for paving contractor bids.

In his Administrator's report, Endres noted that there were no major problems experienced during Germanfest.

The City pool will open on Saturday, May 24. There are still openings for life guards.

KMB is holding a meeting on Monday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Library. They received an additional \$50,000 from TxDOT for the walking trail on the west side of the City Park and are seeking input from the public. Endres encouraged everyone who could to attend and offer their ideas.

Randy Proffer started working for the City on April 21.

Endres told of the benefits of an electronic water meter reading system. It can be read by a wand as someone drives down the streets. It would take about four hours where the current system takes two employees two and a half days. It is also more accurate and offers several pluses. Cost is a factor, but it is on his wish list.

In other business, the City Council:

- Approved payment of bills totaling \$154,749.34.
- Heard monthly police report by Chief of Police Mark Blankenship.



Courtesy photo

Muenster Hospital Board President Ronnie Weinzapfel, at left, presents Danny Walterscheid with a plaque of appreciation for his years of service on the Muenster Hospital District Board of Directors.

2014 appraisal notices mailed for real property

If your property value increased in the last year, you have or will soon receive an appraisal notice from the Cooke County Appraisal District. The Appraisal District mailed about 17,000 real property appraisal notices on May 2. Your city, county, school district, and other local taxing units will use the Appraisal District's value to set your 2014 property taxes. Business Personal Property and Mineral Properties will be mailed later in May 2014.

Under Texas law, county appraisal districts are required to notify property owners about changes in their property's value. The notice contains important information about the property's location, ownership, and property tax exemptions, that have been applied to the property. It must also include an estimate of 2014 taxes by local taxing units.

Property owners who disagree with the appraised value of their property, the exemptions or any other action by the appraisal district have the right to appeal to the Cooke County Appraisal Review Board (ARB). The ARB is an independent pan-

el of citizens responsible for hearing and settling property owner protests. The notice of appraised value includes instructions on how and when to file a protest, a protest form, and the Comptroller's *Property Taxpayer Remedies*. The deadline for filing a protest with the ARB is June 2, 2014 or 30 days after the appraisal district mailed your notice of appraised value, whichever is later.

The Comptroller's publication, *Property Taxpayer Remedies*, explains in detail how to protest your property appraisal, what issues the ARB can consider, and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the options of taking your case to court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings, or binding arbitration if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your ARB hearing.

Property Taxpayer Remedies is available from the Cooke County Appraisal District at 201 North Dixon, Gainesville. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/.

HOSPITAL

.....continued from pg. 1

rooms are down," stressed Kent. Board member Mary Del Olmo asked what the \$20,000 difference was between the two. Kent explained the difference, but said that the Austco system, which was the less expensive of the two, was the preference of the nursing staff.

Discussion took place on remodeling the three patient rooms. John Aytes reminded the Board of the District's finances and their goal to keep enough money on hand to pay off all debts should something happen such as Obamacare leading to MMH no longer being a Critical Access Hospital.

President Weinzapfel said he felt that getting the call system was a necessity.

Kent noted, "My concern was if one of these wall units goes down, then I've got to shut down that patient room. No patients go in there because there has to be sound, there has to be light, and there has to be a way to communicate between the room with an audible tone and a visual light out in the hallway. Those are the three requirements for a nurse call system and they have to wire in. They can't be wireless."

Walterscheid remarked, "We're not even through half a year and our tax money is not." He added that it was not a certainty what the next tax coming in would be. "We haven't raised taxes in a long time either," Walterscheid continued. "Not saying that we need to or will have to, but I'm saying we haven't ever since I've been here. That's not going to be the end of the world to raise it (tax rate) a half a cent or something if we need it to maintain what we need."

After considering what else might be of major cost and need of replacement, the Board voted to approve the purchase of a nurse call system with Austco with to-

tal cost including installation not to exceed \$85,000. It was a unanimous approval.

Administrator Kent reminded the Board of the election to be held May 10.

A dress code policy for employees got the Board's stamp of approval. It was tabled at the previous meeting and the addition of casual Fridays considered. With casual Fridays added, the Board unanimously approved the new dress code policy. The purpose of the policy is to maintain and promote high standards of personal appearance, hygiene, professionalism, and contribute to employee safety in the workplace.

Each department that wears scrubs will now have a designated color to help patients and visitors distinguish one from the other.

Various departments and their designated scrub color are as follows: dietary - teal; housekeeping - red; lab - dark/hunter green; radiology - gray; house and retail pharmacy - black; and therapy - burgundy. Maintenance will wear black pants and industrial work shirts, non-clinical departments are required to wear business casual, physicians and nurse practitioners wear white lab coats with names on the outside.

Each Friday is designated as a casual day. Non-clinical staff is allowed to wear more casual and relaxed fashions within the guidelines set forth in the policy. Those who wear scrubs may wear any color on Fridays.

In other business, the Board:

- Approved David Bright Scholarship Fund match up to \$2,500.
- Approved bad debt write offs for April totaling \$44,374.68.
- On the recommendation of the Medical Staff, approved active staff privileges for Melissa Trubenbach, FNP-C.

RELAY

.....continued from pg. 1

snacks. Live entertainment will include Scotty Thurman, Southtown Rewound and Classic Recall.

At 6 p.m. will be the second chance survivor lap with dinner for survivors

and caregivers at 6:30 p.m., catered by Select Energy.

The highlight of the day, the luminaria ceremony and silent lap, begins at 9:30 p.m.

Organizers sell luminary bags for \$5 each and people put a name on the bag in memory of those they have lost or in honor of those who have fought the battle. The bags are placed around the track with candles inside. They are lit and all lights are turned off. Then participants will walk a lap in silence in their memory.

People may visit website at www.relay.org/cookecotx to register online or come by Saturday.

VOTE

.....continued from pg. 1

and will go off the Board in May.

The School Board election will be held in the Muenster Competition Gym foyer. Voters of the Muenster Hospital District who live in voting Precincts 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, and 33 will also vote at the Muenster ISD Competition

Gym. Hospital district residents in voting Precincts 12 and 14 will vote at the Era Community Center, 102 Malone Street.

Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. Remember to bring an approved form of voter ID such as your driver's license.

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Phone (940) 759-4311
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

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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR To list your event, call 759-4311 BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY!

Sunday, May 11, 2014	Monday, May 12, 2014	Tuesday, May 13, 2014	Wednesday, May 14, 2014	Thursday, May 15, 2014	Friday, May 16, 2014	Saturday, May 17, 2014
Museum Open 1-4 pm 	4-H mtg. 3:30m MMH Aux mtg. 5:30 pm KMB mtg. 7:30 pm @ Muenster Library VFW mtg. 7:30 pm	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm MISD PTO mtg. 7 pm @ Rohmer's - Officer Election SHHS Choir Spring Musical 7 pm, Comm. Center.	Library open 10 am - 5:30 pm Religious Ed Mass 7 pm (blessing for parish Sr. grads) SH Alumni Supporters-7:30 pm MISD School Board mtg. 6:30 pm	Museum open 1-4 Library open 10-6:30 	Museum open 1-4 pm	 Library open 10 am - 2:30 pm Claude Klement Benefit
Sunday, May 18, 2014 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 pm 	VFW Aux mtg. 7:30 pm M Jr Hi Awards Ceremony	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm MMH Board mtg. 7pm SHHS Awards Banquet 6 pm M Elementary Awards Ceremony	Library open 10 am - 5:30 pm Religious Ed 6:45 MMH Aux Patio Party 5:30-7	Muenster Museum 1-4 pm Library open 10-6:30 SHCS Moving Up Ceremony MHS Spring Awards Banquet	Museum open 1-4 pm SHHS Graduation SH Church 6 pm	Library open 10 - 2:30
..... Early voting for primary runoff						

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Obituaries

Merle Griffin 1934 - 2014

Memorial service for Merle Dean Griffin, age 79 of Lindsay, was held at 2 p.m., Monday, May 5 at Scott Funeral Home Chapel of Muenster, with Rev. Ken Robinson officiating. The family held a private burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Mr. Griffin died Monday, April 28, 2014 in Ardmore, OK.

The oldest of the three children of Elzia Alonzo "E.A." and Eugenia Hobbs Griffin, Merle was born Dec. 24, 1934 in Graham, OK. After serving two years in the National Guard, he joined the Air Force where he served his country for almost 10 years. During his military service, Merle met and married the love of his life, Kondilo "Lilly" Yeasemi. The two were married in a military service on Nov. 19, 1957 in Athens, Greece and again in Santa Barbara Greek Orthodox Church on May 4, 1958 in Santa Barbara, Greece. After being discharged from the service as Staff Sergeant, he and Lilly owned and operated a Dairy Queen in Marietta, OK for four years. Merle later built F-111 swingwing bombers for General Dynamics. Merle went to work for BNSF Railroad in 1971 in motorcar maintenance

and retired in 2001 after 30 years. He was a member of the Era Masonic Lodge 796 where he was a Master Mason and 32 degree Scottish Rite.

Merle was a volunteer fireman, an avid gun collector, a hunter, and a lover of the outdoors. He was also a motorcycle enthusiast and was once quoted as saying "As long as I can hold a motorcycle up, I'm going to ride it. The day I can't hold it up on my own is the day I get a third wheel." He never did get that third wheel.

Merle will be remembered as a man who dearly loved his wife of 56 years, his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as well.

Survivors are his wife Kondilo of Lindsay; daughters Karla and husband Glenn Kyle of Lindsay, Katrina and husband Mike Bartush of Muenster, and Rebecca Parmeley of Ventura, CA; son Aric and wife Jodi Griffin of Lindsay; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and five nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Judith Griffin Mitchell, brother Ronald R. Griffin, and grandson Andrew W. Redel.

John "Johnny" Morris 1933 - 2014

Johnny Wallace Morris, age 80 of Henderson, NV died April 27, 2014 due to injuries received in a car accident late last year.

He was born July 13, 1933 in Marysville to Ruby Smith Morris and RD Morris.

Johnny grew up in Muenster. At the age of 16, he began working as a roughneck in the Texas oil fields. He was drafted in 1951 and served the Army in Wiesbaden, Germany during the Korean War. After the war, he returned to the oil field.

In 1959 while working in Montana, Johnny met the love of his life. Gayle Annette Atkinson and Johnny were married Dec. 21, 1959 in Circle, MT.

Johnny's work in the oilfield as a roughneck, a superintendent, and a consultant took his family to many states and countries. The family lived in Texas, Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming, Kansas, Venezuela, Colombia, Oregon, Louisiana, Michigan, Scotland, Spain, Malta, Oklahoma, Arizona, and finally Nevada. Johnny also worked in Algeria, Iran, Malaysia, New Zealand, and the Gulf of Mexico. Johnny loved his work in the oilfield but loved his family even more. He loved and adored each of

his five grandchildren. He also loved his many nieces and nephews.

Survivors are Gayle; children Lisa Morris Mitchell of Oklahoma City, OK, Lana Morris of Oklahoma City, OK, Laura Morris of Henderson, NV, John Richard Morris of Henderson, NV, and Danee Morris Trant and Odessa Bryan Trant of Odessa, TX; five grandchildren; sister Polly Haverkamp of Gainesville; and brother Harold Morris of Washington, OK.

Preceding him in death were sisters Maxine Morris, Sedalia "Dee" McElreath, Patsy Grober, and infant twin brothers James M. Morris and Ambrose A. Morris.

A memorial service for Johnny is set for Friday, May 9 at 2 p.m. at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home in Gainesville. Pastor Bryan Trant (son-in-law) will officiate. Interment will be at a much later date in Ekalaka, MT.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests all gifts be directed to Disabled American Veterans, PO Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301 or by phone (877) 426-2838 or donate online @ www.dav.org. Please make note the honoree name: John Wallace Morris.

Republicans elect new County chairman

Keith "K.O." Orsburn has been elected as Republican County Chair at the April 28 meeting of the Republican County Executive Committee. Orsburn will complete the unexpired term of the previous chairman, Chuck Bartush, who notified the Committee of his resignation several weeks ago.

K.O. is a native of Cooke County and a graduate of Gainesville High School. He earned a degree in Political Science at Baylor University, and his law degree at South Texas College of Law. Operating a successful law practice in Denton County for many years, he became Board Certified in Criminal Law in 1999. Orsburn currently works as the Assistant County Attorney in the office of Ed Zielinski, Cooke County Attorney.

During his years in Denton County, Orsburn was very active in the Republican Party. He is a past president of the Denton County Young Republicans, and served as a Precinct Chairman and on the County Executive Committee.

K.O., his wife Jamie, and son Kade live in Lake Kiowa. For more information, contact Keith Orsburn, keith.orsburn@cookegop.com. To learn more about the Cooke County Republican Party, go to www.cookegop.com and Facebook.



Police Notes

from Muenster Chief of Police
Mark Blankenship

April 2014

Officers responded to 72 CALLS FOR SERVICE (CFS) with three INCIDENT/OFFENSE reports created. There were three ARRESTS/BOOKINGS made in April. 37 CITATIONS were issued during the month with one TRAFFIC ACCIDENT investigated by officers.

Officers were on duty 692.5 hours with patrol vehicles driven 3,365 miles.

90 DAY STATS: March - CFS 68, INCIDENTS 4, ARRESTS 3, CITATIONS 54; February - CFS 63, INCIDENTS 10, ARRESTS 1, CITATIONS 37; January - CFS 61, INCIDENTS 4, ARRESTS 2, CITATIONS 30.

The Police Department welcomes Madaline Chance as our newest Police Officer. Madaline comes to us from Lamar County where she has served as Constable as well as Deputy Sheriff. Madaline worked there with Sgt. Barr for several years.

Germanfest 2014 went off without any serious issues. The crowds were well behaved. Saturday's crowd was large both during the day and evening. Parking along U.S. Hwy. 82 and pedestrians crossing Hwy. 82 continues to be a challenge.

Seven law enforcement agencies assisted Muenster Police Department with security during the Germanfest.

When restraint and courtesy are added to strength, the latter becomes irresistible.
Mohandas Gandhi

Schinigoi memorial service set

A memorial service for Stacie Lee Campion Schinigo, age 42 of Muenster, is scheduled for 10 a.m., Saturday, May 10 at Scott Funeral Home of Muenster. Mrs. Schinigo died Tuesday, May 6 in Muenster.

Services set for Acker

Walter Acker, age 77 of Bartlesville, OK died Monday, May 5. A visitation was held at 7 p.m. at Scott Funeral Home in Muenster on Thursday, May 8. Funeral Mass was set for Friday, May 9 at 10 a.m. in Sacred Heart Catholic Church. His first marriage was in Muenster to Mary Catherine Walterscheid who preceded him in death in 1996.

NCTC approves new Ag Center

North Central Texas College will be getting a new Agriculture Center on the Gainesville campus.

At the Monday, April 21 regular meeting, NCTC Regents unanimously voted to demolish the current building which hosts agriculture, equine, and horticulture classes, and construct a new building on the same site.

The current building is in need of major repairs, according to reports, and includes upstairs space that is not usable.

After demolition, a new facility will be built at a cost of \$350,000. The new facility will include five offices, a reception area, restrooms, classroom, and horticulture lab area. This will allow the entire Agriculture department to reside in this facility. Currently, some offices and classrooms are located on other parts of the campus.

Funds for the demolition and construction of a new building will come from the current

DAYS GONE BY.....

65 YEARS AGO

May 6, 1949

Measles epidemic causes change in date for Solemn Communion. Coralee Fuhrmann is voted OLV College Favorite. Weddings: Marcella Bindel and William Koerner; Dorothy Beyer and Richard Swirczynski. Clara Mae Wiese is named local Buddy Poppy chairman. Walter Bezner takes over management of Scotty's Tavern, formerly known as Pat and Mary's.

50 YEARS AGO

May 8, 1964

Muenster voters turn out in their biggest numbers ever and show their support for Bill Pratt who is elected sheriff; of 877 Muenster votes cast, 863 were for Pratt. Wedding: Patsy Klement and Paul Klement. Ricky Bezner, age 12, breaks collar bone, result of a fall in pole vault practice. Tony Wimmer is the winner of Zone 3 Champ Award for the Upper Elm-Red Soil Conservation District. 4-H team

of Mary Ellen Endres and Dianne Gehrig wins 1st in "Vegetable Preparation and Use" at District contest and will compete at A&M University this summer.

25 YEARS AGO

May 5, 1989

Sacred Heart Tigerettes take TAPS State Track Championship. Doris Schmidkofer opens Doris' Cut and Style in the Old Theatre Mall. Texas Bankers Association honors Earl Fisher with the 50-Year Banker Award. Obituary: Mrs. Jessie L. Cole, 79. Wedding: Lorie Knabe and Donald Grewing. Henry S. Fuhrmann celebrates 90th birthday. Janet Barnhill is elected VFW Auxiliary president. Raymond and Magdalene Zimmerer to celebrate Golden Wedding.

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- St. Robert Bellarmine

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Austin College bestows awards

More than 60 students received academic awards at Austin College's 2014 Honors Convocation on April 22. The all-campus event highlights the achievements of students and faculty. Most student awards are determined by departmental faculty, and many involve research opportunities as well as financial assistance for the coming academic year. Awards in teacher education are made to those students entering graduate study through the Austin Teacher

Program.

Quinn Sicking, son of Allen and Martha Sicking of Muenster, was awarded the Erwin Smith Research Fellowship for an Outstanding Student in History. Quinn is a graduate of Sacred Heart Catholic School.

Madison Parkhill, Lindsay ISD graduate, was awarded the Emily A. Coe Memorial Scholarship for an Outstanding Student in Exercise and Sports Science. He is the son of Michael and Monica Parkhill.

Klement receives scholarship

Taylor Klement of Muenster was awarded the Rena Ball Yandell Scholarship at the 2014 Irvin School of Education reception on the Hardin-Simmons University campus on April 14.

Taylor is the daughter of Mark and Carol Klement and a 2011 graduate of Muenster ISD.

Students receiving the scholarships are preparing for careers in teaching, athletic training, sports medicine, fitness, and sports sciences.

Sign up nears for Mo-o-ving Thru' the Mud with Landon

Friends of Landon were able to write a check for \$1,334 to Hope for HH in 2013. The Friends of Landon decided after this amazing success to have more fundraiser events in 2014.

Their fundraisers began in February and continue. The Friends of Landon are very proud to announce that, thanks to your help, they will already be adding \$833.65 to this year's check for Hope for HH!

There is still time to register to Get MUDDY on May 17 at the 3rd annual Mo-o-ving Thru' the Mud with Landon at the Circle N Dairy. Registration is now \$25 for kids aged 4 - 14 years. You can register online at www.mudwithlandon.com - just click on Hope the Cow. Gates open at 9 a.m. and the start time for the mud run is 10 a.m. Registration includes lunch, all activities at Circle N Dairy until 2 p.m., plus all the mud that does not get washed off by the Lindsay Volunteer Fire Department!

Circle N dairy is located at 2074 CR 446, Gainesville. To keep up-to-date with all things MUDDY, be sure to like the event's Facebook page.

Notice

Rosston Cemetery Association

The Rosston Cemetery Association Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 10 at 10:30 a.m. at the Rosston United Methodist Church.

Lunch will follow at the Church.

Arbor Day Foundation offers tree-care booklet

The Arbor Day Foundation is offering a handy tree-care booklet designed to help people plant and care for trees. Anyone can receive Conservation Trees, a user-friendly booklet featuring illustrations, colorful photos, and easily-understood descriptions, by making a \$3 donation to the Foundation this month.

"Conservation Trees is an ideal resource for tree planters," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Taking care of existing trees is just as critical as planting new ones, and proper care ensures communities are able to fully enjoy the diverse benefits of urban forestry."

The booklet provides details about the right way to plant and prune trees. It also includes tips on using shade trees and windbreaks to save on energy costs, attract songbirds, and create a living snow fence.

To receive the Conservation Trees booklet, send a \$3 check along with your name and address to: Conservation Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or order online at arborday.org/conservationtrees.

Use proper eye protection

More than half of the 2.5 million eye injuries that occur every year happen within or around the home. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, accidental eye injury is one of the leading causes of visual impairment in the United States, yet only 35% of Americans wear protective eyewear when doing projects that could threaten their vision.

Injuries can occur from a variety of sources including power tools, yard debris,

cleaning fluids, and chemicals. Prevent Blindness America, the nation's oldest volunteer eye health and safety organization, has declared October as Home Eye Safety Awareness Month to help educate the public on steps that can be taken to avoid painful eye injuries that, in some cases, may cause permanent vision loss. A web page dedicated to home eye safety education can be found at PreventBlindness.org/eye-safety-home.

"It is so vitally important to think about our eyes and the best ways to protect them, even when we're doing work around the yard, house, or in the garage," said Hugh R. Parry, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness America. "Eye injuries can happen in a split second but can have an impact on vision for the rest of our lives."

When performing household chores, Prevent Blindness America urges everyone to wear eyewear approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The eyewear should have the "Z-87" logo stamped on the frames.

Prevent Blindness America recommends the following to help prevent eye injuries at home:

- Wear eye protection when doing automotive work, including changing the oil, jump-starting a dead battery, or even when using bungee cords to secure items

to the roof.

- Secure rugs, remove tripping hazards, and provide effective lighting and handrails to improve safety on stairs and walkways to reduce the risk of falls, especially in homes where seniors live.

- Never mix cleaning agents. Read and follow all manufacturer instructions and warning labels and always use these products in well ventilated areas.

- Wear safety glasses with side protection or dust goggles to protect against flying particles, and chemical goggles to guard against exposure to fertilizers and pesticides.

- If you wear prescription glasses, many safety glasses or goggles will fit over your regular glasses. Regular eyeglasses do not always provide enough protection, and may even cause further injury upon impact.

- Inspect and remove debris from lawns before mowing. Make sure others in the yard are wearing eye protection, as bystanders can be hit by flying debris.

- Welding or brazing requires special safety goggles or helmets. Consult your equipment instruction or supplier for the proper protection.

- After any project, make sure hands are washed thoroughly before touching the eyes or face.

Weather Whys - Derechos

Q: The severe storms that hit the Northeast recently were called derechos? What is a derecho?

A: A derecho is a severe windstorm that usually forms along a cluster of thunderstorms, explains Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "The word is derived from the Spanish word meaning direct or straight," McRoberts said. "Derechos are often formed with bow-shaped thunderstorms, but they produce strong straight-line winds up to 150 miles per hour. The storm system associated with derechos usually moves quickly, often at 50 mph and a few have been clocked at 70 mph. They can also last a long time and move through several states. So a derecho can be a very powerful storm."

Q: Where do derechos occur?

A: They can occur anywhere, but are most often seen in the Midwest and the prairie states, and they can form either in the daytime or at night, McRoberts adds. "Winds in a derecho storm have been clocked at more than 110 mph in Wisconsin and Michigan, and a derecho that occurred in Memphis in 2003 was also believed to be that strong and knocked out much of the city's power," he notes. "Derechos usually form in the summer months, so people who are outdoors are very much at risk, as are people in cars and in mobile homes. Also, there are numerous cases of people being killed or injured while in boats. A lake is certainly not a good place to be if a storm such as this occurs."

Weather Whys - a service of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&M University.

If we wish to make any progress in the service of God we must begin every day of our life with new eagerness. We must keep ourselves in the presence of God as much as possible and have no other view or end in all our actions but the divine honor.

- St. Charles Borromeo

NCTCcontinued from pg. 2

of \$4 per semester credit hour.

Currently, NCTC posts the fifth-lowest district rate among Texas community colleges, and the 12th lowest out-of-district rate.

New rates will be \$60 for in-district, \$102 for out-of-district, and \$159 for out-of-state. All three are still well below the state averages of \$77 for in-district, \$121 for out-of-district, and \$171 for out-of-state.

The additional revenue to be generated by the increase is estimated at \$740,000.

Regents also approved reducing the discounted amount of tuition and fee rates paid by dual-credit students attending high schools in NCTC's service area and to limit the number of schedule hours to which the discount is applied to six hours per semester.

NCTC will continue the current practice of waiving tuition and fees for those eligible for free/reduced lunch program.

In addition, the late registration fee, which is currently \$10, will increase to \$30. The increase will encourage earlier commitment of students to enrolling and foster the planning and preparation that is critical for student success.

Another fee that will see change is the \$75 fee accessed for students who re-enroll in courses after being dropped for non-payment. Regents agreed to reduce that fee to \$50.

Regents also approved new Lifelong Learning fees for 2014-15.

In other items, the Board approved First State Bank as the College's depository bank through 2019. They also approved the renewal of the food service contract with Great Western Dining Services and accepted the proposed 2014-15 meal rates.

Regents also approved residence hall room and meal rates for 2014-15. Each will see a small increase, the first such increase in seven years.

The Board approved a Level 1 Workforce Certificate in Welding Technology. The new certificate will take a currently-offered Continuing Education Welding program and transition the program to a credit program eligible for financial aid.

Also approved were naming procedures for NCTC facilities, 2014-15 administrative and professional contracts, the second reading of a proposed revision to Board Policy DK (Local) on Professional Development, and several new hires including James Fitch as Director of Campus Police and Emergency Management, Mayci Giambruno as Education and Employment Coach with the RITA Grant, Sheryl Givings as Testing Center Coordinator with the RITA Grant, and Christy Raines as Education and Employment Coach with the RITA Grant.

The Regents heard several reports including updates on the NCTC Honors program and the status of construction of a new Health Sciences building and an addition to the Career and Technology building. They also heard the NCTC external funding quarterly report.

All Regents were present for Monday's meeting.

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Mowers, chain saws, and high ethanol gas safety tips

It's time for homeowners to pull out their lawn and garden equipment for the season. But before firing up the lawnmower, blower, trimmer, or chain saw, there are some important safety tips users need to remember to protect themselves and their equipment.

1. Read the owner's manual. Before using any power equipment, familiarize yourself with the instructions. Know where the controls are and what they do. Follow all safety guidelines.
2. Choose the right fuel. Some gas stations now offer higher ethanol fuel blends, such as E15, E30, and E85. But using fuel blends above E10 in lawnmowers, blowers, chain saws, and other small engine equipment will

damage or destroy the product. "Look before you pump," and select the right fuel for your small engine.

3. Dress properly. Wear closed-toe shoes, long pants, and close-fitting clothing when operating outdoor power equipment.

4. Cover your eyes and ears. Use eye protection to prevent injury from flying objects. Wear earplugs to block damaging noises, but ensure that you can still hear sounds that are important.

5. Clear the area. Make sure there are no people or pets in your work zone, and remove any debris that could fly up and hit people, pets, or property.

From the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI)

Protect yourself from identity theft

More than 10 million Americans become victims of identity theft each year, as crooks steal names, Social Security or credit card numbers and use them to commit fraud or other crimes. That personal information is as good as gold to criminals and they will go to any means to get it.

It is amazing to many Americans to learn how easy it is to obtain the needed information without even breaking into a house. Thieves may use something as simple as "Dumpster Diving", rummaging through trash looking for bills or other paper with personal information on it. Or, they may try "Phishing", pretending to be financial institutions or companies while sending spam or pop-up messages to get the unsuspecting victim to reveal personal information.

The U.S. Department of Justice reports that many ID theft cases originate with "shoulder surfing," watching from a nearby location while the victim punches in a telephone calling card or credit card number or eavesdropping on a conversation as you give your credit card number over the phone to a hotel or car rental agency.

The Internet is an appealing place for criminals to obtain identifying data, such as passwords or even banking information. Many people respond to spam, unsolicited E-mail promising some benefit but asking for identifying data.

"With enough identifying information about an individual, a criminal can take over that person's identity to conduct a wide range of crimes," the Justice Department warned. "This information can be used for false applications for loans and credit cards, fraudulent withdrawals from bank accounts, or obtaining other goods or privileges which the criminal might be denied if he were to use his real name.

"To avoid becoming a victim, the Justice Department asks consumers to be stingy with personal information. "Start by adopting a 'need

to know' approach to your personal data. A person who calls you and says he's from your bank, doesn't need to know information that's already on file at the bank. Also, the more information you have printed on your personal bank checks - such as Social Security number or home telephone number, the more personal data you are handing out routinely to people who may not need that information.

"If someone you don't know calls you on the telephone offering a "major" credit card or "prize" but asks for personal data, ask them to send a written application form. If they won't do it, hang up. If they do, review it carefully.

"If travelling, have your mail held at your local post office, or ask someone you know and trust to collect and hold it until you return. Ask a neighbor to remove and hold circulars, newspapers, or other items that would indicate no one is home.

"Check your financial information regularly and look for what should be there and what shouldn't. If someone has gotten your financial data and made unauthorized debits or charges, checking your monthly statements carefully may be the quickest way to find out.

"If someone has managed to get access to your mail or other personal data and opened any credit cards in your name or taken any funds from your bank account, contact your financial institution or credit card company immediately to report these transactions and to request further action."

By taking these precautions, you can save yourself hours of sleepless nights trying to remedy the harm not only to your credit report, but to your good name and reputation.

This information is provided with the understanding that the association is not engaged in rendering specific legal, accounting, or other professional services. If specific expert assistance is required, the services of a competent, professional person should be sought.



Courtesy photo

In their first-ever competition, the Jump! Jaguar competitive cheer team won first place at the American Cheer Power Six Flags Championship on Saturday, May 3 in Arlington. From left, cheerleaders are Sara Wadkins (coach), Logan Martin, Katherine Worth, Ashley Fleitman, Jillian Martin, Harley Ford, Avery Hughes, Bayley Otto, Cheyenne Deleon, Samantha Simmons, Kacie Grewing, Holly Hobbs (coach and choreographer), Whitney Newton, Lexi Martin, Emily Davis, Prestin VanBriggle, and Tabitha Roy. The girls competed against teams from throughout the country, performing stunts, tumbling, dance, and jumps combined in a two minute routine. Owners of the gym, Courtney and Fred Hughes, are extremely proud!

Nutritional grilling feasts

There are plenty of options for cutting calories as well as substitutes for some of the more high-calorie options.

"Not everyone is going to be satisfied with the salad bowl. If you're not ready to replace your entire plate with healthy alternatives, you can still significantly cut down on calories and fats by blending your favorites with some lower-calorie options and alternatives," said Lona Sandon, a clinical nutritionist at UT Southwestern.

Be realistic, she added. Fat free does not necessarily equate to lower calorie intake and the lack of flavor of some substitutes might actually lead people to want to eat more.

Offer taco salad bowls instead of burgers, substitute lean ground turkey and beans for beef or cold cuts, offer subs with lots salad-style fixings and use less cold cuts, or grill some vegetables to help fill the plate. In addition, pay attention to how much and how many portions you're taking.

Below are some nutritional alternatives:
 Dip: Try salsas, low-fat sour cream dips, or yogurt instead of traditional chip and vegetable dips, or low-fat versions of dressing instead of traditional ranch dressing. Substitute fat-free or lower-calorie ingredients such as vegetarian-style refried beans or whole beans, sour creams, low-fat cheeses, and ground turkey to reduce calories for 7-layer dip.

Pizza: If selecting more than one slice, substitute a slice of thin crust, veggie pizza for a slice of three-meat pizza. Or make homemade pizzas substituting lean ground turkey instead of hamburger or sausage and use low-fat cheese and wheat pizza doughs.

Wings: For chicken wings, take the skin off, bake or grill instead of deep frying. Consider grilling chicken pieces instead of traditional wings. Make your own hot sauce without the butter and use low-fat versions of cream cheese, sour cream, and blue cheese or substitute plain Greek yogurt.

Nachos: Cut calories with baked tortilla chips, vegetarian refried beans, or mashed black beans, low-fat cheese, peppers and tomatoes, fat-free sour cream, and lean ground turkey or ground soy.

BBQ: Try vinegar-based sauces instead of those with high brown-sugar content. Mix chicken and beef on your plate to help lower overall calories. Offer kabobs mixed with vegetables instead of traditional steak.

Ribs: Try leaner beef ribs instead of pork ribs, which are usually fatter. Try baby back instead of normal ribs. Consider brisket instead because you're likely to eat less.

Burgers: Try using your favorite spices and rubs on veggie, turkey, or soy burgers to give similar flavor with fewer calories, or blend hamburger with ground turkey or ground soy. Try beef jerky to get the beef flavor.

Bratwurst/hot dogs: Bratwurst usually has more calories than lean hotdogs. Look for 100% beef franks. Also try turkey or soy franks. Use wheat buns or tortillas.

Weather Whys Firenado

Q: You sometimes hear of a "firenado." What is it?

A: Firenadoes are whirlwinds of flame, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "They are also called fire devils or fire whirls, and they are whirlwinds of flame that sometimes occur when intense heat and gusty wind conditions combine to form a tornado-like structure of fire. The formation is a result of the strong upward motion of very hot air, which leaves an area of lower pressure at the base of the fire. Strong winds swirl around this low pressure area and produce a core that can be 3-5 feet wide, can be 100 feet high or more, and can reach up to 2,000 degrees."

Q: Where do they occur most often?

A: They seem to appear

most often in hot and arid parts of the country, but they can occur almost anywhere there is a big wildfire, McRoberts adds. "They are frequently seen in Australia and parts of Africa on very hot days," he notes. "There appears to be very few photos of them, but we know that a large one occurred in Canberra in 2003, and it's believed a large firenado was the result of a big earthquake that hit Japan in 1923 that caused numerous fires in parts of Tokyo and eventually killed thousands. A large one is also believed to have formed in San Luis Obispo, Calif., in 1926 and killed several residents. People who have been near a firenado say the sound of it is deafening and it resembles the noise from a jet engine."

To convert somebody, go and take them by the hand and guide them.
 - St. Thomas Aquinas

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SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Vanilla Wafers 12 OZ. BOX \$1.69

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Ginger Snaps 12 OZ. BOX \$1.69

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Fudge Cookies 9.2-13 OZ. PKG. \$1.99

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Dry Roasted Peanuts 16 OZ. JAR \$2.29

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Picante Sauce 16 OZ. JAR \$1.39

SHURFINE TOMATO CLAM COCKTAIL 32 OZ. BTL. \$1.79

SHURFINE 100% JUICE ASSORTED FLAVORS Cranberry Juice & Blends 64 OZ. BTL. \$2.99

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Instant Oatmeal 11.8-15.1 OZ. BOX \$1.99

SHURFINE TEA BAGS 100% Natural Tea 100 CT. BOX \$1.59

SHURFINE SELECT VARIETIES Toaster Tarts 14.6 OZ. BOX \$1.69

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Pancake Syrup 24 OZ. BTL. \$1.99

SHURFINE ASSORTED VARIETIES Coffee Creamer 16 OZ. JAR \$1.79

SCHOOL

Muenster FCCLA snags first place award at State

The story began last summer when FCCLA State VP of Peer Involvement Jori Magee was inspired by the speaker Doc Hendley at the National Leadership Conference in Nashville, TN. He shared inspiration with delegates about his involvement with helping third world countries in need of clean drinking water. Working in his hometown as a bartender in North Carolina, Doc noticed how much water actually goes to waste. It was then that he felt the calling to reach out to those in need. After putting together a small fundraiser and calling this work "Wine to Water" based off the Book of John, Doc experienced his first real joy of helping.

After the typhoon disaster in the Philippines, Muenster FCCLA decided to pair up with the Wine to Water organization in helping to bring clean drinking water to those affected. The FCCLA Planning Process allowed Muenster's chapter to get more involved in developing ways to raise funds. They gathered donations through bake sale raffles at home basketball games, collections from local businesses, and a coin drive from all MISD classes hosted by three junior members of the chapter, Jenna Sicking, Erin Schniederjan, and Alaina Kubis. Caroline Gressett, chapter VP of Public Relations, presented a donation of \$340 from the Pee-Wee

Cheerleading Squad that she coaches.

The money was combined with the other fundraising methods earned by FCCLA to benefit the Doc Hendley "Wine to Water" organization which will provide Sawyer Water Filters specifically for the Philippines relief effort. The total amount earned was \$1,281.08.

The three junior members of Muenster FCCLA presented the project at the FCCLA State Leadership Conference recently and earned first place in the Junior Chapter Service Project Manual STAR Event. They will be competing at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in San Antonio July 6-10.



MISD photo

Muenster Pee-Wee Cheerleaders with Muenster FCCLA officers, from left, front - Kacie Grewing, Kaitlin Hennigan, Brooke Hammer; back - Ashleigh Deweber, Celine Burke, Cydney Cromer, Caroline Gressett, Jori Magee, and Mariah Rocha.

NCTC art exhibit winners recognized

Winners received their awards at a recent ceremony capping this year's 48th annual Community Art Show hosted by the Visual Arts Department at North Central Texas College.

Both the awards ceremony and the public exhibition of the 155 entries in this year's show took place in the NCTC Visual Arts Center on the Gainesville Campus.

Members of NCTC's Visual Arts Club volunteered their time to assist in presenting certificates and a total of \$1,350 in combined cash prizes to top winners of the various media categories.

This year's winners were from Cooke County, Whitesboro, and Denton, and included several students from Sacred Heart Catholic School. They were:

Youth Division III (6-8 grades): 1st - Samantha Muller, 2nd - Ian Kintz;

Youth Division I (K-2 grades): 2nd - Cole Dangelmayr, HM - Luke Hesse;

Youth Division II (3-5 grades): 2nd - Rachel Hesse, HM - Mara Juntado.

The Gainesville Area Visual Arts organization presented art supplies to the top three winners in each youth division. Those art supplies are funded by the Genelle Merrick Memorial Endowment Fund, which is a permanently endowed fund, established in 2001, intended specifically for winners at this annual exhibit.



Courtesy photos

Pictured are Sacred Heart School students' winning art projects. At left, Samantha Muller's Porcupine of paper mache and wood; above Ian Kintz's second place ceramic Turtle Rider.



Menus

WEEK OF MAY 12 - 16 MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Spaghetti de Italiano, green beans, sweet corn, mixed fruit. AM - Bologna and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetable.

Tues. - State Fair corn-dog, glazed carrots, pork and beans, fresh banana. AM - Turkey and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetable.

Wed. - Chicken fajita tacos, Mexicali corn, lettuce topping, cinnamon apple slices. AM - Ham and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetable.

Thurs. - Ham and cheese sandwich, tator tots, peaches. AM - Ham and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, fresh vegetable.

Fri. - Pepperoni pizza, sweet tator tots, baked beans, strawberry apple-sauce. AM - Po-boy combo, fresh fruit, fresh vegetable.

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Roasted chicken, lettuce salad, baked beans, veggie tray, fruit, bread.

Tues. - Ham sandwich w/trimmings, veggie tray, chips, fruit.

Wed. - Baked turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, fruit, bread.

Thurs. - Chicken spaghetti, cooked carrots, lettuce salad, veggie tray, fruit, bread.

Fri. - Grilled chicken sandwich w/trimmings, oven fries, fruit bar.

Weather Whys - El Niño

Q: It's in the news that an El Niño may form this summer. What is the difference between an El Niño and La Niña?

A: The main difference between the two involves water temperature, explains John Nielsen-Gammon, a weather expert at Texas A&M University. El Niño and La Niña - Spanish for "the child" - both occur in the central Pacific Ocean. "During an El Niño event, which can last almost a year, the waters in that region are warmer than usual," he said.

See NINO, pg. 1



BYRON BERRY'S

Commonsense Conservative Contract with Cooke County

Focus on Business Development

I will utilize my thirty years of experience as a businessman to promote economic development aimed at increasing our tax base and promoting good paying jobs—this will be my number one focus as County Judge.

Good Steward of Taxpayers Money

Utilizing my experience as a Certified Public Accountant I will ensure County tax revenue is being used efficiently—without cutting vital county services.

Advocate for Term Limits

I believe we need to limit the tenure in office of elected officials at all levels of government. For my part, I pledge to serve no more than two terms as Cooke County Judge.

Legal Oversight

I have spent a significant part of my legal career representing local, county, and special district taxing entities. I will utilize this knowledge to maximize county funds to promote economic development, pay for better roads, expand water supply, and provide quality law enforcement.

Compensation

Until as recently as twenty years ago the Cooke County Judge only received a small stipend. Most cities and school boards do not pay elected officials and we only pay our state legislators a minimal monthly salary. I believe public service should be just that—service.

I will not retain any payment for my services as County Judge and will donate my entire net earnings from the County Judge salary to several local charities, including, but not limited to, the Cooke County Volunteer Firefighters Organization, Cooke County Boys and Girls Club, and the local pro-life organization ABBA (All Babies Born Alive).


Byron Berry



SHCS photos

Many students and teachers from Sacred Heart Catholic School wore Pro Life T-shirts last Wednesday on National Pro Life T-shirt Day. Above are Montessori Pre K-Kindergarten students.



Students and teachers grades first through fifth.



Junior High students and teachers



High School students who wore Pro Life T-shirts.



SHCS photos

Sacred Heart Catholic School 4th graders made Easter bags for the residents of Muenster Health & Rehabilitation Center. Each bag contained Easter eggs filled with candy, some personal items, and a stuffed animal. At this most holy time of the Church year, the children were excited to remind others of God's great love for all of us.

MISD Honor Rolls

5th Six Weeks
ALL "A" HONOR ROLL
Grade 7 - Garrett Bindel, Thomas Davis, Ashleigh Fisher, Morgan Hennigan, Rut Rodriguez, Rudy Saucer.
Grade 8 - Bailey Anderle, Max Herr, Alaina Kubis, Zwaine Lamar, Paige Saucer, Erin Schniederjan, Jenna Sicking, Andrew Stoffels, Dean Walterscheid, Sterling Walterscheid.
Grade 9 - Logan Cook, Morgan Eldridge.
Grade 10 - Mason Davis, Abby Luttmmer, Samuel Saucer.
Grade 12 - Erin Hess, Sydney Huchton, Adrien Rohmer.

"A/B" HONOR ROLL
Grade 7 - Joshua Brinkley, Nathan Hacker, Ryan Huchton, Anthony Jones, Parker McGrew, Sadie Sandmann, MacKenzie Sicking, Lauren Trubenbach, Kody Walterscheid, Blair Wan-
Grade 8 - Carson Cheaney, Jess Dangelmayr, Natalie Dangelmayr, Travis Dangelmayr, Kaden Fields, Ethan Flaming, Mandy Hacker, Savannah Hermes, Zoe Klement, Taylor Knabe, Bailey McCoy, Stetson McGrew, Barrett Osteen, Megan Rohmer, Brandon Sicking, Clay Stevens, Carson Trubenbach, LeeAnn West.
Grade 9 - Brennan Binder, Bryce Herr, Amy Luttmmer, Haiden Shook.
Grade 10 - Mahayla Bohl, Ashlyn Burke, Chase Deeken, Natalie Fangman, Dalton Hess, Alaina Reiter, Claire Schneider, Kelsie Sicking, Courtney Stevens, Allie Walterscheid, Kimber Walterscheid, Reagan Weger.
Grade 11 - Trey Anderle, Kevin Barnes, Lyndon Cook, Kassie Dangelmayr, Abigail Flaming, Morgan Flusche, Jonathan Gregg, Caroline Gressett, Tara Gunnels, Rachel Hare, Blake Haubold, Kalee Hennigan, Chance Herr, Tressa Jones, Mikaela Lamar, Makayla Moster, Collin Pagel, Kristen Reiter, Noel Rodriguez, Zachary Trubenbach, Sophie Wachtel, Lora Walterscheid.
Grade 12 - Hannah Bayer, Kendi Bayer, Mason Binder, Austin Creswell, Jared Endres, Ashley Hammer, Clayton Hess, David Hutson, Madison Knabe, Eliska Nemcova, Jaisal Patel, Mariah Rocha, Shelbi Sicking, Audrey Taylor Saavedra.

ALL "A" HONOR ROLL
6th Grade - Savannah Bohl, Ashleigh Deweber, Major Eldridge, Colby Endres, Hannah Lamar, Daniel Luttmmer, Zachary Sanders, Riley Stewart, Lane Trubenbach, Abby Walter-

scheid.
5th Grade - Trent Anderle, Mikaley Berkley, Abigail Cox, Sarah Davis, Mary Fisher, Chloe Hacker, Kelsey Hennigan, Erin Hesse, Alyssa Huchton, Paden Jarosz, Bayley Otto, Samantha Simmons, Lance Smith, Cade Stevens, Rallen Marie Tai, Wade Trubenbach.
4th Grade - Andrew Christopher, Haley Flusche, Martie McCoy, Landri Richardson, Luke Walterscheid.
3rd Grade - Althea Acayan, Marcus Anderle, Michael Berkley, Devon Bindel, Erica Endres, Kaci Ford, Josey Grewing, Rebecca Klement, Samantha Lockhart, Caleb Newton, Hunter Peel, Connor Walterscheid, Meadow Walterscheid.
2nd Grade - Reece Acayan, Luke Anderson, Mary Ashcraft, Lainey Grewing, James Harris, Rosemary Hartman, Macy Hess, Maggie Hess, Jackson Hofbauer, Preston Kubis, Whitney Newton, Stormi Richardson, Lenzie Sandmann, Jonathen Smith, Dawson Voth.
1st Grade - Krista Bayer, Kaydence Boaz, Annsley Budish, Benjamin Cox, Logan Flusche, Gregory Giles, Ayden Gray, Jasmine Hacker, Della Hartman, Brisan Hermes, Owen Hofbauer, Caden Klement, Carter Klement, Caleb Korte, William Rocha, Carter Sicking, Faith Sicking, Zachary Smith, Von Khemer Tai, Emma Walterscheid, Marlee Walterscheid, Emily West, Kelan Williams, Raegan Wolf.

"A/B" HONOR ROLL
6th Grade - Eve Brogdon, Celene Burke, Gavin Grewing, Brett Hammer, Brooke Hammer, Hunter Haverkamp, Kaitlin Hennigan, Kenadie Hess, Jenna Hudspeth, Daphne Kor-
5th Grade - Annie Anderle, Alexis Bateman, Jada Binder, Makenna Forshee, Dylan Huchton, Kennedy Jones, Katherine Klement, Matthew Klement, Audrey Kubis, Sarah Monday, Ceely Morgan, Ty Trubenbach, Jaxon Truebenbach, Alexa Wan-
4th Grade - Kayla Deweber, Gracyn Fields, Andrew Flaming, Levi Griffith, Chanel Groman, Makayla Hacker, Emily Harrison, Nathan Hartman, Nate Hesse, Hillary Klement, Timothy Luttmmer, Lilly Muller, Braxton Osteen, Ty Sanders, Eli Saucer, Clayton Spaeth, Logan Stewart, Landon Williams.
3rd Grade - Brittany Bateman, Annaliese Cisneros, Derek Cox, Madeleine Fisher, Gabriel

Grewing, Debra Huchton, Keith Huchton, Whitley Klement, Bradley Lutkenhaus, Natalie McMinn, Wyatt Moster, Victoria Rodriguez, Sean Sicking, Jordan Taylor, Isaac Wolf.
2nd Grade - Daultyn Dunn, Gage Eberhart, Gariella Fleitman, Abigail Hendley, Halle Hess, Alexis Hofbauer, Alyssa Lutkenhaus, Emily Muller, Trever Rains, Taylor Reed, Andie Schroeder, Jackson Sicking, Lexie Walter, Owen Walterscheid.
1st Grade - Addison Aldridge, Nikolas Clure, Elena David, Gavin Doughty, Austin Freeman, Landon Hacker, Daegan Harris, Karissa Harrison, Ava Henley, Ty Hess, Cason Morgan, Leslie Olvera.



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 Sat 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
 Sun 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45
 Mon-Thurs 2:45, 5:15, 7:45
Legends of Oz in 3D (PG)
 Fri 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15
 Sat 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15
 Sun 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15
 Mon-Thurs 2:15, 4:30, 7:00
Amazing Spiderman 2 in 3D (PG13)
 Fri 4:00*, 7:00, 10:00
 Sat 1:00, 4:00*, 7:00, 10:00
 Sun 1:00, 4:00*, 7:00
 Mon-Thurs 4:00*, 7:00
The Other Woman (PG13)
 Fri 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
 Sat 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
 Sun 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
 Mon-Thurs 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
Heaven is for Real (PG)
 Fri 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
 Sat 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
 Sun 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
 Mon-Thurs 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
Rio in 3D (G)
 Fri 2:20*, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35
 Sat 12:00, 2:20*, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35
 Sun 12:00, 2:20*, 4:45, 7:10
 Mon-Wed 2:20*, 4:45, 7:10
 Thurs 2:20*, 4:45
Godzilla in 3D (PG13)
 Thurs May 15 7:00pm
 Call or Check our website for times!!

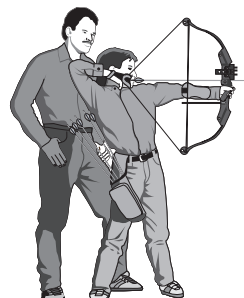
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SPORTS

LeBrasseur inducted into Sports Hall of Fame

Coach Jon LeBrasseur was inducted into the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame during the 43rd Annual Induction Banquet held Saturday, April 26 at the Island Resort and Casino in Bark River, Michigan. LeBrasseur, originally of Nahma, Michigan, now lives in Muenster and coaches and teaches at Sacred Heart High School. Attending the event with Coach Jon were his wife Monica, daughter Kristin, mother Fern LeBrasseur, and sister-in-law Karen LeBrasseur of Middletown, Connecticut. They were also joined by many of Jon's cousins and friends of Escanada, Michigan.



Courtesy photo

Sacred Heart Basketball Coach Jon LeBrasseur accepts induction into the Upper Peninsula (Michigan) Sports Hall of Fame.

School as head basketball coach in the Fall of 1979.

A humble man, LeBrasseur credits God more than anyone, saying that coaching at the 85% Catholic high school has brought him closer to God. "It's not just a school, but a family," LeBrasseur said during his speech.

LeBrasseur was a three-sport athlete at Big Bay de Noc high school. He came from a very athletic family. Members of his immediate family went on to play at

Michigan, Michigan State, and Western Michigan University.

Coach of the Year



Muenster Lady Hornet Coach Amy Binder was selected as the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches 1A-1 Assistant Coach of the Year out of over 100 coaches nominated for this award. "As you know, Amy bleeds Muenster and has been such a blessing to me and our program this past season," noted Coach Griffin Fields. "She is such a great role model for our young ladies with her passion and dedication to athletics, the classroom, her family, and her faith."

Game Warden Field Notes

Running out of excuses

A Parker County game warden completed an investigation and charges were brought against three subjects for killing six deer from a public road and dumping the deer off a bridge. It is unknown how many deer the subjects actually wounded and never found. One of the men said that they had run out of ammunition for the rifle and were shooting at the deer with a shotgun, using duck load. Restitution is pending for the three does and three fawns that were dumped.

Too many deer, too little spread

Two Polk County game wardens investigated a local man suspected of exceeding his white-tailed deer bag limit. After a short interview, the subject confessed and produced the antlers from 8-point and 10-point white-tailed bucks he killed during the first week of the season. Case filed for exceeding the

annual bag limit of white-tailed buck deer with less than 13-inch antler spread.

Case of missing antler

A Polk County game warden discovered a white-tailed buck, with a missing antler, at a local processor. The antler looked to have been recently broken off. After speaking to the hunter, the warden discovered that the deer was originally a six-point buck, which is under the 13-inch antler restrictions. Case pending for taking an illegal white-tailed buck with less than a 13-inch antler spread.

Slip of the tongue

A Real County game warden was talking to a hunter in a store parking lot about a nice buck in the bed of the hunter's pickup truck when the hunter admitted that his buddy shot it, but he put his tag on it. The hunter, realizing what he just told the game warden said, "I guess I'm in trouble now."



Courtesy photo

First place team - Muenster Drilling Company, with BYOG chairman Chuck Bartush, from left - Tony Grewing, Kenneth Walterscheid, Matt Grewing, and Clay Knabe.



Courtesy photo

Second place team - with BYOG chairman Chuck Bartush, from left - Kevin Neu, Jared Schroeder, Jaret Reaves, and Brad Felderhoff.

MUENSTER TEAMS WIN BRING YOUR OWN GUNS CONTEST

The Cooke County Republican Party's BYOG 2014 "Bring Your Own Gun" Sporting Clays Shoot took place on Saturday, April 26, at Fossil Pointe Sporting Grounds north of Decatur.

Two Muenster teams took top honors. The team sponsored by Muenster Drilling Company took first place and the shooters were Matt Grewing, Kenneth Walterscheid, Clay Knabe, and Tony Grewing.

Competitors from Superior Machining & Fabrication came in second. Shooters were Jared Schroeder, Brad Felderhoff, Kevin Neu, and Jaret Reaves. Schroeder, who came in with the high individual score of 90, was the BYOG "Top Gun." Felderhoff won the "long bird" competition in a shoot-off, in a contest held

after the lunch and awards presentations.

Senator Craig Estes sponsored and participated in the shoot, and addressed the group during lunch, talking about the exceptional nature of our Country, the right to bear arms guaranteed by the Second Amendment, and the urgent need for citizens to be politically engaged and to vote.

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Wear It! for safe boating

The weather is finally warming up – and the countdown to summer begins! Almost time for family vacations, BBQs, boating, fishing, or just some time to relax in the sun.

Unfortunately, too often both experienced and inexperienced boaters have a false sense of security and don't wear life jackets. U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in almost three-fourths of recreational boating fatalities, and that 85% of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets. Texas ranks No. 4 in the nation for boating accidents

and No. 3 in the nation for boating fatalities, with boating mishaps causing more than 32 deaths in the state in 2012 alone.

In preparation for the summer boating season, the National Safe Boating Council will kick off its national Wear It! campaign promoting safe boating and life jacket wear with National Safe Boating Week, which runs from May 17-23, and the campaign continues throughout the summer.

National Safe Boating Week is the official launch of the 2014 North American Safe Boating Campaign. This yearlong campaign promotes

safe and responsible boating and the value of voluntary life jacket wear by recreational boaters through the national theme, Wear It!

"Every day, I hear about the grim consequences of not wearing a life jacket while boating," said Rachel Johnson, executive director of the National Safe Boating Council, the lead organization for the Wear It! campaign. "You can still have fun on the water while choosing to always wear a life jacket and boating responsibly."

The National Safe Boating Council created a new public service announcement, "Love the Life!," sharing the experience of two families and a dog as they spend the day boating and fishing. Watch the PSA at <http://www.youtube.com/user/OutreachNSBC>. "Accidents on the water happen much too fast to reach and put on a stowed life jacket," said John Johnson, chief executive officer of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. "It's important that everyone consistently wears a life jacket while on the water and always boats responsibly."

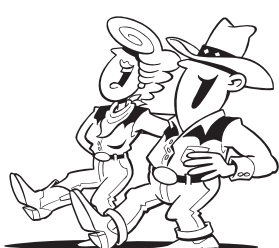
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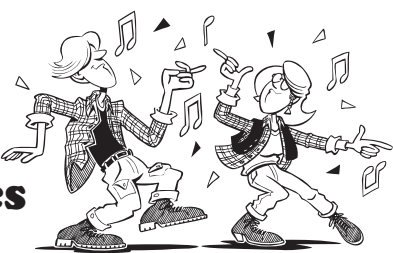
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Music by **Hard Times** and **The Bois D'Arcs**



No Outside Coolers

Saturday, May 17

Heritage Park - Muenster

Fish Fry from 5:30-8:30
\$20 per person (\$10 for kids 12 & under)

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Wayne Klement @ 940-736-9265 / Mark Klement @ 940-727-3852

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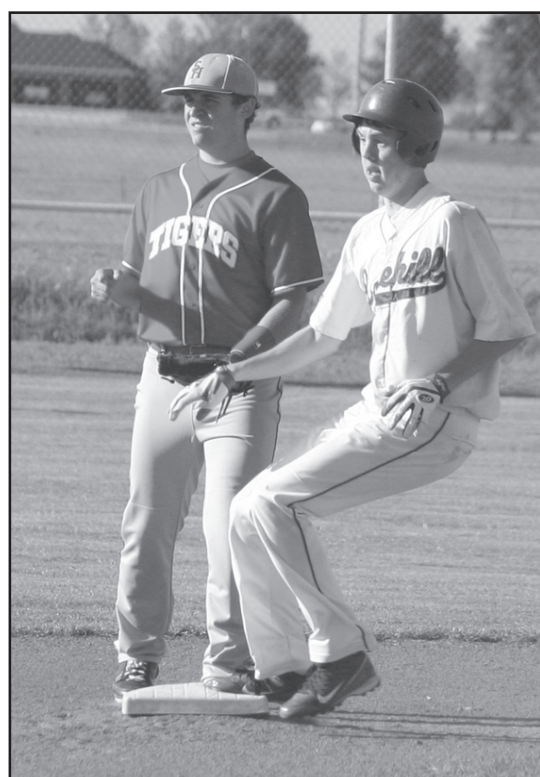
Come by the office before May 23 with pictures and ad information



Spring sports



Sacred Heart Tiger Playoff Action



Janie Hartman photos

TAPPS Class 2A State Semi-Final Baseball Playoffs

Sacred Heart Tigers vs DeSoto Canterbury Cougars

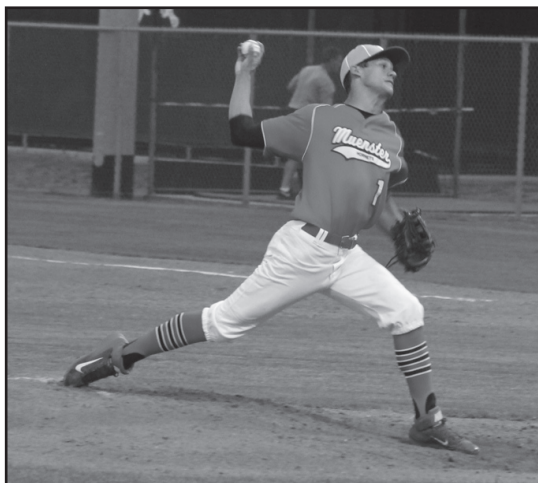
Friday, May 9
9 am
Waco ISD

If Tigers win Friday, they will play
Saturday, May 10 at noon for the
State Championship

Muenster Hornet Playoff Action



Clay Corbett photos



UIL Class A Area Baseball Playoffs

Muenster Hornets vs Milford Bulldogs

Game 1
Thurs. May 8
Joshua High School
7:30 pm
(Rain out date Fri. May 9)

Game 2
Sat. May 10
Kennedale High School
5 pm

Game 3
(if necessary)
Sat. May 10
Immediately following Game 2

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5.9-1

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5.2-2

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5.9-2

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5.9-4wpd

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4.25-4

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5.2-2w

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Woman's ring found at Muenster Public Library. Call 759-4291 to identify.

5.9-1F

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5.9-1

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4.25-6

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11.7-X

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5.2-2w

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5.9-1

Whirlpool 2001 white chest freezer. Approx. 65"W x 34"H x 27"D. \$900 or make offer. 214-507-1222.

5.9-1

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Muenster Business Review



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Food for Thought

If you haven't been in a school lunchroom lately, you might be in for a surprise. The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act championed by First Lady Michelle Obama placed new regulations on school districts participating in the federal school lunch program. The substantial requirements in the act place restrictions on portion sizes and calories, and also mandate students take certain foods—even if they have no intention of eating them. Trash cans are overflowing with wasted food, most of which never saw a fork or spoon. Los Angeles throws away \$3.8 million in produce—one of the required items that kids must put on their trays.

Reprinted with permission of Farm Journal Media, April 4, 2014

Chicken King

Burger King might want to change its name to Chicken King after the company's most recent move. The king of burgers has announced that it will introduce the Chicken Big King, an updated version of the Big King hamburger. Burger King's president Alex Macedo says, "As beef prices have increased significantly over the last 20 years or so, consumption has gone down. Chicken is growing in consumption quite a lot." We sure hope the Whopper doesn't change to the Clucker anytime soon.

Reprinted with permission of Farm Journal Media, April 17, 2014

The COOL Down

Country-of-origin labeling (COOL) continues to frustrate beef producers, but an end could be in sight. The U.S. Court of Appeals will hold a hearing on May 19 to discuss a lawsuit filed by a collation of packers and industry groups to stop the more stringent rules that have been set in place for COOL. U.S. trade partners, Canada and Mexico, have not appreciated what COOL has done to their producers. Canada is looking at placing tariffs on U.S. imports, while Mexico has been sending fewer cattle. Last year, nearly 990,000 head of cattle were imported from Mexico, down approximately 480,000 head from 2012 year.

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Decades of Lies

A damning new report criticizes the marketers of organic and natural foods for "engaging in a multi-decade public disinformation campaign." In other words, they've created fear among consumers, and fear sells. The authors of the report said, "Consumers have spent hundreds of billions of dollars purchasing premium-priced organic food products based on false or misleading perceptions about comparative product food safety, nutrition, and health attributes."

Reprinted with permission of Farm Journal Media, April 21, 2014

Gone to Pot

As California withers away under an historic drought, fingers are pointing to an ever increasing list of causes. Climate change, overconsumption, and demands from agriculture have all been indicted in the natural disaster. Now, marijuana farms—most illegal—are linked to the state's water worries. Each plant can use about six gallons of water during the

summer's peak, and the illegal farms have already been linked to wildlife deaths, as the farms are often protected with rat bait. To protect the wildlife, California banned the sale of rat poison last month.

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The Great Emu War

The enemy numbered 20,000, but the soldiers had been supplied only 10,000 rounds of ammunition. That was just the first blunder of Australia's great emu war, won convincingly by the emu, even though the flightless birds went into battle unarmed. Six days after the enemy was first engaged, 2,500 rounds had been fired, but only an estimated 50 to 500 emu had fallen. The Australian government and soldiers had greatly underestimated the feathery foe.

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Sign-up begins for SURE

Farmers and ranchers who suffered crop losses caused by natural disasters affecting crops intended for harvest in 2012 are eligible to sign up for the SURE program. The USDA FSA recently announced the sign-up period, which provides one final eligibility period for farmers suffering crop losses caused by natural disasters occurring through Sept. 30, 2011.

A farm or ranch must meet certain criteria to be eligible, such as at least 10% production loss occurring on or before Sept. 30, 2011, according to an agency news release. Farmers who only plant fall seeded or spring seeded crops with a final planting date on Oct. 1, 2011 or later do not meet the eligibility criteria for the 2012 SURE program.

For more information visit a USDA Service Center or online at www.fsa.usda.gov/sure. Those interested must sign up before the Aug. 29, 2014 deadline.



AGRICULTURE MARKET SUMMARY

For the week ending May 3, feeder cattle prices reported by Texas auctions were steady at many locations. However, a few noted weaker prices on a portion of their offerings, most often lighter-weight feeders, and some reported prices as much as \$8 higher per hundredweight (cwt). Texas direct feeder cattle prices were steady to \$2 higher early in the week and as much as \$5 higher later in the week. Tight supplies and strong demand continue to support the feeder cattle market. Fed cattle cash prices were \$0.73 higher per cwt. Wholesale beef values were lower. Cumulative cattle slaughter year-to-date is running 6.1% behind a year ago.

Weekly beef export sales totaled 11,400 metric tons (MT), down 37% from both the previous week and the prior four-week average. The

leading buyers were Japan, Mexico, and South Korea. Shipments of 11,900 MT were unchanged from the previous week, but down 3% from the average. Japan, Hong Kong, and Mexico were the top destinations.

Wheat prices were higher amid ongoing concerns about dry conditions in U.S. winter wheat areas, earlier freeze damage, and planting delays in spring wheat regions. Export data was mixed. Wheat export sales of 214,900 MT were down 37% from the previous week and 25% from the prior four-week average. The primary buyers were the Philippines, Japan, and Brazil. An additional 219,600 MT were sold for the 2014-15 marketing year. Export shipments totaling 678,600 MT were up 31% from the previous week and up 27% from the average.

Corn and grain sorghum

prices were lower on expectations that improved weather conditions would allow corn planting to make rapid progress. Export data was neutral to supportive. Corn export sales for the week totaled 937,900 MT, up 52% from a week earlier and 35% from the prior four-week average. Japan, Mexico, and South Korea were the leading buyers. Another 13,800 MT were sold for the 2014-15 marketing year. Shipments of 1,216,000 MT were down 25% from the previous week and 8% below the average. The top destinations were Japan, Mexico, and Egypt.

Cattle trends dictated by weather

Short supplies, coupled with ranchers attempting to expand their herds, have led to lower commercial cow slaughter numbers, but weather conditions will help determine the direction of herd numbers.

Although slaughter weights have helped offset some of the loss of cow numbers, the April Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Outlook report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) shows the first-quarter commercial steer and heifer slaughter is on track to be the lowest since 1965. First-quarter beef production will likely be the lowest since 2005. Prices could decline through the summer as large placements of heavy cattle from December through February reach market weights.

Pork production is expected to decline about 2% for 2014, which. April's milk production forecast is raised, and cow numbers are expected to increase later in the year.

All major Texas grain producing areas experiencing some level of drought

Though grain crops in the upper Gulf Coast, Central Texas, and North Texas started off this year with much better moisture conditions than those in the High Plains, it's the "same old song and dance" there when it comes to moisture, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

"We need help from Mother Nature pretty soon to maintain yield potentials," said Dr. Ronnie Schnell, AgriLife Extension state cropping systems specialist, College Station.

The upper Gulf Coast, the Blacklands, and North Texas had good moisture at planting times, but most of the grain crop right now could really use a good rain, he said. Planting was in early

March in the Central and North regions and mid- to late-February in the Gulf Coast area.

Areas in the northern Blacklands have received a little more rain than the Central and Gulf Coast regions, Schnell said. Crops in all three areas are still OK, but they won't stay that way long without rain in the next week or so.

There were also some freezes that delayed planting in some areas, as well as some late freezes that damaged corn in the northern Blacklands and resulted in replanting of other crops, he said, but the real issue remains moisture.

According to the April 29 U.S. Drought Monitor, drought conditions continued

to worsen in the Panhandle, Rolling Plains, South Plains, and parts of Central Texas. West of the U.S. Interstate 35 corridor, the monitor rated drought conditions as "exceptional" or "extreme" over large areas.

"Over the past three months, the area of the state under at least moderate drought has increased from about 50% to almost 75%," Schnell said. "At this point, all major grain-producing areas of the state are experiencing some level of drought."

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force website at <http://agrilife.tamu.edu/drought/>.



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Muenster PTO is more important than ever

PTO is very important in helping out with things needed by our school children but not covered in the school budget. With recent budget cuts, this becomes more important than ever.

Muenster PTO helps with special programs, awards, and other items that enrich the students' lives, but that are not covered under the school's budget.

Active members of the Muenster PTO invite and encourage all parents, teachers, and even grandparents to attend the last PTO meeting of this school year. It will be a planning meeting for the upcoming school year and election of officers. They would like to hear your input and are very open to fresh ideas.

They hope for all to come together and figure out how to make PTO more efficient to meet today's needs of the students.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 13 at Rohmer's Restaurant.



NCTC photo

NINOcontinued from pg. 8

"The opposite occurs during a La Niña – the waters tend to be cooler than usual. But the important thing is that both events can affect weather patterns in the United States and around the world."

Q: How do they change our weather?

A: In years when a La Niña occurs, there are often warmer and drier conditions in many areas, including Texas, Nielsen-Gammon says. "In general terms, a La Niña period means drier weather patterns for Texas. There have been numerous studies on how El Niño and La Niña affect weather patterns, and specifically, hurricanes and their intensity. Some research indicates that the sorts of hurricanes that affect Texas are more common during La Niña periods than during a neutral or El Niño year. We do know that an El Niño can last up to 18 months and it can influence weather everywhere, so when one forms, there is naturally a lot of interest in what will happen."

Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&M University.

Fourth grade students from Muenster Elementary (above) and Sacred Heart Catholic School (at right) enjoyed Farm City Week at North Central Texas College last Thursday. More than 600 fourth graders from around North Texas attended the annual event put on by NCTC's Agriculture Department.

I find hope in the darkest of days, and focus in the brightest. I do not judge the universe.

Dalai Lama

Tailor stress relief

Stress affects people in different ways. What stresses one person may not stress another.

"The key is to find what the stressor is and then identify how to process it," says Dr. Shawn McClintock, a psychiatrist at UT Southwestern Medical Center. "Similarly, there are many remedies for stress and some work great for a few people but not so great for others. Identifying what works best for you and making sure you implement the stress reducing method is important."

Dr. McClintock says common stressors include economic problems, working too much, family difficulties, always being "on," always being "connected," and never enjoying personal time.

Stressors also vary by age group. For example:

Teens may be stressed by school, getting good grades, peer pressures, going to college.

Adults may be more concerned with employment, filing tax returns, beginning and raising a family, planning for retirement.

The elderly may be more focused on the loss of loved ones, starting a new phase in their lives, health concerns.

"Stress is a vicious circle: The more stressed you get, the more worried you get that you're stressed," Dr. McClintock says. "That increases your stress, which then increases your worry, then back to your stress, and so forth."

Reducing stress early preserves your health and peace of mind, he says. Stress reducers include scheduling a break, "disconnecting" from email and Internet (e.g., cell phone, iPad, laptop), exercising, sleeping, taking vitamins/omega 3 fatty acids, enjoying leisure activities, taking a vacation, simply driving rather than multitasking while in motor vehicles, listening to music, visiting loved ones, and playing with a pet.

SHCS 4th graders visit the Stark Ranch

Sacred Heart Catholic School 4th graders were the special guests of Chuck and Misti Reiter at the Stark Ranch in Gainesville. First, the children visited the site of the old Dallas water pump station on the Red River. They were able to compare the site today to pictures of the station in business in the 1930s and 1940s. Today, the site has been turned into a recreational area. Part of the original building has been converted into a pavilion and seating area while sections of the original piping and pipes are being used as accent pieces.

The children enjoyed hiking, climbing on the rock formations and searching for different types of rocks, finding signs of erosion, looking for signs of animal

life, exploring around the Red River and the lake for different types of animal tracks, and looking for signs of wildlife in the woods and the tall grass.

The children also enjoyed a pizza lunch from Rumpy's provided by Chuck and Misti Reiter and homemade cookies baked by Chubby Reiter.




SHCS photos

Sacred Heart 4th graders, from left, below - Devon Dickerson, Connor Vogel, Wade Sprouse, Max Ganzon, and Dawson Jones explore an area near the old Dallas water pump station on the Red River. Not pictured are Weslee Sprouse and Jacob Felderhoff.



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