

City sets tax rate

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

Muenster City Council met on Monday, Sept. 14 for their regular meeting. The meeting was delayed one week due to Labor Day falling on the usual meeting date. A public hearing took place regarding the City's proposed tax rate of \$0.364600 per \$100 of appraised value. This would keep the City's tax rate the same as the previous rate. With the increase in appraised values, an increase in revenue of \$24,365 would be seen.

The effective rate is \$0.3435 and the rollback rate is \$0.3709.

Prior to considering the 2015 tax rate, the City Council held a public hearing giving the public an opportunity to voice their opinion of the proposed tax rate. Nobody attended to speak or hear the Council's views. Those present were not residents of the City.

Alderman Jack Flusche proposed going up a little on the tax rate. He suggested \$0.368500, a 2.5% increase which would bring in \$4,000 more. "Just for the rainy day fund," said Flusche. "We might need it to repair streets next year. There's no telling what might happen."

Alderman Greg Bohl stated that he opposed Flusche's suggestion. Bohl wanted to keep it at the proposed rate which is the same as last year since it would bring in additional money.

Clifford Sicking noted that he opposed Flusche's increase at the last meeting but now supported it. "Streets, whatever comes up that we need. If we pass this up, in two or three years from now we may not be able to make up the difference and fix the streets or fix the water well, or whatever comes up," noted Alderman Sicking.

Flusche added, "I don't want the taxes to go sky high, but we've got a lot of problems right now with our streets, very many problems. There's a lot of people who say we need to keep them up. I'm surprised you have not heard more of them gripe because I hear it all the time."

Jewel Otto asked what amount that the increase would bring in. It was about \$4,000.

Alderman Steve Taylor stated that \$4,000 would not go very far on street repairs. Mayor Tim Felderhoff replied, "The only difference it would make in my mind is that next year our effective rate or our rollback and all, those are a little higher. We'd have a little more leeway every year."

Bohl noted that when you consider the tax rate, sewer rate, etc., Muenster is a very expensive place to live. It was the highest place to live in Cooke County, he said.

Flusche countered, "We've got things that other people don't have. You've got to pay for it."

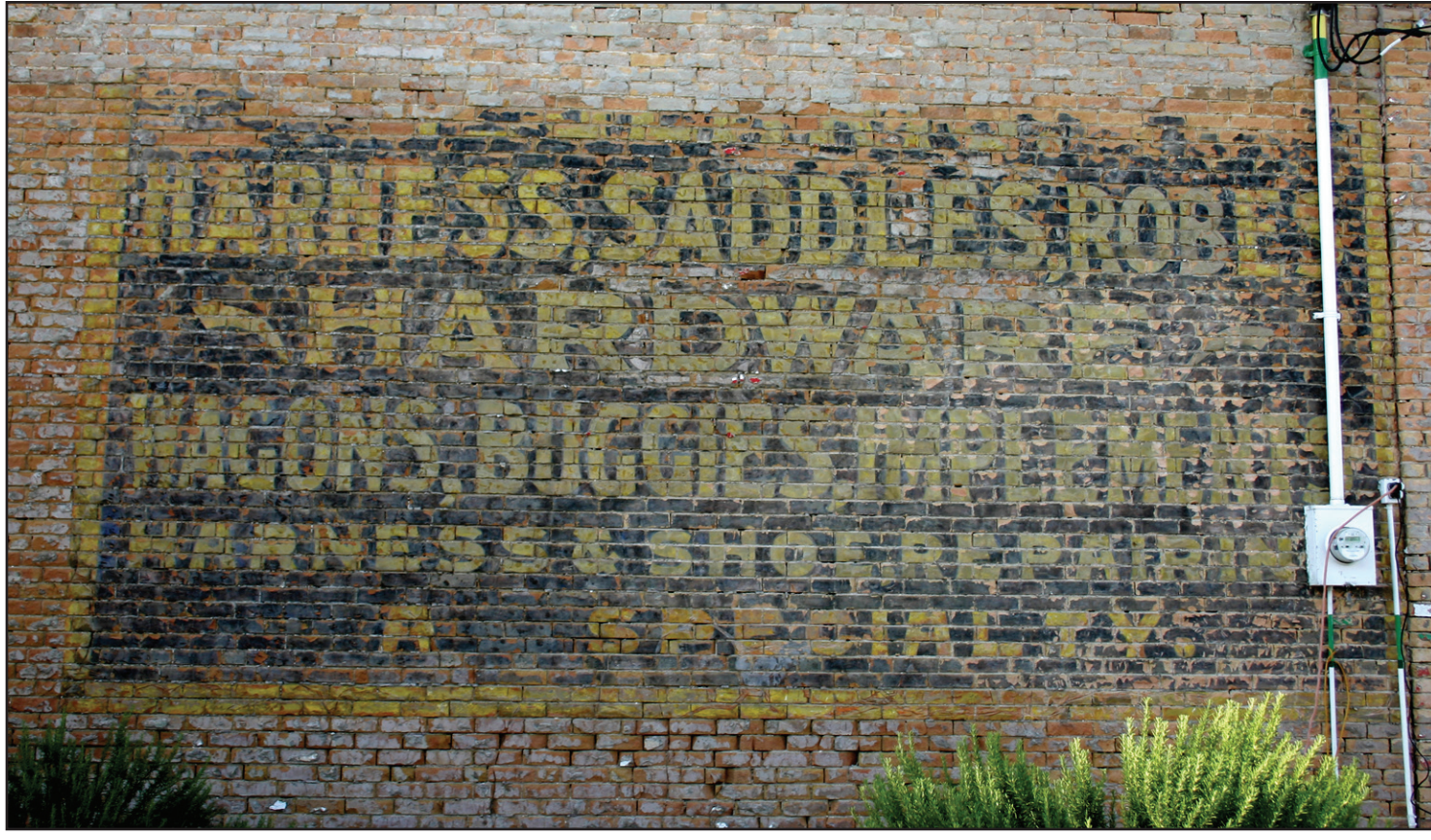
The public hearing was closed. Flusche made the motion to make the tax rate \$0.3685. Sicking made the second. The vote was three in favor (Flusche, Sicking, and Taylor) and against Otto and Bohl. The rate passed.

A vote was called to approve Ordinance 372 approving and adopting the 2015 ad valorem tax rate of \$0.3685 per \$100 property value. It passed 5-0.

City Administrator Stan Endres prepared a proposed budget after the budget workshop held in August. That General Fund Budget of Gross Income \$1,197,610. Expenses: Police Dept. \$271,223; Fire Dept. \$36,200; Street Dept. \$327,710; Park/Museum Dept. \$115,577; Pool Dept. \$26,550; Administration Dept. \$157,455; Sanitation Dept. \$249,700; Li-

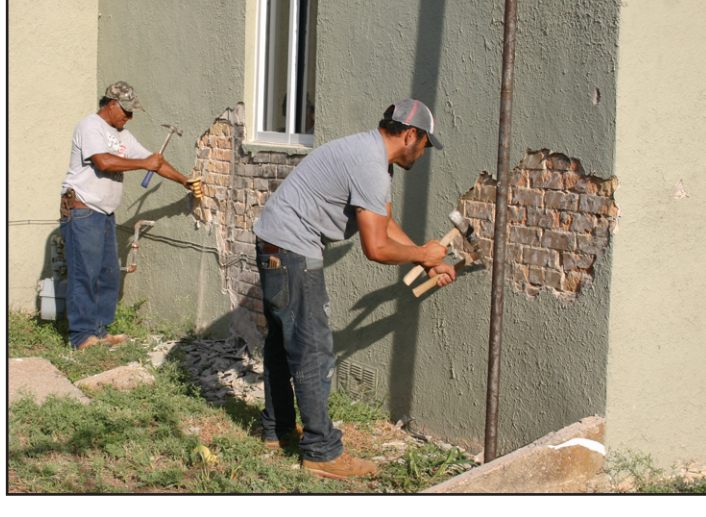
See CITY, pg. 2

HARNESSES, SADDLES, ROBES



Janie Hartman photos

Repair work this past week on the old Gehrig Hardware building, now Sisters Gift Store on Main Street, exposed some Muenster history. Painted on the brick is "Harness, Saddles, Robes • Hardware • Wagons, Buggies, Implements • Harness & Shoe Repairing • A Specialty." Sisters owner Jean Walterscheid said that they are going to attempt to save the old wording. The building will be re-stuccoed and that area will get mortar between the brick and then coated with a sealer. Water damage behind the stucco created the need to repair the building's exterior. See related photo on page 2.



Firm to develop County road plan

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

Looking to the future at their Monday, Sept. 14 meeting, Cooke County Commissioners Court signed a

contract with Freese and Nichols, Inc. of Fort Worth for a Cooke County Thoroughfare Plan. Stanford Lynch spoke for the firm. He stated, "The transportation plan that is before you would basically help position the County, look at what's happening within the County both countywide, but also with respect to its cities and communities, as well as TxDOT with respect to what is happening. And helping to develop a transportation plan that would address some of the issues you are facing at your county road level, but also with respect to some of your state system roadways and I-35."

Cooke County is bisected by I-35 north and south and U.S. Hwy. 82 east and west. There are also Hwy. 51 and FM 922 on the south side. "You have a lot of transportation related opportunities," said Lynch. With the recent passage of some bills providing funding for TxDOT and the potential passage of Proposition 7 this November providing more funding for roads, there are many opportunities for transportation improvements across the state added Lynch.

"What we have done in other counties is to help develop a plan of action, a plan that can be implemented, a plan that you can take to your cit-

ies and TxDOT to compete at your local and regional level, and also statewide," said Lynch. "We've been very successful in leveraging small amounts of county dollars along with city and local regional dollars to bring in large sums of construction money from TxDOT for various projects."

County Judge Jason Brinkley stated that this is the top firm in the area in this topic. "With the I-35 expansion on the horizon for us at some point, for us to have a voice, we need to have a plan which is why I think it is good to start the process."

Commissioner Leon Klement remarked that not only is it important to seek the funding, but future planning is important. "What is going to happen in the next 10 years and how is it going to affect everyone? We don't think of that on a day-to-day basis, but sooner or later, it will be, I can't get from this side of the county to that side of the county. Hopefully, we are going to work on that."

Lynch said that his firm planned to work with the cities and communities in the County to identify their issues, to work with commissioners to identify the issues in each of their precincts, and then pull that all together into a coordinated plan that you can use effectively

to help with TxDOT.

Freese and Nichols, Inc. was also contracted with the County for professional services for a Cooke County Lake Zoning and Subdivision Diagnostic report. Jerry Chapman of the firm spoke. He noted, "It's been over two decades since these regulations have been examined. A lot has happened since they were first put in place. Cooke County is in a position in North Central Texas where the next 20 years are probably going to result in a substantial amount of migration from the south. Denton County is one of the fastest growing counties in Texas."

Judge Brinkley said, "I think this is very much needed. These two regulations haven't been updated in a considerable amount of time. The Ray Roberts one has changed very little since its implementation back in the early '80s."

The contract covered four tasks that the company would address. Chapman anticipated it would take about four months to get the work done and prepare the final diagnostic report. Work should begin in October.

Judge Brinkley announced that Cooke County had recently been upgraded from a AA bond rating to a AA+ which is the second highest

See PLAN, pg. 2

Stevens crowned Homecoming Queen



Amy Binder photo

Crowned as Muenster's 2015 Homecoming Queen during Homecoming festivities last Friday night was Courtney Stevens, daughter of Mark and Michelle Stevens. She is escorted by Dalton Hess, son of Ryan and Tina Hess. The Hornets played the Callisburg Wildcats for the Homecoming game.

'Speak Your Mind' to start dialog on teen suicides

Cathy Krahl
Staff writer

In Cooke County in 2012, 11 youth committed suicide. That translates into a suicide rate of 28.3, which is more than double the Texas rate of 11.4. That the community lost that many of its children and young adults under the age of 25 through the completely preventable death, is awful.

"Something needs to be done," Kelly Fiore-Watson with Abigail's Arms, said. "Our county is one of the

highest in the state," she said of the area suicide rate among teens under the age of 19.

To get the dialog going, Fiore-Watson, through Abigail's Arms, has organized an evening of conversation they are calling "Speak Your Mind." It is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 22 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Stanford House in Gainesville. Doors will open at 5:30.

While planning this program, a flyer was composed that said as of this year,

three teen suicides have been recorded. As of Friday, Sept. 11, that number is now five.

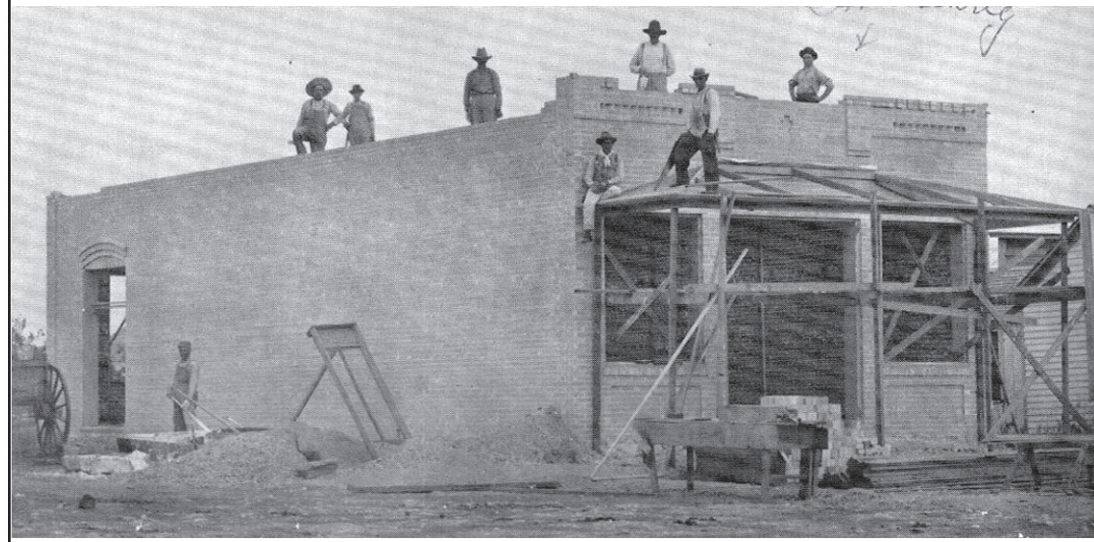
As young people's suicides seem to be related with mental health issues and often substance use, these topics will be part of the community conversation.

"I think it is a terrific event to be having in our city," County Judge Jason Brinkley said. "We have a problem in mental health and in substance abuse."

See SUICIDE, pg. 6

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

MUENSTER, TEXAS



The construction of Gehrig's Shoe and Harness Shop - 1909-10

"Gehrig's" was started by John M. Gehrig in the early 1890s and moved into this location in 1911. This Muenster landmark was built without the use of cement, only lime and sand. Bill Gehrig bought the business from his dad and rented the building. In 1932, George Gehrig bought the business and later the building, operating the store until 1974. During this time, the change from harness shop to hardware store was made. Jim Gehrig took over and in 1980, moved the business out of this building, down the street.

PLAN

bond rating outside of the AAA.

County Auditor Shelly Atteberry said that the upgraded bond rating was given because of the County's fund balance, budgetary controls, upgraded policies, and the stable economy in Cooke County. She said they had to complete a lengthy and thorough questionnaire for the bond rating.

"It reflects well on Commissioners Court," remarked Atteberry.

Commissioner Klement noted that a lot of the information came out of the 2014 year. He added that he noticed that they took note that in 2014, the County made 168% of its annual required

pension contribution. He said that plays into it also.

Judge Brinkley thanked the Auditor's Office for all their hard work on the project. He added, "I think it speaks well of this Court and it speaks well of previous Commissioners Courts for being fiscally determined. It's a great thing for our Court and for the County."

By a unanimous vote, the Court agreed not to join the TAC Worker's Compensation Alliance. According to Human Resources Director Elizabeth Huchton, County workers can currently see the physician of their choice. If the County joined the Alliance, the list of doctors they could see would be limited

and they would have to have a referral to see a specialist. This takes time and most doctors in the Alliance would be a distance away. She recommended not joining the Alliance.

In other business, Commissioners Court:

- Approved the transfer of \$5,000 from line item 001-540-119 Salaries to line item 001-540-107 Extra Help and Overtime for the EMS Budget.

- Heard that boring test holes has begun on the Muenster Wind Farm project.

Consent agenda items approved included:

- Allowing Gainesville ISD to hold their homecoming pep-rally on Sept. 23 on the East side of the Courthouse.

- Agreement between Cooke County and Tarrant County College for Law Enforcement Education.

- Accepting insurance settlement for water damage that occurred on June 25, and insurance settlement for A/C water damage that occurred on June 29.

- Agreement between Cooke County and NCTC Nursing Department for clinical education.

- Indigent cremation of Rosalie Stiles and of James Edward Brinkley.

- Agreement between Cooke County Road and Bridge Precinct #3 and John Deere Financial for the lease of a 2015 772GXDW Motor Grader for a three year period beginning Sept. 1 through

Vegas comes to town

It will be Vegas Night in Muenster on Saturday, Sept. 19. Sacred Heart Alumni & Supporters, Inc. is holding its annual fundraiser Vegas Night that evening with doors opening at 6 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Community Center. Games begin at 7 p.m.

There will be professional dealers, 25 Blackjack tables, and two Craps tables.

A heavy snack table and beverages will be offered. They promise lots of great door prizes and at 10 p.m., a live auction for the big winners. Proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School.

For more information, contact Tammy Truebenbach 736-5130 or Jo Schilling 736-8111.

Will is to grace as the horse is to the rider.
- Saint Augustine

.....continued from pg. 1

Sept. 1, 2018.

- Contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Cooke County Clerk for vital statistics services.

- Accepting a donation in the amount of \$23.20 to the Cooke County Library from anonymous donors and of \$10 to the Cooke County Library from Marie Grigsby for research.

- Purchase agreement between Cooke County Road and Bridge #1 and LaPine Trucks and Trailers for the purchase of a 2016 Wt120 Lowboy Trailer.

- Trade-in of a 1999 Case 580L from Road and Bridge #2 to RDO Equipment on the purchase of a new 2015 John Deere 310EL Backhoe in the amount of \$17,500 and warranty agreement for the same.

- Renewal of vehicle liability, vehicle physical damage coverage, and general liability insurance through Texas Association of Counties.

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Police Notes

from Muenster Chief of Police
Tom Barr

AUGUST 2015 Activity

Calls for Service (CFS) - 89; Incident/Offense reports generated - 5; Arrests - 1; Accidents Investigated - 4; Citations issued for the month - 45; Officers worked 671 hours on duty.

Patrol vehicles logged 3,556 miles for the month.

90 day stats: May - CFS 108, Incidents 13, Arrests 1, Citations 31. June - CFS 123, Incidents 9, Arrests 5, Citations 41. July - CFS 101, Incidents 8, Arrests 4, Citations 22.

Vehicle Stats - 2014 Ford F150 - 16,183, #2 2011 Crown Vic - 57,745, #3 2010 Crown Vic - 62,153.

School has started back and we are pleased to see that most drivers are heeding the school zone regulations. We ask that drivers be especially mindful of the crosswalks on Main Street. Parents, please remind your children to use the crosswalk area to cross the street. Crossing in mid-block can be very dangerous for them.

CITY

.....continued from pg. 1
Library Dept. \$19,500 for total expenses of \$1,203,915 for the 2015-16 year. The net income was projected to be a negative \$6,305.

Water & Sewer Fund was a gross income of \$584,000. Expenses for the Water Dept. were projected at \$356,708 and the Sewer Dept. at \$195,562 for total expenses of \$552,270. Net income for the Sewer and Water Fund was projected at \$31,730.

After a brief review of the budget the Council unanimously approved it by a vote of 5-0.

Muenster VFD Chief Mitch Creed gave the Fire Department report for August. He said that there were 289 man hours logged and 18 calls answered in September, but had nothing much in August.

Truck 124 is back in service. A grant was received for \$86,000. The paperwork is with City Secretary Ammie Hennigan to look at for the City for SUBAs. Truck 120 was pressure checked and passed. Chief Creed said the Department had a question as to whether the Fire Department of the City was responsible for checking the fire hydrants. Endres said that the Fire Department has always done it in the past.

Creed said they are supposed to be checked every year, but he said it has been years since the hydrants have been thoroughly checked. "We have some that we couldn't get the caps off or couldn't turn without serious work," said Creed. At one time, the City checked and then the MVFD checked them, but they have not all been getting done.

Chief Creed noted, "If it is ours (responsibility), we've got to figure out something because there are so many hydrants and we've only got 24 drills a year."

Endres said if any problems are found with the hydrants, it should be reported to the City and the City would be responsible for repairing them. There are about 100 hydrants and

there is only one pressure gauge.

Creed said the pressure should be checked on each hydrant and then it should be painted a color according to its pressure so that other assisting fire departments know if they can use the hydrant or not.

None are color coordinated at this time.

Endres said it would be best to check with ISO to see what needed to be done. Creed agreed to contact ISO. The Council agreed to help as needed.

Administrator Endres reported that Bolen Construction has completed paving portions of Sixth and Seventh streets and patched several small street areas around town. The bill was \$218,346. City crews painted the crosswalks around the two schools where the new asphalt was laid.

FEMA approved the City going forward with repairs to the creek crossing at the sewer plant. The job will be advertised so it can be approved at the October meeting.

Endres said that there have been some wondering about the City's bank loan for the water line expansion and repairs. The City borrowed \$1,000,000 from Muenster State Bank (MSB). There is currently a balance of \$707,360. Monthly payments are \$10,006. There are about seven more years of payments. The Muenster Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) has a loan with MSB. The balance is \$136,372. MIDC has a bank balance of approximately \$129,377. The entire bank balance should be paid off in January. MIDC collects economic development sales tax (Type B). MIDC usually collects about \$10,000 per month.

No word has been received from TxDOT on the walking trail in the City Park.

In other business, the City Council:

- Approved the contract with Progressive Waste Solutions for solid waste removal.

- Approved contract with Cooke County Appraisal District (CCAD) for assessment and collection services.

- Approved CCAD's request to keep the 2014 budget excess amount in reserve in the event of a disaster.

Approved payment of bills totaling \$168,409.24.

I used to be frightened of the countryside after dark. Now I enjoy it. There is something wonderful about those strange country and wildlife noises.
- Jasmine Guinness

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Presenter: Todd Ermenio

Title: Vice President, Senior Advisor Consultant

Organization: Franklin Templeton

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Where: Rohmer's Restaurant
(RSVP is required for attendance. Attendees should be between the ages of 50 and 63.)

Dinner will be served.

We hope you and a guest will join us. Please call Tina Patterson at 940-382-0280 or email tina.patterson@edwardjones.com by 09/18/2015.

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2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

To list your event, call 759-4311 BEFORE NOON WEDNESDAY!

Sunday, September 20, 2015	Monday, September 21, 2015	Tuesday, September 22, 2015	Wednesday, September 23, 2015	Thursday, September 24, 2015	Friday, September 25, 2015	Saturday, September 26, 2015
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 pm	VFW Aux. mtg. 7pm	Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm MMH Board mtg. 7 pm	Library open 10-6:30 Religious Ed 6:45 pm MISD Picture Day- PK-11	Museum open 1-4 pm Library open 10-6:30	Muenster Museum open 1-4 pm Tigers @ Covenant Hornets @ Lindsay	Library open 10-2:30
Sunday, September 27, 2015	Monday, September 28, 2015	Tuesday, September 29, 2015	Wednesday, September 30, 2015	Thursday, October 1, 2015	Friday, October 2, 2015	Saturday, October 3, 2015
Muenster Museum Open 1-4 pm 		Library open 10 am - 6:30 pm Home Hospice Aux. Tea Muenster Museum 3-5 pm	Library open 10-6:30 Religious Ed 6:45 pm MISD Book Fair	Museum open 1-4 pm Library open 10-6:30	Muenster Museum OPEN 1-4 Hornets vs Cumby Tigers @ Temple	Library open 10-2:30 

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DAYS GONE BY.....

**Brenda Rigsby Stephens
1951 - 2015**



Brenda Rigsby Stephens

Brenda Gail Rigsby Stephens died at the age of 64 on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2015 in Bowie. Memorial service was held Saturday, Sept. 12 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness in Bowie. Arrangements were directed by White Family Funeral Home of Bowie.

Brenda was born Jan. 31, 1951 in Mesquite to Raymond and Margaret Henson. She was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses on Aug. 4, 2012. Brenda was adored by her husband Ron, and had many friends who will always remember her sweet smile and positive attitude. She enjoyed Jehovah's creation in each season and especially enjoyed flowers, plants, and watching birds and wildlife. Brenda worked as an administrative assistant at North Central Texas College. She had previously worked at the *Muenster Enterprise* many years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and first husband, Philip Rigsby, age 45. Brenda is survived by her husband Ron Stephens; sister Linda; children Mark Rigsby and Paige Rigsby; and six grandchildren.

**Harlan Bridwell
1917 - 2015**

Harlan Bridwell of Bridgeport died in Decatur Sept. 8, 2015 just 11 days shy of his 98th birthday. Services were held at the First United Methodist Church in Bridgeport Sept. 11 with a private, family burial later that day.

Harlan was born Sept. 19, 1917, in Dumas, AR to Louis Harlan and Elizabeth Fincher Bridwell. He devoted much of his life to his chosen profession as publisher of weekly newspapers. The flagship property of the Bridwell Publishing Company was *The Bridgeport Index*, but Bridwell expanded this chain of publications to several other cities. Some were purchased from others, while several were started by Bridwell. Through the years, he owned such publications as *The Forestburger* (his first newspaper), *The Tioga Herald*, *The Bellevue News*, *The Iowa Park Rocket*, *The Frisco Enterprise*, *The Chico Texan*, *The Wise County Shopper*, *The Celina Record*, and the

Ryan (OK) Leader.

Harlan was a talented writer who is perhaps best known for his weekly "Shootin' Blind" column, a regular mixture of Harlan's opinions on various issues and glimpses into the personalities of local citizens, seasoned with a healthy dose of Harlan's homespun humor. The colorful column ran regularly for several decades, and sometimes dealt with more serious matters such as bond issues and politics in general.

Survivors are his sons Keith Bridwell and wife Karen of Bridgeport, and Doug Bridwell and wife Lynda of Bridgeport; daughter Melanie Fair and husband Larry of Bridgeport; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and numerous other family members, and a generous number of friends. He is also survived by long-time friend, caretaker, and companion Joann Pritchard.

When you use a manual push mower, you're "cutting" down on pollution and the only thing in danger of running out of gas is you!

~ Grey Livingston

**Genell Schoech
1941 - 2015**



Genell Schoech

Genell Kesner Schoech of Kingsville passed into Heaven on Monday, Sept. 14, 2015 at the age of 73. Genell was born in Port Arthur on Oct. 29, 1941, the youngest of three children to V. Fred and Pearl Lee Kesner.

Genell grew up in East Texas and Southern Louisiana. She attended Our Lady of the Lake University where she met her husband Melvin Schoech. She graduated with a Bachelor and a Master degree from Texas A & I University. Genell married Mel on June 17, 1961 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Muenster. She retired from teaching after 28 years from King Ranch School.

In addition to her teaching career, she enjoyed volunteering at Christus Spohn Kleberg Hospital where she had accumulated over 23,000 hours of service.

She enjoyed traveling, camping, and volunteering. She also thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren who called her Nanny.

She is survived by the love of her life of 54 years, M.A. "Mel" Schoech; brother

Jerry Kesner; sister Frances Renfroe; six children - Melvin (Chris), Arnold (Leslie), Missy (Craig Becker), Richard (Tissey), Aaron and Sissi (Laura Harper); 18 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A Rosary will be held Friday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. at Kingsville Memorial Funeral Home. A Mass will be celebrated Saturday, Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. at St. Gertrude's Catholic Church with Fr. John Stembler officiating.

To view tribute, visit www.kingsvillememorialfh.net.

Grewing services set

Funeral Mass for Curtis Lee Grewing, age 52 of Dallas, is set for 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 19 at St. Peter's Church in Lindsay. Rosary will be held at 7 p.m., Friday at Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. Curtis died Wednesday, Sept. 16 in Dallas. He is the son of Edward and Dorothy Grewing of Lindsay.

Thank you all for your many prayers and kind words, loving stories, flowers, plants, Mass offerings, food, and many labors of love given to us with the passing of our mother and grandmother Margaret Reiter Schmitt.

Words can not adequately express our depth of gratitude to the many friends, family, and acquaintances for your wonderful support and expressions of love.

We want to express special thanks to Fr. Ken Robinson for his uplifting messages at the wake and funeral Mass. Thank you also to the music ministers for their participation in the funeral Mass. Thanks to Scott Funeral Home for their dignified arrangements around the funeral.

A very special thanks to the Benedictine Sisters of Holy Angels Convent in Jonesboro, Arkansas for their loving care of Margaret in the last few years of her life. Thank you also to Fr. Udo for his spiritual ease of "Mom."

Thank you to the Catholic Daughters for preparing the funeral meal that allowed our family to continue in the celebration of Margaret's life and to the Knights of Columbus for their hall for the funeral meal.

Mother was very proud of being from Muenster, Texas. She missed you very much while she was in Arkansas. We were all blessed to have Margaret in our lives. She will be truly missed.

The Family of Margaret Reiter Schmitt



Letter to the Editor:

We never take a political promise at face value. Donald Trump said he would deport our 11 million illegal aliens. Our immediate reaction was el toro poo poo.

Assuming Trump is elected to one term, he would have 1,460 days to accomplish his promise. This means his goal from day one would be van-

ishing 7,535 people daily. According to the American Immigration Council, 441,939 are waiting to be heard. The wait time for a hearing is 863 days or just under two and a half years. If all pending cases were heard within the two and a half years, only 512 cases would be heard a day. We leave our court presentation without raising the lengthy appeals process.

25 YEARS AGO

Sept. 14, 1990

H&W Meat wins awards at convention of the Texas Association of Meat Processors in College Station. Obituary: Marie Angerer Heinrich, 81. London, England-born Jan Ashley receives full American citizenship. After 10 years of marriage, Michael and Carla Sicking have wedding vows blessed in the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Decatur. Clifford Lutkenhaus places 2nd in 4-H Show in El Paso.

Letter to the Editor

What capacity do we have for moving 11,000,000 people. A Greyhound Bus holds 49 people, so to meet the daily goal allocate 156 buses per day headed to the border. A passenger train car seats 90, we need 73 train cars full each day. However, these figures only meet Trump's daily goal and do not take into consideration not everyone is going to Mexico.

We are not even going into Congress having to appropriate several trillion dollars to carry out the process.

Trump promises to deport all our illegal immigrants. We promise to paint the courthouse green. To the voters, may we suggest: do not hold your breath.

Ken Leach
940 736 0667
Gainesville, TX

Cole McNatt



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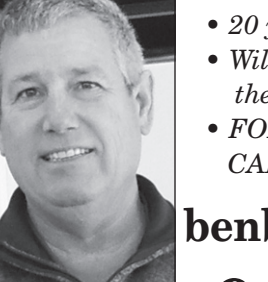
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Explanatory Statements for the November 3, 2015 Constitutional Amendment Election

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 1)

SJR 1 - Current law provides an exemption of \$15,000 from the ad valorem taxation for public school purposes of a residence homestead.

The proposed amendment would increase this exemption to \$25,000, starting in the tax year beginning January 1, 2015. In order to reflect the increased exemption on the homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or a disabled person, the proposed amendment would provide a reduction to the current limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes. The proposed amendment would protect school districts from all or part of the revenue loss by authorizing an appropriation of funds according to formulas set by the legislature. In addition, the proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision from reducing or repealing a homestead exemption adopted by the political subdivision. Finally, the proposed amendment would prohibit the imposition of a tax on the conveyance of real property, but would not prohibit the imposition of a business tax measured by business activity, a tax on the production of minerals, a tax on the issuance of title insurance, or a change in the rate of a tax in existence on January 1, 2016.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$15,000 to \$25,000, providing for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount, authorizing the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the

exemption, and prohibiting the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property."

Proposition Number 2 (HJR 75)

HJR 75 - In 2011, voters approved a constitutional amendment to allow a surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran an exemption from ad valorem taxation from all or part of the market value on the disabled veteran's residence homestead, as long as the surviving spouse had not remarried. The amendment did not apply to surviving spouses of veterans who died before 2011. This amendment would extend the exemption in such cases. The proposed amendment would apply only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before the law authorizing a residence homestead exemption for such a veteran took effect."

Proposition Number 3 (SJR 52)

SJR 52 proposes a constitutional amendment to repeal the requirement for the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the Attorney General, and any other officers elected statewide to reside in Austin, Texas, the state capital. Under current law, these statewide elected officers are required to reside in the capital of the State of Texas while in office. This amendment would not apply to the residency requirement for the Governor.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment repealing the requirement that state officers elected by voters statewide reside in the state capital."

Proposition Number 4 (HJR 73)

HJR 73 proposes a constitutional amendment that would grant the legislature the authority to pass statutes to allow a professional sports team charitable foundation to conduct charitable raffles under the terms and conditions imposed by general law. The laws passed under this authority may provide that the professional sports team charitable foundation may use proceeds from such charitable raffles to pay reasonable advertising, promotional, and administrative expenses. Any law enacted by this provision only applies to entities defined as professional sports team charitable foundations on January 1, 2016. Additionally, any law enacted by this provision may only allow charitable raffles to be conducted at games hosted at the home venue of the professional sports team associated with a professional sports team charitable foundation.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct charitable raffles."

Proposition Number 5 (SJR 17)

SJR 17 proposes a constitutional amendment which would increase from 5,000 to 7,500 the maximum total population threshold of a county that is allowed to construct and maintain private roads as long as the county imposes a reasonable charge for the work.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment to authorize counties with a population of 7,500 or less to perform private road construction and maintenance."

Proposition Number 6 (SJR 22)

SJR 22 proposes a constitutional amendment that would add the right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife, including by use of traditional methods, in the Bill of Rights of the Texas Constitution. This right would be subject to laws and regulations intended to conserve

and manage wildlife and to preserve the future of hunting and fishing. The proposed amendment would establish hunting and fishing as the preferred method of managing and controlling wildlife in Texas. The proposed amendment is not intended to affect any law or provision related to trespass, property rights or eminent domain, and would not prevent the legislature from authorizing a municipality to regulate the discharge of a firearm in a populated area in the interest of safety.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment recognizing the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wildlife conservation."

Proposition Number 7 (SJR 5)

SJR 5 proposes a constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of revenues from (1) the state sales and use tax, and (2) the tax imposed on the sale, use, or rental of a motor vehicle, to the State Highway Fund (SHF). Under current law, these funds would be deposited to the General Revenue Fund. Money deposited to the SHF is intended to be used only to construct, maintain, or acquire rights-of-way for public roadways other than toll roads; or to repay certain transportation-related debt.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment dedicating certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for nontolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt."

Published by Texas Secretary of State Carlos H. Cascos, www.VoteTexas.gov, 1-800-252-VOTE (8683).

Home Hospice Auxiliary to host tea in Muenster

The Auxiliary of Home Hospice of Cooke County will be hosting a tea on Tuesday, Sept. 29 from 3 – 5 p.m. at the Muenster Museum on Main Street. The tea is open to anyone who would like to come meet some of their volunteers and learn about Home Hospice and their community services. Wine, tea, and light refreshments will be served. The guest speaker will be Nancy Jackson, director of Community Development for Home Hospice.

The Home Hospice Auxiliary was established in 1988 and is open to anyone 18 years of age or older who is interested in advancing the goals and objectives of Home Hospice of Cooke County. The primary functions of the organization are service and fundraising. It accomplishes this by aiding with community education, ensuring the staff has adequate resources, creating community awareness for Home Hospice, and

providing information to interest others working with the Auxiliary and Home Hospice.

“We receive a lot of support from the Muenster community,” stated Cathy Kinsella, Volunteer Coordinator for Home Hospice of Cooke County, “from the golf tournaments held at Turtle Hill, to our Light Up A Life campaigns, and most recently, our HUGS for Home Hospice dinner and auction. We could not do what we do without the help of our Auxiliary members – they are there working with us every step of the way. There are many opportunities in the Muenster area where you can help us fulfill our goals and mission. We hope that you will join us at the tea to learn what we do and where you can help.”

“I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones at the tea,” stated Nita Boardman, Auxiliary president. “The Home Hos-

pice Auxiliary is a group of men and women who provide support and services for Home Hospice of Cooke County. I encourage people to come to the tea and meet other Auxiliary members and volunteers, and learn more about this wonderful organization.”

Please RSVP by Sept. 25 to Cathy Kinsella at 940.665.9891 or cathy.kinsella@homehospice.org. To learn about other ways you can volunteer with Home Hospice visit www.homehospice.org.

Home Hospice of Grayson, Cooke, and Fannin counties is a 501(c)(3) local community-based organization founded in 1982. Their mission is to provide compassionate, quality care, grief support, and education to their patients, their caregivers, and the community. They value those they serve as they are neighbors, friends, and families.

New at Muenster Public Library - September

Fiction/Non-Fiction
Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee, *Circling the Sun* by Paula McClain, *Death of a Dyer* by Eleanor Kuhns, *Lady Maybe* by Julie Klassen, *Move Your Bus* by Ron Clark, *Speaking in Bones* by Kathy Reichs, *Who Let the Dog Out* by David Rosenfelt, *Wildest Dreams* by Robyn Carr, *Keeper's Reach* by Carla Neggers, *Starlight on Willow Lake* by Susan Wiggs, *Last Time I Saw Her* by Karen Robards, *Silver Linings* by Debbie Macomber, *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty, *Dance of the Bones* by Judith A. Jance, *Devil's Bridge* by Linda A. Fairstein, *Dry Bones* by Craig Johnson, *Wait for Signs* by Craig Johnson, *Ever After* by Jude Deveraux, *For the Love* by Jen Hatmaker, *Make Me* by Lee Child, *Nature of the Beast* by Louise Penny, *Never Die Alone* by Lisa Jackson, *Pope Francis and the New Vatican* by David Yoder, *Ransom Canyon* by Jodi Thomas, *Real Cost of Fracking* by Michelle Bamberger, *The Remaining* by D.J. Molles, *Solomon Curse* by Clive Cussler, *Undercover* by Danielle

Steel, *Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce, *Brown-Eyed Girl* by Lisa Kleypas, *Candy Corn Murder* by Leslie Meier, *Golden Son* by Pierce Brown, *Red Rising* by Pierce Brown, *Ruby* by Cynthia Bond.

Junior Fiction
This One Summer by Mariko Tamaki, *Education of Ivy Blake* by Ellen Airgood, *Lost in the Sun* by Lisa Graff, *Golden Specific* by S. E. Grove, *Vivian Apple Needs a Miracle* by Katie Coyle, *P.S. I Still Love You* by Jennie Han, *Copper Gauntlet* by Holly Black, *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell, *Katerina's Wish* by Jeannie Mobley, *Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard, *Siren's Fury* by Mary Weber, *Storm Siren* by Mary Weber, *Towering* by Alex Flinn, *We All Looked Up* by Tommy Wallach, *Echo* by Pam Munoz Ryan, *Chosen Prince* by Diane Stanley.

Easy Books
What Pet Should I Get? by Dr. Seuss, *Float* by Daniel Miyares, *Boats for Papa* by Jessica Bagley, *Buddy and Earl* by Maureen Fergus, *Lillian's Right to Vote* by Jonah Winter, *Book With No*

Pictures by B.J. Novak, *Even Aliens Need Snacks* by Matthew McElligott, *Apple* by Nikki McClure, *Silly Lilly and the Four Seasons* by Agnes Rosenstiehl, *Silly Lilly in What Will I Be Today?* by Agnes Rosenstiehl.

CD Books
How to Write a Novel by Melanie Sumner, *If I Could Turn Back Time* by Elizabeth M. Harbison.

Library to host children's class

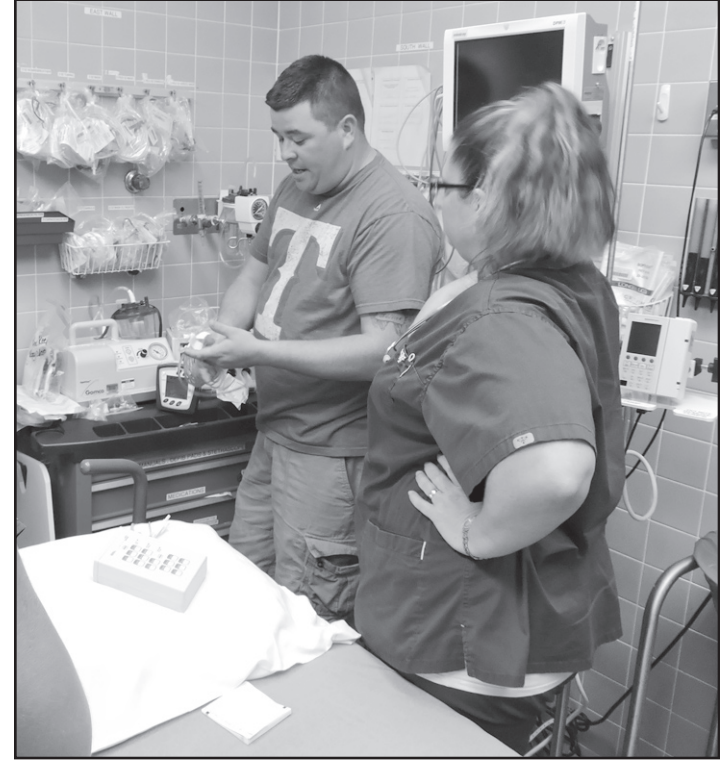
Na Na Na Na Batman! Sept. 26 is the 2nd annual Batman Day. To honor this superhero, Cooke County Library will host a special children's class. Children are invited to come celebrate this popular icon with other Batman fans. There will be stories, music, games, a craft, and a special guest visit. You're welcome to come in costume.

This class will take place at 10:30 a.m. at the Library in Gainesville. If you have questions, call the Library at 940-668-5530.



MMH photos

In top photo - Muenster Memorial Hospital nurses, from left, Renee Conner, Tiffany Lutkenhaus, Crystal Tuggle, and Jessica Bowman, practice a log roll of a "patient" on a backboard; at right - Muenster nurses review equipment in Emergency Room with instructor Richard Brock, a licensed paramedic.



MMH nurses sharpen skills

In health care, change comes quickly and often, and continuing education is key to maintaining a competent staff.

Over the past month at Muenster Memorial Hospital, the education rooms have been buzzing as nurses updated their certifications in various forms of life support, such as basic, advanced cardiac, trauma, and pediatric. Mannequin chests were pumped and breath counts verified as nurses went through a review and recertification testing.

The annual trauma skills fair presented new trauma protocols and policies, updated documentation requirements, and various patient scenarios for skill practice. Every nurse on staff participated

This training, which is

done on a regular basis, is in line with requirements of Level IV Trauma Certification by the Texas Department of Human Services, which currently lists 196 hospitals in the state as Level IV trauma facilities, including Muenster.

“We are committed to maintaining and improving our emergency services,” said Brian Roland, Chief Executive Officer at MMH. “We have an emergency physician on site 24/7, nurses who are trauma trained, lab and imaging services. We want to be here for our community and its citizens.”

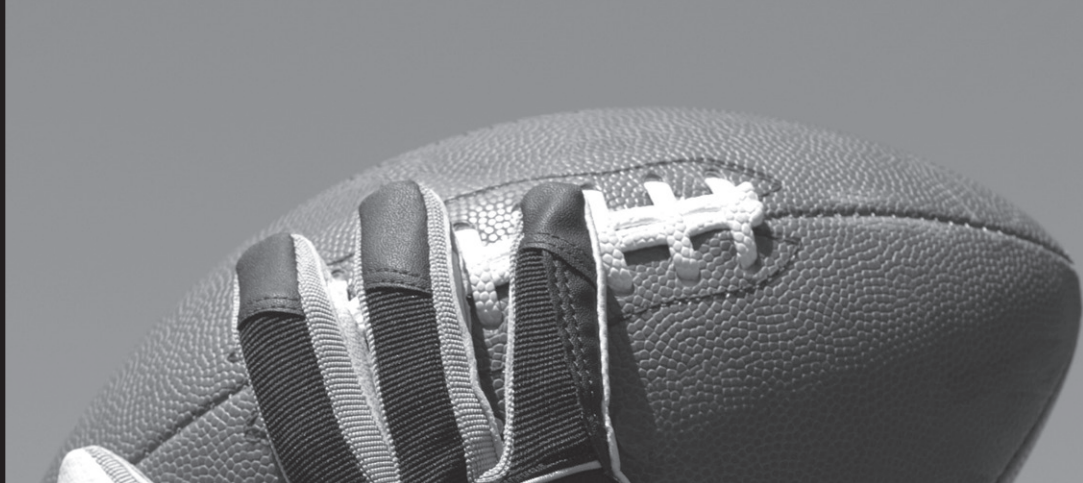
“Being a smaller facility, our nurses are cross-trained to cover several areas and proper training is essential,” noted Tiffany Lutkenhaus and Kerri Snyder of Nursing Administration. “Our nurses

are dedicated professionals and continuing education will be a regular part of their employment here.”

Proof of this commitment was on display last weekend as MMH staffed up in preparation for the Rednecks with Paychecks event in Montague County. As it turned out, numbers for the Redneck event were down overall, but the emergency department stayed busy with community members needing medical attention. Patient visits for the weekend went from 26 during the last Redneck event to 40 this event. Twenty-six of those were from Rednecks. The remainder presented with various complaints ranging from chest pain to kidney stones.

Weather Whys - moon

When the snows were deep in January, wolf packs would often howl near Native American villages, prompting the “full wolf moon,” the first full moon in January. Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University adds, “Also, February is usually the heaviest snowfall month, and the first full moon then was called the ‘full snow moon.’ And the Algonquin tribes loved strawberries, so the first full moon in June was known as the ‘full strawberry moon.’ May was when flowers were in full bloom, so the first full moon was known as the ‘full flower moon.’ July is normally the month when the new antlers of buck deer would form with velvety fur, so July was called the ‘full buck moon’ and sometimes the ‘full thunder moon’ because of the frequent thunderstorms that occur then. In all, there were almost 30 names for full moons in early American days.”



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Open House held for My Brother's House

My Brother's House (MBH), a Texas 501 (C) (3) organization for men recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction, held an open house on Saturday, Aug. 15 at their facility in Muenster. The community was invited to celebrate the opening of the new facility, a vacated nursing home which the residents of the House and volunteers helped renovate and bring back to life. Approximately 200 guests, residents, and Board members enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, and desserts while visiting and touring the facility.

Showcased was a 12-passenger van recently purchased through a grant from the Life to Life Fund at the Community Foundation of Abilene made possible with the assistance of Pamela Wiebe. Pam and her husband Garry reach out to many through their ministry and love of people. The van allows transportation of the residents to work, support meetings, and church.

My Brother's House has been in operation for 3 ½ years, moving from Gainesville to Muenster because of



Courtesy photo

Pictured with the new van for My Brother's House are, from left, Ron Koehler, Pete Shauf, Patti Hunnicutt, Terry Edwards, Pam Wiebe, and Tim Tracy.

the need to expand its services. Supported through resident and private contributions, MBH is not a treatment center, but a home for men who are in the recovery process. Strict rules are enforced and through fellowship with other recovering men using a mechanism of 12-step programs, they have

a guide for a permanent road to recovery and to become self-supporting and a contributing member of our community. Referrals come from other local non-profit organizations, hospitals, and word of mouth.

The decision to enter MBH is by free will. A background check is run and intake pro-

cedures are followed with random drug and breathalyzer tests given to assure a safe environment.

If you would like to donate to MBH, please send to: My Brother's House, P.O. Box 1356, Gainesville, TX 76241-1356. For more information, call Terry (940) 634-3996.

Mr. and Mrs. David Fleitman and Mr. and Mrs. Randy Thompson are proud to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their children, Shelby Rae Fleitman and Wade Thompson. Shelby is a 2011 graduate of Saint Jo ISD and is currently employed as an Accounting Specialist with Noble Energy in Houston. She is the granddaughter of Luther Miller of Saint Jo and the late Viola Capps as well as the late Anton and Anna Marie Fleitman. Wade is a 2006 graduate of Thackerville ISD and 2011 graduate of Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources. He is currently the Assistant Course Superintendent of The Tournament Course at The Woodlands Country Club in The Woodlands. He is the grandson of Donald and Loretta Thompson of Thackerville, OK and W.C. Bryan of Ponder and the late Barbara Bryan. Shelby and Wade will be married Oct. 24, 2015 at Clark Gardens in Weatherford. After a Caribbean honeymoon, they will make their home in Tomball.

Some can burn legally during County burn ban

Janet Felderhoff
News Editor

Beginning Monday, Aug. 17, Cooke County Commissioners Court enacted a countywide ban on outdoor burning in unincorporated areas of the County. This remains in effect for 90 days unless the Court votes sooner that the burn ban is no longer needed.

When the burn ban came up as an agenda item at the Sept. 14 Commissioners Court meeting, Precinct #4 Commissioner Leon Klement spoke of the concerns some have about not being able to burn debris. He said that particularly out north near the Red River, there are farmers who need to plant crops. Their fields have too much debris from the heavy spring storms to be able to

plant without clearing that debris. Klement wondered if there were not some way to allow those individuals to burn the storm debris in their fields.

Discussion took place on the consequences of a partial ban or allowing a few a burn ban exemption.

County Judge Jason Brinkley said that burning for agricultural purposes is one of the exemptions. Listed in allowed activities that are related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Natural Resources Commission include planting or harvesting of agricultural crops.

Fletcher warned that the fire departments would receive reports of smoke or fire whether the burns were legal or not. Discussion took place as whether or not cer-

tain measures had to be in place for such a burn to happen.

Those who must burn in order to plant agricultural crops should contact Fletcher prior to any action. His number is (940) 668-5400.

County Fire Marshal Ray Fletcher gave the current Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) as being 673. He said that County has moder-

ate to severe drought conditions. Some rain fell, but not enough to have much impact.

"We are starting into that transition time of the year when winds are starting to pick up," remarked Fletcher. "Our fire occurrence, I think, will increase until we get some measurable rains. He did not recommend lifting the burn ban.

Some think love can be measured by the amount of butterflies in their tummy. Others think love can be measured in bunches of flowers, or by using the words 'forever.' But love can only truly be measured by actions. It can be a small thing, such as peeling an orange for a person you love because you know they don't like doing it.

Marian Keyes

New Arrival

Coker

Jesse and Samantha Coker of Muenster announce with joy the birth of their son Judea Dean Coker on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. Judea was born at North Texas Medical Center at 3:10 p.m. weighing 6 lb. 14 oz. and measuring 20 inches in length. He is welcomed by big sister Maci, 3 years old. Grandparents are Paula Chase Hampton of Virginia and JD and Glory Coker of Muenster.



Judea Coker

The most important thing is to be whatever you are without shame. - Rod Steiger

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MISD photo

Muenster ISD's Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) invited members of the Muenster Police Department to visit their Nutrition and Wellness Class on Friday, Sept. 11 to present them with a thank you gift of Monster Cookies. Pictured are, from left, front - Rut Rodriguez, MacKenzie Sicking, Lauren Trubenbach, Paige Saucer, Taylor Knabe, Katie Kresge, Katie Hutson; back - Zina Haverkamp, Jenna Sicking, Morgan Hennigan, Sadie Sandmann, Will Gibson, Officer Laura Brackeen, and Police Chief Tom Barr. This was to honor our local law enforcement on the anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attacks.

SUICIDEcontinued from pg. 1

Statistics show there is a need to have mental health treatment centers and substance abuse rehabilitation available in the county, he said. Brinkley believes the meeting will be the beginning to see that those needs are met and treatment will be readily available.

Fiore-Watson agrees. "Mental Health and substance abuse go hand in hand," she said. "We need to find some way to offer treatment to these teens."

She sees a lot of the problem. It often starts when people are in their pre-teen years that show great changes in their life. Whether they are having problems with grades, relationships, being accepted, bullying, or with their bodies changing into adults, it can lead to anxiety and depression.

"They will often use substances of some kind to cope," Fiore-Watson said. "And we don't have the resources to help them."

If the youths were willing to change and get off the drugs or alcohol, they would have to drive to Dallas, Denton, or Sherman to get help in a facility there. To be admitted into a residential treatment center, they first need insurance, and then they will be placed on long waiting lists to be admitted. Fiore-Watson said many in this situation have no insurance or have insurance that will not pay for rehab.

Fiore-Watson talked of conversations she has had with emergency room doctors in North Texas Medical Center. They tell her that those who commit suicide are just a small percent of those who try. The ER deals with a lot of attempted suicides.

County Attorney Ed Zielinski has encountered this problem in the court system. "I now see how mental health affects juvenile offenders in our county justice system," he said. There is lots of drug use in the county and a lot of the young offenders have had mental health issues that have never been diagnosed until they are in the system.

The juvenile probation officers are trying to keep up, but how can they manage their clients if part of the probation sentence is to go into rehab and there is nothing here to enroll in? The problem continues.

So many of the substance abusers go to jail, but there is no drug rehabilitation offered there either. When they are released, they go out into the same situation that brought them into the court system to begin with.

LHS Counselor Glenna Metzler, along with Paula Moore, Gainesville ISD counselor, will be on the panel leading the discussion.

"I've worked with mental health issues, and I have worked with substance abuse problems," Metzler said. "Drug use is rampant in this county."

Others on the panel include Judge Brinkley, Zielinski, Kim Cook from Abigail's Arms, Tina Harris of Child Protective Services, Brent Broadrick of Texoma Community Center, Rob Samsel of North Texas Medical Center, and Sharon Baughman of the Cooke County Sheriff's Office.

"We need something to prevent incarceration, or worse, a possible death by suicide," Brinkley said. "It is good we can come together as a community and hear an open dialog about it. That is where you hope to have a solution."

The tragedy of a young person dying because of overwhelming hopelessness or frustration is devastating to family, friends, and community. Parents, siblings, classmates, coaches, and neighbors might be left wondering if they could have done something to prevent that young person from turning to suicide.

Learning more about what might lead a teen to suicide may help prevent further tragedies. Even though it's not always preventable, it's always a good idea to be informed and take action to help a troubled teenager.

Apply for Match the Promise Tuition Grants, Matching Scholarships

Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds Texans that applications are now being accepted for 2015-16 Texas Match the Promise Foundation awards.

The Foundation, in cooperation with the Comptroller's office, encourages Texas families to save for college by offering competitive matching scholarships and tuition grants to Texas students who are beneficiaries of a Texas Tuition Promise Fund® (TTPF) account — the state's prepaid college tuition plan.

"Match the Promise scholarships help children all over our great state realize their dreams of a college education while also encouraging families to take steps now to prepare for their children's futures," Hegar said.

"During the 2014-15 school year, 75 Texas students were approved for Match the Promise scholarships. These young people represent the future of the Lone Star State, and we're excited about awarding a new batch of scholarships this year."

Fifth through ninth graders whose families have an annual income of \$100,000 or less and who have a TTPF account may apply for the matching scholarships and tuition grants through Dec. 31. To be considered for a scholarship, students must write a career essay and meet other requirements. Complete details can be found at MatchThePromise.org or by calling 1-800-531-5441, ext. 3-1696.

Families also can enroll in TTPF during this time if they have not already done so. Get more information at TuitionPromise.org.

Flowers grow out of dark moments. Corita Kent

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SPORTS



Bailey Anderle



Megan Rohmer



Lauren Trubenbach



Alaina Kubis

Cross Country photos by Amy Binder

Sacred Heart ready for Era

The Sacred Heart Tigers will host the Hornets of Era this Friday night in week 4, non-conference play. "They are playing very good football," noted Tiger Coach Dale Schilling. "Era's strength is their offensive and defensive lines. They are very well coached up front." Schilling also said that the key to winning the game will be to stop the Hornet running game. Era has yet to win a game this season, with losses to Bells 45-14, Chico 49-32, and Valley View 17-14. Having last Friday off, the Tigers had time to recoup and recover from injuries. Kason Reeves is back as the Tiger quarterback. Coach Schilling noted that Sacred Heart will still have several players side-lined, but they are getting a lot back. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Junior High Hornets in Yellowjacket meet

Muenster Junior High had 15 runners in the Boyd Yellowjacket Invitational Cross Country Meet on Sept. 5. Thirteen ran in the girls division. Abby Walterscheid led the Lady Hornets, finishing in 13th place with a time of 14:34.64. Chloe Hacker came in 30th at 15:33.34 and Jada Binder 34th at 15:43.26.

Other Muenster girls finishing the race were: 54, Audrey Kubis; 57, Annie Anderle; 59, Mary Fisher; 69, Lexi Markwardt; 93, Sarah Monday; 98, Makenna Aldriedge; 100, Alec Becker; 101, Shae Budish; 114, Ashleigh Deweber; and 119, Kelsey Hennigan. Lake Cities took home 1st place with 27 points. Lindsay followed with 71. Valley View took 6th place, Muenster 7th, and Era 8th in the girls run. The two Hornet run-

ners were Brenton Wilson who finished with a time of 16:00.94 and Cole McMinn at 18:21.42.

Muenster in Cross Country meets

The Muenster Hornet and Lady Hornet Cross Country runners have participated in two meets the past weeks. On Sept. 3, Muenster ran in the Gingerbread Jamboree at Denton Ryan. Bailey Anderle finished 29th out of 122 runners. Era won the meet, led by Ashley Downe's 4th place finish. Hayden Otto crossed the finish line in 78th place out of 151 participants. Keller Central won the boys varsity division. There were 183 junior varsity girls running, including three from Muenster. Alaina Kubis finished 68, Megan Rohmer 80, and Lauren Trubenbach 104.

Of the 268 JV boys, Blair Waneck finished in 57th place. Jacob Hesse came in 145 and Kyle Wolf 228. This past weekend, Muenster competed in a very large Ken Garland Meet at UNT in Denton. The four Lady

Hornets ran the following times: Bailey Anderle, 13:58; Alaina Kubis, 14:39; Megan Rohmer, 15:14; and Lauren Truebenbach, 15:32. The Hornets' top finisher was Blair Waneck who ran a 21:11. Jacob Hesse ran 26:15 and Kyle Wolf 26:19.



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'Cats scratch Muenster in Homecoming loss

The Hornets were the first to score and held a 10 point lead over the Callisburg Wildcats last Friday night. But the Homecoming guests came back in the 2nd half and took a 15-10 win over Muenster.

"From a football coach's perspective, we played extremely hard. Our effort was outstanding," commented Muenster Coach Brady Carney. "But offensively, we had too many penalties and too many turnovers to come out on top. We didn't deserve a win."

Muenster got in more plays, 78 to 67, and had more total offense, 335 yards to 284 over the Wildcats, but ended the game where it counts - on the scoreboard short of points.

"Defensively, we played really good against a good team," Coach continued. "We had three turnovers to balance out because the defense performed so well."

Coach felt that Callisburg's special teams out-performed the Hornets and "that really hurt us." The Wildcats' average starting position was much better than Muenster's.

Muenster's defense shook up the Wildcats early in the game with Travis Vogel covering a fumbled ball to end Callisburg's first drive and Chase Deeken picking off a pass in their second attempt.

Three yards and punt was the Hornets' first offensive try. Their second ended with a 21 yard field goal by Bryce Herr for a 3-0 score with 6:19 on the 1st quarter clock.

The Hornet defense allowed one 1st down before stopping the Wildcats on the Hornet 43. Completed Blayne Jones passes to Trace Klement, Dalton Bartel, Clay Stevens, and Deeken, and short runs by Bartel moved Muenster to the 9 yard line. Jones finished the drive for a touchdown with Herr adding the PAT for a 10-0 score with 3:32 seconds on the clock.

The Wildcats came alive in the 2nd quarter, scoring 7 at the 9:10 mark, then claimed a safety for a 10-9 score with 3:48 remaining in the 1st half.

After exchanging punts, Deeken blocked a field goal attempt that was covered by Zane Kemp.

Muenster's attempt to take advantage of the turnover failed when a loose ball was covered on the Hornet 23. Muenster's defense set the Wildcats back 2 yards in four plays. Then a few plays later, the Hornets gave the

ball back with an interception. Callisburg couldn't reach the end zone as the 1st half ended.

The 3rd quarter started with both teams punting away their possessions. The Hornets got inside the Wildcat 25 yard line, but another interception stopped any scoring threat. Callisburg's drive ended at the Hornet 23. Muenster carried the ball into the 4th quarter, then punted. Six plays later, B. Herr picked off a Wildcat pass inside the 20, stopping the visitors from scoring.

Muenster's offense couldn't get the needed 10 yards and punted. Callisburg pounded out eight runs, scoring from the 17 with 4:45 remaining in the game. The 2 point conversion pass failed for a Callisburg 15-10 lead.

A 20 yard kick return by Deeken started the Hornets' last drive of the game on their own 36 yard line. A Jones to Stevens pass gained 10 and a pass to Bartel another 26. Jones picked up 2 more yards, T. Klement caught a pass to the 21, with Parker McGrew and Bartel slowly moving the ball to the 7 yard line. On 4th and 2 at the 7, the drive stopped. With 1:31 on the clock, the Wildcats killed the remaining time to capture a 15-10 victory.

M	10	0	0	0	10
C	0	9	0	6	15

Team Stats		
M		C
20	1st downs	14
47/138	Rushes/yds	45/186
197	Passing yds	98
15/31/2	Comp/att/int	8/22/2
7/25.9	Punts/avg	4/38
1/1	Fumbles/lost	3/1
5/35	Penalties/yds	5/34

Individual Stats
RUSHERS: Dalton Bartel, 26/114; Clay Stevens, 4/16; Parker McGrew, 3/7; Blayne Jones, 13/1. **RECEIVERS:** Clay Stevens, 3/69; Dalton Bartel, 3/58; Trace Klement, 6/40; Bryce Herr, 1/19; Kagen Dangelmayr, 1/10; Chase Deeken, 1/1. **TACKLES:** Travis Vogel, Bryce Herr, Dalton Bartel, Parker McGrew, Carson Trubench, Brennan Binder, Sammy Saucer, Zane Kemp, Clay Stevens, Chase Deeken. **TURNOVERS:** *Fumble Recovery* - Travis Vogel and Zane Kemp (blocked punt); *Interception* - Chase Deeken, Bryce Herr.

Next Action

The Hornets travel to Alvord this Friday night, hoping to put the Bulldogs in the doghouse and get back on the winning side.

Alvord has three losses on the season to date, falling to Nocona 26-18, Grapevine Faith 56-0, and Leonard 47-12. "Alvord's played some really good teams," Coach Carney noted. "They're big up front - we're not - they over-size us. We have to clean up our mistakes from last week to get a win."

Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m.



Amy Binder photo

Hornet Dalton Bartel (44) uses an opening in the line to make a short gain against Callisburg last Friday night. Muenster blockers include Carson Cheaney (70) and Logan Pagel (78).

Texas Game Wardens destroy Mustangs stampede Cubs

Public hunters pursuing feral hogs at Cooper Wildlife Management Area in northeast Texas over the weekend stumbled upon a sophisticated marijuana growing encampment having more than 6,500 mature plants with a street value estimated at more than \$6 million.

Alerted by the public hunters, Texas game wardens led a multi-agency investigation of the well-established site tucked away in a remote swampy area of the 14,480-acre WMA about 70 miles northeast of Dallas. Wardens found a campsite with tents, farming tools, fertilizer, a generator, and water pump irrigation equipment indicating the operation had been ongoing for some time.

"This was not someone playing around and experimenting," said Texas Game Warden Captain Steve Stapleton. "The camp was at least a mile from any road in some harsh conditions. They picked this spot on purpose and spent day and night out there for some time. There was a lot of trash to clean up."

An extensive search of the area from the air and on the ground by game wardens, Delta and Hopkins County Sheriff's Offices, Texas Department of Criminal Justice tracking dogs, and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers netted no arrests. Officials destroyed all the marijuana on site and seized the property and equipment.

"The destruction to the habitat and the damage these people did to the environment is probably the worst part," said Texas Game Warden Chris Fried. "They cut mature hardwood trees, including a pin oak that was at least five foot in diameter, and cleared parts of a levee that will take many years to recover. The chemicals they sprayed, insecticides and pesticides that contaminated the soil and eventually run off into the streams will have lasting impacts."

Fried said illegal marijuana growing operations are not unheard of in remote areas, both on public and private lands, but it is uncommon to catch the illegal farmers in the act.

"It's something we keep our ears open to, but this is the first one I've seen on Cooper," he said.

In all probability, the growers would have harvested their crops and left prior to the archery deer season opener in early October.

"They would've folded up shop by Oct. 1 ahead of archery deer season opening, but obviously didn't figure in the opening of teal and feral hog hunting season in mid-September," Stapleton noted.

Instead, they got an early season wakeup as their efforts to grow marijuana crops valued at \$6 million went up in smoke.

St. Mary's Mustangs took advantage of turnovers to defeat the Cubs of Sacred Heart 32-14 last week.

An interception on the third play of the game turned into a 70 yard Mustang touchdown and a quick 8-0 score 2 minutes into the game. A fumble two plays later ended Sacred Heart's next attempted drive. Tackles by Hunter Hennigan, Logan Muller, and Cole Carson gave the ball back to the Cubs, who carried the ball into the 2nd period and inside the Mustang 20 before running out of downs.

A long St. Mary's run found the end zone, but a flag pulled the ball back into play. Five plays later, Hennigan intercepted a Mustang pass and returned it 15 yards for a Cub TD and an 8-6 score with 2:54 on the clock.

An 82 yard kick return extended the Mustang lead to 16-6 seconds later, then added another 6 before halftime for a 24-6 score.

St. Mary's again found the end zone early in the 3rd, but a flag again gave away no points.

An interception shortened a Sacred Heart drive in the 4th, setting up the Mustangs' final touchdown at 1:08 for a 32-6 score.

Two good runs by Carson took the Cubs into the end zone with 17 seconds remaining in the game. Hennigan added the extra points for a 32-14 score. An on-side kick was covered by Rhett Sprouse at midfield for one more Sacred Heart offensive play.



Disc golf course opens in Lindsay Park

Cathy Krahl

Lindsay Letter news editor

One of the latest crazes in sports has a new home in Lindsay. Keep Lindsay Beautiful is ready to open their new 9-hole Disc Golf course located in J. M. Lindsay Park, and extending to Parkview Park in Parkview Acres.

KLB appointed Board member Kenny Bezner to chair the committee and begin the process. It started in November of 2014 when KLB approached the City and asked if they could build the course. The City agreed and the process began with Bezner contacting the Professional Disc Golf Association for information to hire someone to design or lay out the course. Gary Duke designed the course.

After all parties finalized the layout of the course, a company in Austin was contacted to begin the ordering

of the targets, and the wording of all signage. The signs were ordered and the work began with drilling the holes for the targets. The targets were set in concrete the following day making ready the next step to dig the tee boxes. After the tee boxes were dug and filled with decomposed granite (which is granite all crumbled up), it was time to dig depressions around the targets for more granite. The tee boxes are the ground granite pads with the signs showing the distance to the target and where the next tee box is. Postholes were dug for the tee box signs and were set in place on the same day. Signs were mounted and the job was finished.

Course hours are Monday through Friday: 7:30 a.m. until dark; weekends 6:30 a.m. until dark. The course par is 27.

There are some rules that need to be observed, includ-

ing do not throw where children are playing. Also, the disc golf course is closed when the park is rented for special events. Players may ask the renting party for permission to play the disc course.

Keep Lindsay Beautiful had the help of many to bring the project to completion, including City of Lindsay, Keep Lindsay Beautiful (funded the project), Paradise Landscaping, Huchton Construction, Red River Rental, C & L Natural Stone Sherman, Zimmerer Kubota, McCoy's Building Center, TLC Hardware, Mike Corcoran, Will Bezner, Dominic Knabe, Steve and Theresa Jordan, Don and Brenda Lawson, Kenny and Suzanne Bezner, Preston Henry, and Scott Dougherty.

It is hoped in the future to have a phase 2 for the development of the course. Members of KLB hope to dig alternate tee boxes and enlarge the course to 18 holes.

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 Sun 11am, 1:55, 4:00, 7:20
 Mon-Thurs 1:55, 4:00, 7:20

Black Mass (R)
 Fri 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
 Sat 11am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
 Sun 11am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30
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The Visit (R)
 Fri 1:50, 4:55, 7:00, 10:20
 Sat 11am, 1:50, 4:55, 7:00, 10:20
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 Fri 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:30
 Sat 11am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:30
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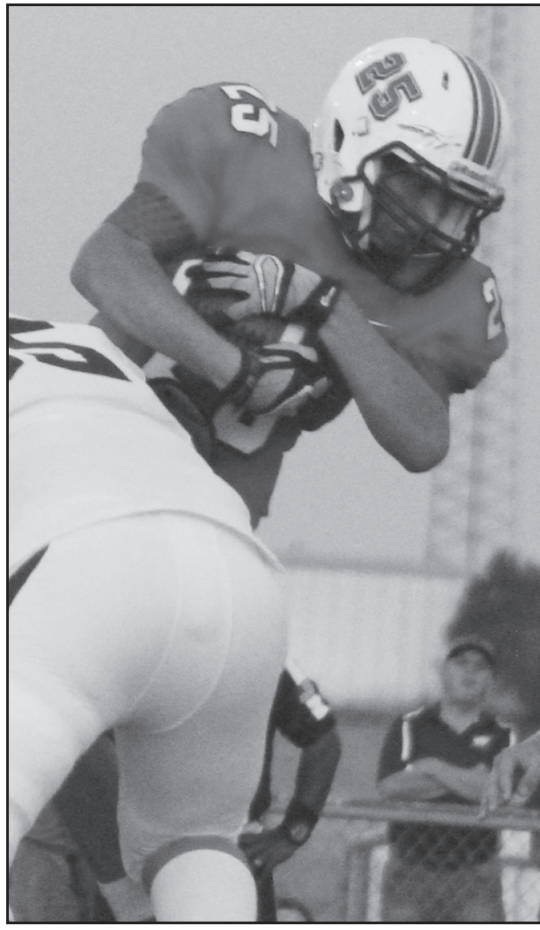
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 759-4311

LEGAL NOTICES

The City of Muenster is requesting proposals on a turn-key bid, setting up and pouring a one hundred twenty one (121) by twelve (12) foot cement creek crossing. Project includes excavating, footing to rock on each side, seven inch slab, one half inch rebar, sixteen inch on center, all materials, equipment, and labor. Job is located on Brushy Elm Creek, just south of the City's Wastewater Plant. All bids must be received at City Hall 400 N. Main in Muenster by October 1, 2015. Contact Stan Endres at 940-759-2236 with any questions.
 9.18-2

Public Announcement
 North Central Texas College wishes to announce that it will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).
 You are invited to meet the site visit team and share your comments about the program in person at a meeting scheduled at 4:30pm on September 30, 2015 at North Central Texas College in the Little Theater - in the 100 building.
 Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to: Dr. Marsal Stoll, Chief Executive Officer Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850 Atlanta, GA 30326
 Or e-mail: mstoll@acenursing.org All written comments should be received by the ACEN by September 23, 2015.
 9.18-2

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Margaret Reiter Schmitt, Deceased, were issued on September 14, 2015, in Cause No. PR17259, pending in the County Court at Law of Cooke County, Texas, to: Larry Reiter and Gloria Sprencel.
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 c/o: **Chuck Bartush Jr. Attorney at Law**
408 North Main Street P.O. Box 68 Muenster, Texas 76252
DATED the 14th day of September, 2015.
 /s/ Chuck Bartush Jr. Chuck Bartush Jr.
 Attorney for Larry Reiter and Gloria Sprencel
 State Bar No.: 01865000
 408 North Main Street P.O. Box 68 Muenster, Texas 76252
 Telephone: (940) 759-2913 Facsimile: (940) 759-2980
 E-mail: bartlawc@netscape.net
 9.18-1

Bid Announcement for CNC Equipment/ Mill and Lathe/ Lincoln Invertec
 Bid Invitation with specifications for CNC equipment, a Standard Mill, and a Standard Lathe to be delivered to the North Central Texas College's Career and Technology Center. Specification can be obtained by contacting Dan Doss, Director of Purchasing and Special Projects, (940) 668-3312 or ddoss@nctc.edu. Questions concerning specifications are directed to Kenny Smith at (940) 668-7731 ext. 4426 ksmith@nctc.edu
 Bids and completed Conflict of Interest Questionnaire should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Welding and CNC Equipment for Career and Technology Center". All bids must be received in the office of Sharon Murphee, Administrative Assistant to Campus Operations, 1525 West California Street, Room 102, Gainesville, TX 76240 by 10:00 am on October 5, 2015. Late bids, emailed bids, and faxed bids will not be accepted. NCTC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any or all formalities. NCTC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability in employment, or the provision of services.
 9.18-2

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FARM & RANCH

Stillwater man arrested for two felony embezzlement of cattle charges

A Stillwater, OK man, who owns Perkins Livestock Sales, was arrested Tuesday and charged with two felony charges of embezzlement of livestock.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) Special Rangers Brett Wellden and Bart Perrier led the investigation.

In August 2015, the suspect and owner of Perkins Livestock Sales, James Robb Taylor, 38, of Stillwater, called Superior Livestock Auction and Oklahoma National Stockyards and placed two orders for cattle to be shipped.

Both loads of cattle were not delivered to Taylor's sale barn, but were instead taken to other properties and quickly moved to conceal their location. When contacted for payment, Taylor denied purchasing the loads of cattle and claimed his identity had been stolen by an unknown person.

The investigation revealed that the suspect took deliberate steps to conceal the fact that he ordered the cattle and then took additional steps to move the cattle and conceal

them in Noble County, OK.

The suspect then shipped the cattle to various feedlots in an attempt to sell them for profit. The first load consisted of 80 heifers and sold for \$110,000, and the second load included 242 head of cattle that sold for \$346,582.

Wellden and Perrier arrested Taylor Tuesday, and the suspect is being held at the Oklahoma County jail on a \$10,000 bond. This is an ongoing investigation and additional charges are possible.



The problem with salad

Despite bushels of bloggers who hope to convince us our meat eating habits are the scourge of the universe, *Washington Post* food writer Tamar Haspel has the courage to stand up to salad. "The biggest thing wrong with salads is lettuce, and the biggest thing wrong with lettuce is that it's a leafy-green waste of resources," Haspel writes. Those views are shared by Emma Sturgis, a freelance food writer who asks, "Do you like salad? You're a fool. Not because bacon is better (although, of course, it is) but because salad vegetables are nutrition-lite, resource-guzzling, pseudo-healthy food crimes that enable the overconsumption of blue cheese dressing." Exactly. *August 24, 2015*

Black And White

We like black cows. We like white cows, too. Typically, that's about as far as we let GTN wander down commenting on racial issues. But this, ummm... interesting list from the *National Review* ("Ten Things You Didn't Know Were Racist") caught our attention. Number 3. "Liking white meat is racist. Writer Ron Rosenbaum said in *Slate* that racism accounts for the popularity of white-meat turkey over more flavorful dark meat." Then there's number 5: "Lunch bags look racist. Elliot Bronstein of the Seattle Office for Civil Rights sent a memo to the public-affairs office banning the term 'brown bag' as in brown-bag lunches." *August 25, 2015*

Just a thought

Don't ever take a fence down until you know the reason why it was put up.

Farming is a kind of continual miracle wrought by the hand of God.

Drought, lower cow numbers trim auction barn numbers

Declining cow numbers have led to consolidation in Texas livestock auction markets following devastating droughts the past decade, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service study.

"Things change over time, but we were interested in the changes in the beef industry's infrastructure, particularly livestock auction markets," Dr. David Anderson, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Livestock and Food Products Marketing economist, said. "Obviously we've experienced changes in cattle cycles, inventory numbers, and how we trade. We have the Internet, video auctions, and direct sales. All of that has played a part in how we trade and market cattle."

Data was collected using sources such as the Texas Animal Health Commission, Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, and other U.S. Department of Agriculture data. Anderson noted during the mid-1970s, Texas beef cow numbers peaked at about 7 million head. Currently, Texas has approximately 4.2 million cows. Anderson said before starting the study, there was an expectation that there were fewer auction markets than when data first began being compiled in 1969.

The study proved their hypothesis correct, he said. Texas had 167 auction markets in 1969 and only 92 auction markets were left in the state by 2013. The study indicated that the decline could be attributed to a number of factors, such as producers using other means to market their cattle, "or overall, there being fewer cattle to market in the state, requiring fewer markets to sell fewer cattle."

"That's exactly what we saw," Anderson said. "Then we wanted to know if these fewer auction markets are handling more volume. Over-

all, the markets haven't declined as fast as the number of animals. Drought will do that as producers sell cattle at an incredibly fast rate. Over time, the auction markets adjust to that at a much slower pace.

"The implied animal revenue keeps going up as drought occurs," Anderson said. "The more animals are sold, the higher that revenue is. But that doesn't account for inflation. Overall, we found there are fewer markets and declining real implied value when

you factor inflation into the equation."

Anderson noted the study did not account for video or Internet auctions or other marketing services. Also, sheep, goats, and hogs were not part of the study.

Other authors on the study were Dr. Andy Herring, associate professor in the department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University, and graduate student Trent Hester, and assistant professor Ariun Ishdorj all based out of College Station.

Beef exports down in first half of year

June export data, released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF), reflected a challenging first half of 2015 for U.S. beef exports.

Beef export volume in June was down 8% from a year ago to 213.2 million pounds, while export value fell 9% to \$578.9 million. This was the second consecutive month that export value fell below last year's level, resulting in first-half value being steady with 2014's pace at \$3.26 billion. First-half volume was down 10% to 1.16 billion pounds.

"We were aware that exports would be facing obstacles in 2015, and that keeping pace with last year's record performance would be difficult," said Philip Seng, USMEF president and CEO. "The first-quarter slump was partially due to the West Coast port labor impasse, as well as intense competition from countries that continue to recognize opportunities in several markets. We were expecting to see a stronger rebound in the second quarter—and that did not materialize."

Seng added that, while marketing budgets remain flat, competitors are beefing up efforts to capture larger shares of the red meat market. Competition continues to be a major factor, along with a strong U.S. dollar that is providing a price advantage for several competitors with slumping currencies.

Australian beef production was expected to ramp down in 2015 as the industry entered herd-rebuilding mode after several years of poor grazing conditions. But with disappointing rainfall in Australia and attractive slaughter cattle prices, beef production and exports remained record-large through the first half of the year—though some slow-down was seen in July.

Are your horses drinking enough water?

It's summer time in Texas, and we're not the only ones sweating it out. Livestock, including horses, are also trying to cope with the heat as the mercury topples 100 degrees.

Dr. Bob Judd, host of the TFB Radio Network's Texas Vet News, says horses need six nutrients in their diet: carbohydrates, protein, fat, mineral, vitamins, and water. Water is the most important.

"An animal can live for a period without the first five, but can only live a very short period without water. In only 48 hours without water, horses will colic, develop an impaction, and without fluids, will not survive," Dr. Judd said.

An average 1,000 pound horse normally drinks between five and 15 gallons of water per day depending on their activity level and the time of year. Monitoring a horse's water intake is easier when kept in a stall, and more difficult when a horse is out on pasture.

"To check for dehydration, you can easily lift your horses' gums and place your finger on the gum. If the gum is dry, dehydration is possible. When you take your finger off the gum, the pink color should return to the area in less than two-and-a-half seconds. If it does not, the circulation is decreased and dehydration is a concern," Dr. Judd said.

Although horses on pasture may drink from ponds and streams, a full water trough is still necessary to ensure the safety of horses.



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