

Muleshoe Journal

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Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

December 29, 2005

Muleshoe's soggy reception for Santa

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

O' Saint Nick would have found something other than milk and cookies decorating some of the residences on West Eighth in Muleshoe, if he'd stopped by a couple of days early.

For the second time in less than a month, Muleshoe residences in the 800 and 900 blocks of West Eighth found themselves swamped in sewage, the apparent result of a backed up municipal sewage line that cost thousands of dollars in clean up and repairs, but which insurance carriers and municipal authorities reportedly deny liability.

On Nov. 30, Todd Shipman of 901 W. Ninth said he awoke to find his house swamped in sewage, destroying his carpet and exposing his family to a wide variety of communicable diseases, the result of a sewer main that backed up into his house and the houses of at least four neighbors.

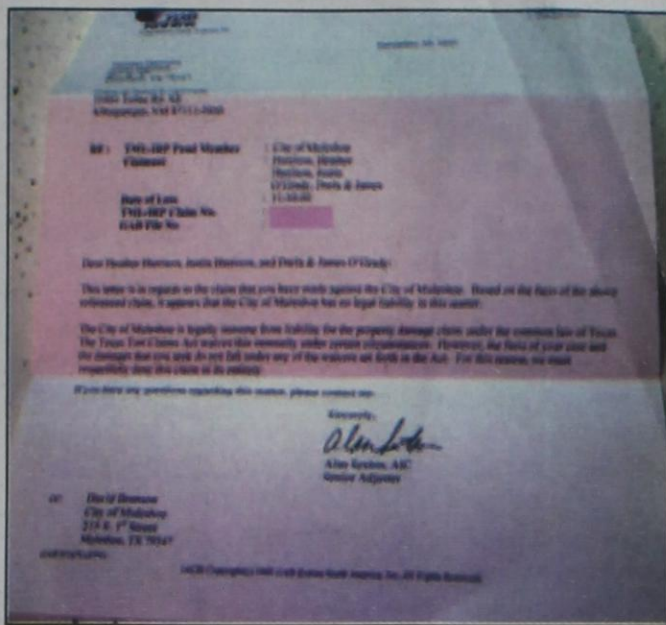
were spent getting the Shipman residence cleaned up, and new carpet was ordered to replace that which had been destroyed.

But on the evening of Thursday, Dec. 22, Shipman said he received a call from a neighbor with the news that bad luck if not lightning does strike twice, and that effluent was running out from under the front door of Shipman's house. Shipman — who hadn't been able to live in his residence since the Nov. 30 incident — arrived to find the city's main had backed up again, this time reportedly swamping even more of the residences in the area.

And while the Shipmans were fortunate that the new carpet was still to be laid in place, the removal of the base boards in preparation for the new carpet allowed the effluent access to the sheetrock, increasing the house damage.

"It just reeks in there," Shipman said, describing his residence. But it's possible that Shipman's response from insurance

Thousands of dollars



What a mess!

Pictured above is one of the insurance claim denials sent to Heather Harrison, another victim of the back up and Shipman's neighbor, while some of the results of the "effluent flood" are pictured immediately above and to the right.



Former KMUL general manager remembered

Muleshoe businessman and former general manager Noe Anzaldua was remembered by co-workers following his untimely death on Dec. 22.

"He was a good man... a forgiving man," said Martha Alvarado, KMUL's program director, who had worked with Anzaldua since she'd joined the radio station in 1988.

I learned a lot from him," she continued.

Alvarado described Anzaldua as being "hard working," and said to her knowledge he achieved most of the goals he'd set in his life.

But possibly the character trait Alvarado and the rest of the community would remember most about Anzaldua was that he liked to laugh, and he liked to make others laugh as well.

"He always had a joke... no matter what the situation," she said, indicating that even during the darkest times the former KMUL general manager — who had held the position at the radio station from 1957 until his retirement in March

2005 — had something to say that would brighten the day for others.

Reportedly, Anzaldua was injured in an automobile accident while returning to Muleshoe from Hobbs, N.M., after picking up a young relative.

In the accident, which

He always had a joke ... no matter what the situation

occurred in the Circleback area, Anzaldua was reportedly through from his van as it rolled over. He died from injuries he received while enroute to the hospital.

Attempts to contact Texas Trooper Brent Collins for additional details about the accident were unsuccessful prior to Tuesday's deadline.

Along with his position with KMUL, Anzaldua owned El Jacalito Tortilla Factory, Viola's Restaurant, and Noe's Used Cars.

2005 proves to be an active year for Muleshoe, Bailey County

Part 1

Taking a look back on 2005, Muleshoe and Bailey County residents can see a wide variety of events — some good and some not so good — that affected their communities.

But while there were times at which a certain amount of disunity surfaced, such feelings were relatively short-lived and the year ended for the most part with a renewed spirit of unity.

January

New Year 2005 started out with law enforcement officers searching for lost

sheep, after Autumn Rainey and Corie Ann Black reported the theft of their sheep from the school's agriculture barn.

Sheep weren't the only thing missing as Muleshoe Police Chief Don Carter warned local residents to lock up their vehicles to avoid being the victim in a series of automobile burglaries that were plaguing the community.

On a brighter note, the Muleshoe Independent School District took over the Head Start program, providing the school district with additional funding for its own full-day Pre-K and Head Start program.

MISD was also looking at the school district's future needs in January, receiving a report from Paul Trautman of the Texas Association of School Administrators, who said the district was "outgrowing" its facilities based on local population trends, especially with the construction of new dairies within Muleshoe's school district and the addition of families needed to operate

2005: A Year in Review



Shattered Dreams' presentation about the dangers of drinking and driving is a lesson to be remembered this upcoming weekend in Bailey County.

the dairies. Superintendent Gene Sheets noted that Dillman Elementary was overcrowded, and that the school district needed to look into purchasing portable buildings to accommodate students for the 2005-06 school year. Decisions about a permanent solution would have to wait until completion of a long-range plan.

On the county level, County Judge Marilyn Cox swore in County Commissioners Joey Kindle, "Butch" Vandiver,

and Juan Chavez, along with County Attorney Carrissa Cleavinger, Sheriff Richard Wills, County Tax Assessor and Collector Berta Combs and Justice of the Peace Deb Stone.

February

The month of February brought changes across Muleshoe and Bailey County, starting with the resignation of County Judge Marilyn Cox, effective March 1, after 15 years of service to the county.

The Bailey County Commissioners took the names of five applicants for

the position — Raygena Barrett, Wells Hall, Dink Wilcox, Sherri Harrison and Suzanne Nichols — into consideration before selecting Harrison, who was the sitting county clerk, to fill the position.

Harrison would be completing the 10 months remaining in Cox's term of office.

Paula Benton was selected out of a field of three candidates, including Elisa Baca and Raygena Barrett, for the position of county clerk

which Harrison vacated to take on the position of county judge.

There were a number of other honors spread around the county in February with Muleshoe City Secretary LeAnn Gallman being accepted in the International Institute of Municipal Clerk's Master Municipal Clerk Academy program; Chris Bass, also of Muleshoe, being recognized as winner of the 2004 Conventional Till Irrigated National Grain Sorghum Yield and Management Contest; while Kevin Loya, the son of Rosa

Mendoza, was recognized as being the first baby born in the county in 2005.

There were also changes at the Muleshoe Journal as Larry Thornton took over as managing editor.

And, in response to actions at the state level, MISD Superintendent Gene Sheets pulled on the gloves and tackled the problems of school funding in Texas with a series of informational editorial pieces that explained the problems with the state's "Robin Hood" system, and explained why the unequal funding of wealthy and rural school districts were unfair.

February also marked the end of Arline Phelps' service to the community with her death on Feb. 14.

March

In March, incumbent Earl Berhends re-filed for his seat on the Muleshoe City Council, and Mark Beard filed for the council's Dist. 4 seat. Filing for the MISD Dist. 3 position were incumbent Rene Torres, Daniel Guzman and Mary Toscano. Dist. 2 incumbent Cindy Purdy and Dist. 5 incumbent Nick Bamert filed also, but were unopposed.

While at a MISD pep rally that was described as a "game show gone awry," a tall assistant who would no doubt have given

Continued on page 12.

Give It A Thought

New Year 2006 — Another year has passed us by, a year that has caused us laughter and tears. We've experienced new life coming into the world and felt saddened by losing loved ones. The world is what we make of it, so let's make it a better place. Have a safe, healthy and happy New Year.

Words to ponder from Beverly

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



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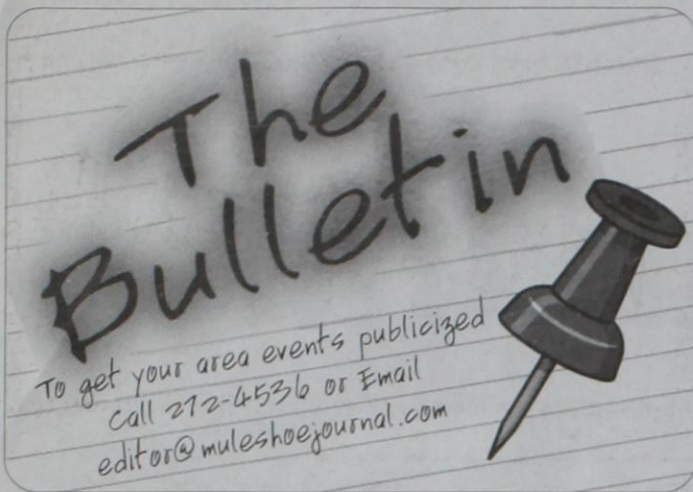
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AA meeting

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

Financial seminar

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

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

EMT classes to be offered

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

WorkSource GED Lab enrolling

The Muleshoe WorkSource GED Lab is currently enrolling for GED, ESL, College Prep, Improve Basic Skills, and Learn to Speak English instruction, provided by the Region 17 Education Service Center, 203 Main Street, Muleshoe. Contact Sharon Grant at 272-7540 or 5766 for additional information.

The GED Lab will be closed from Dec. 22 until Jan. 9.

MISD Class of 1986

The Muleshoe Class of 1986 will be holding an organizational meeting for its 20th class reunion on Thursday, Dec. 29, at 6:30 p.m., at Leaf's. Class members who are interested in helping are asked to attend. For more information, contact Laurey (Grant) Riney at 806-285-7785.

Class of 1991 reunion

The Muleshoe High School Class of 1991 is planning a reunion, and is seeking contact information about classmates. To post information, go to www.mhs1991.myevent.com.

Wildlife Refuge News

Crane counts conducted Wednesday, Dec. 21 show a continued increase on Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge as an estimated 110,000 sandhill cranes were counted on Goose Laka.

There were an estimated 75,000 sandhills roosting on neighboring Baileyboro Lake.

Numerous cranes are being observed in the area with limp necks. They are exhibiting Aneck Paresis Syndrome whereby they are unable to hold up their heads even while flying.

This is a result of their neck muscles being paralyzed which also renders them unable to eat or drink. This condition is caused by

a mycotoxin which is produced by moldy waste crops, most likely peanuts, a preferred food of the sandhill cranes.

At present, the outbreak does not appear to be large and observations indicate predators are efficiently consuming carcasses.

The annual National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count was conducted by the Lubbock Llano Estacado chapter on Muleshoe NWR on Sunday, Dec. 18.

Twelve participants spent the day covering the refuge and observed 67 different species of birds including 13 species of ducks. Approximately 550 ducks are currently using the refuge.

Sewage... Continued from page 1

companies and Muleshoe authorities could be described in a similar manner.

Shipman explained that he'd been told the city and its insurance carrier has denied the claims of the residents damaged by the malfunctioning sewer line under the Texas Tort Claims Act, stating that the damage wasn't due to a mechanical problem. At the same time Shipman's own insurance carrier has denied his claims saying the residence was damaged as a result of a "flood."

"If the insurance won't pay for it, the city should pay for it," Shipman said.

"There has obviously been a mechanical problem because it's happened a second time," he added, suggesting that the city's pump station must be

malfunctioning. While the TCA sets limitations on the types of legal actions that can be filed against a municipality, subsection b of Section 101.0215 indicates the act doesn't apply to a municipality's proprietary functions, such as the operation and maintenance of a public utility.

However, according to a Texas Supreme Court decision involving the City of Dallas, No. 01-1012, the operation of a municipal sewer system is a "government function" and not a proprietary function, which apparently allows municipalities to claim immunity in some instances.

Attempts to contact Muleshoe officials concerning the problem prior to deadline were unsuccessful.

NRCS EQIP applications are being accepted

USDA cost-share funds have been released for the 2006 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Farmers and ranchers can apply for Farm Bill conservation programs through the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to make sound decisions regarding conservation practices before planting season begins.

Eligible producers may apply for cost share assistance on conservation practices that will address the identified resource concern recognized by the Local Work Group (LWG). Practices are implemented through EQIP offering cost share assistance to agricultural producers to implement on-farm conservation practices. The NRCS determines eligible land and eligible conservation practices.

The Bailey County USDA Service Center will be accepting EQIP applications for 2006. The deadline for applications on 2006 EQIP funding is Feb. 17, 2006. Applications for EQIP funds received on or before Feb. 17, 2006 will be ranked and funded from the initial allocation to Bailey County. Last year EQIP funding in Bailey County totaled \$535,904.00.

EQIP was established to assist landowners with applying conservation plans to treat major resource issues. In Bailey County, these include soil erosion on cropland, and water conservation.

Eligible conservation practices include range planting, pasture planting, conservation tillage, conservation cover, nutrient

management, brush management, livestock water wells, livestock pipelines, livestock watering facility, pumping plant, prescribed grazing, fence, terraces, buffers (contour buffer strips, windbreak/shelterbelt establishment, field border), irrigation water management, pivot conversions, irrigation pipelines, irrigation sprinklers, and micro irrigation system.

Those interested in signing an EQIP application should visit the USDA Service Center office in Muleshoe or call (806) 272-5124, ext. 3 or access the information at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

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Hospital Report

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

Dec. 15 — Allison Ballard, Becky Cook, Margarita Martinez and Alize Rodriguez.

Dec. 16 — No report.

Dec. 17 — No report.

Dec. 18 — Juan Chavez and Enrique Lopez.

Dec. 19 — No report.

Dec. 20 — David Bock, Zulema Gomez and Laura Killingsworth.

Dec. 21 — Tyler Bosman.

Dec. 22 — No report.

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Happy New Year!

Editorial

District-level judicial proceedings in another state are rarely worthy of editorial comment, but pending proceedings in our neighboring state of New Mexico recently caught our eye not just because of their absurdity but because they're a perfect example of the abuse of the judicial system.

If you haven't heard, Santa Fe District Judge Daniel Sanchez has issued a temporary restraining order against television talk show host David Letterman, after New Mexico citizen Colleen Nestler filed an application for a restraining order based on claims that Letterman — according to Associated Press and Elonline stories — has been harassing her over the airwaves during the past 10 years.

Harassment which reportedly began with Nestler's telepathic communications with the talk show host.

While we believe the ability of private citizens to seek relief through the court system is important, such frivolous actions as this make us wonder whether the problem is the applicant or the New Mexico district judge who allowed such action to proceed to a hearing.

Our nation's judicial systems are backed up enough with cases of merit. Adding cases that are based in delusion is a disservice to both the applicant — in this case an obviously disturbed individual who is needlessly placed in a position of ridicule — and the public, through the criminal waste of taxpayer's money.

In the past, we know of cases where individuals filing frivolous law suits have been ordered to pay the attorney fees of both sides. Maybe the answer to such cases as this is for a higher court to order payment of attorney fees by the judge who allowed the ball to start rolling in the first place.

Tip Your Hat

By Larry Thornton

This week, there are several persons and things that deserve a "tip of the hat," some of which I have been remiss in mentioning previously.

First, the school district...

All who attended the MISD Fine Arts production a couple of weeks ago received a blessing — the gift of local students who entertained in music and song, as well as gifts from the school district's music instructors whose selections were deeply rooted in our Christian heritage.

In many school districts across the nation, students learn about ethnic heritage and religions, while the history and heritage of Christianity is noticeable ignored. Not so here in Muleshoe. To hear our children lift their voices in praise to God with the unabashed support of school district leaders and the community continues to be a blessing to my ears.

Then, the police department...

A tip of the hat to Sgt. Det. Benny Parker, who was honored Thursday at city hall for his achievement of obtaining his master law enforcement officer certification. His devotion to task and the community speaks well of his years of service.

From experience, I can tell you that a career in law enforcement often distorts an officer's perception of the public which he or she serves, creating an "us and them" attitude that can hinder and arm the growth of the individual officer, the department and the community.

The only way to avoid such an attitude is for an officer to go beyond being part of the department and become a valued member of the community.

This is something we've noticed — and appreciate — about Muleshoe's Police Department, it's leaders... it's personnel... and of course it's new master law enforcement officer.

"Tip o' the hat, Guys!"

Peanut producers board election set

The Texas Peanut Producers Board announced recently that elections will be held in four of its five voting regions to elect four board members where current members' seats are expiring.

The election will be conducted by voting regions and will be held Dec. 31 through Jan. 16.

There is one seat open for election in Voting Region Two, which includes Castro and Lamb Counties.

There is also one seat open for election in Voting Region Five, which includes Bailey and Parmer Counties.

A person is eligible to vote in this board election if he or she is currently a producer of peanuts, or for at least one production period during the three years preceding the date of this election, has been a producer of peanuts or has caused peanuts to be produced for commercial purposes.

Ballots will be available from all peanut buying point locations, county agent offices in each of the 167 counties where elections are

being conducted, and by mail from the TPPB office between Dec. 31, 2005, through Jan. 16, 2006. For a ballot to be valid, it must be mailed to TPPB, 4205 N. I-27, Lubbock, TX 79403, with a postmark date of no later than Jan. 16. Ballots with a postmark date later than Jan. 16, will not be valid.

Conservation program budgets set for 2006

By Shawn Wade, PCG

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas has announced the availability of \$72.37 million 2006 conservation program funds for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the EQIP Ground and Surface Water Conservation Program (EQIP-GSWC), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP).

Producers and landowners interested in submitting applications for 2006 funding have until Feb. 17, 2006 to prepare and sign their applications.

Following the end of the sign-up period all applications will be ranked based on a predetermined criteria set.

An NRCS conservation planner will develop contracts and conservation plans for each successful application. Producers with approved 2006 contracts can begin implementing the approved conservation practices in Spring 2006.

For 2006, Texas funding priorities were developed with the assistance of local input, the NRCS State Technical Committee and Texas State conservationist Dr. Larry Butler and his staff.

The initial \$72.37 million allocated for Texas will be used to solve locally identified resource problems in individual counties and will also fund special statewide resource concerns recommended by the Texas State Technical Committee such as water quantity, water and air quality, wildlife habitat and control of invasive species.

A breakdown of the initial allocation amounts shows \$66 million is designated for priority addressed through the EQIP program.

A total of \$34 million will be used to provide county base funding throughout the state and an additional \$32 million will be targeted to specific needs conservation concerns including brush and invasive species management, irrigation water conservation, water and air quality related animal feeding operations, water quality, assistance for limited resource farmers and ranchers, reforestation and wildlife habitat.

The EQIP-GSWC program received an initial 2006 allocation of \$5.5 million. The EQIP-GSWC program is dedicated to water conservation measures in Texas counties that utilize the Ogallala Aquifer.

An additional \$4.5 million in funds will supplement the

EQIP-GSWC in Ogallala counties. Total funding for irrigation and water conservation in the Ogallala region of Texas will total \$10 million in 2006.

The WHIP program was allocated \$870,000 in 2006.

Funds for EQIP, EQIP-GSWC and WHIP are authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill as tools to enhance voluntary conservation activity on U.S. farms and ranches.

The programs offer technical and financial assistance to eligible participants to install or implement structural or management practices on eligible land.

Local NRCS field offices will have complete details of individual county and state resource concerns. Additional information, including ranking criteria, eligible practices and cost-share rates for these and other NRCS Farm Bill programs is also available on the Texas NRCS website at <http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/>.



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Obituaries

Cory Holcomb

Services for Cory Holcomb, 16, of Clovis N.M., were held Wednesday, Dec. 28, at The Chapel in Clovis with Pastor Rick Burke officiating. Burial followed at Lawn Haven Memorial Gardens in Clovis.

Holcomb died Thursday, Dec. 22, 2005, in Clovis. He was born on April 1, 1989, to Steve Holcomb and Deniese Lambert in Clovis, and was currently a junior at Clovis High School. He worked for Town and Country food stores.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather — Lester Holcomb; and grandparents — Junior and Virginia Lambert.

He is survived by his mother and step-father — Deniese and Ruben Gomez of Clovis; his father and step-mother — Steve and



CORY HOLCOMB

Norma Holcomb of Tucumcari, three brothers — Kristopher Holcomb and Clinton Holcomb, both of Clovis, and Jeremy Gomez of Bovina; a sister — Rebecca Gomez of Hereford; a grandmother — Dortha Holcomb of Clovis; grandparents — Adam and Chris Gomez of Dumas; a great-grandfather — Bill Lambert of Muleshoe; and several aunts and uncles.

Calvin Meissner

A church service for Calvin A. Meissner, 73, of Muleshoe, was held Tuesday, Dec. 27, at St. John Lutheran Church in Lariat with the Rev. David Symm officiating. Burial followed in Sudan Cemetery, Sudan.

Meissner died on Dec. 23, 2005, in the Harmonie House Nursing Home in Amherst. He was born on May 29, 1932, in Farwell, and married Gereta Gage in Lariat on April 6, 1974.

Meissner moved to Muleshoe in 1974 from Lariat. He graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in animal husbandry.

Meissner joined the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and was discharged as

a captain. Meissner farmed and owned and operated the Lariat Gin. He was a member of the St. John Lutheran Church.

Survivors include his wife — Gereta Meissner of Muleshoe; three stepsons — Raymand Davenport of Muleshoe, Marvin Davenport of New York City and Michael Davenport of Petal, Miss.; a stepdaughter — Pamela Davis of Shelton, Conn.; two sisters — Agnes Aitken of Austin and Janice Schroder of Mexico, Mo.; seven step-grandchildren a great-grandson.

Memorials may be sent to St. John Lutheran Church, 725 CR DD, Farwell, TX 79325.

Elberta Wolfe

Services for Elberta May Wolfe, 79, of Ralls were held Wednesday, Dec. 28, at the Ralls First United Methodist Church with Aunie Sellers and John Spivey officiating. Burial followed at Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery in Muleshoe.

Wolfe dies on Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005 at Crosbyton Hospital. She was born on May 23, 1926, in Tonopah, Nev., to the late Jack Martin and Gertrude Susan (Millett) Thompson.

On May 25, 1947, she married Elmer Irvin Wolfe in Salida, Colo. He preceded her in death on Aug. 11, 1998.

She was a member of the Ralls First United Methodist Church and was also a member of the VFW Auxiliary.

She was also preceded in death by a son — Paul Edward Wolfe; a daughter — Lydia May Carvalho; and two grandchildren.

Survivors include a son and his wife — Harry and Sharon Wolfe of Ralls; a granddaughter and four great-grandchildren.

Noe Anzaldua

Church services for Noe Anzaldua, 71, of Muleshoe, were held Dec. 27, at the Bailey County Coliseum, Muleshoe with Fr. Leo Pahamtang of Muleshoe and Fr. Joe Augustine of Denver City and officiating.

Rosary was said on Monday, Dec. 26, in the Ellis Funeral Home of Muleshoe. Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery.

Anzaldua died on Dec. 22, 2005, in Muleshoe. He was born on Sept. 18, 1934, in Mercedes, and married Viola Barerra in Mercedes on April 12, 1953.

He was preceded in death a sister — Josephina Marroquin.

Anzaldua was a member of the Immaculate

Conception Catholic Church in Muleshoe, and was associated with the KMUL Radio Station in Muleshoe as general manager. He owned the El Jacalito Totilla Factory, Viola's Restaurant, and Noe's Used Cars.

He also served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include his wife — Viola Anzaldua of Muleshoe; two sons — Freddie and Roy Anzaldua, both of Muleshoe; two daughters — Noemi Garza of Clovis, N.M., and Noelia Rodriguez of Littlefield; two sisters — Irma Leal of Muleshoe and Guadalupe McLveen of Houtson; nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Dale DeBord

A church service for Dale DeBord, 61, of Morton was held Friday, Dec. 23, at the First United Methodist Church in Morton with the Rev. Jon Foster officiating. Burial followed in Morton Memorial Cemetery.

DeBord died on Dec. 20, 2005, in the University Medical Center in Lubbock. He was born on Jan. 3, 1944, in Levelland.

DeBord was raised in Morton and graduated from Morton High School. He attended Abilene Christian University and Hardin Simmons University in

Abilene.

DeBord farmed, worked at Frontier Game and was a security guard. He was a member of St. Luke's Methodist Church in Midland.

Survivors include three sons — Rex and Greg DeBord of Houston and Steve DeBord of Brownfield; his mother — Louise DeBord of Morton; a sister — Mary Ford of Morton; and a granddaughter.

Memorials may be sent to the Alcove Nursing Home fund, c/o City Bank, 107 W Taylor, Morton, TX 79346.

Blanca Rodriguez

A church service for Blanca Estela Rodriguez, 45, of Muleshoe was held Wednesday, Dec. 28, at the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe with the Rev. Pedro Escobar of Clovis, N.M., and the Rev. Jesus Espinoza of Portales, N.M., officiating.

Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery.

Rodriguez died on Dec. 24, 2005, in Lubbock. She was born on Feb 29, 1960, in Mexico, and married Raul Rodriguez in Portales, N.M. on Feb. 4, 1976.

She was preceded in death by her father — Pedro Burciaga.

Rodriguez was a member of the Iglesia Bautista Belen

Church in Clovis, N.M. She had lived in Muleshoe for the past 15 years moving from Needmore, and worked as a custodian for the U.S. Postal Service in Muleshoe.

Survivors include her husband - Raul Rodriguez of Muleshoe; a son — Raul Adam Rodriguez of Muleshoe; a daughter — Michelle Rodriguez of Muleshoe; her mother — Nicolasa Burciaga of Portales, N.M.; three sisters — Dulces Valdez, Olaya Espinoza and Elida Lopez, all of Portales; two brothers — Pedro and Saul Burciaga both of Portales; and one grandson.

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God Comes to Us Not as We Wish We Were But as We Are

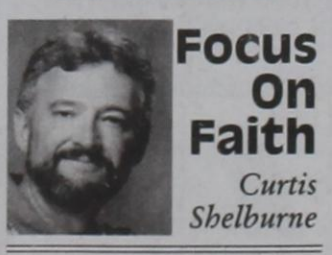
At first the quotation I'm about to share may sound a bit cynical, but when you have a little time to think about it, I think you'll agree with me that it is not only realistic and true, it is filled with hope.

You see, when God came into this world "in the flesh," he was laid in a manger, a feed trough, in a stable surrounded by everything anyone in first century Palestine would expect to find in such a place—including the very thing you can find in ample supply in almost all stables

"while we were yet sinners"—while we are as we always are—not what we wish we were, but what we are.

God comes to us as the angels sing "Glory to God in the highest!"

God comes to us as those shining and mighty heralds proclaim the amazing message that the Savior has been born—and with that wonderful news comes the accompanying note that is almost as surprising—that we common mortals whom God's Son has been born to save are those "on whom his favor rests."



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

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So a gentleman named Morse has written, "That the treasure of God's grace reaches us surrounded by garbage will not seem surprising to anyone who is personally familiar with life in the church. . . . Grace comes to us, so Martin Luther argues, hidden *sub contrario*, beneath its opposite. From this perspective, any idealized view of the church as only treasure is as faulty a vision of reality as any cynical view that the church is only garbage. Mangers, by definition, are found where there is manure."

You see, God comes to us

When the God of the universe comes to us, the amazing paradox is most fitting: He comes as the heavenly hosts sing, as heavens lit up with splendor declare the glory of God, but he comes in a tiny helpless form, lying in a manger, God in a most unlikely situation and shape, but having entered that situation and taken that shape, most likely crying just like any other of a thousand little babies, even those lying in far more appropriate cribs. And he comes surrounded by manure that smells, I think you can be sure, just like the manure in any of a thousand other stables.

In that manner of coming, we see God's grace shining even more brightly than the Christmas star, and in that paradox of his coming, we find our best, our truest, our only, our highest hope.

God comes to us not as we wish we were, but as we are.

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

Local Weather

Thurs.
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Sat.
Pt. Cloudy.... 71/39

Sun.
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Sports

Lady Mules "give treatment" to the Hereford Whitefaces

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mules left little doubt in the mind of the Hereford Lady Whitefaces which was the better team Tuesday before the Christmas break. The Lady Mules jumped out to a 12 point lead in the first period.

They continued their rough treatment of their guest to roast the Whitefaces, 52-33.

The relentless Lady Mule defense held Hereford to only two points until the 5:17 mark in the second quarter. Kate Lepard opened the scoring by driving the baseline, pulled up and dropped in an eight-foot jumper.

Hereford could not cross the time line before the ball was taken away and the Lady Mules reset their offense. Lepard shot a baseline pass to Kyra Kimbrough as she broke to the bucket for two points.

Hereford got on the board for their only bucket of the period before Lepard got backside position and stuck back a rebound.

The Lady Mules set up their full court press and Hereford tried to pass over



Photograph by Norm Brantley

Lady Mule Brandi Wood shoots during the game against Hereford.

Ashlie Dickson at center court. Dickson soared to grab the ball at the high point and drove into the lane.

Finding her way clogged with Whitefaces she fired a perfect pass to Kasey Wood in the corner. K. Wood nailed the trey to make it a

9-2 Lady Mule lead with under three minutes to play.

The Lady Mule press kept Hereford bottled up in the back court and forced a turnover that allowed the Lady Mules to reset their offense. Dickson drew the defense to the baseline and split the double team to pass across the lane to a wide open Lepard for a short jumper.

Hereford's final turnover of the period gave the Lady Mules an opportunity for the final shot. Lepard popped out to the top of the key and let fly a 20-foot jumper. The ball banged the back iron and popped straight up and then fell neatly through the net to end the period with the Lady Mules leading 14-2.

The Lady Mules second frame was not as productive as the first as some of the intensity seemed to disappear. Their defense allowed Hereford five points but the offense only added five.

As the second frame began Dickson found herself standing wide open on the wing and drained a 3-pointer. K. Wood drove the lane with defenders standing all around and

neatly dropped the biscuit in the basket, to give the Lady Mules a 19-5 half time advantage.

Brandi Wood found the range in the second half for a bucket and added a pair of charity tosses. Kimbrough slashed through the defense for a lay-up. Cholov Hernandez hit a jumper in the lane with a defender hanging on her arm. She added the charity toss.

Dickson missed a charity toss but added the second. She made up for the miss with her second 3-pointer of the night and finished the period with a bucket in the lane. K. Wood found a crease in the defense and drove to the bucket and then went behind the arc for her second trey.

The Lady Mules posted 20 points in the third frame and gave up 16 to take a 39-23 advantage into the final eight minutes.

Lepard worked her way inside for a pair of buckets in the final frame and K. Wood added a deuce. Kimbrough drove the lane

for a bucket and then made a pair from the line. Chelsi Hawkins made one of two from the line as Hereford began to foul as time ran down.

B. Wood added a bucket for the Lady Mules final bucket.

K. Wood led the Lady Mules with 14 points and Lepard dropped in 11. Dickson made nine points and Kimbrough added eight. B. Wood had six points, Hernandez three and Hawkins chipped in one.

The Lady Mules are back in action December 29 in the Lubbock Caprock Holiday Tournament. They tangle with the Lubbock Christian Eagles at 9:30 Thursday morning in the Estacado Gym.

A win would match the Lady Mules with the winner of the Randall-Claude game at 8 p.m. in the Lubbock High Gym.

A loss puts the Lady Mules in the Coronado Gym against the loser of the El Paso Franklin-Olton game at 10:30 a.m. Friday.

JV Lady Mules put Hereford opponents away

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The J. V. Lady Mules used a strong second period to put the Lady Whitefaces of Hereford away 44-39. The Lady Mules led by two after the first frame and hammered Hereford 15-7 in the second to take a 25-15 lead at the intermission.

The Gabby Agundis, Morgan Smith and Kelsey Tipps gave the Lady Mules an early 6-3 advantage as the game got under way. Hereford briefly took the lead with back to back buckets with two minutes left to play.

Amy Withrow stole the dribble from a Whiteface and drove the floor on a break. She drew the defense and dished off to Smith for the lay-up. Smith

returned the favor on the next Lady Mule break and dished back to Withrow trailing on the break.

Cecelia Reyna opened the Lady Mule seven-point run in the second frame with a 3-pointer from the top of the key. Smith raced back on defense as Hereford ran on a break and got in the passing lane.

She snagged the pass and drove coast-to-coast for a short jumper. Reyna picked off a Hereford pass and pushed the ball to Withrow running on the break for the the lay-up to give the Lady Mules a 17-8 lead with four minutes until the half.

Ashlie Grumbles grabbed a missed free throw by Hereford and drove the floor for a lay-up. Hereford made

back-to-back buckets.

Smith in bound the ball under the Lady Mule bucket with 45 second left to Agundis as she raced into the lane for a short shot. Withrow answered a pair of Hereford charity tosses with two from the line.

Withrow was blasted as she went in for a lay-up and could not shoot her free throws. Grumbles went to the line for Withrow and sank both from the line to give the Lady Mules a 25-15 cushion at the half.

Hereford trimmed two off the Lady Mule lead in the third frame and took off three in the final frame. The Lady Mules hung on for the win.

Reyna scored a pair of buckets in the third frame and Withrow returned for a

bucket. Agundis added a pair from the line to end the period with the Lady Mules leading 33-25.

Agundis made a bucket and drained a 3-pointer in the final eight minutes and Tipps made a pair from the line. Reyna dropped in a pair of short jumpers to finish the period.

Reyna and Agundis paced the Lady Mules with 11 each and Withrow added eight. Smith made six and Grumbles added four.

The Lady Mules are off until they travel to Friona Jan. 3. They open district play Jan. 6 when the Littlefield Ladycats come to town.

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Sports

Mules fall under Hereford's hooves

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules fell to the Hereford Hostile Herd Tuesday night in a nip and tuck battle. The Mules trailed 12-8 at the end of the first period. They cashed in six of eight charity tosses but in the final frame the Mules made four of 10 from the line. Hereford took the game 50-43.

Brady Black drove the baseline and was hammered shooting. He converted both free throws. Trevor Turnbow was fouled shooting and added two from the line to keep the Mules in front 4-2.

The Herd went on a five-point run that included a deep trey. Black cut the Herd's lead to one point with a drive and made the reverse lay-up. Myles James hit a pair from the line after being fouled on a drive down the lane.

Turnbow beat his defender off the dribble and headed for the hole. He was grabbed as he went up for the shot and made both from the line to open the second period.

Brant Hamilton dropped in a 12-foot jumper to cut the Herd's lead to 14-12. Colby Marsh made back to back



Mule Trevor Turnbow shoots during the recent game against Hereford's Hostile Herd.

treys to push the Hereford lead to 20-12. Marsh had five 3-pointers in the contest and led all scorers with 19.

Garrett Riley took his smaller defender to the blocks and posted up. Arsenio Geter rifled a pass to Riley and he made a move to score. Turnbow drained a short jumper before Riley worked for inside position on the defensive end. His defender went over his back and the

whistle blew with four seconds left.

He converted both ends of the one-and-one to cut the Herd's lead to 22-18 at the half.

The Mules trimmed one off the Herd's margin in the third frame by out scoring Hereford 11-10. Turnbow sank his only 3-pointer of the night in the third period and added a pair of short jumpers for seven in the period.

Black and Geter added a bucket each on the inside to make it a 32-29 game with eight minutes to play. The Mules made a strong run at the Herd in the final period but free throws would not fall. Geter had the best showing at the line by making three of four charity tosses and added a deuce.

Turnbow dropped in a pair of jumpers and Riley continued to work inside for a pair of buckets and charity toss.

Turnbow paced the Mules with 17 and Riley added nine points. Geter registered seven and Black made six. Hamilton and James dropped in two each.

The Mules return after Christmas against Estacado in the Lubbock Caprock Holiday Tournament. The Mules and Estacado play at 12:30 p.m. Dec. 29 in the Monterey New Box.

A Mule win would match the Mules against the winner of the Odessa-Amarillo Caprock tilt at 8 p.m. Thursday night at the Coronado Gym.

A loss puts the Mules in the consolation bracket and they face the loser of the Odessa-Caprock match at 10:30 a.m. Friday morning.

JV Mules drop a heartbreaker to Hereford's Herd

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The J.V. Mules dropped a heart breaker to the Hostile Herd of Hereford Tuesday night before the Holiday break. The Mules owned a 29-20 lead at the intermission but could only score three in the final frame as the game slipped away. The Herd won 41-40.

Patrick Precure dropped in his first two 3-pointers in the first half. Colby Carpenter made a bucket and added a two from the line. Cade Smith worked the inside to score a

pair of baskets and made a charity toss as the Mules eased in front of the Herd 12-11.

Smith dropped in a bucket in the second frame and T.J. Brantley went to work for a bucket and a pair of charity tosses. Adam Zamora made one of two from the line and Elias Alvarado hit a deuce.

Precure heated up with a trey and made three of four from the line as the Mules out scored the Herd 17-9 in the period to take a 29-20 lead to the dressing room at the half.

Smith went to work for three buckets in the third period and Carpenter added a bucket while the Herd made 13 to trim five off the Mule's lead.

The Mules held a 37-33 margin to begin the final frame. The Herd knotted the score at 37-37 with just under four minutes left to play. Dusty Clayton made the second charity toss to give the Mules their final lead of the night.

The Herd scored and then added a free throw to take a 40-38 lead with a minute left

on the clock. Smith worked his way inside for a bucket to retie the game with 34 seconds left. Hereford made one from the line to take the game.

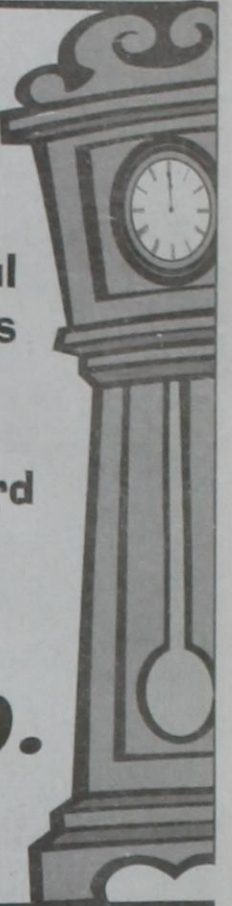
Smith led the Mules with 15 points and Precure added nine. Carpenter dropped in eight, Brantley four, Alvarado two and Zamora and Clayton chipped in one each.

The Mules open the New Year in Friona Jan. 3 and host Lubbock Monterey Jan. 6. They travel to Tulia Jan. 10.

As time winds down in 2005, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful customers & friends for your continued patronage. We're really looking forward to sharing another year with you!

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2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

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In addition to your presence, we encourage you to help us construct a memory book by sending us letters, pictures or other remembrances Mom and Dad would enjoy. Please send these items to Perri Lee at P.O. Box 2004, Shallowater, Texas 79363. E-mail thoughts and best wishes for our parents may be sent to rodalee@valomet.com or jpkent@fivearea.com

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Agricultural News

Extra care for modules protect cotton, allows gins to provide quality service

In the field, the 2005 crop has impressed many a West Texas traveler over the past few months. Now that the majority of this year's field activity is complete, the focus for crop watchers will be tracking how quickly the tens of thousands of modules waiting to be processed move from field to gin yard.

Module storage has been the standard across the Texas High Plains for more than twenty years and does an outstanding job of protecting cotton quality during what can be a lengthy wait for ginning.

Earlier this season, Plains Cotton Growers joined forces with the Texas Independent Ginners Association to remind producers how important the creation of uniform size modules was to keeping ginning costs down and to increasing the efficiency of a gin transporting modules from the field.

A critical component of a well-formed modules ability

to provide a high level of protection is the module tarp. Typically gins provide tarps for their producer customers and it is up to the producer to make sure that each one is properly installed and ultimately returned to the gin to be reused.

As High Plains ginners push past the halfway point of the ginning season, keeping track of module tarps can be a significant challenge. This year's frequent high wind events have multiplied this challenge even more. Growers are encouraged to

take the time to ensure that module covers are properly installed and to adjust loose or improperly fitted covers. This will ensure that they are able to perform as designed and have a reduced risk of loss or damage during a high wind event or during transport from field to gin.

Module covers are a significant investment for gins and taking the time to make sure they are properly installed can also keep ginning costs from being adversely impacted by reducing the number that have to be replaced because of loss or damage.

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Where's Echo? **Newspaper Fun!** Can you find him?
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Happy New Year!

People all over the world are welcoming the New Year. In Scotland, New Year's Eve is called Hogmanay. At midnight, church bells ring throughout the land. People join hands and sing the song "Auld Lang Syne." It is a song to help people remember old and new friends and "days gone by." Have you ever sung it in school or with your family?

Another custom in Scotland is that of the 'first-footer'. This is the first person to cross the threshold of a home in the new year. It is said that the first-footer should bring some coal, bread, a little money and some salt. In return he or she will be given food and drink. The first-footer and the things he or she brings will tell what kind of luck the family will have in the new year.

Uh-oh! I don't know how lucky this first-footer is going to be for me.

I like to dive for all the golf balls that they hit into the water!

Scotland

What Do You Know About Scotland?
 Read the clues below and use the words in the box to help you fill in the crossword puzzle:

ACROSS

- musical instrument with a bag of pig's skin, a pipe to blow, and several horns
- a design or "plaid" of a Scottish clan
- Scotland's national poet
- popular game invented by the Scottish people
- New Year's Eve
- lake that is said to have a creature living in it
- country north of England.
- a plaid, pleated skirt that can be worn by men
- large group of related families with the same last name

Word Box

bagpipe	Shetland
clan	first footer
Scotland	haggis
kilt	Hogmanay
Edinburgh	Loch Ness
tartan	Robert Burns
Glasgow	Highland Games
golf	Auld Lang Syne

DOWN

- pudding cooked in a sheep's stomach
- song to remember friends and "days gone by"
- capital of Scotland
- person bringing luck on New Year's Day
- Scotland's largest city; great ships built here
- contests of athletics, music and dancing
- small pony from a group of islands northeast of Scotland's mainland

Do you know what proper nouns are? They are nouns that name a certain person, place or thing. Proper nouns begin with a capital letter.

Wow! These are hard, so...

To find answers and to learn who must be careful on New Year's Day, check out our website: www.newspaperfun.com. Write to tell me how you celebrate the beginning of a New Year at Wing@newspaperfun.com.

Can you find and circle at least 15 proper nouns on this page?

A Mystery in Scotland!

Scotland has many lakes that are well known for their beauty. The Scottish word for lake is "loch." Loch Lomand is known for its beauty and 24-mile length. It has romantic songs written about it. Loch Ness is a bit more mysterious. It is known for the stories about a creature beneath its surface. No one knows for sure if there is a "monster" living in the water there or not. People have written stories about it and have tried to photograph it. If a creature is ever found in the lake do you think it will look like this?

Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills © 2005

Thank You.

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Health

The facts about stroke

Submitted by Mandi Seaton, Bailey CEA-FCS

Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States after heart disease and cancer. It is a major cause of physical and mental disabilities in older adults.

According to Andrew B. Crocker, Gerontology Health specialist with Texas Cooperative Extension, a stroke happens when blood cannot flow to a part of the brain. When the brain does not get the oxygen and nutrients it needs from the blood, its cells are damaged or begin to die. If brain cells are only damaged, they sometimes can be repaired. But brain cells that have died cannot be brought back to life. This means that the brain may stop sending signals to other parts of the body that control things like speaking, thinking, and walking.

There are two major types of strokes: ischemic and hemorrhagic. Ischemic stroke is the most common kind and is caused by blood clots or the narrowing of a blood vessel leading to the brain. The clot keeps blood from flowing into other regions of the brain and prevents needed oxygen and nutrients from reaching brain cells in these regions.

Hemorrhagic stroke happens when a broken blood vessel causes bleeding in the brain. This break also stops oxygen and nutrients from reaching brain cells.

Many people are familiar with the term "mini-stroke." A "mini-stroke" is technically called a Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA). TIAs may occur when blockage of the blood vessel has not reached 100

percent. Though not as immediately harmful as a regular stroke, a TIA is still a medical emergency. The affects of the TIA may be fleeting but may lead to a major, debilitating stroke.

Signs and symptoms of a stroke include but are not limited to

- Sudden numbness or weakness in the face, arm, or leg — especially on one side of the body.

- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.

- Sudden problems seeing in one eye or both eyes.

- Sudden dizziness, loss of balance or trouble walking.

The warning signs of a stroke may last only a few minutes and then go away. Always pay attention to any stroke symptoms, even if they are fleeting. If you suspect someone may be having a stroke, the National Stroke Association recommends you act FAST:

- Face... ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

- Arms... ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

- Speech... ask the person to repeat a simple sentence such as, "It's sunny today." Are the words slurred? Can the person repeat the sentence correctly?

- Time... If the person shows any of these symptoms, time is important. Call 9-1-1 immediately!

Recovery from a stroke is most successful if treatment begins within the first three hours after symptoms appear.

Talk to your health provider about what you can do to

lower your risk of stroke. Even if you are in perfect health, you may have some serious risks:

- Control your blood pressure. Have your blood pressure checked often. Treating high blood pressure lowers the risk of both stroke and heart disease.

- Stop smoking. Smoking is linked to increased risk for stroke. Quitting smoking at any age lowers the risk for stroke as well as for a lot of other serious diseases.

- Exercise regularly. Activities such as brisk walking, riding a bicycle and yard work may lower the risk of both stroke and heart disease. Exercise may make the heart stronger and improve blood flow.

Before any major change in your exercise routine, be sure to check with your health provider.

- Control your diabetes. Untreated diabetes can damage blood vessels and lead to a build up of fatty deposits in the arteries. This narrows arteries and blocks normal blood flow.

Stroke affects many different people in many different ways. It is an especially serious condition among women and African-Americans. However, the National Stroke Association estimates that up to 80 percent of strokes are preventable.

For more information, contact Mandi Seaton, Bailey County Extension agent — Family and Consumer Sciences, 306 West Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347, 806-272-4583 or visit the National Stroke Association's website at www.info.stroke.org.

Weddings

Stewart, Magby wed

Buffy Stewart of Ranger and Eric Magby of Colorado City, formerly of Lazbuddie, were united in matrimony on Nov. 19, 2005, at Legion Hall, in Abilene.

The bride is the daughter of Tracy and Kevin Black of Fritch, and Johnny Stewart of Ranger. She graduated from Fritch High School.

The groom is the son of Debbie Magby and the late Skip Magby of Muleshoe. He graduated from Lazbuddie High School and is employed by Hursh Cutting Horses.

The couple will be residing in Colorado city.



MR. & MRS. ERIC MAGBY

Financial seminar to start Jan. 29

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

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

Open Thursday, Dec. 29 thru noon on Saturday, Dec. 31!

See Kyle & Kory Atwood at **PARADISE FIREWORKS**
Located on Hwy. 84
1 mile west of Muleshoe, north side of highway

Nursing Home News

Nancy Lemons delivered ceramics for the residents to paint in craft class Thursday morning.

The 16th & D Church of Christ ladies hosted the pie party Thursday afternoon. Jane Conway, Clara Harbin, and Melody Sheets served the pies and visited with the residents.

The residents made fudge in cooking class for the Open House on Monday.

Saturday afternoon the residents played Bingo.

The Muleshoe Church of Christ directed a communion service Sunday morning.

Buster Kittrell taught the Bible Study Sunday morning.

The Earth Church of Christ came for church services Sunday afternoon following the service the group visited with the residents dn gave each residents a fine Christmas gift.

Our Open house was a great success Monday. We wish to thank all the folks who came out on, not such a pretty day, to share their presence with us.

Amber Fuller's FCS class from Muleshoe High School, made and decorated Christmas stocking for all the residents. The stocking were hung around the nurses station.

Five folks from Excel Corporation in Friona chose five residents to adopt for Christmas

Tuesday morning Bro. Jack Stone came and sang songs of Christmas to the residents.

Pat Watson, Janell

Garrett, Dianne Brown, Billie Mason, Eva Nell Dale, and Josie Ovalle came Tuesday afternoon to shampoo and set the ladies hair.

Louise Agee gave each beauty shop worker a Christmas corsage Tuesday, Louise said, "The corsage was a symbol of her appreciation to each of the ladies who so lovingly came each week to do hair and give friendship."

April Smith's computer lab of Muleshoe High School made an activity calendar for January 2006 and also made a Christmas card for each resident.

Buster and Wanda Kittrell served coffee and cinnamon rolls to the residents at coffee time on Wednesday

morning.

Buster Kittrell directed a celebration of the life of Clifton Finley Wednesday morning Anna B. Lane, James and Ann Sinclair and Glen Williams also participated.

The David Sudduths and the Rick Sudduths are scheduled to entertain Friday, Dec. 30, at 2:30 p.m.

Glenda Jennings and Jackie Scoggins came Wednesday afternoon, bearing gifts of song and music. Jackie's little granddaughter Elizabeth Fisher played several Christmas songs.

Clara Flores from the Giradalupana Society of ICC Church delivered gifts for the residents this week.

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W.T. Watson & others—Owners
Mr. Watson is retiring and will sell the following at public auction.
For more information call 806-825-4763 or James G. Cruce 806-296-5050

<p>Tractors-Cottan Stripper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-1989 Case IH 7120 diesel tractor cab-A/C-Hy-rado-MFWD-WTS-TH-OTPO-18.4x42 rubber-9852hrs 1-1977 Case 1370 diesel tractor-cab-A/C-Hy-WF-WTS-DH-18.4x36 rubber & duals 1-1962 John Deere 4010 diesel tractor-WF-SH-lenders 15.5x38 rubber 1-John Deere, No. 33, 2 row DT stripper <p>Trailers-Tanks-Sprayers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-Parkhurst gooseneck 16ft box bed hyd. pump trailer TA-rotation lines coil link axles 1-Dorshus gooseneck 16ft box bed hyd. pump trailer-TA-rotation lines coil link axles 1-Set Wyle Twin 200gal side mount spray tanks 7120 mounting brackets 3 way electric switch-ice pump 1-24 row, 3pt, hyd., FW, sprayer boom 1-8 row-Fin openwick herbicide applicator 1-8000gal metal diesel tank on skids 3-1500gal poly upright tanks 3-1000gal diesel fuel tanks 2-200gal poly spray tanks 1-1000gal fuel nurse tank/trailer, 4 wheel chassis 2-500gal fuel nurse tank/trailers, 4 wheel chassis 1-500gal 200 WP, propane tank 1-100gal propane tank 1-Big 12-4 wheel-24' flatbed trailer 2-Cobby, 4 wheel, trailer chassis 2-500gal upright metal tanks 1-set 8'x24' inside panels FM <p>Livestock Equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-4 wheel trailers 8'x12'4" burr beds White outfit for cattle feeding Big 12-Cobby & John Deere chassis 1-Portable cattle loading chute 20-5x15 metal loop leg livestock panels 1-8 livestock panel gate 1-Cobby 4 wheel US panel carrier trailer 1-stock tank heater 4-pools electric fence wire 1-Mayrath 4'x20' electric grain auger 1-Lot wire & T post 1-Mayrath 4'x11' grain auger-12v motor 	<p>Equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-John Deere 7300 Max Merge 1-Cummins 8 row planter-monitor-TW 1-Case-IH 900 Easy Rider-8 row planter double bases-DD openers-V's 1-Surflower DT 16ft trash mulcher plow 3-Yeller, 3pt, 28ft, rotary hoe 1-Hamby 9 row, discbedder-3pt DRTB-GH 1-Tye line, discbedder, 3pt-DSB-GW 1-Ullston 6 row, rolling outliner-big bar 1-Miller 18ft offset discplow-3bar 1-White 5342-3pt-5x18" spinner 1-rotoboard plow 1-Hamby, 3pt 9 shank V ripper plow TSS-GW 1-Tye 3pt, 21ft, grain drill-8" spaced-DD-6" roller 1-8 row, 3pt, hooded sprayer-DRTB wheel trails row unit-GW 1-Bigham Bros-SB stubble picker 1-Servis, 3pt Super Rhino Blade 2-Cantrell 9 row middle runner plow-28' 3pt 1-John Deere 707-4 row, DT shredder 1-John Deere 7 row later-4'x7'-bar GH-markers 1-Big Ox, 3pt, 7 shank, V ripper plow-OGW 1-Ullston 6 row rolling outliner 1-Hamby, 6 row, outliner-OSB-LTM-GW 1-SAS, 3pt, 21ft, field outliner w/ harrows 1-RAC, 3pt, 6 row, rowweeder-OSB-LTM-GW-SB hyd. rowweeder 1-8 row, 3pt, hyd. driven rowweeder-GH-4'x7" bar-1'x2" shanks & cleavous 1-Big 12-27 outpacker DT or 3pt 1-PW DT, 12 row sand fighter 1-PW, 3pt, 12 row sandfighter 1-3pt, 8ft, lum row plow 1-8row DT sandfighter 1-Herd PM, 12v seeder-spreader 1-SM manlift crane 1-HD-SM-3pt lift arm crane 1-Continental DT sprayer chassis 1-Meyers DT, V, ditcher 1-3pt dirt slip 	<p>Tractor & Tool Bar Malaxaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-sets, RAC, hyd-FW row markers 1-Hamby 28' TSB tool carrier-LTM 1-Lot 1'x2' shanks & clamps 1-Lot toolbar gauge wheels 1-Campbell, 3pt, 20' PRTB tool carrier 2-Lee 3pt quick hitches 1-John Deere, 3-piece, 3pt, hitch 1-Set guide cone gauge wheels 1-Lot trailing heads-barring off disc 2-sets hyd. FFW row markers 1-Lot John Deere 7300 parts 1-Lot John Deere orchard shanks 1-Lot John Deere planter parts 3-planters incorporators 1-Lot tractor & plow parts 1-Lot rotary hoe wheels 1-Lot eye drill press wheels 1-Set IHC wheel spreader-hangs 1-Set IHC tractor weights-raise-hang on 1-Lot IHC planter drums 1-Ford 800 tractor gas tank 1-Gleaser combine fuel tank 1-Lot Yellow fertilizer injection points 1-Hamby toolbar-trailer pull hitch 1-Continental hyd. AA fertilizer outfl-manifold 1-Ace hyd. sprayer pump 2-4 row-4' bed rollers 18-individual row discs 1-Set Moine UB tractor ladders & pulley 1-4 row hyd. Drive rowweeder 2-12'x1 row bed rollers 1-Lot tractor tires 1-Lot sweeps-knives, discs, chisels, 1 piece bushers <p>Vehicles-Motors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-1968 International Loadstar 1800 TA truck tractor, twin screw, 5th wheel 1-1992 Silverado Chevrolet pickup-4x4-350 engine-A/T-LWB 1-Portac Lamare 4dr sedan HT car 1-1967 Ford F600 truck cab & chassis 1-1944 Ford truck-cab & chassis 2-Army surplus boy, Diesel engine <p>Service Trailer-Welder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-2 wheel service trailer-1600lb 1-Lincoln portable welder-generator-bottle holder 1-Portable gas powered air compressor 	<p>Irrigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-Lot parts 6'x30' aluminum sprinkler pipe 50 parts 6'x20' aluminum gated pipe 10 parts 6'x20' aluminum gated pipe 1-Lot 6'x30' PVC gated pipe 1-Lot assorted aluminum pipe-short joints-valves-hydrants-fittings 1-Portable chemical injector pump wireless switch-hookup 1-Ford 42B irrigation motor 1-International 44B irrigation motor 2-Ford 48B irrigation motor 4-Chevrolet 250 irrigation motor 4-Chevrolet 250-6cyl. irrigation motors 2-Chrysler 44B irrigation motor 1-US 30hp, VHS, electric motor 2-GE 50hp, VHS, electric motors 1-GE 40hp, VHS, electric motor 1-Lot right angle drive gear heads various makes, various HP & various ratios 1-6' turbine pump-250' column pipe-tubing shaft-base 1-Lot 1/2' column pipe-tubing & shaft 1-Lot 1/2' column pipe-tubing & shaft 1-Lot 6' vent stand pipe 1-Injection-meter fertilizer pump 2-irrigation motor covers 1-4 wheel in. pipe trailer 1-2 wheel in. pipe trailer 1-Large lot aluminum irrigation tubes 1" to 3" <p>Non-Classified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-Butane filler hose 1-Wyle, 25gal, 112v sprayer 1-Butane choker brooder 1-12v fuel transfer pump 5-small electric motors-weld OH 1-Lot barns 1-Lot various size & length lumber 1-Lot scrap iron-aluminum-batteries 1-Lot items too numerous to list <p>Grain Carts-Combine Chassis-Headers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-Big 12-400 bushel grain kart 1-Pharm Wilkins 400 bushel grain cart 1-International 915 combine chassis no motor 1-International 610-24' grain platform 1-International 854-6 row wide corn head
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ANY ANNOUNCEMENT ON SALE DAY :: TAKES PRECEDENCE ::

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Toys for Tots

Pictured above, Cindy howie and Amy Melendez stand among the toys collected by employees of Five Area Systems and Plateau Cellular for donation to Toys for Tots.

Texas feedlot totals up from last year

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Texas feedlots with capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 2.94 million head on Dec. 1, up seven percent from a year ago.

According to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office, the estimate was down one percent from the Nov. 1 level. Producers placed 495,000 head in commercial feedlots during November, up 55 percent from a year ago, but down 26 percent from the October 2005 total.

Texas commercial feeders marketed 510,000 head during November, up 19 percent from last year but down two percent from last month.

On Dec. 1, there were 2.45 million head of cattle and calves on feed in the Northern High Plains, 83 percent of the state's total. The number on feed across the area was up seven percent from last year, but down one percent from the November total.

November placements in the Northern High Plains totaled 403,000 head, down 29 percent from the October total. Marketings were down three percent from last month to 421,000 head.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in United States in feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 11.7 million head on Dec. 1, 2005. This inventory was three percent above Dec. 1, 2004.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 2.05 million head, 17 percent above November 2004.

November placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds totaled 660,000 head; 600-699 pounds totaled 650,000 head; 700-799 pounds totaled 420,000 head; 800 pounds and greater totaled 315,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.70 million head, four percent above 2004.

Classifieds

Call 272-4536 to advertise!

Stop and Shop

Deadline 5 p.m. Friday

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



COUPON

NEW SUBSCRIBERS:

Get one month FREE with this coupon!

Just send this coupon along with your check for a 1 year subscription to the Muleshoe Journal and you'll get an extra month of service at no charge! 13 months of news for the price of 12! Yearly subscription rates are: \$26 mailed out of Bailey County; \$24 mailed inside Bailey County; \$22 carrier; and \$22 college student special. Send your checks and coupons to: Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, Texas 79347.

New subscribers must not have had a valid subscription to the Muleshoe Journal for the past 60 days.

REAL ESTATE

- 2 BR/1 Bath with patio, sunroom, 508 Furneaux, Sudan. House in excellent condition. Steel siding & 'new' windows. Central A/C, located on corner lot one block from school. Buy and move in!
- 3 BR/2-1/2 BA/2 CAR GAR — Brick home, 604 4th St., Earth, TX. Well kept home boasting great floor plan w/ roomy kitchen, cozy den, workshop and cement storm cellar. Only 1 block from pool.
- 3 BR/2-1/2 BA/2 CAR GAR — Brick home, approx. 1920' sq. ft. living area, located 1 block from school in Sudan on Hwy. 303. Well kept home, awesome kitchen and nice neighborhood. PRICE REDUCED!!!!
- 3 BR/2 BA/2 CAR GARAGE — 610 Wilson, Sudan. Brick home on corner lot, located 2 blocks from Sudan schools. Sprinkler system, hardwood flooring, recently remodeled bathroom, building in back, perfect for workshop or a home business. Owner is Texas Realtor.

Lutrick REAL ESTATE
 Monty Edwards, Realtor Associate
 806-786-5426 or 806-687-7355

MULESHOE NEEDS A STATE-OF-THE-ART VEG-ETABLE SHED, let's syndicate this one farmers, businessmen, etc. - 21.39 acres +/-, over 29,000 sq. ft. Warehouse/Packing Facility with Corp. Offices, approx. 7,200 sq. ft. cold storage, 12 loading docks, truck wash, wells, migrant housing. Prime location on Hwy. 84.
LITTLEFIELD, TX - 6 large steel barns in excellent condition, large office and truck scale.
PERMITTED FOR 5000 HEAD (3600 milking) - Parmer Co., TX - 640 acres fully developed with irr. wells & sprinklers on pavement.
PARMER CO. - Hwy. 145, 480 acres on pvmt. with three circles, additional 1/4 in Bailey Co. Texas also.
COCHRAN/LEA COUNTRIES - 3,500 acres with wells and sprinklers, pavement, nice place!
BETWEEN MULESHOE/FARWELL - 4 bdrm rock house and Quonset barn on 5-10 acres with possible farm lease of 1/2 section with one 1/4 mile sprinkler.
OWNER FINANCING!
CHECK OUR WEBSITE for data and pictures of many farms, ranches, feedyards, dairies and choice dairy locations with permits and acreages with homes.
 www.scotlandcompany.com
Ben G. Scott — Broker 800/933-9698 day/eve

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

Richland Hills, 1914 W. Ave. G — Lovely 3/2/2 attached carport brick home with spacious living area, fireplace, separate dining, game room and basement. Circular drive. \$190,000.

Richland Hills, 1713 W. Ave. I — Nice stucco 2-story with separate living room, game room, covered patio, hot tub/spa. \$250,000.

Farm — 140 County Rd. 235 — 320 acres with 2 houses, several outbuildings. Main house beautifully updated. 2 Valley 8 tower sprinklers, 7 wells all tied together. Will not divide. \$650,000.

Farm — 160 ac., strong water area with Zimmatic sprinkler, Parmer Co. \$240,000.

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 Do you need your windows cleaned before the holidays? Also, great gift idea for those special loved ones.
CALL 806-543-3324 FOR FREE ESTIMATE. LEAVE MESSAGE.

Shop locally!

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REAL ESTATE

Ronald Byrd
 Licensed Broker
Crista Bass

228 Main Street, Muleshoe, Texas
 www.byrdrealestate.net

- **New Listing** - Extremely nice 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath brick home. Newly remodeled kitchen & bathrooms. New appliances, fireplace, office, storage, 2 car garage, fenced back yard & front sprinkler system - more.
- **3 bedroom, 2 bath** brick home, built-ins, ref. air, central heat, single car garage, carport, storage building, workshop, deck and fenced back yard.
- **In Country on Highway** - Approx. 2100 sq. ft. Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home, built-ins, large utility, 800 sq. ft. of master bedroom and bath with garden Jacuzzi tub, spacious closets, 2 fireplaces, large wooden deck with hot tub and pond, shop, outbuildings, 160 acres of dryland grass, great for cattle plus a lot more! Call for more details!
- **New Listing** - Nice spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, built-ins, large bedroom, central heat, great closet space, fenced back yard, shop, 2 car carport. All on corner lot near high school!
- **Just Listed - Parmer/Castro Co. Line** - 3,200 acres, 16 1/4 mile circles, 1 section system. Excellent farm ground, bases & yields. Isolated for dairy location or just production farm! Call for details. Will divide into smaller tracts.
- **Commercial lot. Excellent location - American Blvd. 125' x 140'**
- **168 acres dryland. MAKE OFFER!!!**
- **Thinking about building?** Take a look at this house first. For half the cost of new construction, you can own this beautiful, spacious 4BR, 3-1/2 bath, brick home, approx. 5,000 sq. ft., built-ins, ref. air, central heat, 2 living areas, dining room, lg. utility, 2 fireplaces, office, lg. closets, lots of storage, sprinkler system, 2 car garage, nice fenced back yard, plus a lot more, all on a corner lot.

Need Home Listings! Have Buyers! Give us a call!
 Office: Toll Free
 (806) 272-5380 1-888-999-3846

WANT TO BUY

Want to purchase mineral and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: PO Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201.

PAINTING

Rex Lowery
Painting
 Painting in the Muleshoe Area over 40 years!
 FREE ESTIMATES.
Cell: 789-9142
 Evening - 385-5927

HOUSE FOR SALE

2-1-2 car covered carport, storage shed on lg. corner lot at 302 W. 6th Street, Muleshoe. Interior has been gutted & ready to remodel. Price reduced to \$16,000. Owner financing available. For more info., call 830-535-4548, leave message along with your name and your number.

Buy it or sell with the help of the Muleshoe Journal!

REAL ESTATE

- **Irrigated farms** — Plains, Earth, Brownfield, Levelland, Halfway and Sundown.
- **Amherst** — 5/2/2 on 2 acres, \$61,000.
- **Whitharral** — 3 1/2 S, New 3-2 Redi-Built, 4.5 A \$74,900

FARRAR & ASSOCIATES
806-894-7099

Vic Coker Land Co.
 Agricultural Real Estate

- **Bailey County** — 354 acres in Baileyboro area; 250 acres of non-irrigated farmland; 100 acres of native grass.
- **Lamb County** — 1000+ acres northwest of Littlefield. 9 pivot sprinklers, 13 wells. Good livestock pens. Excellent soil for peanuts and potatoes.
- **CRP** — 354 acres. **SOLD** days good. 2 yrs. left.
- **Country Home South of Muleshoe** — 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, with basement, barn and outbuildings. All on approximately 3 acres.
- **Earth - Hite Park Addition** — 5 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, 2 storage buildings. Nice place for large family or if you need a home office.
- **Bailey County C.R.P.** — 297 acres on pavement. 2 years left. Lots of deposits. **SOLD**
- **Parmer County** — 240 acres west of Friona on Draw. 3 electric wells, good water. Equipped for pivot.
- **Lamb County** — 255 acres all in cultivation. 2 domestic wells. Pavement on two sides. **SOLD**

316 Main Street • Muleshoe, Texas
 Office: 806-272-3100 Home: 806-965-2468
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HELP WANTED

Experienced cowboy needed at Dimmitt Feed Yard. Must have own horses and tack. Come by to see **Scoty Edwards** (806) 647-2106.

Experienced yard helper needed at Dimmitt Feed Yard to do repairs. Please come by and talk to **Monte Cochran** (806) 647-2106.

Leal's Restaurant is hiring for wait staff, hostess, cashier and busers. Only taking applications in person. No phone calls! Mon.-Fri., 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Seeking a full-time OB/ER RN for Lamb Healthcare Center. Call 385-6411 ext. 214 for more info. or pick up an application at 1500 S. Sunset, Littlefield.

Mature CDL Drivers needed to haul feed to local area dairies & feedyards. Need reliable persons with a good & clear safety record who are willing to work hard and get good pay. Call 806-272-4183.

Production position available. Now accepting applications for production position at Hi-Pro Feeds. Company insurance, 401K, paid holidays. Must pass drug screen. Apply in person at Hi-Pro Feeds in Friona.

FOR SALE

2003 Solitaire 16x80 mobile home, 1,216 sq. ft. 3 BD/2 BA, very nice home - all walls are 2x4 and sheetrock and all taped/textured, real wood cabinets, side board skirting, new paint on side. Garden tub and stand up shower in master bed. All windows have blinds. Includes stove, refrig. and dishwasher. \$31,500. 965-2722 or 946-9546 or 946-9547, leave message.

WANTED: Responsible party to take on small monthly payments on High Definition Big Screen TV. 1-800-398-3970.

Used appliances for sale: refrigerator, washer, dryers, elec. ranges, gas ranges and dishwashers. Call 272-3091.

Two cemetery plots in Memorial Park Garden 4 by the sidewalk. For more info. call 272-4345.

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR SAFELY & SOBERLY!

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

\$40,000 AS IS, FIRM PRICE! 3 bdrm, 1 bath, carport, patio, central heat & air, large lot. 1825 W. Ave. B., Muleshoe. Cash or buyer must obtain a loan from 3rd party conventional lender. View by appointment only. Call 272-4205 for more information.

3 bedroom/2 bath/2 car garage home. Central heat & air, covered patio and storage shed. Come see at 908 W. 8th or call 272-3072 or 946-7450.

Nieman Realty

116 E. Ave. C • George Nieman, Broker • 272-5285 or 272-5286

CHECK OUR LISTING INFO., PHOTOS, ETC. ON-LINE AT WWW.NIEMANREALTY.COM

HAVE BUYERS! NEED HOME AND LAND LISTINGS!!

- **RICHLAND HILLS — PARKRIDGE AREA**
- **VERY NICE 3-2-2** Brick home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fans, fenced yd., auto. spkrl., 2 stor. bldgs.!! MORE!! \$79.5K!!
- **NICE LOTS AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS!!!**
- **LENAU - COUNTRY CLUB AREA**
- **2-1-2** carport Home, floor furn, heat, win. evap. air, stor. bldg., fenced yd. MORE!! \$33.5 K!! L-1
- **3-2-1** Home, floor & wall furn, heat, win. air, built-ins, FP, fans, 1424' lv. area, cov. patio, fenced yd.!! \$49.5K!! L-2
- **3-2-2** carport, Cent. A&H, DW, w/ubrn stove, 2156' lv. area, enclosed patio!! \$35.5K!! L-3
- **2-1** Home, floor furnace heat, win. evap. air, fenced yd., stor. bldg.!! \$19.9K!!
- **HIGH SCHOOL AREA**
- **2-2** Bdrm., 1 bath units & 1-1 Bdrm., 1 bath unit, Cent. Elec. Heat Pumps, appliances, furniture, fenced!! GOOD RENTAL PROPERTY!! \$85K!!
- **COMMERCIAL**
- **GOOD INCOME PROPERTY!!** - 2-4 unit, 1-8 unit, and 1-2 unit apartments!! CALL FOR DETAILS!!
- **413'** Frontage on Hwy. 214, 24' x 50' shop, 24' x 30' office, chainlink fence!! \$21K!!
- **4.2** acre tract at edge of town, 40' x 60' metal insulated bldg., 2 other sheeliron bldgs., chainlink fenced area, numerous uses!! \$59K!!
- **Approx. 1274'** Building, 75' x 140' lot, U. S. Hwy. 84!! \$35K!!
- **Approx. 40' x 90'** Metal Bldg. on 50' x 140' lot!! \$19,500!!
- **RURAL**
- **NEEDMORE - NICE 3-2-2** Brick home on Hwy. 214, 1.14 acres, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, fans, stor. bldg., horse pen. MORE!! \$79.5K!!
- **EARTH** - Nice 3/2/2 Brick Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, workshop/office, stor. bldg., fenced yd., MORE!! \$45K!!
- **SUDAN** - NICE 3-2-5-2 Brick Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, 3200' lv. area, cov. patio, 2 stor. bldgs. MORE!! \$95K!!
- **NEEDMORE-3-1.5** Home on 2.5 acres, Cent. heat, evap. air, metal siding, 1920' barn, 320' shed bldg., & 304' shed. MORE!! \$32.5K!!
- **S. OF FARWELL** — 4-3-2 Brick Home, 69.6 acre tract, cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, 2940' garage/workshop w/ vault, 2940' garage/workshop, 2000' loft over garage, 6" well, barns, & corral!! MORE!! \$339K!!
- **VERY NICE 3-2-5-2** Home on 3.67 acres, 1271 Hwy. 214 S., cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, fenced yd., nicely landscaped, 2900+ lv. area, 680' + additional area stor., gazebo, barns, MORE!! \$129K!!
- **LAZBUDDIE AREA** — 3-2-2 Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, deck, hot tub, cellar, stor. bldgs., on 2 acre tract!! \$95K!! Additional 156 acre farm w/circle sprinkler, 3-20 hp. sub. wells!! \$495 per acre!!
- **SUDAN - NICE 3-2-2** Home on 55.88 acre tract, edge of town, built-ins, FP, shop, barns, pens, 4" irrig. well, undrgrd. line, MORE!! \$120,000!!!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS AND WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Master certificate awarded

Sgt. Det. Benny Parker of the Muleshoe Police Department was awarded a master law enforcement officers certificate from the State of Texas during ceremonies held Wednesday, Dec. 21, at Muleshoe City Hall. Pictured above, Chief Don Carter presents the certificate to Parker.

A year in review... Continued from page 1

nightmares to Pat Sajak of the Wheel of Fortune®, strutted his stuff to the delight of the Mules.

Students at Muleshoe High School were also active in their fight against substance abuse in March, presenting a dramatization of an alcohol-related accident as part of the district's Shattered Dreams program to help the students visualize the impact such wrong decisions could have in their lives.

Among the honored from March was Judy Koelzer of Muleshoe Area Medical Center, who was surprised by representative from Covenant with the announcement that she had won an award for her service to the patients at the hospital.

March also marked the return of Marine Staff Sgt. Eddie Alvarado from Iraq. The 1983 Muleshoe graduate was deployed near Falugah in Northern Iraq, attached to a convoy support company.

But the biggest "near story" of the month was the visit of Michael Newport of the TLC show "Town Haul." "What can be done to put Muleshoe on the map?" Newport asked the crowd that appeared at the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture.

Newport toured the town, talked to the people, and vanished. It wasn't much longer before the television show itself disappeared as well.

The newspaper also featured a story on one of the many new dairies in the area in March, the Hettinga Progress Dairy, located west of Muleshoe on Hwy. 84.

April

April started out with mixed emotions. Although it marked the return of PFC Valentin Ramirez, with a big surprise for the Ramirez children, one of whom was quoted as saying "I wish it was Daddy coming home," while enroute to the airport in Lubbock to greet the return of a "friend of their father's" from war-torn Iraq, it also marked the death of longtime Muleshoe businesswoman Gladys Myers of the Muleshoe Livestock Auction.

This wasn't the only Muleshoe death that hit the front page of the Journal, as former Muleshoe Journal and Bailey County Journal publisher Larry Hall succumbed on April 18 to

injuries received in a house fire earlier that month.

April was also the month that problems at the Muleshoe Area Hospital District surfaced with questions being raised over actions taken by former board president "Buck" Campbell and former CEO Jim Bone. The actions were the beginning of a ground swell of opposition voiced over a wide variety of issues at the hospital board meetings that followed in subsequent months.

Area residents were also voicing outrage, but not at a public board or entity. In April, W.B. Slayden of Muleshoe filed a civil action against Jim Graves of Claude, seeking the return of \$643,000 which Graves swindled out of him in 2002. Other area residents who fell for similar sales pitches lost funds bringing the totals to more than a million dollars.

In a letter which Slayden wrote, he said, "Mr. Graves came into my home for almost a year with his deceit and deception. For nearly a whole year... nearly a whole year. Can you get any lower than that? In my own home... right under my nose. For nearly a year, he (Mr. Graves) claimed to be my best friend. Right in my own home he did that."

On April 19, Graves was picked up on a county warrant related to his participation in the "ponzi scheme" in Bailey County and jailed in Carson County.

May

On May 4, Dist. Judge Gordon Green of Bailey County issued a summary judgement against Graves, ordering him to repay \$586,786.50 of the funds received from Slayden.

Continuing education was the big topic in Muleshoe in May as representatives from Bailey County, the City of Muleshoe and South Plains College announced that a steering committee was looking into offering college classes in Muleshoe.

At Muleshoe High School, local parents turned the cafeteria into an event of "classic" proportion with the prom theme of "Hollywood Nights" treating the students to the glitz and glitter of Hollywood.

May's honorees included Jennifer De Leon who was recognized as the Muleshoe Journal's Mother of the Year; Buck Campbell who was honored for his 16 years of service to the

Muleshoe Area Hospital District. Daniel Guzman won the Dist. 3 seat on the MISD school board, while April Smith and Chantel White were named Teachers of the Year.

Park View Nursing Home's new administrator, Paul Chassion, showed he wanted to become a part of the Muleshoe community in May by offering his musical talents at a wide variety of local events. His enthusiasm, compassion and new ideas for the operation of the nursing home quickly caught the attention of the MAHD board and the community as a whole.

A "Three-legged chicken" caught the attention of the public in May four area teachers, Patty O'Hare, Sandra Richards, Jan Via and Chantel White — the members of the Writing Chicks Publishing Company, presented their unique program to the MISD board members.

The "three-legged chicken" is a writing tool the teachers developed to simplify outlining for students, helping them to coordinate their thoughts prior to writing.

And of course, in May, 101 Mules and Lady Mules walked across the dais to accept their diplomas at the Bailey County Coliseum.

June

The Muleshoe Heritage Foundation's 11th annual Tour de Muleshoe was held Saturday, June 11, with a large number of bicyclists traveling to the Bailey County seat to compete in the event.

At the Muleshoe City Council meeting, the decision was made to reinstate the police department's canine program. At the hospital district, the board members voted to use \$69,792 from \$270,000 in Medicare overpayment funds in the purchase of needed upgrades in the hospital's boiler room.

June's honorees included LeAnn Gallman, who was named as the 2005 Municipal Clerk of the Year for the South Plains Chapter of the Texas Municipal Clerk Association, and 1977 Muleshoe graduate Col. Curtis Reynolds, who retired from the U.S. Air Force.

Also in June, people were seeing red in Muleshoe in June as the Red Hat Society came to town for its second annual "Red Hat Fling."

Watch for Part 2 in next week's issue.

Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

Reports from all the senior citizens at the center reveals everyone had a good Christmas. Our prayers are with the ones ill and with the families who lost loved ones.

We will have game day on Tuesday. Also our senior dance will be Tuesday night from 7 until 10 p.m., with a break for pot luck supper at 8:30. Come join in the fun.

We have an exercise video at 8 a.m. and another one at 10 a.m., each morning. It is easy for the seniors to do and it will help you with your walking, balance, and to lose pounds.

Individual bridge clubs

meet the first and third Wednesdays at the center. We enjoy having the ladies.

Remember, the center will be closed Monday, Jan. 2. We will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3, for meals and games.

We wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year. May we all have good health and enjoyment during the year.

Menu for Monday through Friday, Jan. 1-6.

Monday, Jan. 2 — Closed

Tuesday, Jan. 3 — Mexican beef and potato stew, mixed vegetables, cornbread and coconut pudding.

Wednesday, Jan. 4 — Salisbury steak, rice, peas

and carrots, hot roll and pumpkin bar.

Thursday, Jan. 5 — Tacos, Spanish rice, Mexican corn, pinto beans and angel food cake.

Friday, Jan. 6 — Crispy fish, steak fries, coleslaw, hush puppies and jello salad.

Class of 1986 to meet Dec. 29

The Muleshoe Class of 1986 will be holding an organizational meeting for its 20th class reunion on Thursday, Dec. 29, at 6:30 p.m., at Leal's. Class members who are interested in helping are asked to attend. For more information, contact Laurey (Grant) Riney at 806-285-7785.

Our Sincere Apologies....

Several names were inadvertently omitted from the Park View Christmas Card Project thank you ad in last week's paper. We apologize for the mistake and assure you that every donation to Park View is important to us. Thank you so much for thinking of our residents during this hectic time of year. Your friendship is appreciated more than we can ever say.

Thank You....

<i>Individuals</i>	<i>In Honor Of - by Max and Pat King</i>	<i>Western Drug and Something Special Gifts - Paul & Judy Wilbanks</i>
Costen, Joe and Joyeline Crawford, Jim and Jan Jones, Clara Lou Jones, Mike Landers, Bob and Nina McCamish, Frank, Kelsey and Ashley Beggs Prater, Arnold and Pat Reeder, Louis and Jane Reeder, Mark, Courtney and Cash Scoggins, Grace Watson, W.T. and Pat	Mr. and Mrs. Joe King Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wilbanks Mr. and Mrs. Buck Campbell Mr. and Mrs. Charles Flowers Mr. and Mrs. Charles Isaac Mr. and Mrs. Doyce Turner Mr. and Mrs. Jim Young Ken Box Sammie Hall	<i>A Memorial To Gladys Myers - by Mark, Courtney and Cash Reeder</i>

May every aspect of your life be blessed abundantly in 2006!

Businesses
First Bank of Muleshoe
H&R Block of Muleshoe
Southside Welding - Jerd Vinson

TRUCK MONTH

BUILT Ford TOUGH

BUST INTO 2006

WITH A TOUGH NEW TRUCK

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