

THE Knox County News

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Volume XXXVI Number 13

Thursday, February 1, 2007

Knox City, Texas

8 Pages + 1 Insert

Price 75 ¢

Looking Ahead

KC Historical Commission Annual Fund raising Meal
Sunday, February 4. Food items are brisket, turkey, sausage, coleslaw, beans and homemade pies. Door prizes! Silent Auction and Quilt giveaway. Those wishing to contribute items to the silent auction, or to help in any way, call the KCHC office at (940)459-2229 or 459-2205. Proceeds go to the museum.

Benjamin Little Dribblers
Saturday, February 3. Starting at 8:00 a.m. at the Benjamin School Gym. Concession stand will be open. The FFA will hold a silent auction for items made in Ag class. All proceeds benefit the senior class trip.

The Noah Project
The Noah Project — North is having their annual dinner-theatre and silent auction Saturday, February 10 at the Haskell Civic Center. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 each and \$6 for children 10 years and younger.

Knox County Visioning Meeting
The next meeting is scheduled for February 15 at Benjamin in the Assembly Room of the county courthouse. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Benjamin Seniors Fundraiser Basketball Game
Saturday, February 24. Spaghetti meal will be served at noon in the BHS Cafeteria. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. The cost of the spaghetti meal is \$6 for adults and \$4 for students. For spaghetti meal and admission \$7 for adults and \$4.50 for students. The game will start at 1:00 p.m. in the BHS Gymnasium. KAUZ News Channel 6 - Sixers vs. 2007 Benjamin Senior Class - B-Town Ballers. The elementary little dribblers will provide halftime entertainment. All proceeds go towards the senior trip.

Knox City Chamber of Commerce Annual Chamber Banquet
Scheduled for February 26, 2007 at 6:30 pm in the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Banquet Sponsored in part by AEP and Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative.

TOPS
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m. at the Knox County Hospital Break Room.

KC Circle Club
Second Tuesday of every month at 6:30. Location TBA.

Crowell Dairy Opens Storefront Operation

Most folks know how to find Crowell, Texas, located in Foard County, but they might have a little tougher time trying to find Margaret, a small community located northeast of Crowell. So, when you tell them to find the Family Cow Creamery, off a county road between Crowell and Margaret, you just might have to add some convincing to get them there.

That convincing would be that they will find some of the freshest, sweetest milk they'll ever taste there.

Owned and operated by Kris and Pansy Hague and Rocky Bachman, the Family Cow Creamery is located a few miles southwest of Margaret on County Road 219 one mile south of FM 3103, and is currently one of the largest employers in Crowell.

The creamery not only produces milk, but also has a storefront in which they sell their products.

Currently that is whole milk, 2%, 1%, and flavored milks in chocolate, strawberry, banana, cookies-n-cream and cotton candy.

They plan to add new flavors often. In the next few weeks root beer flavored milk will be added, and in March, green apple.

They plan to add watermelon flavored milk in June. The Family Cow has more flavors than anyone in the United States, according to Kris Hague.

Also to be offered soon at the creamery will be butter, including gourmet flavors, and colonial style buttermilk, which is actually sweet, and left over from the butter making process said Kris, and nothing like what you find in a store today.

That is, a waste product from cheese making. He said that their butter isn't greasy like the

products found in stores today, either.

The Family Cow plans to have milk-juice mixes and liquid ice cream mix for sale by summer. The ice cream mix can be poured directly into a homemade ice cream machine and mixed at home.

The Family Cow uses only half the sugar that other producers use in their products, because, said Kris, "we don't have to, because ours is a fresher product."

One of the first things that is noticeable, though, is the packaging. The milk is sold in half-gallon and quart-sized glass bottles. Kris offers that the glass bottles keep the flavor better and the glass also releases the heat quicker than plastic during the bottling process.

The milk is also available in single-serve plastic containers, which are used in school vending machines and snack bars that the creamery stocks.

The plastic single-serve bottles are also available for purchase in the store.

The Family Cow uses the safest plastic possible, Kris says. Plastic, they feel, allows the milk to absorb its chemicals, which alters the milk's taste.

This attitude of bringing a safe and healthy product to the consumer also encompasses the milk production.

The Hague's herd is closed. That means that the mothers and their calves are born and raised on their farm, cutting the risk of disease.

The babies are raised on real milk instead of supplements, which is healthier for the calf and allows them to receive the natural colostrums and nutrients from their mother's milk. The herd is fed only natural food grade commodities, which are mixed at the dairy. In addition, long stem hay that is grown on the farm is fed

to the cows, which promotes the production of beta carotene in the milk. All the cows are allowed to graze on pasture land. "What the cow eats is in her milk," said Kris.



The Family Cow Creamery has different flavors of milk. Flavors pictured are Chocolate, Regular, Cotton Candy and Triple Strawberry. Other flavors coming soon are Rootbeer, and Green Apple

Hormones are not, and never have been, used on their cows. BST hormones, which are often used at dairies to promote milk production, have been linked to cancers.

Pesticides are not used on the hay fields or sprayed on the cows, instead, the Family Cow uses organic garlic juice from California to keep insects at bay.

The creamery's milk is vat pasteurized, which is almost unheard of today. No one in the state of Texas is using the hot water vat pasteurization process instead of steam, and it is time consuming and costly.

The process is done at 145 degrees. This prevents the scalding of the milk and keeps the

enzymes, calcium and other nutrients better intact and the milk fresher tasting.

The Amish use the same process, and it's the process that Kris' great grandfather used. Other producer's milk is pasteurized at higher temperatures to allow for a longer shelf life, up to six months, which depletes the nutrients and flavor.

The Family Cow milk, is about medium homogenized, which, Kris said, lactose intolerant people can probably digest better.

It is the industrial producers use of chemicals and their homogenization process, he feels, that cause the lactose intolerance and digestive problems that some have with milk.

Family Cow pulls their products from the shelf at about two weeks, that is if there is anything left to pull of this popular product. Typically, that is the age of most milk when it first hits the

store shelf.

"They sterilize theirs so much to get a longer shelf life, that's why people have digestive problems," said Kris. "We try to go as natural as possible."

Also, he said, "other producers put the minimum back into their product, we just take a gallon of milk and make a gallon of milk, not a gallon of milk to make a gallon of milk and a pound of butter and some cheese."

"People say our whole milk is like half and half, but it's because they are used to a product that is messed with too much," continued Kris. "It's what your grandparents drank."

I had an older lady come in to the store and call me on that. I gave her a taste and she said, "Yup, your right!"

It is highly possible to buy milk from the Family Cow Creamery that was milked from the cow the same morning it is purchased.

(Continued on Page 3)

Knox City VFD Receives New Equipment

The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department received a new hydraulic spreader-cutter recently.

The new rescue equipment was made possible through generous donations.

The old equipment used by the fire department was at least 20 years old.

Fire Chief Bill Stewart said, "I'm not sure when the Fire Department got it, but it was here when I signed on, and that was back in 1987."

During operation, the tips of the spreader's blades are wedged into a seam or gap (e.g., a vehicle door).

The hydraulic pump, in this case a separate unit, powers a piston that pushes the blades apart and spreads the seam. Once the seam has been spread, the cutter's blades can be po-

sitioned around the metal. The device is engaged in reverse and the blades close, cutting through metal.

Repeating this process allows a rescuer to quickly open a gap wide enough to pull free a trapped victim.

The blades can spread or cut with a force of several tons with the tips of the blades spreading up to a yard.

One firefighter said, "They have already paid for themselves in the one accident we've had to use them in."

The new equipment has separate spreader and cutter attachments (the old one was a combination).

The Fire Department is now able to have up to three teams working at once to extract persons trapped inside vehicles.



Pictured are: Rick Moeller, Captain; Alvie Overmeyer, Assistant Chief; Mike Plume; Bill Stewart, Fire Chief; and Buddy Curd, Captain



Speaker picks chairs, members for House committees

AUSTIN - It took a couple of weeks to see how House Speaker Tom Craddick's somewhat contentious re-election would play out. Craddick announced his picks for chairs and committee assignments on Jan. 26. The Midland Republican survived a challenge that vaporized on Jan. 10, the second day of the 80th Texas Legislature, and was elected to a third term.

Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, made a run against Craddick but bowed out in the 11th hour, before a final vote. Craddick reassigned Pitts and rewarded loyalists. Pitts served as Craddick's pleasure in the 2005 session as chairman of the state budget-writing House Appropriations Committee. Craddick named Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, to replace Pitts as chair and kept Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, as chairman of House Ways & Means, the committee charged with raising revenue. Without Craddick's post-challenge support, Pitts used his own seniority to secure a non-leadership post on Ways & Means. Here are a few of Craddick's other chair appoint-

ments:

- Beverly Woolley, R-Houston, Calendars, the committee that serves as gatekeeper for bills to move to the House floor;
- David Swinford, R-Amarillo, State Affairs;
- John Smithe, R-Amarillo, Insurance;
- Rob Eissler, R-The Woodlands, Public Education;
- Mike Krusee, R-Round Rock; Transportation;
- Aaron Pena, D-Edinburg, Criminal Jurisprudence; and
- Patrick Rose, D-Dripping Springs, Human Services.

Perry applauds appraisal ideas
Gov. Rick Perry on Jan. 23 praised his Task Force on Appraisal Reform on the release of its report recommending that lawmakers pass five statutory changes and

two constitutional changes to fix what some have called a "broken system." The recommendations, from a governor's office news release:

- Require voter approval for any local taxing entity (excluding schools) to charge or collect revenues from ad valorem taxes in excess of the approved prior year's budgeted tax revenue, plus 5 percent;
- Improve fairness and consistency in the appraisal process.

Appraisal boards would be comprised of five members, including two taxpayer representatives, and taxpayers would have new options in challenging property valuations.

- Change the comptroller's property valuation study, which is used to equitably

distribute state funding to schools and provide uniformity in local property appraisal practices.

- Prohibit the state from passing unfunded mandates to local governments.
- Require sales price disclosure.
- Pass legislation to change the state constitution to allow taxpayers the option of calculating their property taxes using a five-year rolling average of the property's appraised value.
- Pass legislation to change the state constitution to lower the residential appraisal cap on city and county taxes from 10 percent to 5 percent, double the local property tax homestead exemption to \$6,000, and allow local governments the option of conducting an election to enact a half-cent countywide sales

tax constitutionally dedicated to property tax reduction. The appraisal cap could be lowered to 5 percent only in counties that vote for a half-cent countywide sales tax increase.

More from governor's office
Gov. Perry announced Jan. 22 that FEMA will extend by six months the housing aid deadline for people displaced by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The aid was due to expire in February. Also on Jan. 22, Perry announced the expansion of Operation Wrangler, a border law enforcement project teaming local, state and federal law enforcement. Perry said the effort is structured to stem crime, illegal international drug trafficking and human trafficking.

COW POKES® By Ace Reid



"Wilbur, there ain't no way I can restore in thirty days what you have done to this ole body in sixty years!"

Brazos Valley Quilt Guild Preserves the Art of Quilt Making

There isn't much that could be more comforting or cozy than wrapping your self the heavy warmth of a quilt. Even to gaze upon a colorful and intricate quilt top can take the mind to a peaceful place; a sleeping baby nestled in a cocoon of color, a sleepover at grandma's on a cold winter's night, tucked in tight under an heirloom quilt, or the gentle sway of a quilt on a clothesline as sunshine and shadow dance across its surface. These are the kind of memories that the Brazos Valley Quilt Guild preserves and insures that future generations will also have by providing information and technique.

Stepping into a Brazos Valley Quilt Guild meeting is a rush of activity. The ladies, who wear quilt block name tags, open each meeting with a meal prepared

by guild members. Afterwards, minutes are read from the previous meeting and reports are given. Then, the action begins. At a recent meeting during show and tell some members showed off quilts that they have recently completed, and one quilt that was found for a steal at a garage sale.

Sometimes, the group will hold a "fat quarter lotto", a drawing in which you have your named added to the pot in the number of quilt quarters you make and turn in for the lotto. The person whose name is drawn wins all of the "fat quarters".

Everyone in the guild has a secret sister, an anonymous friend who bestows gifts at the annual Christmas party, the end of year party, on birthdays, and some who give cards and gifts throughout the year.

The guild also has programs throughout the year. Some of the recent programs included a woman from Wichita Falls who held a trunk show at a meeting for the quilt guild and showed some of her antique quilts. Another program was held when a quilt shop from Gainesville brought many of their products to a meeting and held a demonstration.

At each meeting, a guild officer will show the members a quilt block and the techniques to make it. This is called the block of the month. The members then have the opportunity to make some of these blocks with the ever ready sewing machines, scissors and fabric before they leave the meeting. Those who wish can make more of these same blocks before the next meeting and, in the same concept as the fat quarter lotto, the blocks will be given away in a drawing. This gives the members the opportunity to win the makings of a quilt top at each meeting.

Currently, several of the guild members are working on their challenge quilts. This year's theme is "Two Shades of Heaven in 2007." Those participating with a challenge quilt will bring their quilts to the February quilt guild meeting where they will be judged by guild members. The winner will receive a ribbon. The quilts will also be shown at the Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show in Munday on February 24th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Munday Elementary School. Anyone can show quilts at the quilt show. Viewer's choice at the show will be awarded a ribbon and a quilt

rack.

In the past, the Brazos Valley Quilt Guild has made quilts for the Knox County volunteer fire departments and ambulance service to hand out to accident victims. They have also made quilts for St. Judes Children's Hospital. One of their ongoing projects is sending quilts to a San Antonio hospital to soldiers who have been sent back to the U.S. after being injured during war.

The Brazos Valley Quilt Guild will hold a bake sale during the Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show and also sale cookbooks made of their recipes and recipes from this year's retreat at Ranger Creek Ranch in Vera. The quilt guild takes a yearly three day weekend retreat to an area lodge where they catch up on their quilting. "We don't even have to cook, we have someone cooking for us," said Dickson. The funds raised by the bake sale, cookbooks and membership dues helps pay for the retreat and supplies needed throughout the year.

The Brazos Valley Quilt Guild has six officers; Lenora Hammett, President, Barbara Horne, Vice-President, Lula Baty,

(Continued on Page 4)

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940-657-3142
FAX 940-658-3228
kcnnews@valornet.com

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Pink Ladies to Purchase New Unit

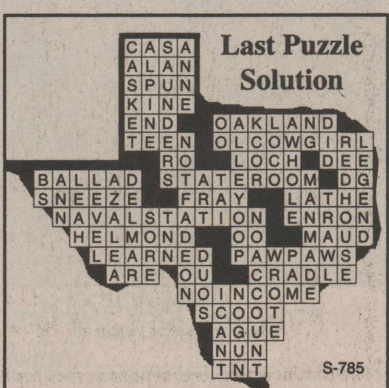
Due to inclement weather, the January 15 business meeting was postponed until January 22.

President Cleo Collins called the meeting to order and asked that any new business be addressed. Donny Reece reported that the air conditioning and heating window unit in the back room was not working properly.

After discussing the situation, members voted to buy a new unit. Donny was given the authority to check out various units and purchase one.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Present at the meeting were Cleo Collins, Polly Marion, Glenda Hoff, Eileen Rolo, Donny Reece, Emma Fetsch, Stella Carver, and Billye Angle.



The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- TX Nimitz helped set up Naval
- Quannah h.s. class college book
- TXism: "dropped it like _____ horseshoe"
- this TX actor was an inspector in '49 "The Big Steal"
- TX Tejano band: "Little Joe _____ Familia"
- Luling paper: "Signal"
- TX-born center-fielder Curt (init.)
- TX Meat Loaf's character in "Motorama" ('91)
- Huntsville has one of Sam Houston
- TX Lyle Lovett's "_____ Lady"
- TXism: "plumb _____ (crazy)"
- San _____ TX
- this Cybill was in TX-based "The Last Picture Show" (init.)
- TX Gypsy spokesman in U.S. in '91
- TXism: "in all my _____ days"
- pie _____ mode
- TXism: "he's a small _____ big wheel"
- TXism: "mad as _____-eyed cow"
- TX ranch: "_____ R. Swenson Cattle Co."

DOWN

- graduate attire
- TX-born Phyllis George once co-hosted "NFL _____"
- TXism: "that boat won't _____"
- Oklahoma town
- "By the Time _____ to Phoenix"
- _____ Blanca, TX
- bath night (abbr.)
- TXism: "don't give a hoot _____ holler"
- Linda Gray was Sue _____ on "Dallas"
- "Jim _____ ends in Brown Co. prison & hospital"
- TX B.J.'s "Hooked _____ Feeling"
- TX actor Ely
- not a lg. or sm.
- TX Hughes, Sr. oil drilling invention (3 wds)
- TXism: "six of _____ a dozen of the other"
- TX-OK lake
- this TX Henry was a U.S. ambassador _____ Ana
- TXism: "can stay neck _____ with a West TX jackrabbi!"
- fiery fiddler?
- TXism: "stewing in his _____ juice"
- famous TX case: "Roe _____ Wade"
- ridiculous
- in Fisher Co. on hwy. 70
- TX legend Nolan
- horse morsel
- TX Comanche Peak plant
- Houston defeated Antonio Lopez _____
- _____ Ana
- occupation
- TX-born singer Stills (init.)
- Bishop of "Texas Across the River"
- TX David who was Colo. pitcher '93-'96
- spoiled child
- TXism: "comfy as _____ boot"
- TXism: "numerous as ants on _____"
- smooth & lustrous
- fairly tale monster
- starts a lawsuit
- snow slider
- made in Nocona
- this Elliott was '92
- TXism: "he paddles his own _____"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY
The Knox County News welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number to allow verification. Please keep letters to a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for any reason and to reject letters for publication for any reason. Letters deemed libelous and/or not for the public good will be rejected. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Knox County News.

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BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

DEAR HOLLYWOOD

By Baxter Black, DVM

An open letter to Hollywood from a cowboy.

Making a western movie implies an obligation to a higher standard. Louis L'Amour, Gene Autry, Zane Gray, Roy Rogers, John Ford and John Wayne understood this. They acknowledged the responsibility they bore to the generations of young minds who loved their movies.

We would be hard put today to name a western movie you could take a 12 year old to. Brokeback Mountain? Unforgiven? All The Pretty Horses? The only new western TV show is Deadwood.

As time marches on our children have become more sophisticated. Which, unfortunately, means profanity, lewdness, explicit violence and egregious horror are part of their everyday experience as a grade schooler. Got cable?

I'm sure this sounds like a disgruntled rant, but it's more like wishful thinking. Why is it necessary to unearth the feet of clay of our heroes? No one knows better than real cowboys that the image portrayed in the old westerns was made through rose-colored glasses.

Out of some perverse sense to reveal the 'whole story', the movie industry continues to feature crooked cops, seditious astronauts, perverted teachers, greedy doctors, sadistic soldiers and cowardly fireman in movies.

The more admirable the occupation, the more sordid the story.

I know these are not meant for children. I appreciate the movie industry's rating guide. However, all that is left for children are 'fantasy' movies like Harry Potter or cartoons like The Lion King. But children's movies lack role models. They can't grow up to be Luke Skywalker or Cat Woman or Shrek.

But I can't blame just Hollywood for the coarsening of our culture and our children. Hollywood and HBO are clueless. It is like trying to explain that it is bad manners to chew with your mouth open to a pack of hyenas. We all have contributed. We let it happen. We let them destroy our collective sense of decency.

For a child to emulate a hero, the hero has to be portrayed by a real person. Someone they can become when they grow up. That's why the old western movies had a value beyond entertainment. It made kids want to be like the cowboy on the screen who was one of the good guys.

It is that high standard embodied in those old westerns that are readily available on repackaged DVD's in discount stores nationwide.

Do your kid a favor, make sure they get to see what real human action heroes look like. Watch it with them. Next thing you know, they'll be wanting a horse!

Family Cow Creamery Continued—

(Continued from Page 1)

The Hague's are fifth generation dairy farmers. "My family brought the first dairy cattle and pasteurization to Texas, before it was a state," said Kris.

The dairy currently has 25 employees, all family and family friends. Family Cow products are offered in Crowell, Seymour, Benjamin, Vernon, Quanah and Wichita Falls.

The products can also be purchased at the dairy. There is a large viewing window in the Family Cow Creamery store that allows a glimpse into the milk making process, and short tours are also available. A website, www.familycowmilk.com is available to the public. The telephone number to the Family Cow Creamery is 940-684-1COW(1269).



Family Cow Creamery offers fresh milk, with different flavors to choose from

Financial Aid Workshop for Parents Friday, February 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the school library. There will be a drawing for one \$100 scholarship!

Former Knox County Resident Receives Promotion at Childress Bank

Chad Holland, President of Citizens National Bank of Childress has announced the promotion of Diane Evans to Vice President/Loan Officer.

Diane has been with the bank since 1997, beginning as Lending Assistant/Administrative Assistant.

From 1993 to 1997 she worked as a legal secretary.

Diane began her banking career in 1980 at First National Bank of Munday in Bookkeeping. She worked in all areas of the bank and left First National Bank of Munday in 1992 as Lending Assistant. Prior to that time she was employed as Deputy Clerk for the Knox County District and County Clerk's office.

The former Diane Green grew up in Benjamin and graduated from Benjamin High School in 1976. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Childress and lives west of Childress with her husband, Mike, and 11 year old daughter, Ashlee. She is the daughter of Gladene and the late Van Green of Benjamin.



Diane Evans was recently promoted as Lending Assistant/Administrative Assistant at Citizens National Bank of Childress

Citizens National Bank of Childress, a division of Farmers National Bank of Seymour, is a part of the holding company Olney Bancshares of Texas, Inc., which has total assets of over \$1.1 billion dollars with eight banks in twelve locations in Texas and two banks and nine locations in Oklahoma.

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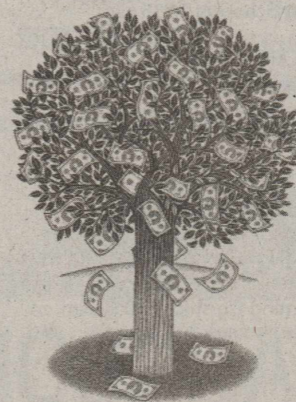
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KNOX COUNTY MUSEUM ANNUAL FUND RAISING DINNER

Brisket, Turkey, Sausage, Beans, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Deviled Eggs and Dessert

Adults • \$8 • Children 12 and under • \$4

Sunday, February 4, 2007 • 11:00 - 1:30

Benjamin Memorial Building

• Take Outs Available! •

"Knox County Stars" Quilt Will Go To Some Lucky Person!!

Silent Auction closes at 1:30

Door Prizes!! Door Prizes!! Door Prizes!!

Obituary

Wynelle Stephens Roberts

Wynelle Stephens Roberts, 75, of Abilene died January 18, 2007 at Hendrick Hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 24, at the First United Methodist Church in Tulia, Texas. Brother Rob Lindley of Lubbock will be officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Hill Cemetery in Tulia.

Mrs. Roberts was born in Alexander City, Alabama on June 23, 1931. The family moved to the Knox and Haskell County areas of Texas when she was young. She graduated from Weinert High School in 1948. She married Alvin R. Roberts of Knox City in March of 1949. In 1956 the family moved to Swisher County and she lived in Tulia for most of her life. Wynelle worked for the Tulia Chamber of Commerce, Tulia Savings & Loan, and in a local Dr.'s office for several years. She also worked for the Post Office for many years. She played the piano and the church organ for Calvary Baptist Church for many years and was a member of the Eastern Star. She also served on three Mission-



ary Crusades to India which she truly loved and frequently talked about. She enjoyed bringing the love of God to others. She had many friends throughout the area and there are just too many other memories to mention.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin Roberts, the former police chief in Tulia, her paternal father Reuben Gaylor of Jackson, Tennessee and her mother Ozelle Stephens and stepfather C.W. Stephens of Knox City, sisters Peggy Guinn of Knox City, Lucille Lummus of San Antonio and stepbrother James Gaylor of Auburn, Alabama.

She is survived by one son, Jim & Su Roberts of Du-

luth, Minnesota, three daughters, Cornelia Ann Franklin of Tulia, Merri Roberts of Abilene and Sue & Frank Westfall of Tulia and one brother, Wyndoll & Ann Stephens of Katy and one stepbrother Sonny Gaylor of Mobile, Alabama. She had four granddaughters, Amber & Jerad Stone of Amarillo, Jill & Tim Helmer of Duluth, Minnesota, Jaime Roberts of Eden Prairie, Minnesota and Holly Westfall of Tulia; Two grandsons, Crease & Jenn Westfall

of Denver and Alvin Tolleson of Amarillo. She also had eight Great Grandchildren: Chelsea McKinney and Jerzy Stone of Amarillo, Allison Helmer, Sydney Helmer and James Helmer all of Duluth, Minnesota, Bryce and Megan Tolleson of Amarillo and Levi Westfall of Denver with one more little Westfall on the way. She also had many nieces and nephews she loved deeply as well as many other kids who called her "Nanny."

The family request that memorials be sent to Hendrick Hospice Care at 1682 Hickory St, Abilene, TX. 79601.

County Quilters

(Continued from Page 2)

Secretary, Cathy Williams, Treasurer, Carol Dickson, Reporter and Geraldine Koenig, Librarian.

The Brazos Valley Quilt Guild currently has 31 members from Knox County, and as far away as Merkel and Abilene. "We'll lose a few and gain a few, but pretty much on the whole we'll keep all of our members," said Carol Dickson, guild reporter and charter member. The most members they have ever had in their six years as a guild is 36. Yearly dues are \$15. You may visit twice before joining. All members over 85 years of age are considered honorary members, and do not have to pay the yearly dues after the first year. Newsletters go out each month to members. The group also has a library of quilting books available to all members. Membership is open to everyone. The guild is a mixed bag of life-long quilters and beginners. "We're here for all levels and for anyone who has a love for quilts," said Dickson. "I've been really doing it for six years, but I quilted a little when I was a kid with my mother," she continued.

The guild's monthly meetings are held at the Benjamin Memorial Building, located at 205 S. Stewart Street, on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting date is Tuesday, February 8th.

New Twist on Groundhog Day

Each February 2nd, our nation is fascinated with the antics of groundhogs. From Maine to California, the annual prediction of Punxsutawney Phil is anxiously anticipated—will the groundhog see his shadow this year, foretelling that winter will last another six weeks, or not? For the past four years conservation organizations, led by Forest Guardians, have been giving Punxsutawney Phil's western cousins their due by making February 2nd a day to celebrate prairie dogs.

Last year the Santa Fe, NM City Council and Mayor Mary Chavez of Albuquerque, NM officially declared February 2nd Prairie Dog Day.

This year, Boulder, CO Mayor Mark Ruzzin and the Lakewood, CO City Council are helping their towns celebrate this new and growing tradition in the West. Boulder and Lakewood both issued proclamations declaring February 2nd, 2007 "Prairie Dog Day," and pledged to honor the importance of this Western icon of the prairie and mountain grasslands.

"Just as the Groundhog predicts the duration of winter, the West's 'groundhog' — the prairie dog — foretells the future of a community of wildlife dependent on prairie dogs for food and for the habitat they create," said Dr. Lauren McCain, Deserts and Grasslands Program Director at Forest Guardians' Denver office.

Several species, such as the black-footed ferret, mountain plover, swift fox, ferruginous hawk, and burrowing owl are

endangered or declining due to a 98-99% reduction in prairie dog acreage in the Great Plains. Prairie dog towns are also drawing increasing attention from the public because of the great opportunity they provide to view wildlife. Research over the past 20 years has also revealed that prairie dogs may have the most complex communication system in the animal kingdom.

The new Prairie Dog Day holiday is catching on. Along with the proclamations by cities in New Mexico and Colorado, this year local schools and communities are getting into the act. Forest Guardians along with the Jefferson County Open School, the Prairie Dog Coalition, Prairie Dog Specialists, and Jews of the Earth are visiting schools in the weeks leading up to and following February 2nd to teach hundreds of elementary and high school students about prairie dogs and their wildlife communities.

"Kids love learning about prairie dogs," said Judith Miller Smith, teacher at the Jefferson County Open School. "We have tailored our activities to meet Colorado state educational standards. Focusing on prairie dogs is a fantastic way for students to learn about the food chain and how ecosystems work."

Forest Guardians, Jefferson County Open School, and other groups will cap off their Prairie Dog Day celebration with a party and press conference at the Stone House on the Bear Creek Greenbelt in Lakewood, CO.

kcnews@valornet.com

KC Area Church Directory

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City**
Gayle Baucum, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.
FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien
 - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City**
Timothy Trimbel, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
No Sunday Evening Service
 - FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - Knox City**
Tex Cox, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
 - FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City**
Jody Smith, Pastor
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 7 p.m.
 - SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH - Knox City**
Father Leo Schloemer • Deacon Ben Vasquez
Sunday Bilingual Mass at 11 a.m.
 - ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rhineland**
Father Leo Schloemer • Deacon Ben Vasquez
Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass
Saturday Mass at 7 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.
 - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin**
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
 - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin**
Timothy Trimbel, Pastor
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
 - GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie**
Matt Harrington, Pastor
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.
 - CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin**
Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.
 - THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL - Highway 222**
W.O. Smith, Pastor
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Mid-Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
 - O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien**
Jim Reid, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m., Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.
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Aging Center Lunch Menu

February 5 - February 9

Monday, Feb. 5 - Chicken Soup, Squash Casserole, Garden Salad, Crackers and Cookies

Tuesday, Feb. 6 - Lasagne, Sweet Peas, Salad, Garlic Bread Sticks and Jello with Topping

Wednesday, Feb. 7 - Meat Loaf, Blackeyed Peas, Fried Okra, Cornbread and Banana Pudding

Thursday, Feb. 8 - Tacos with Cheese, Lettuce and Tomato, Salad, Corn on the Cob and Cinnamon Rolls

Friday, Feb. 9 - German Sausage, Pinto Beans, Potato Salad, Cornbread and Cherry Crunch

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Crop and Weather Report

El Niño continues to feed moisture across most of the state in the form of snow and freezing rain, according to Texas Cooperative Extension reports.

The moisture is providing a necessary boost for wheat crops, filling the soil moisture profile for spring crops and replenishing water in many ponds, Extension experts report. However, too much water in some areas is hindering some winter pasture grazing and the snow and ice have caused many cattle producers to have to put out extra hay and supplemental feed.

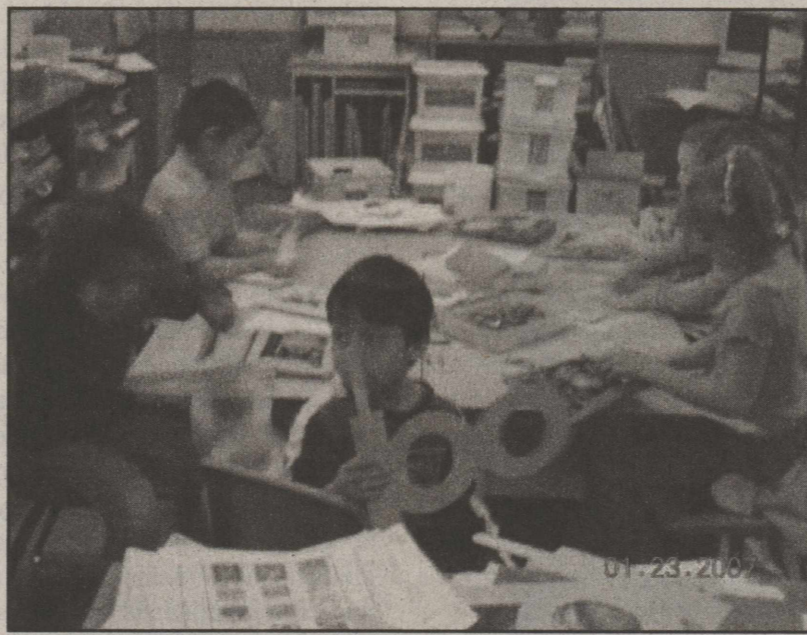
Cold weather and moisture (rain, sleet and snow) combined to give the Rolling Plains a taste of winter. The

cold blast accelerated supplemental feeding and brought new concerns regarding hay supplies for the remainder of winter.

Moisture concerns have been put on the back burner for the time being as El Niño continues to produce adequate rainfall/sleet replenishing soil moisture supplies and stock water.

With some high winds and low temperatures, ranchers have been supplementally feeding livestock and breaking ice. Some cotton needs harvesting. The winter wheat crop looks good, and if the moisture continues, some producers may have a great crop. Livestock on wheat appear to be doing well.

Elementary students celebrate 100th day of school



Students at Knox City Elementary celebrated the centidiem with 100-themed fun and learning activities

Last Wednesday at Knox City Elementary, 1st grade and Kindergarten joined together to celebrate the 100th day of school. They started the activities with stories and songs. They continued the afternoon with writing their books of 100 words, a 100's mask, and created a paper chain with 100 links.

Both grades combined the

two classes to work together on their projects. Mrs. Shaver, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Manning, and Mrs. Urbanczyk facilitated the students' activities and said, "it was a fun learning experience for all."

The teachers explained how important it is to collaborate with different grade levels and expose children to the curriculum in various ways.

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Museum News

Raising money for the Knox County Museum with food and fellowship is a nine year old tradition that will be repeated Sunday, February 4, 2007 at the Benjamin Ex-students Center.

But cooking isn't the only art that has helped build the almost completed, 5,000 square foot museum, one block east of our county courthouse.

Each February at the museum barbecue a beautiful "Knox County Made Quilt" is given to some lucky ticket holder. Quilt ticket sales have poured thousands of dollars into museum funds, with museum supporters buying tickets for themselves and family members, not only to support the museum, but the quilts are always so beautiful.

Many Knox County women have donated their skills to the quilts. In 2007, Mary Cartwright and Jo Heard, both of Munday, helped create "Knox County Stars", a multi-colored pattern on an off white background that would be priced at hundreds of dollars in any store.

Mary Cartwright pieced the 2007 quilt from a pattern in a 2002 issue of "Quilting". She used the same pattern when she made a quilt for her friends, Mary and Franz Birkenfeld, as a gift for their 50th wedding anniversary. The original name for the intricate pattern was "Uncle Charlie's Nine Patch Chain",

but Mary, and Mary Jane Young, Chairman of the Knox County Historical Commission, decided that "Knox County Stars" was perfect for the star filled quilt.

Mary's quilt connections go way back. She says "My mother, quilted because she thought she needed to, but my grandmother quilted because she loved it. I can remember playing under my Grandmother Medford's quilting frame in Haskell County, but I can't remember when I first quilted, because I've always sewn."

Mary made most of her own clothes in high school. After marrying Alonzo Cartwright she sewed for her two boys, Lou and Pat, and for daughters Lisa and Cathy through their college years.

She made and donated a quilt for the Munday Centennial and has worked on other museum quilt projects, piecing the quilts in 2002, 2004, 2005 and 2006 given away at the KCHC annual meal. She is a long time member of the boards of the KCHC and Friends of KCHC and a supporter of the annual Munday quilt show.

The former First National Bank of Munday officer has among her own quilts one made before 1900 and one made around 1900.

Quilt owning and making comes naturally to one with roots

in the Carolinas, Tennessee, Arkansas and "deep East Texas". Her Texas connections landed in Cherokee County during Texas Republic times, living in a wide-planked "dog-trot" house where quilts were important to winter sleeping comfort.

"I feel good about the museum", says Mary, "I love history and believe in preserving it." Even though arthritis has slowed her some, Mary Cartwright is working today for her two loves, history and quilts.

Piecing quilt tops is a skill and an art, but no quilt is completed until it is quilted, which is where Jo Heard comes in, having quilted "Knox County Stars".

Jo spent most of her first 14 years at Roaring Springs where her father, Paul Enloe, leased the springs and swimming pool from the Matador Ranch. Later the family moved to New Castle. She married Lloyd Heard in 1959 and lived in Archer County 12 years. She began a 32 year career as a beautician at Megargle.

About 1974 they moved to the Heard farm near Gilliland with their children, Rhonda, Allan and Glen. She worked at Gilliland and Munday beauty shops. Then for several years she helped Lloyd farm with their "His" and "Hers" tractors.

While at Gilliland she joined the Home Demonstration Club and helped them make a quilt.

Jo had always enjoyed sewing and inherited part of her sewing love from her grandmother, Florine Kenney of Stamford, who was a professional seamstress.

A few years later Jo's mother heard that she would like to have a quilting machine. Mrs. Enlow gave her daughter a quilting machine for Christmas.

Some told Jo she lived too far out in the country to have a successful business. "Then I'll pick up and deliver." She replied. Later they moved to Munday, where she still quilts 150-175 quilts a year on that first machine. Today, 2,404 quilting jobs later, word of mouth brings her most customers.

Always a community supporter wherever she lives. Jo enjoyed donating her skills and machine to the museum quilt. She has also helped at the Munday Quilt Show.

"Knox County Stars" will be exhibited Sunday, February 4, at the annual museum barbecue fundraiser. The drawing will be held at the conclusion of the silent auction.

The winner does not have to be present and tickets will be sold at the meal and are available from KCHC members, the Citizen's Bank in Knox City and the First National Bank of Munday.

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Are we heading into another wintery week? The past few days have been nice— still cold but, at last, dry. My T.V. man says we may have another round of “not so nice days” this week. I guess time will tell.

Regarding Our Ill

Lewis Lyles moved into the Munday Nursing Center last Thursday. He needs the physical therapy he will get over there, hoping for enough improvement to allow him to walk again. He broke his hip a few weeks ago and underwent surgery for repair to it and this need for therapy is a new result of that problem.

Don Hertel continues his daily trips to Abilene for chemotherapy and radiation therapy. He’s about half through and he asks for our continued prayers for safety in traveling and positive results from the treatments.

We learned on Sunday that former resident and friend of many here, Jim Bateman, is back in M.D. Anderson in Houston for further treatment. They have changed his medicine and he doesn’t seem to be doing very well with it right now. We pray

for a more encouraging report the next time we hear from him.

Kathryn Hertel, also well known here, is a patient in an Oklahoma hospital (I’m not sure which one). She was pretty ill at last report. We hope and pray also for her recovery

Here ‘N There

Jan Carver, her brothers (Dennis, Jerry and Anderson), and their wives enjoyed their annual post-Christmas get-together a couple of weekends ago at the home of Dennis and Evelyn in Abilene. This is something they do every year in January, thus giving them Christmas with their immediate families in December and a fun (and unrushed) time later. Jan’s husband, Fred, was not able to join them this year, as the weather and roads got too bad before he was to leave Benjamin.

Jan also said they have been very busy going to McMurry University basketball games. Their granddaughter Cassie Lyles is on the team and plays some but, being a freshman, she’s not on the court a lot (yet). We know we’ll be hearing good things from, and about, her as

her college days continue.

We received word here last week of the death of Julia Ann Marlowe Payne. She was buried in Lamesa. She was the daughter of Jay and Lucille (Rouse) Marlowe, all former residents of Benjamin.

Helen Coppedge Green (another former resident, now of Guthrie) has finished her chemotherapy and is doing well. She doesn’t go back to her doctor for a check-up until March. It’s good to hear good news from her.

Charles and Linda Griffith, who have been living in Lubbock, have purchased the W.T. Cartwright home from Hank and Linda Wagner and have moved in. They had bought the Hall house and were in the process of remodeling it but, after the Wagners moved to Lubbock and their house was available, the Griffiths bought it and don’t have to wait on a remodeling project to be completed before they can get settled. We’re glad they are back home.

Judy Robinson of Sherman spent a couple of days here last week with her parents, Lewis

and Betty Lyles.

Debbie Moorhouse and her daughter, Beckie Keys, Dillon and Randi of Childress were in Abilene Thursday for Dillon to get his brace for his foot. His health problem of a couple of years ago left his left foot weak and this brace is hoped to help strengthen it.

Penny Eaton spent the weekend in Fort Worth visiting and also attending the stock show.

I saw Zeke Duke on Sunday. He lives in Amarillo, but is getting close to making a move this way. I think he plans to be here in June (or thereabout) and begin his work in Knox City as Doctor Zeke Duke. We’ll be glad when he gets here and are always glad for “our kids” to do well. Zeke’s parents are Dennis and Pam Duke.

Jack and Mary Young and their son and his wife (Jack Junior and Candy of Round Rock) spent a few days in Corpus Christi recently. They stayed longer than they intended because of the bad weather, but had a good time.



Derrick Northrup takes a layup and two points



Mitchell Ham takes a rebound and shoots for two



Dylan Benson dribbles in for a shot

Benjamin Sports



2006 All-District Football

- 1st Team Offense**
Utility Back: Kyle Wilson, Junior
Tight End: Sean Wilson, Senior
2nd Team Offense
Quarterback: Gilbert Nevarez, Sophomore
Runningback: Derrick Northrup, Freshman
Center: Lucas Cartwright, Junior
Kicker: Sean Wilson, Senior
Honorable Mention: Mitchell Ham, Freshman
1st Team Defense
Linebacker: Kyle Wilson, Junior
2nd Team Defense
Defensive Line: Lucas

- Cartwright, Junior; Sean Wilson, Senior
Safety: Gilbert Nevarez, Sophomore
Utility Player: Derrick Northrup
Punter: Sean Wilson, Senior

All-Region Team Region III, Division II

- 1st Team Defense**
Linebacker: Kyle Wilson, Junior
2nd Team Offense
Tight End: Sean Wilson, Senior
Honorable Mention All State Defensive Linebacker:
Kyle Wilson

Basketball Scores

- Benjamin vs. Albany**
Girls: 45-54 (L)
Boys: 39-73 (L)
Benjamin vs. Spur
Girls: 44-53 (L)
Boys: 48-70 (L)
Benjamin vs. Guthrie
JH Boys: 37-34 (W)

2006 All- District Volleyball

- 1st Team All District:**
Shaylee Propps; Karla Benson; Sadie Benson
2nd Team All District:
Nafeesa Ebraheim; Kaitlyn Kuehler; Becky Baldwin; Judit Acevedo
Newcomer of the Year:
Teri Miller

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Brandon Grimsley makes the jumpshot



Mea Abila goes up for 2 points

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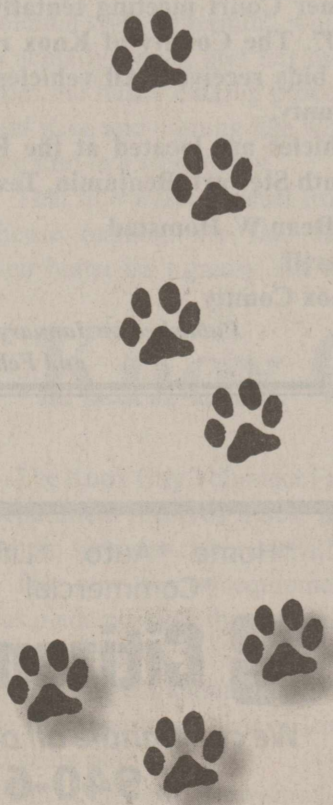
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