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Muleshoe Journal



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Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

January 4, 2007

From the Stands

By Delton Wilhite

2006: The Year of the Mule



The Mule may not be in the Chinese calendar rotation of animals. But we live in Texas not in China so guess we can have any animal we want. Winning has become a tradition for the Mules and Lady Mules.

2006 was no different. The 2006 Lady Mules returned to the Regional Finals in the United Spirit Arena. The Mules peaked at the right time and were one win away from the Regional Tournament.

The Mule golf team repeated as District Champs and Trevor Turnbow competed in the Texas State Golf Tournament after a strong performance in the Region I Tournament.

The Lady Mules won their seventh consecutive cross-country District Championship. The Mules returned to the playoffs

after putting in a whole new offense. They earned a gold ball by defeating the Panhandle Panthers in Bi-District.

The winning tradition began in the fall of 1998 and has continued to the present. Having been a fan of the Mules and Lady Mules long before 1998 I can truthfully say this is much more fun.

Each time the Mules or Lady Mules set foot on a track, court, field or course they expect to win. That same attitude applies to the academic and fine art competitions. Winning is contagious and there is an epidemic on the Muleshoe High School Campus.

2006... A year in review

Part 2

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

June
The Muleshoe Independent School District began the second half of 2006 with its annual planning session, during which Dillman Elementary principal Todd Newberry talked about the importance of the work his staff performs at the district's youngest campus.

"It all starts with us..." Newberry said. "We play an important role in making these students a success."

Newberry's remark came early during the June 29 meeting, when board members and administrators were talking about the accomplishments of the school district during the past year.

He said he'd been thinking about the brief statement: "It all starts with us," for a few days and how well it fit the work being accomplished at Dillman, probably even more so since the community's Head Start program has been move to the campus.



Solemnly swearing...

Bailey County elected officials, and their deputies, were sworn into office Friday by Judge Young. Pictured above, from left to right, are County Clerk Paula Benton, County Judge Sherri Harrison, Precinct 2 Commissioner C.E. Grant, County Treasurer Shonda Black, District Clerk Elaine Parker, Justice of the Peace Deb Stone, and Precinct 4 Commissioner Juan Chavez.

DeShazo Elementary's principal, Debbie Gallman, talked about how her students, and their parents, dealt with crises on the campus during the past year, and how proud she was of them.

"I'm so proud of these kids..." she said during a particularly emotional portion of the meeting. "They care... every day."

Referring to the deep compassion the campuses' administrators have for the students they work with, Assistant Superintendent Don Wood added that the greatest asset of the school district are its people — its staff, students and parents.

"School needs to be more than what's in the book," Wood said.

Along with the district's accomplishments, the board and administrators also talked about the "critical issues" that face the school district in the weeks, months and years ahead, ranging from implementing the bond issue that was passed in May to maintaining quality instructors and leadership within the district.

At the same meeting, the MISD Board of Trustees announced a \$1.37 per hundred proposed tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year.

The board meeting, which was sandwiched

between sections of the MISD planning session, including a presentation from the district's business manager, Trea McNeill.

"The bottom line is that we have a balanced budget," she said.

"If you don't raise to \$1.37 from \$1.33, they'll be leaving \$400,000 on the

table, including the local tax increase and the additional state funds this will bring in," McNeill added.

At the Muleshoe Journal, it was announced that managing editor Larry Thornton was honored by the Texas Press Association and the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas.

On June 24, at the TPA Summer Convention it was announced that Thornton's coverage of turmoil within the Muleshoe Area Hospital District received the Monson FOI Award, which recognizes journalists and newspapers for outstanding efforts that uphold First Amendment principles, increase public access to government, and improve awareness of state open government statutes.

The award is named in honor of Nancy Monson, the FOIFT's executive director who retired in 2001.

The recipients of each year's Monson Awards — one in the Non-Daily category, and one in the Daily category — are selected from Texas

newspapers.

In their announcement of the Journal as this year's winner, the judges said, "A hospital district in trouble, and a community newspaper using public records and lots of gumshoe reporting to make a huge difference in a small Texas town. Breaking through a wall of public apathy at first, the newspaper is to be commended for its relentless pursuit of an important story. This is what community journalism is all about."

While at Muleshoe City Hall it was noted that water usage by residents and commercial customers of the City of Muleshoe is reaching an all time high, about 1.8 million gallons of water each day.

Even though the city is meeting the demand, city officials said the long dry weather is putting a strain on the city's water production facilities.

City Manager David Brunson also discussed some of the issues and projects that will be facing the City of Muleshoe during the regular council meeting.

In his memo to the council members Brunson said, "There are several areas of capitol improvement that the city will need to address in the next two to five years..." —

David Brunson

David Brunson

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David Brunson

David Brunson

Lamplight

By Larry Thornton

It's that time of year again

It's that time of year, again. The New Year is upon us and for many it

means the time has come to make a change in their lives.

While we can make such changes throughout the year, many people like the idea of using the New Year to mark their new beginning. They make "New Years resolutions" aimed at tackling their problems. They will "resolve" to improve themselves, their situation in life or maybe even their relationships.

You might find it interesting to know that the word "determined" is used 33 times in the New International Version of the Bible, and "decided" is used 29, but the word "resolved" is only used four times, each of which focuses on specific issues within the life of a Christian.

In Daniel 1:7-8, it is about Daniel's resolve to remain pure.

"The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego. But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way," the Bible says.

God had told the Israelites not to eat food that has been sacrificed to false Gods, and Daniel was



resolved not to violate mosaic law by eating animals that were forbidden, or had been sacrificed to the gods of Babylon.

Daniel was resolved to remain pure. In this New Year, we should make the same resolution

Psalms 25:10 says, "All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of

Continued on page 2



Happy 100th!

John Carter, a resident at Park View Nursing Care Center, was honored with a party on Friday.

Local Weather

Thursday

Sunny..... 55/32

Friday

Mt. Sunny..... 58/24

Saturday

Mt. Sunny..... 42/21

Sunday

Sunny..... 50/25

Monday

Sunny..... 60/28

Tuesday

Sunny..... 59/29

Wednesday

Mt. Sunny..... 56/25

Give It A Thought

Experience is the comb nature gives you after your hair has fallen out.

Words to ponder from Beverly

Missed your paper?

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Cancer screening clinic set

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a breast cancer screening clinic at Muleshoe Area Medical Center on Jan. 8 and 25. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. Call 806-356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

SPC-Muleshoe registration

South Plains College Muleshoe Extension Center, 621 W. Second, is conducting its pre-registration for Spring 2007 Classes through Jan. 4.

For a list of available classes, dates and times, or for admissions and online registration information, contact 806-894-9611, ext. 2374, 2375 or 2372. For distance education information, contact 806-894-9611, ext. 2340. Or go online to www.southplains.college.edu.

Alzheimer's Support Group

Bailey County Aging Services and Texas Cooperative Extension, Bailey County, have formed a support group for the care givers of Alzheimer Disease patients. The next meeting will be Jan. 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of Muleshoe Area Medical Center.

Alzheimer's disease is the fourth leading cause of death in adults after heart disease, cancer, and stroke. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common form of dementia — a brain disorder that seriously affects a person's ability to carry out daily activities.

Most primary caregivers for the Alzheimers disease patient are family members. Many other people also participate in the care of those with AD.

Research has shown that caregivers are often at an increased risk for depression and illness, especially if they do not receive adequate support.

For more information contact Debbie Crabtree, Bailey County Aging Services, 272-3647, or Mandi Seaton, Bailey County extension agent – Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, 272-4583.

Movie tickets help 4-H

You can support 4-H programs in Texas when you purchase tickets to Paramount Pictures' and Walden Media's new live action movie version of "Charlotte's Web."

For every ticket purchased through the national 4-H council Web site (www.fourhcouncil.edu) \$1 will go to support the 4-H youth development program in Texas.

After typing in the number of adult and child tickets needed, pricing is determined by the local theater.

Hollywood Movie Money will make a \$1 donation to 4-H for each ticket purchased online. Visitors to the site may also choose to make an optional tax-deductible donation to 4-H. Once the purchase is complete, a ticket certificate will need to be printed for each ticket purchased. Certificates will need to be redeemed for a ticket to an available showing of Charlotte's Web at any time until Jan. 31.

For more information, contact the Bailey County Extension office at 306 West Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 806-272-4583.

Bailey County diabetes support group

The Bailey County Diabetes Support Group will meet this month on Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of Muleshoe Area Medical Center.

The program will be "Lifestyle Changes and Emotions." People diagnosed with diabetes must control their disease every day of their life. We will discuss what diabetes is and the general steps for managing blood glucose levels.

This program is free of charge to anyone interested. For more information, contact Mandi Seaton, Bailey County extension agent – Family and Consumer Sciences, 306 West Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347, 806-272-4583.

Lamplight... Continued from page 1

his covenant." In Psalm, the Bible speaks of our resolve not to sin.

"May my vindication come from you; may your eyes see what is right. Though you probe my heart and examine me at night, though you test me, you will find nothing; I have resolved that my mouth will not sin," it says in Psalm 17:2-3.

In Matthew 15 is Jesus questioned by Pharisees who are distressed about the disciples "not washing" before they eat.

Jesus responds by saying, "Listen and understand. What goes into a man's mouth does not make him unclean, but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him unclean."

This situation wasn't about the disciples eating with soiled hands. Their reference to the traditions of the elders is a reference to rabbinic law rather than mosaic law.

Mosaic law, which we see in the Old Testament Books of Law, came from God, but rabbinic law was man inserting religion into Israel's relationship with God. Under rabbinic law, there was a specific washing ceremony that had to be completed prior to eating. This is what the Pharisees were asking about, and what Jesus was talking about in his response.

Christ was telling them what came out of their mouth was determined by what was in their heart. And if what was in their heart wasn't a true worshipful relationship with God, it didn't matter what they did prior to eating.

Ephesians 4:29 says, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth..."

When we look at what Paul wrote through the lens of Christ's words in Matthew 15, we need to remember that when there is sin in our hearts, it can't help but come out in our words and deeds.

A couple of months ago, an intoxicated Mel Gibson was taped uttering what was described as anti-Semitic words. I don't know what he reportedly said, but alcohol doesn't put words in your mouth, it only removes the inhibitions that kept you from giving voice to such things.

Our resolve not to sin must extend beyond our spoken words. Proverbs 29:6 says, "An evil man is snared by his own sins..."

No matter what kind of sin you have in your life, the Bible tells us they won't remain hidden forever. Do you remember what God told David about the sins in his life? He said the sins David committed against others in darkness would be carried out against him in the light of day

2 Chronicles 20:3-4 talks about resolving to seek God's guidance.

"Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him," the Bible says.

In this scripture, Judah was in a time of crises, with their enemies preparing to attack. The Bible tells us to look to God in such instances.

This past year, Carrie Underwood of Checotah, Okla., was honored for her song, *Jesus, Take the Wheel*, about a young mother who was facing a crises, and recognized that she "couldn't make it on her own," and that she needed God's guidance.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say, "The Lord helps them

who help themselves." What it does say is, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

God wants all of our decisions to be godly decisions, and if we don't know which option we have before us is the one God would have us make, he is pleased when we turn to him for advice.

And in 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 we read about a resolve to submit to God's authority.

"When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified," Pauls wrote.

Paul was saying God had supreme authority in his life, that he was totally dependent upon God, and that the message he carried could be summed up in the glory of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

God created man with free will, but we are also called to submit to God's authority in our lives.

As the heirs of Christ and the children of God, are in a true sense of the word "vassals" of his kingdom.

Yes, we were created with free will, but like the crowns we will one day receive as we stand before God's judgement seat, we have laid our "free will" at the feet of our Lord.

As we go into this new year, I ask how resolved are you? Is the pledge you've given to God as fleeting as many January resolutions, or are you truly resolved to submit to God's authority in all things.

A Wonderful Truth Becomes a Great Christmas Gift

Years ago when my oldest brother and his wife left for 20 years of mission work in Malawi, Africa, I was barely a pup. I was too small to remember much of the early time of their service there, but I well remember that then and always, whenever our family gathered, we sang.

I learned many good songs at church as I was growing up. Lots of them were great songs

getting your favorite song in the lineup, you'd best not be timid about calling out the song number really quickly.

One of our family's favorite hymns was "Father and Friend, Thy Light, Thy Love." Once B & Ruth had gone to Africa, it became especially dear. Short but full of meaning, it particularly captured our hope and our prayer as we were separated from loved ones by an ocean and half a world:

(Vs. 1) *Father and Friend, Thy light, Thy love,/Beaming thro' all Thy works we see;/Thy glory gilds the heav'ns above,/And all the earth is full of Thee.*

(Vs. 2) *Thy voice we hear, Thy presence feel,/While Thou too pure for mortal sight,/Enwrapped in clouds, invisible,/reignest the Lord of life and light.*

(Vs. 3) *Thy children shall not faint nor fear,/Sustained by this delightful thought;/Since Thou, their God, art ev'ry-where,/They cannot be where Thou art not.*

I love it still and think of it often. It came to mind yet again this Christmas as we received a wonderful blessing. We held hands around the table at our Christmas eve meal. Nearby, the computer was on, its microphone and speakers also on, the "Skype" internet phone software running, and Stephan, our missionary son in Uganda, led our prayer for the meal from Uganda and later laughed with us as we opened presents. An ocean away, he was nevertheless "here" for Christmas.

Wherever God's children are, around the world or even beyond this world, we praise God: "They cannot be where Thou art not."

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



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

in every way. Many were beautiful and rich with meaning. Some were pretty but so-so. Some were toe-tappers with great alto and bass leads. Those were fun to sing but even then (once I matured a bit) I thought they were better suited to a Sunday afternoon singing than worship.

But I learned the most beautiful hymns of the Christian faith not at church but at home singing with my family. I thought of that recently as I was watching on TV the funeral service at the National Cathedral for President Gerald Ford. What a beautiful service! What beautiful hymns! I listened to one of the Ford family's favorite hymns, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" and the beautiful "God of Our Fathers" and realized that those were among my own family's favorite hymns.

I also learned early that our family had so many favorite hymns that if we were singing and you wanted some hope of

May God bless you in the New Year!

www.CovenantWomensHeart.org

Get Ready, Get Red and Go. Take time out for our 4th annual **Women's Heart Symposium** on **Saturday, January 20**. It's an important part of Covenant Health System's campaign for women's heart health leading up to National Wear Red DaySM on February 2. Join us at the **Lubbock Civic Center from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.** for healthy heart demonstrations and FREE health screenings worth hundreds of dollars.

At 11:30, join us for lunch with heart disease survivor Mellanie True Hills and hear her keynote address, "Be Still My Heart: Surviving and Thriving in a Hyperbusy World." Get great food and gifts—like our cookbook, *Heart Healthy Eating with West Texas Flavor*—all for \$10. To pre-register for screenings, lunch and your chance to win valuable prizes, call 1.866.4COVENANT (1.866.426.8362).

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Jim Moser, Publisher
jmoser@jacksonconews.com

Leah Bell, General Manager/Ads
ctyankee@fivearea.com

Larry Thornton, Managing Editor
editor@fivearea.com

Bookkeeping/Classified Advertising
journal@fivearea.com

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Year in review... Continued from page 1

existing wells, Brunson said.

Over at Bailey County Emergency Medical Service, the agency's staffing problems were brought to the attention of the Bailey County Court.

EMS director Chris Thompson addressed the members of the court suggesting changes in the payment schedule for volunteer emergency medical technicians for the upcoming fiscal year.

"People don't want to go to school for a year to volunteer," Thompson said about the requirements needed for an EMT to be certified.

"It's turning into more of a career type job that volunteer," he added.

July

In July, Brunson noted that the City of Muleshoe needs additional housing to continue growing.

Such is the find of a housing market study recently completed for the city by Isper & Associates of Ft. Worth.

According to the study — which took into consideration a broad number of factors including population declines and growth in both Muleshoe and Bailey County; varying income levels; and the availability of both multi-family and single-family housing in the area — the City of Muleshoe is "one of the most progressive communities in the region."

Even though the county and city populations fell in the previous two decades, a decrease in the number of available housing units —

whether apartments or other types of multi-family units, and single-family units, both rental and owner-occupant units, has apparently offset much of the initial population loss as related to housing.

"The study reaffirms what we believed," City Manager David Brunson said, indicating the study was also a tool developers who were looking at building in the area could use to gather the financial support needed for such a project.

Back at MISD, the board of trustees to build a better school district has paid off in an unexpected arena.

At the district's regular board meeting, Superintendent Gene Sheets announced the MISD board has been honored as the "Outstanding School Board of Region 17."

Muleshoe's award, which is for Division 1 districts with more than 1,000 students, recognizes the school board as being at the top of the 58 school districts in Region 17.

"I'm proud of the school board," Sheets said.

"It's very deserving for the way they work together," he added.

Rumors of an ethanol plant being constructed near Progress grew more substantial in July as City of Muleshoe and Texas Department of Transportation officials met with the Bailey County Commissioners' Court to discuss road improvements to the location.

Changes were also iithe

air at the Muleshoe Area Medical Center, where administrator Ray Mason announced that a new physician will be joining the staff, increasing the hospital district's bottom line.

Dr. Francis Lansang, a family practitioner from Colorado and graduate of the medical school at Colorado University in Denver, had signed a contract with the hospital district, Mason said, and was awaiting approval of his credentials by the State of Texas. Lansang's office is now open.

August

In Muleshoe, Chief of Police Brian Frieda was on the job as of Aug. 1.

The appointment of the new chief was approved by the Muleshoe City Council on June 23.

Frieda had been the police chief at Idalou for more than three years. Prior to that, he was assistant police chief at Friona for 18 months, and has about 20 years experience in law enforcement.

"I think he has a demeanor and attitude that will be real compatible with Muleshoe, City Manager David Brunson said previously.

Shortly after he took over as chief, Frieda was interviewed by the Journal and said, "You only have integrity once. Once you lose it... it's gone."

Frieda said police officers should be held to a higher standard, noting that he not only believes in such but practices it as well.

"I want the people in the

community to know they've got a good police department," Frieda said about the law enforcement personnel serving the residents of the City of Muleshoe, "and we're going to make it a better one."

There were also changes at the Muleshoe Journal, which found itself under new management in August.

But, while the ownership of Muleshoe's hometown newspaper has changed, neither the local management nor the news and advertising staff have changed.

Jim Moser, president of Moser Community Media, LLC, of Edna, announced that a limited partnership formed by Debbie Aylesworth of Canyon, Glenn Rea of Cuero and himself had purchased the *Muleshoe Journal* and the *Olton Enterprise* from CJB Publications, Inc., owned by Chris and Joye Bradford, formerly of Dimmitt.

Aylesworth, who is the general manager of the *Canyon News*, is not only familiar with the community, but also excited about the opportunities the purchase of the newspaper entails.

She's familiar with the community because she's a 1971 graduate of Muleshoe High School, and the daughter of Muleshoe resident Joy Williams.

Not all of the local news in August was joyful, however, as MISD received a serious blow to it's long range planning and it's hopes to upgrade some of its existing facilities on Aug. 4 with the announcement

that the school district had finished "out of the money."

The Muleshoe school board also selected MWM Architects of Lubbock to design the expansion project at Dillman Elementary.

The school board followed the recommendation of superintendent's advise in selecting the firm that is nearing completion of the school district's long range master plan to do the work on the first phase of MISD's multimillion building project.

Over at the county commissioners' court, Lamar Hayes of Covenant Health Services addressed the Bailey County Commissioners Court in August concerning the county ambulance service and its continuing operation.

And at the Muleshoe Area Hospital District meeting, members of its board of directors toured the recently renovated Nursing Building and the hospital's kitchen.

Opening as a joint project involving South Plains College, the hospital district, and the Muleshoe Education Foundation, the nursing school allows area students access to interactive television

classes and other health-related instruction.

The grand opening ceremonies were held on Aug. 28, elected officials and education representatives from Bailey County and across West Texas attended.

Dr. Kelvin Sharp, president of SPC, welcomed those in attendance and gave special recognition to Barbara Finney, chairman of the Muleshoe Education Foundation, and Margaret Heathington, director of nurses at Muleshoe Area Medical Center, both of whom were described as being the driving force behind the project to bring the education center to Muleshoe.

"This project is a dream come true for the Muleshoe area," Heathington said.

Glenn Hodges of Babcock & Brown appeared before the Bailey County Commissioners Court requesting, and receiving, passage of a resolution designating the location of a proposed wind-generated energy farm as a reinvestment zone.

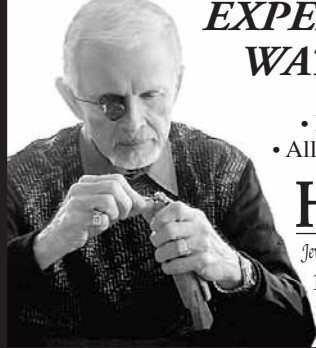
Hodges explained that

Continued on page 7

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Special thanks to the Christmas supporters, sponsors and participants of the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture's Christmas celebration 2006!

Sponsorships: Muleshoe State Bank, 1st Bank of Muleshoe, Five Area Telephone, Bailey County Electric, Xcel Energy, Progress Dairy, Mohawk Auto Parts, Shipman's Body Shop, Muleshoe Metal Art, Muleshoe Ford Mercury, Partain Chiropractic and Dollar General Store.

"A Sunday Pleasure" Christmas Open House participants: Carolyn's Christmas Creations, William's General Store, Muleshoe Metal Art, Lasting Impressions, Art Loft/Trés Chic, Muleshoe After Hours and daily participating businesses towards the \$1000 Mule Bucks giveaway and \$50 gift certificate Christmas event and the extended shopping hours conveniences: Williams General Store, Muleshoe Metal Art, Carolyn's Christmas Creations, Radio Shack/ The Connection Warehouse, Higginbotham Bartlett Building Center, Alco, Car Quest Auto Parts/ Mohawk Auto Parts Co., La Joya, Muleshoe Ford Mercury, Country Daisy Design, Xtreme Fitness, Family Hair Salon, Panda Chinese Buffet, Western Drug and Something Special Gifts, Big Valley Auto, Fry and Cox/True Value, United Supermarkets, Lowe's Marketplace, Pizza Hut, and Art Loft/Tres Chic.

Thanks to all Christmas parade participants and volunteers. A "Special thanks" to: Santa Claus, the parade winners, parade judges Sheila Stevenson, Cheryl Puckett, Jaelynn Hall and Celie Parham, and Christmas entertainment, Jennyslippers, Muleshoe Youth Football Team Super Bowl Winners-The Cowboys and Carolyn's Christmas Creations, and the Muleshoe High School Choir directed by Lorissa Moffett.

South of the Border Christmas for Kids giveaway, sponsored by KMUL and Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce- Thanks to the following toy sponsors and all participating business, vendors and entertainment: volunteers, and board of directors, Five Area Telephone, Dollar General Store, Anzaldia family, and Santa Claus from La Joya, chamber gift store, Radio Shack/ The Connection Warehouse, Muleshoe chamber directors and volunteers; Special thanks from Martha Hunnicutt to the Hereford Hospice Volunteers- The Good Samaritan Group, Shorty Flores, Rob Tapley and wife Brenda, and Tadd Young.

December 20th \$1000 Mule Buck and Gift Certificate Drawing: Thank you goes out to the community of Muleshoe, the greater area of Bailey County and beyond. To our businesses and service membership - Because of you, this event was successful!

Special Appreciation goes out to Channel 6, Jack, Magann and Gil Rennels for their complete dedication to filming the chamber's Christmas events and special appreciation to the Muleshoe Journal- Leah Bell and Larry Thornton for showing support to the Chamber through their photography and journalism. Special appreciation to KMUL- Ron Pierson and Martha AM/FM radio stations for the live remotes and broadcasting of chamber events — rain or snow, sunshine or rain. These have all been very dedicated to the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture. It has been a great pleasure and we look forward to working with you again in 2007 because 2007 holds many opportunities for the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture!

Thank you Poncho Clause, for participating in the entry drawing Wednesday night-you were great!!! Your giving spirit to participate in the other chamber events warmed the hearts of children. Thank you. Special appreciation to Five Area Telephone for donating our beautiful Christmas tree under the gazebo on the chamber deck! Your support is invaluable!

I would like to personally thank the Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Board of Directors and Executive Board for all the support lended to your chamber manager and its Mission. Thanks for all you do! - Martha Hunnicutt

Winners are listed below for the \$1000 Mule Bucks — Sponsored by the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture and \$50 Gift Cards/Gift Certificates sponsored by many of our local merchants

\$ 1000 Mule Bucks Winner: Fran Phillips of Clovis — Registered at Williams General Store
\$50 Gift Cards and Gift Certificates Winners:

Panda Chinese Buffet: Margaret Quintana, Muleshoe — Registered at Williams General Store
Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.: Antonio Ramirez, Muleshoe — Registered at Williams General Store
Xtreme Fitness: Royene Tivis, Portales — Registered at Muleshoe Metal Art
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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI
 IT TOOK A CASE OF LEPROSY AND AN EARTHQUAKE TO STOP THIS KING!

UZZIAH, SON OF AMAZIAH, ASCENDED THE THRONE OF JUDAH AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN TO REIGN FOR FIFTY-TWO YEARS (809-757 B.C.). DURING THIS RULE, HE SERVED AS A WISE AND PIOUS KING. HE REBUILT JERUSALEM, STRENGTHENED ITS WALLS, ENCOURAGED THE ARTS, WAS VICTORIOUS IN BATTLE WITH HIS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND IN FACT, RAISED THE KINGDOM BACK TO THE POWER AND GLORY IT ENJOYED IN KING SOLOMON'S DAY! HOWEVER, WHEN HE MADE HIS ONE AND ONLY MISTAKE, IT WAS AS STUPENDOUS AS WERE HIS MANY TRIUMPHS! ELATED BY ALL HIS GOOD DEEDS, HE DECIDED HE SHOULD ALSO BE HEAD MAN IN THE TEMPLE, CERTAINLY ON HIGH OCCASIONS—AFTER ALL, OTHER KINGS DID THIS, DIDN'T THEY? WHO BETTER TO SERVE GOD IN THE HOLY OF HOLIES THAN UZZIAH, HIMSELF, WHO HAD DONE SO MUCH FOR HIS KINGDOM?! BUT...

...WHEN HE MADE THIS ATTEMPT, HE WAS WARNED BY THE HIGH PRIEST, AZARIAH, THAT ONLY A PRIEST COULD LAWFULLY ENTER THE HOLY PLACE AND OFFER INCENSE ON THE ALTAR (2ND CHRON. 26:17-19). UZZIAH WAS ENRAGED AND ABOUT TO USE FORCE WHEN, THE BIBLE TELLS US, GOD, IN HIS ANGER, INTERVENED AND UZZIAH WAS SMITTEN WITH LEPROSY, THEN AND THERE! NOT ONLY THAT—THE DIVINE WRATH WAS SO TEMPESTUOUS THAT IT CAUSED AN EARTHQUAKE WHICH SPLIT THE ROOF OF THE TEMPLE AND SENT ONE HALF OF A MOUNTAIN, SITUATED TO THE WEST OF JERUSALEM, CRASHING INTO THE VALLEY BELOW, WHICH DESTROYED AND COMPLETELY COVERED UP THE ROYAL GARDENS! THIS WE HAVE ON THE WORD OF JOSEPHUS, THE ANCIENT HISTORIAN OF THE JEWS, WITH FURTHER CORROBORATION IN THE BIBLE (AMOS 1:1) (ZECH 1:18). FROM THAT DAY ON, UZZIAH HAD TO LIVE IN SECLUSION AS A LEPER, HIS SON, JOTHAM, ADMINISTERING THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT IN HIS FATHER'S NAME. A RATHER FORCEFUL REMINDER TO ALL ISRAEL THAT, NO MATTER HOW GREAT, NO ONE COULD GET AWAY WITH BREAKING GOD'S LAW!

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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Glenna Sliger

A church service for Glenna Sliger, 59, of Muleshoe, was held on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at Calvary Baptist Church of Muleshoe with Bro. Jeff Coffman officiating. Burial was in Bailey County Cemetery.

Sliger died on Dec. 30, 2006, in Muleshoe. She was born on Nov. 7, 1947, in Clovis, N.M., and married Tommy Sliger in Muleshoe on Oct. 1, 1995.

She was preceded in death by her husband — Tommy, on Jan. 31, 2003, her parents — Vernon and Mary Jewel Thurman Raney, and her step-father — Ed Edmiston.

Sliger was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church of Muleshoe. She was the owner and operator of Glenna's Retreat Beauty Shop in Muleshoe.

Survivors include three sons — Thomas and Jeff Sliger, both of Tucumcari,



GLENNA SLIGER

N.M., and Tim Sliger of Cookeville, Tenn.; a daughter — Connie Parker of Dallas; a sister — Joyce Olds of Cozad, Neb.; three brothers — Lee Raney of Levelland, Wayne Raney of La Feria, and John Raney of Omaha, Neb.; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be sent to the Calvary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 387, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

Ronnie Spies

A church service for Ronnie Spies, 65, of Muleshoe, was held on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at the First Assembly of God in Muleshoe with the Rev. Jack Stone officiating. Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Cemetery.

Spies died on Dec. 30, 2006, in Ruidoso, N.M. He was born on Sept. 30, 1941, in Littlefield, and married Ronda Rippee in Portales, N.M. on Sept. 26, 1963.

Spies had lived in Muleshoe since moving having moved from Earth in 1960. He was a leader of the Progress 4-H Club and

a former director of the High Plains Junior Rodeo Association. He worked for Excel Energy at the Tolk Plant as a maintenance journeyman.

Survivors include his wife — Ronda Spies of Muleshoe; a son — Scott Spies of Las Vegas, Nev.; a daughter — Kristi Spies of Muleshoe; a sister — Faye McClelland of Pacifica Calif.; two brothers — Gene Spies of Littlefield and Jerry Spies of Pacifica, Calif.

Memorials may be sent to the First Assembly of God Family Center, 521 S. First, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

Virginia Barrett

A church service for Virginia Barrett, 78, of Muleshoe, was held on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at the First Assembly of God with the Rev. Jack Stone officiating. Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery.

Barrett died on Dec. 29, 2006, in Muleshoe. She was born on Oct. 18, 1928, in Wheeler County, and married Jodie Barrett in Wheeler County on Dec. 15, 1947.

She was preceded in death by her parents — Gilbert and Emeline Worley Dale; two sisters, three brothers and a grandson.

Barrett had lived in the Muleshoe area since 1955, after moving from Wheeler

County.

She was a member of the Circleback Baptist Church. She was a substitute teacher.

Survivors include her husband — Jodie Barrett of Muleshoe; three sons and their wives — Rickey and Raygena Barrett of Muleshoe, Ronnie and Sherry Barrett of Muleshoe, Robbie and Stephanie Barrett of Friona; a daughter and her husband — Suzan and Terry Wheeler of Muleshoe; 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery Association, 104 E. Ave. C, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

Cancer screening clinic set

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a breast cancer screening clinic at Muleshoe Area Medical Center on Jan. 8 and 25. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. Call 806-356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Raiford Daniel

A church service for Raiford Daniel, 72, of Earth, was held on Saturday, Dec. 30, at the Earth United Methodist Church of Earth with the Rev. Larry Bass officiating. Burial followed in Earth Memorial Cemetery, Earth.

Daniel died on Dec. 26, 2006, in Muleshoe. He was born on Jan. 3, 1934, in Plainview, and married Sandra Lou Sanders in Clovis, N.M. on Sept. 9, 1961.

He was preceded in death by his father — Roy Raiford Daniel, Sr.; his mother — Betty Briscoe Bledsoe; and a son — Hollis Ray Daniel in 1973.

Daniel was a member of the Earth United Methodist

Church; Earth Chamber of Commerce in which he was recognized as the 1988 Man of the Year; and the Earth City Council, 1972 to 1978. He also served as the mayor of Earth from 1978 to 1993.

Survivors include his wife — Sandra Daniel of Earth; three sons — Raiford Daniel III of Amarillo, Clifford Daniel of Plainview and Albert Lee Daniel of Earth; three daughters — Donna Cognasi of Prattville, Ala., Debbie Flores of Lovington, N.M. and Jodie Monreal of Canyon; two sisters — Javerne Vetterly of Ft. Sumner, N.M., and Betty Flagler of Lake Sherwood, Mo.; 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Lazbuddie students honored

Kindergarten student Johnny Guenter, the son of David and Eva Guenter, pictured on the left, and fourth-grade student Anais Andrade the daughter of Lucey Andrade, on the right, were honored by the Lazbuddie ISD this week.



Ag conferences set for January

South Plains producers can update their crop production and management skills and earn continuing education units at any of seven agriculture conferences.

The Texas Cooperative Extension events are slated for January and February.

Conference dates and locations are:

- Jan. 15 — West Plains Cotton Conference at the Sundown Room on the South Plains College campus in Levelland.

Registration begins at 8 a.m.; the program at 8:30 a.m.

Participants can qualify for five continuing education units. Call the Extension office in Hockley County at 806-894-3159 for more details.

- Jan. 16 — Caprock Cotton Conference at the Plains Baptist Assembly south of Floydada. Call the extension office in Floyd County at 806-983-4912 or Crosby County at 806-675-2347.

- Jan. 24 — Southern Mesa Ag Conference at the Dawson County Annex Building, 609 N. First St. in Lamesa. Registration

begins at 8 a.m.; the program at 8:30 a.m. Participants can qualify for at least five continuing education units. Call the extension office in Dawson County at 806-872-3444.

- Jan. 26 — Llano Estacado Cotton Conference at the Bailey County Coliseum in Muleshoe. Call the extension office in Bailey County at 806-272-4584.

Thanks for reading!

Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

Happy New Year to all. We sincerely hope everyone had a safe and happy one. I for one enjoyed the time off, but I am ready to get back to regular every day activity.

Our Lidia will be out this week due to surgery, but we pray she will be back with us soon.

The center is back to regular schedule this Tuesday morning. Several have come in to walk, use the exercise program, and of course our dominoes and eighty games are going strong.

Our sincere thanks to all who provided our delicious treats through the holidays. Now back to diets and sugar free cookies.

Thanks to all who honored their loved one with lunch ticket gifts or memorial gifts. We are a nonprofit organization, and are tax deductible. If you have someone you would like to honor or make a gift to, just give us a call at 272 4969 or come by the center.

The Tuesday night dances are still drawing

crowds from the area. There is fun and fellowship, plus good music and good food from the pot luck supper break.

The Thursday afternoon bingo has a good crowd with lots of fun and laughter. Refreshments and prizes are furnished. Call a friend and come join us. Bring a can of food for the food bank.

Menu for Jan. 8-12:
Monday, Jan. 8 — Brisket, au gratin potatoes, fried okra, wheat rolls, and peach cobbler.

Tuesday, Jan. 9 — Lasagna, pinto beans, tossed salad, wheat rolls, and fruit with jello.

Wednesday, Jan. 10 — Chicken-fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat rolls, and banana pudding.

Thursday, Jan. 11 — Beef or ham sandwiches, oven fries, sliced tomatoes, lettuce, onion, pickles, and frosted cake.

Friday — Jan. 12 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, tator tots, hushpuppies, coleslaw, and fruit salad.

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Monday HIST 1302-544	History of U.S. Since 1876 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Tuesday *MATH 1314-545	College Algebra 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Monday / Wednesday SPCH 1321-541	Business & Professional Speech 1:00 - 2:15 p.m.	*SOCW 2361-541	Intro to Social Work 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday GOVT 2302-542	American Government, Functions 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Tuesday / Thursday READ 0320-541	College Learning Strategies II 1:00 - 2:15 p.m.
Monday / Wednesday / Friday MATH 0315-541	Beginning Algebra 2:30 - 3:45 p.m.	*ENGL 0302-541	Developmental English 2:30 - 3:45 p.m.
		*ARTS 1301-541	Art Appreciation 2:30 - 3:45 p.m.
		*MATH 0320-541	Intermediate Algebra 2:30 - 3:45 p.m.
		Thursday ENGL 1301-541	Composition I 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

*Location will need to choose from one class offered on this day and time. (varies upon location)

For admissions and online registration information, contact 806-894-9611, extension 2374, 2375 or 2372.
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For more information call Jim or Bea at 806-272-5560.
Office hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

La Autoridad de Cubierta de Muleshoe ahora está aceptando aplicaciones para viviendas para los trabajadores de la agricultura.

También estamos alquilando temporalmente a todas las personas sin consideración a los ingresos o requisitos de cubierta del trabajo de granja.

Unidades de la desventaja son disponibles.
El gas, la electricidad, el agua, la alcantarilla y la basura son incluidos.

Para más información, llame Jim o Bea al numero 806-272-5560.
Horas de oficina: Lunes por viernes, 8:00 mañana 5:00 por la tarde

Sports

Bad weather upsets Mules' tourney hopes

By Delton Wilhite
Sports writer

Mother Nature continued to show she is boss as the Mules could not finish the Wildcat Classic in Littlefield Dec. 28-30. A snow and ice storm hit Friday night and the Mules could not return to play for the consolation trophy.

The Vernon Lions dominated the Mules in the second and fourth quarters. The Lions handed the Mules a 64-38 first round loss Thursday afternoon. The Mules only trailed 15-11 after one period but the Lions opened a 28-17 lead by half time.

The Lions out ran the Mules 25-11 in the final frame. Eric Washington led the Mules with 10 points and Dustin Barker dropped in seven. Garrett Riley and Brian Poynor each added six points, Colby Carpenter made four, TJ Brantley three and Colt Ellis, two.

The Mules took a double over time win over the Olton Mustangs on Friday. The Mules took a 15-7 lead in the first period. Elias Alvarado made his first of four 3-pointers in the opening frame. Patrick Precure, Poynor and Tony Guzman joined Alvarado in scoring from behind the arc

in the second period.

The Mules led 30-24 at the half. Olton came charging back in the second half and out scored the Mules 27-21 to tie the game at 51-51. Both teams made four points in the first four minute OT for a 55-55 dead lock. The Mules put on a scoring burst in the second extra period to take the win.

Riley made five of six from the line in the two over times and led the Mules with 17 points. Alvarado added a bucket to his four treys for 14 points and Barker dropped in 12. Brantley made seven, Precure five, Julio Bustillos and Poynor made four each, Guzman three and Washington and Carpenter chipped in two apiece.

The Mules returned Friday night and played a triple over time game against the Morton Indians. The game was knotted at 39 after regulation and each team only added a single bucket in the first OT.

Brantley made a pair from the charity line with 1:18 left in the second OT to put the Mules up 48-47. Morton only made one of four from the line in the final 1:09 to retie the score. The score was tied at 48-48 to start the final four minute OT.

Washington controlled the tip and Poynor drained a trey from the wing to open the period. Morton missed a pair from the line and the Mules cleared the glass. Riley crashed through the back door and Washington delivered a perfect pass to put the Mules up 53-48.

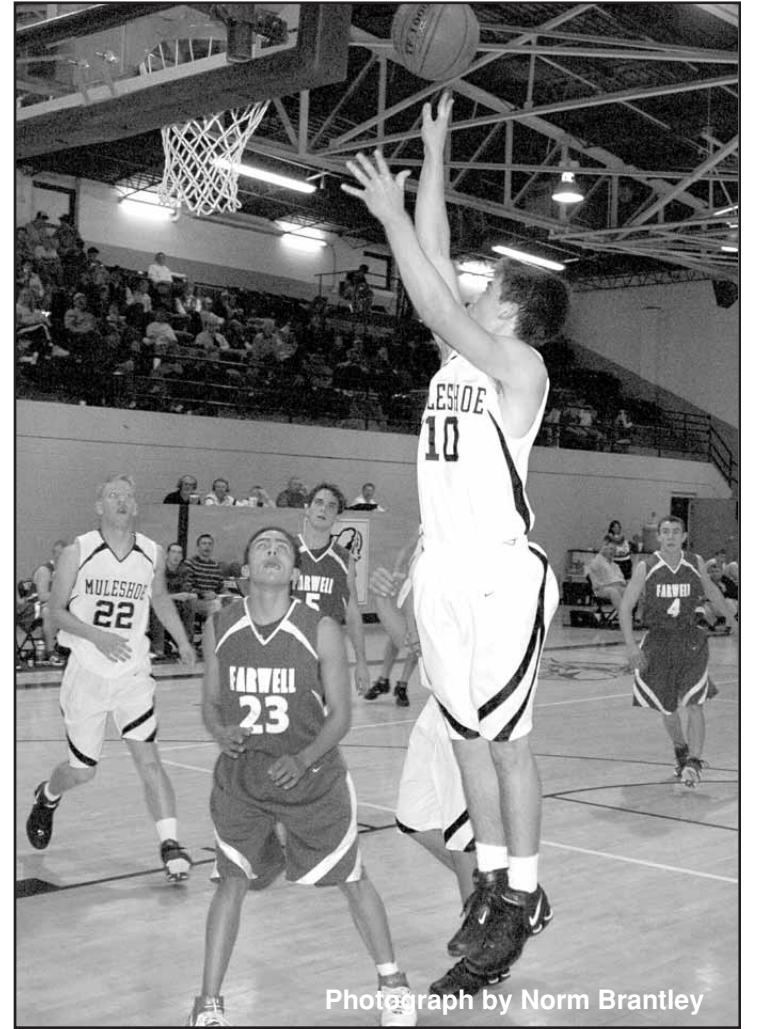
The Mules stole the Indian in bound pass after the shot and Riley was fouled on a put back attempt. He made both from the line. Riley then picked an Indians pocket and Barker drove the base line for a lay up.

Morton made a three pointer with 1:37 remaining in the frame. It was the Indians only points of the period. Poynor made a charity toss and Riley scored inside as the Mules out scored the Indians 12-3 in the final OT.

Carpenter led the Mules with 15 points and Barker added 12. Riley pumped in 11, Brantley 10, Washington six, Poynor four and Precure chipped in two.

The Mules traveled to Dimmitt on Jan. 2 for their second district game and then return home on Friday, Jan. 5, to host the Lockney Longhorns.

The Mules will host the Bushland Falcons on Jan. 9.



Photograph by Norm Brantley
Mule Garrett Riley shoots during the Dec. 12 game against the Farwell Steers.

Addresses for charitable giving

- Muleshoe Heritage Foundation Center, P.O. Box 201, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, (806) 272-4429 or 5873.
- American Cancer Society/Bailey County Relay For Life, c/o Kim Cook, 201 E. Fir, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- MOST Scholarship (given to all graduating MISD seniors yearly), c/o Superintendent Gene Sheets, 514 W. Ave. G, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Hope Chest, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Muleshoe Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, c/o Janice Bradshaw, 669 CR 21, Muleshoe, TX 79347; or call 965-2619; or drop by the Muleshoe State Bank to talk with Janice
- Bailey County Food Pantry, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Meals on Wheels, 300 1st St., Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Lazbuddie EMS and Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 125, Lazbuddie, TX 79053
- Park View Nursing Home, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- New Mexico Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, N.M. 88130-9411
- Muleshoe Masonic Lodge No. 1237, P.O. Box 521, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Olton Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 1055, Olton, TX 79064
- Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Inc., 104 E. Ave. C, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 272-5727
- Muleshoe Area Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 62, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

For a complete list of local and national agencies, contact the Muleshoe Community Foundation; Gary Sirkel, 272-4710 or Kay Mardis, 272-3349.

If you would like to be added to this published list, please contact the Journal with your mailing address and phone number at 272-4536.

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Year in review... continued from page 3

Babcock & Brown, which is involved in other renewable energy projects in West Texas, has purchased a long-term option and easement which would allow the construction of a wind turbine farm on 12,000 acres located about five miles south of Muleshoe.

"We think this is a good area for wind energy," Hodges said.

September

Among the big news in September was the Muleshoe Rotary Club's 14th Annual Labor Day Roping probably benefited from the rainy weather other ropings had to contend with due in large part to the availability of an indoor arena.

"We had a good roping," David Brunson of the Rotary Club said. "The rain didn't hurt us... We got several ropers who couldn't rope elsewhere (because of the rain)."

Members of the Muleshoe Area Hospital District's Board of Directors enthusiastically voted to replace Park View Nursing Home's worn-out van during a brief special meeting Thursday afternoon, Aug. 31.

An estimated \$10,000 in damages resulted from a "mini-riot" at the Bailey County jail during the early morning hours of Sept. 3, according to Sheriff Richard Wills.

During his report to the Bailey County Commissioners Court Monday, the sheriff explained that six prisoners from New Mexico, became upset and vandalized the large 12-man cell in which they were being housed, damaging the shower, pay phones, lights and a concrete dividing wall.

Since that time, the damage has been repaired and the cell is back in use.

In what was described as a historic event, the Muleshoe Independent School District Board of Trustees approved the sale of \$22 million in bonds to fund much needed facility improvements on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

"We have a great market that we've priced our bonds into," said Doug Whitt of Southwest Securities, the school district's financial advisor, prior to the school board's vote to issue the bonds.

While the district's voters initially approved a \$25 million bond issuance, the scope of the projects was reduced by \$5 million by the school district's failure in its application for Instructional Facilities Allotment funds from the State of Texas.

However, this reduction was offset in part due to the near record low interest rates for municipal bonds. As a result of the approximately 4.34 percent interest rate, the school district's bonding capacity was pushed up an additional \$2 million.

As was approved by the district's voters in May, the

\$22 million bond issuance is contingent upon the school district's receipt of Existing Debt Allotment funds from the state.

At the Bailey County courthouse, it was noted that state law changes the method to calculate motor vehicle sales and use tax due when you buy a used vehicle, according to Berta Combs of the Bailey County Tax Office.

"The tax will continue to be due when you title and register their vehicle at the county tax office," said Combs, explaining that a purchaser must pay the tax within 20 county working days from the date of purchase of the date the vehicle was brought into Texas for use.

The Muleshoe Area Hospital District's Board of Directors discussed implementing a drug screening policy during its regular meeting.

Board president Ronnie Dent led the discussion, noting that he had discussed the issue with hospital administrator Ray Mason and interim nursing home administrator Jodie Rose and thought it was an issue the board needed to consider.

October

The replacement of three of the sheriff's department's vehicles with four-wheel-drive pickups topped the agenda at an October special session of the Bailey County Commissioners' Court.

Sheriff Richard Wills appeared before the court to discuss options for lease-purchasing three new vehicles, specifically four-door pickups, to replace three of the department's high-mileage patrol cars.

Also in October, for the second time in a month, area parents, families and students have had to face the tragedy of young lives coming to an unexpected end, this time northwest of Muleshoe, where Farwell students succumbed to injuries received in an automobile accident.

On Oct. 3, Billy Hernandez, 14, of Farwell and Frankie Reyes, 14, of Muleshoe were pronounced dead at the scene of a single-vehicle accident approximately two miles south of Hwy. 74 on County Road 1, according to Cpl. John Gonzalez of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

According to Gonzalez, the 1992 Chevrolet Suburban being driven by Hernandez was traveling north at a high rate of speed. He said Hernandez apparently lost control of the vehicle, overcorrected and rolled the vehicle, which came to rest upside-down.

On Friday, Sept. 8, two Sudan High School students were killed in a similar accident near Sudan. The driver in this accident was also unlicensed.

Following lengthy discussion at its October

meeting, the Muleshoe City Council agreed to the formation of a committee to look at building a new softball field at the new city park.

On Oct. 4, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns announced the appointment of Lawrence A. Hancock of Muleshoe as one of seven new members to the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board.

Hancock, will represent Region 4 on the national board, serve a three-year term from Nov. 1, 2006, through Oct. 31, 2009.

Tragedy also struck in the Goodland area, where few details were being released by law enforcement involved in the investigation of a shooting death early Thursday, Oct. 12.

According to Bailey County Sheriff Richard Wills, the sheriff's department received a call concerning a possible homicide at the resident of Jonathan Kindle, at 2941 CR 41, at about 5:19 a.m.

Upon the arrival of law enforcement officers it was determined that a white male — later identified as being the resident, Jonathan Kindle, 25, had apparently died of a gunshot wound, according to the sheriff.

Kindle was later pronounced dead at the scene by Justice of the Peace Deb Stone.

According to the sheriff, the initial report was made by the victim's girlfriend, whom the sheriff declined to identify.

At the annual meeting of the Five Area Telephone Cooperative, General Manager Sandy Vandevender announced that the cooperative had secured additional fiber optics routes to insure that its members won't lose communication capabilities in the event one of the other fiber optic lines are cut.

"We have an additional route to get you out," Vandevender announced at the meeting.

Tuesday, Oct. 24, Vandevender announced the cooperative would be expanding its fiber optics capabilities even further... by bringing fiber optic capabilities to individual

residences in Muleshoe, with the potential for a vast expansion of services.

Along with providing local and long distance telephone service, the fiber optic cables will have the potential for broadband internet connections, and digital video.

Calling it a "new era in customer service," Vandevender announced that at the end of October construction crews would begin the initial phase of its "Fiber Optics to the Home" program in southwest Muleshoe.

"Fiber optics to the premises is the leading edge," said Vandevender, who has been working on getting the project started for about two years. "It's the ultimate communications delivery method."

And while Five Area had good "long distance" information, other Muleshoe residents had news about a Muleshoe graduate who had traveled a long distance to be on national television.

As great as Muleshoe may be, for one reason or another some members of its graduating classes choose to leave, only to discover at a later date that their decision has placed them in jeopardy.

But occasionally, as in the case of 1989 graduate Andrew Espinoza, rather than being in jeopardy... you find yourself "on Jeopardy!"

That's right... Andrew, the son of Camilo and Maria Espinoza of Muleshoe, made it to the limelight of the nationally-syndicated game show "Jeopardy!" this past week, thrilling his family back home as well as the students of Heritage Middle School in Livingston, N.J., where he is the vice principal.

"They were very excited,"

Continued on page 10

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY INTO FIELDS

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the Northwest Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of all of Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Lamb, and Parmer counties and part of Randall County are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning **January 16, 2007**. All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone. For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

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Where's Arid? She doesn't like the cold. Can you find her?

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Antarctica and Lands of Ice and Snow!

Antarctica! Land of ice. Can you read these clues and fill in this puzzle with the "icy" items?

- group that might use an icebreaker to save an icebound ship
- periods of time during which a large part of Earth's surface was covered by ice
- continent surrounding the South Pole which has the largest sheet of ice in the world.
- large cracks in ice
- many of these sea birds
- large animal that would sleep here
- "safest ship in the world," sunk by hitting an iceberg
- over thousands of years, snow packs harden into a thick mass of slow-moving ice
- chunk of glacier broken off at ocean's edge; only 1/8th can be seen above the water
- person who might build and take shelter in an igloo during a storm

On April 6, 1909, Robert Peary and his team were the first men to reach the North Pole.

Later, on December 14, 1911, Roald Admunsen, from Norway, and his team were the first to reach the South Pole.

It's not me. I hate the cold.

+ C Items!

There are lots of "icy" items. Can you help little penguin catch them? Find and circle them in the puzzle.

ice skates	ice cream	ice hockey	icebreaker
ice sheet	ice cave	ice fishing	iceboating
ice caps	Iceland	iceberg	icehouse
ice pick	ice milk	ice pack	ice storm

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Snow House Pop Quiz!

The Inuit people (Eskimos) of Greenland and the Canadian Arctic live in lands of ice and snow. They have learned how to survive and thrive there. When they travel or hunt, they have the skills to build an igloo or a snowhouse to shelter themselves. Here is a short pop quiz about igloos.

Read each statement about igloos and circle "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

- An igloo is a dome-shaped house made out of blocks of dirt. T F
- A hunter or traveler could build an igloo for a short stay. T F
- Some Inuit families live in a single-room igloo. T F
- An igloo has a short tunnel entrance to help keep out wind and cold. T F
- It is very cold outside an igloo, and colder inside. T F

Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills LLC © 2006

Year in review... continued from page 7

Espinoza said, talking about the students at Heritage Middle School who wanted to know how well he'd done on the show.

However, the former Muleshoe graduate said he kept it a secret so as not to spoil the surprise when it was eventually broadcast.

Espinoza finished his first round of competition in the winner's circle — which was broadcast on Tuesday, Oct. 24, with accumulated winnings of \$16,500, only to succumb to a faster buzzer finger on his second show, which was broadcast on Wednesday, Oct. 25.

As the second place winner on Day Two, Espinoza said he was awarded an additional \$2,000, bringing his total game winnings to \$18,500, prior to taxes.

November
In November, County Judge Sherri Harrison's was greeted with a hearty cheer on the evening of Nov. 7 as friends and well-wishers who had gathered to await the election news learned that the incumbent had succeeded in her first bid for office.

"I can't tell you how thankful I am," Harrison told the onlookers in the office of the Bailey County Clerk, thanking them for their support.

Harrison carried all four ballot boxes along with the early votes, outdistancing Hall by 431 total votes.

The Harrison-Hall race was the only contested county race listed on the Nov. 7 general election ballot.

Rumors of an ethanol plant being constructed near Progress were finally laid to rest Wednesday, Nov. 1, with the announcement that Panda Ethanol Inc. plans to construct a 100 million gallon-per-year plant in Bailey County.

For several months, whispers about the proposed plant have been circulating around Muleshoe, with the first public disclosures coming during a late-July Bailey County Commissioners' Court, covered by the *Journal*, in which Muleshoe city officials and county officials discussed the possibilities of providing a paved road to the facility.

Covenant Health System also appeared before the court a tentative proposal under which it would take over the county's ambulance service if the county would agree to a \$120,000 subsidy.

"I think it looks pretty good," Commissioner Joey Kindle said.

Currently, the EMS has a

budget of \$125,000. And while the ambulance service has cost the county significantly less during the past two fiscal years — due to a strong collection effort — Judge Sherri Harrison said the cost of operating the service for the past 18 years have been high, and didn't include the potential liability associated with it.

At city hall, former councilwoman Sharon Grant was sworn back into office during ceremonies held at Muleshoe City Hall Monday, Nov. 13.

During the holiday season, a series of residential, business and vehicle burglaries were under investigation by the Muleshoe Police Department.

According to Police Chief Frieda, the majority of the vehicles entered have been unlocked, indicating the thieves involved are possibly young opportunists walking around after dark.

And the city council awarded the bid for the purchase of a new firetruck

with a \$211,955 price tag during its regular meeting.

The truck, described as a "Class A pumper firetruck" — which is being purchased from Daco Fire Equipment of Lubbock — will replace one of the city's two current pumper trucks, one a 1978 model and the other a 1963 model.

During the discussion prior to the council's vote to award the bid, it was noted that while the new truck had a "large price tag" it was expected to last as long as 25 years. The price for the truck without the equipment was \$198,000.

The award for the final surprise of 2006 has to be awarded to the Muleshoe Area Hospital District, which dropped a bombshell during December meeting with the announcement that it has

been approached by a private company interested in purchasing Park View Nursing Care Center.

MAHD board president Ronnie Dent said, "The Board of Trustees of Muleshoe Area Hospital District has received a letter of interest concerning the possibility of purchasing Park View Nursing Care Center. The board will discuss this letter of interest to see if it is a viable consideration for the district."

"If this is viable for the district," Dent continued, "we will be pursuing this as soon as possible. In pursuing this (issue) we will be looking at three things: Their financial abilities, their credibility, and their concern for the district and this area."

Although the name of the

company was not mentioned in open session, according to MAHD CEO Ray Mason, the company operates nursing homes in the Eastern New Mexico area.

In other business, it was noted that the School of Nursing has received a \$100,000 donation from Mr. and Mrs. Earl R. West of Midland for scholarships of students enrolled in the nursing program at the SPC-Muleshoe Center.

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Muleshoe Livestock Auction is currently taking applications for: cafe manager and cafe cook (cafe experience required), auction ring clerk/ticket writer (experience in livestock auction ring or office required, resume requested). All jobs are Saturday only. Call Jamie or Rhonda, 806-272-4201. 4ch12-14

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