Mostly Sunny

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THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

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Knox City, Texas

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LOOKING AHEAD

• KC Visioning Meeting **Knox County Visioning Group** Meeting, Thursday, January 3 at 3:00 p.m. in Benjamin at the Courthouse Assembly Room.

• Immunization Clinic

The Texas Department of State Health Services Immunization Clinic will be at the Knox City Housing Authority Community Room, 203 SW 4th Street from 10:00 a.m. - noon and 1:00 -3:00 p.m. Thursday, January 3, 2008. DTaP, Polio, MMR, HIB, Td, Hepatitis A, Pneumococcal Conjugate, Hepatitis B, HPV, Meningitis and Chickenpox vaccine will be provided as well as all other immunizations for children, adults and infants. Flu vaccine is available for children 6 months and older and for adults. A parent, adult family member or guardian must accompany a minor under 18 years of age. Please bring a copy of your child's social security card. Services at the Department of Health are offered on a sliding fee scale, but no one will be denied services.

Knox County Singles **Change In Plans**

On New Year's Eve, The Knox County Singles Group, Singles and Singles Again, announced a change of schedule for its organizational meeting. The gettogether is now set for 7:00 p.m. January 11, 2008, at Patton Community Center, 131 W. Cisco in Munday. All Singles over the age of 18 are encouraged to attend this first activity planning session. Ideas are welcome!

• Workshop - Lightening The Load: Community

Resources for the Caregiver A workshop to introduce dementia to caregivers to the help available through the services of several Wichita Falls area organizations will be Thursday, January 10 from 10:00 - 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall of West Side Baptist Church 1914 Buchanan Street in Wichita. There is no charge, but registration is encouraged. Contact Beverly Diekhoff at 940-767-8800 or 1-800-272-3900 for more information. Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association - North Central Texas Chapter, Wichita Falls Region.

Reflecting Back On 2007 —

Knox County and its residents had a busy 2007 filled with new businesses, growth, and accomplishments. The following, some of the top stories of 2007, is our year in review.

KC Chamber Awning Project

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce and Knox City Economic Development Corporation have been working jointly on the downtown awning project for over seven years and the fruit of their labor is becoming visible, as the vibrant red awnings now stretch from the Fitness For Life Gym, Duckwalls, the Art Stall and Frame Shop, the Chamber office and KC Video. The gym was the first to receive a vivid red awning shortly before the Watermelon Festival. The remaining awnings have been rapidly going up since before Christmas. The awnings are being placed by Robert Crowell and his crew of Seymour.

"We're so excited! They add so much to the downtown area," said Clark

While a fundraiser will be held at a later date to help the ongoing project, donations are being accepted now, are tax exempt and "greatly appreciated" according to Clark. About \$4,000 is still needed. Downtown businesses pay for half of the cost of their awning, whether it is monetary or work in kind. Donations can be made payable to the Knox City Community Development Foundation at the Chamber of-

Other businesses (outside of the downtown area) will have the same opportunity to get the awnings, according to Clark.



In the beginning stages — Tearing down the old awnings



New, vibrant red awnings stretch from the Fitness For Life Gym, Duckwalls and the Art Stall and Frame Shop

New KC Doctor Zeke Duke

Zeke Duke, M.D. is coming home.

Dr. Duke, son of Dennis and Pam Duke of Benjamin, is returning to practice family medicine with the Knox County Hospital District.

Duke had been working parttime with the Knox County Hospital District for a year and a half.

Included in his duties were the Saturday morning clinic, rounds at the hospital and working in the emergency room, all one weekend a month, as his schedule allowed.

His duties will primarily be the same, but will be extended through the week on a full-time schedule.

Duke attended Benjamin ISD from elementary school until his graduation in 1996.

He decided during his junior year of high school that he wanted to be a doctor.

Duke chose family medicine as his practice because, according to him, it involves "a little bit of everything." It is also really the only medicine that a doctor can practice in a small community. Certainly a factor when all he ever wanted to do was come back home.

"I never really considered (practicing) anywhere else," said Dr. Duke.

Knox County Hospital Administrator Stephen Kuehler conveyed the feeling was mu-

"He wanted to come back, and we were more than eager to try and get him back," said Kuehler.

Duke entered Texas Tech University in the fall of 1996 and graduated in 2000, at which time he entered Texas Tech School of Medicine and graduated in 2004.

He then completed his three years of residency through the Texas Tech School of Medicine at Amarillo. On July 23rd Duke was named Resident of the Year in Family Practice by Texas Tech University. He shared this honor with one other family practice resident.

Duke has also been serving as Chief Resident for the past year. Duke served as Class President his sophomore year of medical school.

Duke met his wife, Amanda, who is a nurse practitioner, during his senior year of college and they were married between his first and second years of medical school. They have two young sons.

The Knox County Hospital and Hospital Clinic are located at 701 and 711 SE 5th Street in Knox City, respectively.

Other doctors on staff with the Knox County Hospital District are Dr. Shirley Barretto, M.D. and Dr. Kevin Finley, D.O.

See More 2007 Year In Review on Page 3

Glass And Kennedy State Their **Reasons For Resignations**

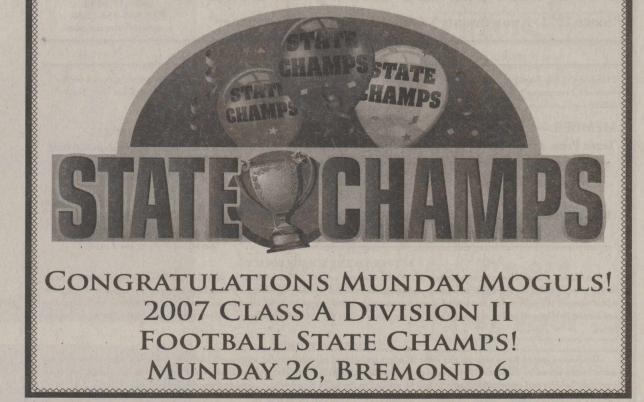
Editor's Note: In the December 13th issue the News printed an article about Knox City Police Chief Bill Glass and Patrolman Scott Kennedy resigning. After learning of the article, Bill Glass telephoned the News to state that he felt the information in the article inaccurately portrayed the events surrounding his and Kennedy's resignations, and to state his reason(s) for leaving.

Ex-Police Chief Bill Glass stated to the Knox County News that he is not going to Iraq.

According to Glass, his resignation was given to the City of Knox City effective immediately because of unreasonable demands and false accusations from city officials, and for their display of unpro-

Kennedy gave two weeks notice of resignation based on the same reasons on a Friday and was told the following Monday that would be his last day by city officials, according to Glass and Kennedy.

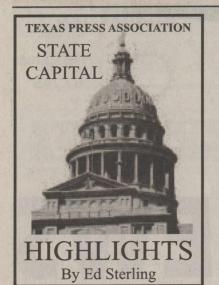
Glass stated that he was disappointed that slander would be used toward himself and Kennedy in light of the progress accomplished by the department during their short tenure with the City of Knox





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AUSTIN -- The 80th Texas Legislature last spring passed 22 pieces of legislation enacting state laws to take effect Jan. 1.

Here is a whittled down version of what just a few of those new laws do, based on analyses published by the House Research Organization and the Senate Research Center.

• HB 271 by Rep. Veronica Gonzales, D-McAllen, amends the Property Code by requiring a home seller to disclose to a buyer whether they are aware of any previous use of the residence as a methamphetamine

• HB 310 by Rep. Tony Goolsby, R-Dallas, amends the Transportation Code so that a vehicle's license plate and registration transfer with the person selling or trading in that

• HB 481 by Rep. Jim Jackson, R-Carrollton, amends the Transportation Code to allow the seller of a used vehicle to report the sale to TxDOT through the agency's Web site within 30 days, in lieu of filing a written and signed transfer notice. The bill also increases the penalty for the buyer of a used car that did not transfer the title within the 20-business-day grace pe-

• HB 538 by Rep. Bill Callegari, R-Katy, amends the Tax Code to allow a property owner to postpone their appraisal protest one time without showing cause, and increasing the postponement period from 15 to 30

• HB 1751 by Rep. Ellen Cohen, D-Houston, amends the Business and Commerce Code and Government Code by imposing a fee of \$5 on a sexually oriented business providing live nude entertainment. Up to \$25 million in money generated by the fee, per fiscal biennium, goes to the state's sexual assault program fund. The amount of money received from the fee in excess of \$25 million goes to the state's general revenue fund.

• HB 3495 by Rep. John Otto, R-Dayton, amends the Tax Code regarding the notice of an open meeting at which a governing body of a taxing unit will vote on a tax increase.

The notice now must include:

- Dates on which the first and second public hearings on the proposed tax increase were

- Total tax revenue raised at last year's tax rate;

New Year Kicks Off With 22 State Law

- Amount of total tax revenue proposed to be raised excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax

- Amount of total tax revenue proposed to be raised including the tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll;

- The proposed tax rate; and

- The mailing address of the location where the meeting to vote on the tax rate will be held.

A complete listing of new laws taking effect on Jan. 1 can be found by using the bill search function at www.legis.state. tx.us/.

Murdock named Census director

The U.S. Senate on Dec. 20 confirmed Steve H. Murdock as director of the U.S. Census Bu-

Nominated for the federal agency post by President George W. Bush, Murdock has been based at the University of Texas at San Antonio, serving as director of the Texas State Data

State agency warns of scammers

The Texas Department of Insurance cautions seniors to beware of suspicious sales practices by scammers who represent themselves to be insurance agents.

Be especially cautious of unsolicited contacts in which someone tries to obtain information by asking another to complete studies or surveys or asks nursing home personnel to gather the information, the state agency said.

Agents and companies must be licensed in Texas to sell in-

To verify a license, call tollfree, 800-252-3439.

TCEQ approves penalties

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on December 19 approved penalties totaling \$593,897 against 76 regulated entities for violations of environmental regulations.

Among those many violations were 13 for air quality, 14 for municipal waste discharge, 10 for public water system and seven for water quality.

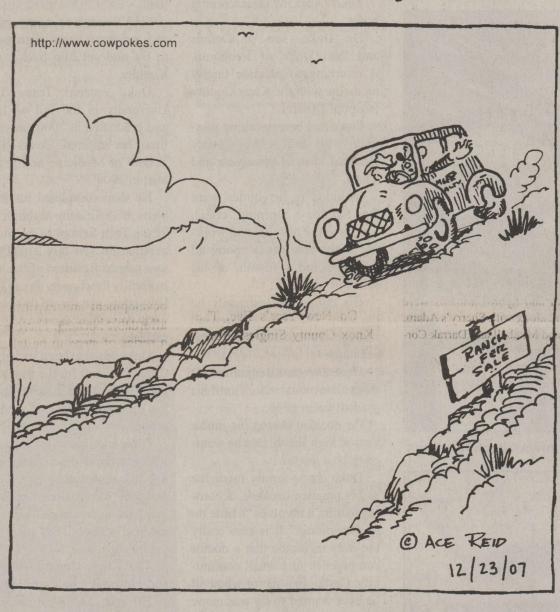
Warning: think before giving drink

Alan Steen of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission reminds folks it is against the law to give alcohol to anyone under 21 (other than your child) even in your own residence, even with parent's permission.

Maximum criminal penalties for violators include up to a \$4,000 fine, up to one year in jail and an automatic suspension of a driver's license for six months upon conviction.

COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Now if yer lookin' fer a place where the deer, antelopes, jack rabbits and rattle snakes play, we had better look fer another place, 'cause around here thay hafta work all the time!"

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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

SUBMISSION POLICY

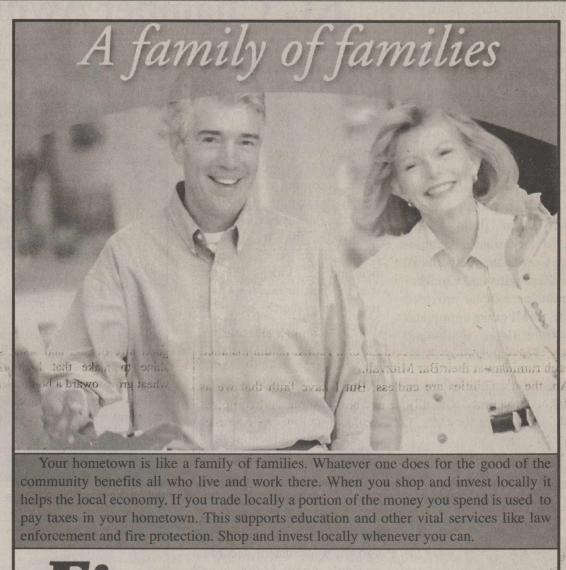
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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ACROSS

1 TXism: "wouldn't know him from

5 Houston trainer Károlyi who was '92 Olympics coach

6 org. that selected 5-across as coach 7 TXism: "

the dogs" 8 TX Dan Jenkins' _ Ownself" "Life 9 in Howard Co.

on I-20 16 classic western "High

18 waitress in the sky? 21 TXism: "he don't _ nothing but burn

hay" (poor horse)

22 splice film 23 ESPN analyst Scott 59 TXism: "meaner 24 TXism: horse of a different

color" 30 NBA center for Rockets ('93-'94) &

Mavericks ('97-'98) 34 TXism: "frisky as _ unsaddled horse" 35 TX Janis died of

OD

36 in Bowie Co. on 67 37 in Crosby Co. on 82 39 TXism for "askew"

43 TXism: "agressive as a salesman"

44 Hilton called his TX Mobley Hotel "a cross a gold mine and a flophouse'

45 Colt revolver

inventor (init.) 46 Austin AM radio 47 with "set" in between,

playground race start 49 TXism: "loud enough to wake 52 TX Ralph, once a liberal

U.S. senator (init.) 53 TX Rangers play-byplay guy, Nadel (init.) 54 in Eastland Co. on I-20

55 DNA determinates

58 unapproved absence (abbr. than a junk_ dog" 60 org. for some TX

teachers (abbr.) 61 TXism: " trick in the book"

DOWN 1 TXism: "snug as

2 so. Dallas suburb 3 early TX mapper:

4 tear gas spray 9 state where TX Nolan pitched for the Angels (abbr.) 10 clean to excess? 11 TX Willie's "Farm

Champaign, IL

_" was in

The Original

TEXAS **CROSSWORD** by Charley & Guy Orbison



12 Staubach pass Mary"

13 river along the TX coast 14 TX Rayburn was called " Sam" 15 in '28 TX voted for

Hoover, not this Smith (init.) 17 in Leon Co. on FM 3 27 TXism: "badge 19 stealthily followed

26 swift horse

20 in Montague Co. on FM 1749

24 Ranger closer in 29 Lake Jackson '93-'94, Henke (init.) 25 former Rangers owner "Eddie" (init.)

" (lawman) 28 TXism: "porch

streets: This Way, That Way, and this TX Lyle Lovett's "Here

32 coffee container 33 northerners 38 TX Harvey Cliburn (Van) 40 'tween Tue. & Thu. _ you!" 42 when kids are in

class (2 wds.) 48 TXism: "busy as a bartender ___ day"

51 Denison-born president (init.) 56 TX Sly's "_

Take You Higher" 57 more saddle pain



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

B.E.L.C.H.

By Baxter Black, DVM

As global warming increases, and most agree it has regardless of the cause, ruminant raisers are going to become conversant in a new field of science called 'Bovine Emissions Lately Considered Hazardous', or B.E.L.C.H.

The study of B.E.L.C.H. will revolve around a simple formula; greenhouse gas emissions per pound of beef produced. It is obvious, if the world truly wanted to reduce methane and nitrous oxide (two of the big three greenhouse gases) they could destroy all ruminants. For the sake of the economy and human survival we should first have a mass eradication of all wildlife species that produce those two gases. From the eland, the mountain goat, and the giraffe to the elk, the llama and the buffalo in Yellowstone Park.

Or, since Carbon Offsets are allowed for coal and oil-driven emitters, we could allow Methane Offsets. For instance, if you normally run 200 cows on your farm, you could get set-aside subsidies for only running 100 cows. The U.S. Conservation Districts are already able to calculate grazing land CRP payments. They could calculate a B.U.R.P. (Bovine Use Reduction Payments.)

In the meantime global warming should bring longer summers, thus longer grazing seasons. As we do research on B.E.L.C.H., I expect we will discover that the more a ruminant eats, the more methane gas it will produce. So improving the ratio of feed per pound of gain will be stressed. There are many products on the market now in accordance with our desire to reduce methane emissions; growth additives will become mandatory. Grass fat beef would be considered too expensive due to the length of time required to make them tender and the additional number of cattle required to meet the quota. But they might get Methane Offsets to trade against the fuel used to grow and transport grain to feedlots.

Another area to consider is palatability. Tenderness derives from two basic factors; youth and marbling. We could mandate that cattle be slaughtered at less than three months of age, following the model of veal which is always tender. That way the critter would not even have to become a serious ruminant.

I expect in the years to come, or until the next ice age prediction, we will develop feed additives which will convert methane into Cool Aid, a lactobacillus liqueur, or Glade Air Freshener and be considered inert.

Or, we'll develop a use for methane in the cure of cancer or aromatherapy and it will be financially viable to trap all emissions in a cow-shaped polyethylene facemask or a rumen fistula installed in each ruminant at their Bar Mitzvah.

Ah, the possibilities are endless. But I have faith that we as a global community with all our cowboy wisdom and computer models will solve the B.E.L.C.H. problem and move on to other, more pressing issues...like the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and whether the Cubs will ever win the World Series. Because the alternative is unthinkable...chicken every night!





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2007 Year In Review — Continued

Truscott's New Community Center; Benjamin Voters Pass Sales Tax

Truscott Gains New Community Center

The citizens of Truscott once again have a place to gather.

Their new community center has been completed, aside from some decorating and a few minor details, according to Truscott Community Foundation's Treasurer and Director Jerry Bob Daniel.

The community of Truscott began thinking about a new community center about three years ago and began the groundwork at the beginning of August

The building was completed in early December 2006.

The building has a large and welcoming porch that precedes a foyer.

Off the foyer are the men's women's restrooms. Continuing inside, a large meeting room leads to a spacious and modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances.

A door at the back opens up to a 2000 square foot pavilion with a concrete floor and tin roof.

Most of the lots in the block where the community center sits have been donated to the Truscott Community Foundation by their owners, and those that have not



been donated have been loaned for use.

Where the old drug store, grocery store and Post Office once sat to the west, plans are to add a parking lot.

A corner stone still sits where the old buildings once stood.

The foundations of the buildings were in very poor shape, according to Daniel. "It was sad to see the old buildings go down," he continued.

The new community center's bricked exterior is made of the cleaned bricks that once made up the other three buildings.

Funds were raised for the community center project by selling five hundred "Cookin' Between the Wichitas" cookbooks, which contain recipes from locals, ranch horse cuttings at the Daniel's Circle Bar Ranch near Truscott, personal donations and grant money received from the Meadows Foundation in the amount of \$37,500, with help from the Knox County RC&D.

KC Singles Announces Change In

Plans On New Year's Eve, The Knox County Singles Group,

Singles and Singles Again, announced a change of schedule for its organizational meeting. The get-together is now set

for 7 p.m. January 11, 2008, at Patton Community Center, 131 W. Cisco in Munday.

All Singles over the age of 18 are encouraged to attend this first activity planning session. Ideas are welcome!

Benjamin **Voters Pass** Sales Tax

Benjamin voters passed by landslide the adoption of a 4B sales and use tax at the rate of one half of one percent to undertake the economic development for the City of Benjamin.

The proposition passed 81 to 14. The funds are intended to be used for possible infrastructure improvement in the city and to attract businesses.

"It lets businesses that are interested in locating in Benjamin know that we are serious about economic development," said Steve Bisbee, who played a vital role in establishing the Benjamin Chamber of Commerce and served as chamber president for several years.

The funds collected can be used for projects such as, but not limited to, projects related to convention and tourism, exhibition facilities, primary job training facilities for use by institutions of higher education, research and development facilities, regional or national corporate headquarters facilities and recycling facilities. Also, projects to promote new or expanded business enterprises that create or retain primary jobs.

The funds can also be used for streets and roads, drainage, and related improvements, demolition of existing structures, development and expansion of affordable housing. There is still a series of steps to be taken in order for the process to be completed, but the enthusiasm is tangible. "I'd just like to thank the citizens for their support. I take it as a sign that the city is behind the economic development of the community and wants to see it grow. Their overwhelming support shows that they want growth and development," said

Kimberly Hawkins Receives Bachelor Of Arts Degree From HSU



Kimberly Hawkins, 2003 graduate of Knox City High, is shown receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dr. Craig Turner, president of Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. Kimberly graduated cum laude, and is the daughter of Don and Marla Hawkins. Commencement was held Saturday, December 15, 2007 in Behrens Chapel on the HSU campus in Abilene.

TRUSCOTT-GILLILAND NEWS

By Clara Brown

Christmas visiting was charmed with pretty good weather before, during and after Christmas this

Everybody is now ready for a good mix of rain and some sunshine to make that high-priced wheat grow toward a boomer crop. We may never see the prices again that wheat is now, so let's all hope for a good harvest.

Gordan and Irma Bell stayed home for Christmas day after Irma broke her arm. The day after Christmas her nephew, Donell Rathborn of Grapevine came with his wife and two children. They visited until

Sunday afternoon. Jack and Clara Brown hosted all

their children and grandchildren. Ruth Mescall along with Alex, Meagan, Rachel, Thomas and Grace of Baytown came in late, late Friday night. Bill Brown and Staci, Brisa and Brandel arrived Friday morning from Levelland, as did Jacquelyn Richey from Houston with Al, Sam and Claire. After a Christmas dinner and gift exchange, the grandchildren had fun breaking a pinata. By Sunday noon, all visitors were gone.

The only problem they left was the pinata loaded with candy and they didn't take much home.

At the Kenneth Carroll's holiday, guests included Christie and John Winger of Crowell, Tyler, Kim, Kenzlee and Taegan Carroll of Crowell and Russell Carroll and friends Jessica and Colton of Lubbock and Bernice Carroll of Crowell.

The holidays also included a Christmas at Crowell.

James Hopkins couldn't attend as he is on a second tour in Iraq with the National Guard.

Eugenie Daniel and Jerry Bob had their children, Becky and Colton home for Christmas. Off and on the Daniels had company several days. All attended the Cowboy Christmas Ball at Benjamin before Christmas. Staying with Eugenie and Jerry Bob were Barry Corbin of Ft. Worth, who was Roscoe in "Lonesome Dove" and is on the Lubbock Ranching Heritage board with Eugenie. Also, guests were

Chris and Jeter of Ft. Worth. Many may not know it, but the Truscott Methodist Church building was bought a few months back by Libby Hines of Ft. Worth.

She hopes to make a home of it and has had Dale Turner looking it

Ronnie and Sherry Simmons had several days of holiday celebration. On the 20th, Sherry's sister and husband, Jody and Ed McClure and Elaine and George Allen visited.

On the 25th, Betty Eddy, Mary Sandlin and Sybil Simmons were present, along with Sherry's Adam, Zack and Mitchell and Darrak Corley, a friend of Mitchell's.

Sybil stayed for a few days after December 25th before returning to Wichita Falls.

Shanna Heard said they stayed home for Christmas.

Darrell Hord said their visitors included his son Jim and a grandson of Corsicana and Ginger and Kent Carlisle of Post. Ginger is the daughter of Devotee Hord.

Ramona Horne visited her children and grandchildren in Wichita Falls during the holidays while Jack met with the Horne family members at Gilliland.

Barbara Horne said they hosted their boys and their families while Elaine Horne visited Charlotte and Dennis Welch and that all Horne kin visited back and forth.

If anyone got left out of the above, please accept apologies and we'll add and correct next week.

The first was planned for December 13th, Jason Simmon's graduation from LVN school at Wichita Falls.

He went into the hospital the day before to have his appendix out and didn't make the ceremony. However, a bedside ceremony was held for his graduation, it just wasn't the scene Jason had expected. The Simmon's family attended, anyhow.

Alex Mescall, grandson of Jack and Clara Brown and son of Ruth Brown Mescall, was graduated from Sam Houston University at Huntsville on Saturday, December 15th. His ceremony had a less dramatic setting than Jason's, but the criminal justice major was glad, like Jason, to finish.

The third event was the graduation of Cody Mobley, son of Sonseahray and Paul Cline of San Angelo and grandson of the late Norma Jones Lee.

The history major was graduated from San Angelo University, also on December 15th, as was his second cousin, Alex Mescall, at Huntsville.

It has been a long time since a Truscott-Gilliland column has had so much news. Sounds like everyone on the Wichita Divide had company at some point.

OBITUARIES

T. C. Lewis

T. C. Lewis, age 69, died Wednesday, December 19, 2007 in Perryton. Services were Friday, December 21 at 10:30 a.m. at the Key Heights Baptist Church under the direction of Boswell Brothers Funeral Home of Perryton with the Reverend Jeff Staton officiating. Burial followed at the Ochiltree Cemetery.

T. C. was born December 11, 1938 in Knox City. He lived in the area since 1959, later moving from Knox City to Perryton. He married Betty Bailey on May 22, 1964. She died in 2001.

T. C. was a computer operator. He worked for GTE from 1959 until he retired in 2000.

He was a member of the Key Heights Baptist Church of Perryton. He loved his church. Survivors include a son, Anthony Lewis of Arlington; a daughter, Elizabeth Lewis of Amarillo; four sisters, Jessie McNellie of Arlington; Ann Martin of Louisiana; Betty Hart, of Burleson; and Earlene Rister of Dallas; a brother James Nathan Lewis of Washington State.

The family requests memorials to be sent to Key Heights Baptist Church, P.O. Box 923, Perryton, Texas 79070 or to your favorite charity.

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Pneumonia Can Be Life-Threatening Without Proper Treatment

AMARILLO – Every year, more than 60,000 Americans die from pneumonia – an inflammation of the lungs usually caused by infection from bacteria, viruses or other organisms, a Texas Cooperative Extension specialist said.

Pneumonia is a particular concern for older adults and people with chronic illnesses or impaired immune systems, said Andrew Crocker, Extension gerontology specialist in Amarillo. But it can also strike young, healthy people.

There are many kinds of pneumonia, ranging in seriousness from mild to life-threatening, Crocker said. Infection often follows a cold or flu but can be associated with other illnesses or occur on its own.

Symptoms of pneumonia caused by bacteria usually come on quickly and include: cough with mucus; fever; fast breathing, heart rate and/or shortness of breath; shaking and chills; chest pains that worsen with coughing or breathing; tiredness; weakness; nausea and vomiting; and/or diarrhea. Symptoms caused by viruses are usually the same as those caused by bacteria, but they may come on slowly and often are not as obvious or as bad, Crocker said.

"Ironically, high-risk groups such as older adults may have fewer or milder symptoms than less vulnerable people do," he said.

Instead of high fever that often characterizes pneumonia, older adults may have a lower than normal temperature, Crocker said. Or they may have a cough, but not bring up mucus. Another sign of pneumonia in older adults may be a change in how well they think – confusion is common.

"If you think you may have pneumonia, do not hesitate to get medical care," he said. "See your health provider right away if you have a persistent cough, shortness of breath, chest pain that fluctuates with breathing, an unexplained fever, or if you suddenly feel worse after a cold or the flu."

A health provider will ask about the symptoms, do a physical exam and may order a chest X-ray and blood tests. This is usually enough to know if pneumonia exists, Crocker said.

"You may need more tests if you have bad symptoms, are an older adult or have other health problems," he said. "Your health provider may also test mucus from your lungs to find out what germ is causing your pneumonia."

Antibiotics may be prescribed to treat bacterial pneumonia, Crocker said. Patients should not stop taking them because they feel better. Stopping medication too soon can cause the infection to come back and contributes to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. And call the doctor if improvement is not seen after two or three days of antibiotics, or if symptoms worsen, he said.

Antibiotics are usually not effective against viral forms of pneumonia, he said. Although a few viral pneumonias may be treated with antiviral medications, the recommended treatment is generally the same as for the flu – rest and plenty of fluids. Hospitalization may be required for people with severe pneumonia, Crocker said.

"You usually do not catch pneumonia from someone else;" he said. "Instead, you develop the disease because your immune system is temporarily weakened."

The following suggestions can help reduce the risk of getting the infection:

• Get vaccinated. Because pneumonia can be a complication of the flu, getting a yearly flu shot is a good way to prevent viral influenza pneumonia, which can lead to bacterial pneumonia. In addition, get a vaccination against pneumonia at least once after age 55. Medicare may pay for this for Medicare beneficiary with Part "B" coverage.

• Wash your hands. Hands are in almost constant contact with germs that can cause pneumonia. Washing them thoroughly and often can help reduce risk.

• Don't smoke. Smoking damages the lungs' natural defenses against respiratory infections.

• Plenty of rest with a healthy diet along with moderate exercise can help keep the immune system strong.

• Protect others. Try to stay away from anyone with a compromised immune system while personally infected.

Crocker said people with pneumonia can recover more quickly and decrease the risk of complications by getting plenty of rest, drinking lots of fluids, taking the entire course of any prescribed medications and keeping all follow-up appointments, even if they are feeling better. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, a division of the National Institutes of Health can provide more information at http://www.niaid.nih.gov/.

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

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP – Knox City Tex Cox, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Warriors 6:00 p.m.
"Discovering God's Word" radio broadcast Sunday mornings on AM
1400 The River 8:20 - 8:50 a.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City

Don Jackson, 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.

LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C- Knox City
Gene Ward Jr., Pastor
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.
Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.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
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

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.
Sunday Mornings on KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.

WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH Rob Harrison, Pastor Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

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Aging Center Lunch Menu

Jan. 7 - Jan. 11

Monday, Jan. 7 - Meat Balls & Spaghetti with Mushroom Sauce, Green Beans, Garlic Bread and Cobbler

Tuesday, Jan. 8 - Chili & Beans, Whole Kernel Corn, Salad, Crackers and Cookies

Wednesday, Jan. 9 - Stir Fry Chicken & Vegetables, Buttered Rice, Glazed Carrots, Light Bread and Cake

Thursday, Jan. 10 - Taco Soup, Cheese Sticks, Salad, Cornbread and Pudding

Friday, Jan. 11 - Chicken Fritter on a Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Tator Tots and Cherry Crunch with Topping

Alternative Desserts For Diabetics

Call in Orders by 10:00 a.m.

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Orders can not be taken after 10 am and need to be picked up after 11 am

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(Menu subject to change)

Lightening the Load: Community Resources for the Caregiver

A workshop to introduce dementia caregivers to the help available through the services

of several Wichita Falls area organizations

Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association - North Central Texas Chapter

The suspect, admified as Daniel Calnoiga Ralla atthat Waller to and charges are charges and charges and charges and charges are charges and charges are charges and charges are charges and charges are charges ar

Thursday, January 10 from 10:00 to 12:00 Noon in the Fellowship Hall of West Side Baptist Church 1914 Buchanan Street, Wichita Falls, Texas 76309 Cost: No charge; registration is encouraged

Contact: Beverly Diekhoff at 940-767-8800 or 1-800-272-3900

God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor O'Brien Baptist Church



I'm sure that many of you will be thinking about New Year's resolutions during the next few weeks.

Many will be trying to convince themselves of improving upon different areas of their life.

Often we believe that we can surely do all things better. Don't misunderstand me, I think improvement is great. I have many areas myself that need immediate and continual attention

The difficulty, as we all have experienced, is to continue with the convictions of our resolu-

The Lord knows how we think and act. He even knows how we fail many times, but His joy is not in our failing. His joy is in our looking to Him to make our joy complete.

I pray that you will take the time to read the following scriptures.

They will not only reveal the love that God has for you, but will also speak to you of the wonderful promises He has in store for those who believe and obey His word.

1. Now it shall be, if you diligently obey the LORD your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

"All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the LORD your God:
 "Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.

4. "Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock.

5. "Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

6. "Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

7. "The LORD shall cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they will come out against you one way and will flee before you seven ways.

8. "The LORD will command the blessing upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God gives you.

9. The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, as He swore to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways.

10. "So all the peoples of the earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will be afraid of you.

11. The LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground, in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.

12. "The LORD will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

13. "The LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you only will be above, and you will not be underneath, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I charge you today, to observe them carefully,

14. and do not turn aside from any of the words which I command you today, to the right or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

(Deuteronomy 28: 1-14 nasb)
I pray that you know the love of God and live in it with Him all of this new year.

Dumb Crook News



GPS Device Leads Police To Rightful Owner

I can't think of a dumber thing to steal. Can you?

Police in Amityville, New York, learned that a man had stolen a global positioning device after they used the thing to track down its rightful owner.

Police allege that after the man, identified as 33-year-old Alex Batista, was discovered to be in possession of the device while riding his bicycle, they activated "home" function and followed it to the device's real owner, according to the December 29 issue of New York Newsday, a newspaper there.

Upon arriving at the home, the owner told officers that he didn't know that the van that the GPS device belonged to had been vandalized.

"He says, 'It's mine. It should be in that van over there," Sergeant Brian Scott said of the early December 29 crime.

Police then arrested Batista on charges of larceny and criminal possession of stolen property, Newsday said.

In addition to the two misdemeanor charges, Batista was also issued a ticket by police for using his bicycle at night without a light.

Law Catches Up With Burglary Suspect After Being Robbed Himself And Giving His Real Address

A burglary suspect in New Bedford, Massachusetts, who gave authorities a fake address when he was arrested ended up being a victim a robbery himself — and gave them his real address when reporting the crime.

Authorities there say that they arrested three people accused of robbing the suspect. They then obtained a search warrant for his address — yes, the real one — and found computer equipment that had been stolen from a university and power tools that had been pilfered from a theater there.

The suspect, identified as Daniel Cabral, was arrested December 26 and charged with burglarizing a building at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, and that is when he gave police the bogus address. He got robbed at gunpoint on the way home from his arraignment.

As of this writing, Cabral is free on his own recognizance.

"It Wasn't My Fault, It Was A Pterodactyl!"

A 29-year-old man in Wenatchee, Washington, told police that a pterodactyl caused him to crash his car into a streetlight around 11:30 PM December 27.

Police cited the unidentified man with first-degree negligent driving. A breathalyzer test revealed "a minimal amount of alcohol," according to Sergeant Cherie Smith.

Witnesses told police that the man was driving northbound on Wenatchee Avenue and drifted into a southbound lane for less than a block. Oncoming traffic stopped and waited for him to pass, Smith said.

He then totaled his car by crashing it into a streetlight, Smith said.

When police asked the man what caused the accident, his one-word answer was "pterodactyl," according to Smith. A pterodactyl was a giant winged reptile that has been extinct for over 65 million years.

The man was treated and released at Central Washington Hospital, hospital officials said.

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New Year's Resolution: Store Lawn Chemicals Safely

COLLEGE STATION - While most plants go dormant in the winter, the chemicals that many people use for gardening remain active.

That's why a Texas Cooperative Extension horticulturist urges people to winterize pesticide storage areas.

"Now is the perfect time to prepare a safe holding area for these materials," said Dr. Don Wilkerson, Extension horticulturist and EarthKind advocate. "This is important for environmental protection, human and pet safety, and for maintaining the effectiveness of the chemicals and fertilizers."

He said EarthKind is Extension's program for focusing on environmental stewardship in the urban landscape. Wilkerson said a storage area for lawn and garden chemicals should be:

- Secure from children and pets.
 - Well ventilated.
- Lit well for product label reading.
- Dry and not prone to flooding.
- Large enough to separate spacing for herbicides, insecti-

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- Enclosed so that spills can be quickly cleaned.

- Protected from temperature extremes. He also noted that flammable liquids should be stored outside living areas and away from any potential ignition sources. An attached garage, for example, may not be the best place for this type of product.

Chemicals should be kept in the original container, Wilkerson added, and never mixed in an empty food container.

"An updated storage inventory allows for keeping track of what has been placed in storage and also helps in planning purchases when spring arrives," he said. "Make a record of the product name, active ingredient, date of purchases and date/volume stored."

Storage problems can be minimized, Wilkerson suggested, if a person uses the list to plan ahead – buying only the amount of product that is needed for a season.

"Small containers that seem expensive may actually be the most economical over time if larger amounts do not have proper storage," he explained

Public Notice

NOTICE OF CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
(TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by

TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. Dist/Div: Childress

Contract 0925-00-056 for STRIPING in CHILDRESS County, etc will be opened on January 8, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 25647

State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)
Childress District
District Engineer
7599 U.S. 287
Childress, Texas 79201-9705

Phone: 940-937-2571

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that the bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national

(Published December 20-, 2007 and January 3, 2008)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Article 258.002(c) of the Texas Transportation Code, the Commissioners Court of Knox County, Texas provides this notice to the public of its intention to convene a public meeting to receive comment upon the adoption of a County Road Map including each road in which the County claims the continued existence of a public interest and a right of access and egress for maintenance of an existing County Road. The roads in which the County claims a public interest have been maintained for many years, beginning some time prior to 1981, have previously been listed in a notice included in the 2007-08 Ad Valorem Tax statement. A proposed County Road Map depicting each road in which the County claims a public interest has been available for inspection by the public at the County Judge's Office in the County Courthouse during business hours, beginning December 1, 2007.

The Commissioners Court will conduct a public hearing on 1/30/2008, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Knox County Courthouse. At this time, pursuant to Article 258.002(b), Texas Transportation Code, any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may appear before the Commissioners Court to object or protest the County's claim of its right to continue maintenance of the public roads depicted on the County Road Map. Any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may also file a written protest with the County Judge at any time before the time and date of the scheduled public hearing. By way of this procedure, the County makes no claim affecting title, acreage, or ownership of the land, but seeks merely to establish and document the right of the County to continue maintenance of the existing county road in it present location and dimension.

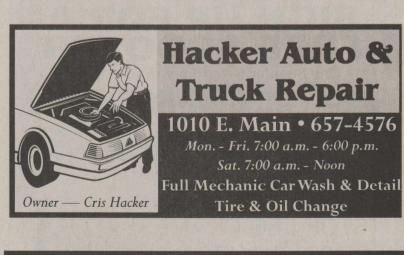
/s/ Travis C. Floyd

Knox County Judge

(Published January 3, 2008, January 10, 2008, January 17, 2008 and January 24, 2008)

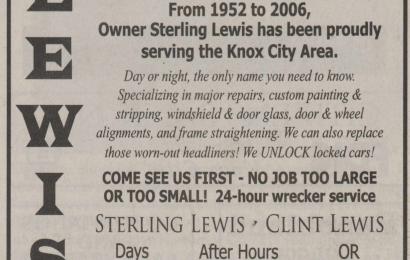






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GO MUSTANGS AND LADY STANGS! The Jackie Youngs

Triple Calcium

The Mustangs and Lady 'Stangs took on Patton Springs Tuesday, December 18 and Lueders-Avoca Friday, December 28 at the Benjamin high school gym.

Stats were unavailable at press time.



Dylan Benson goes up for a jump shot.



Carla Benson shoots a 3 pointer

BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

Christmas is over and by the time you read this we will be into another New Year. Amid the family gatherings and lots of "fellowshipping" with friends there was sadness for many. My sincere sympathy to the Dockins family in Munday for the loss of their loved one. He will be missed by many.

The school kids, teachers and other personnel have enjoyed a few days off, but are about ready to "hit it again" when school resumes Thursday. There was a good basketball game Friday morning with Lueders. The girls won, but I didn't hear about the boys.

On Saturday, Coach Loftiss took the basketball girls to Lubbock for an all day outing. They spent several hours in the mall, and then attended a Lady Raiders game Saturday night. Reports are that it was a fun day.

Duke's Open House

Pam and Dennis Duke and their family again hosted open house on Saturday, December 22nd. Their beautifully decorated home and lots of holiday treats provided a very inviting atmosphere for those in attendance. This has become a tradition for the Dukes and the community always looks forward to it as Christmas approaches. We all appreciate their endeavors for our plea-

Here 'N There

Christmas guests of Jonnie Williams and Mary Bohannon and Brandi were Jack (Corky) Barker of Tucson, Arizona and Jenny, Charlie and Josh Sheffer of Hawley. Joining them for Christmas dinner was Bobby Hudson of Benjamin.

Jack and Mary Young spent Christmas with their daughter, Debbie Neil and family in Boca Raton, Florida. They left on the 17th of December and returned the 28th. They reported a wonderful time.

Roger and Betty Bohannon's holiday week company has been Craig and Bonnie Howell and family of Missouri (who will be moving to Nebraska soon after January 1st), Alex Espinosa and Jamie Bohannon and family and Lonnie and Misty Bohannon and sons of Benjamin. Also, Marilyn Fisk and Debbie Stephenson of Clyde.

Lorene Powers spent Christmas with family and friends in Midland.

Bud Conner had his family at his café in Knox City

on Christmas Day. Present for a wonderful meal and a visit from Santa were Keith and Pam Conner, Casey Conner and a friend of Midland, Stephanie and Bobby Brannan and children of Lubbock, Blaine and Gary Neal and family of Seymour, Michele and Jimmy Barrientez and family, Kim Moore and girls, Hazel Stockton and Bud, all of Benjamin.

Chad and Kathy Rainwater and family spent the holidays in the metroplex area visiting with both his and her families. Chad's sister, Rebel, and her husband, Brian, of Mobile, Alabama, were able to drive in for a few days of visiting. Rebel has about another year and a half of her residency left in orthopedic surgery, before a year's fellowship, and then she and Brian hope to return to Texas. Rebel plans to specialize in hand surgery.

Jane Gideon had her family Christmas this past weekend. Visiting were Sue Terry and family of Dallas and Lana Mendoza and family of Seymour. Also, Weldon Gideon of Benjamin.

Christmas guests of Gloria West were Cathy Tomlinson of Justin and Robert Clower of Electra. On Christmas Day they had lunch with their daughter and sister, Betty Parker, and family in Asper-

Christmas guests of Jessie and Kenneth Roberts were Ken and Gaye Roberts of Wichita Falls, Bill and Sue Roberts of Driftwood, Don and Diane Roberts of Knox City, Jennifer Roberts of Halifax, Virginia, Kevin and Leslie Ann Roberts and Lauren of Austin, Chris McGreger of Freising, Germany, Tim and Trish Johnson, Tyler and Tayleigh of Mineral Wells, Angela Roberts of Dallas, Phil and Rebekah Boone, Paige and Peyton of Abilene, Rachel and Ryan Thomas of Wichita Falls, Dr. Zeke and Amanda Duke, Daniel and Jonah of Knox City, Nancy and Fred McGreger, Dennis and Pam Duke and Bea Parks, all of Benjamin.

Don Hertel was glad to have his sons and their families with him for Christmas. That's Kent and Elizabeth, Victoria and Derek of Coppell, Scott, Debbie and Megan of Dallas and Craig, Donna and Olivia of Gainesville. Don said he's feeling pretty good. Tires easily, and of course, does not have the lung capacity he did

have after his surgery and chemo, but thankful to feel as well as he does.

Jan and Fred Carver had as their guests on Christmas Eve, Gary and Stasia, Callie and Ryder Antilley of Wingate, Ryan Antilley of Abilene, Dorothy Carver of Knox City, Tyler Collins of Seymour, Jacy Collins, Jara Gray and Talon of Munday, Tom Lyles and a friend, Tori and her son, Lane, of Lamesa and Mike and Tammy Lyles of Benjamin.

Christmas Day several of the family had lunch in the home of Mike and Tammy Lyles. They were Jan and Fred, Jacy, Jara and Talon, Tyler, Tom, Tori and Lane, Betty Lyles, Cassie Lyles and Cody Wainscott of Knox City and San Diego, California. (Cody is in the Marines.)

Jan said she has one more "Christmas" coming up, that with her brothers in a couple of weeks.

Visiting Charles and Linda Griffith during the holidays were Lorrie and Rickey La Shomb of Lubbock, Matt Tyson of U.T.- Austin, Drew Tyson of Lewis and Clark University in Portland, Oregon, Amy and Vince Tyson, Kate and Abby of Bemidji, Minnesota (they are moving to Lubbock soon after January 1st) and Becky, Kemp, Devon, Blake, Brooke and Cameron Jones of Benjamin.

We had our family Christmas on December 23rd in the home of Mike and Debbie Moorhouse. Present were Mike, Diane and Ashlee Evans and Beckie, Wade, Dillon and Randi Keys, all of Childress, Cody, Kyla, Lexie, Katie and Blaze Taylor of Amarillo, Lynn and Michael Rogers of Snyder, Liz and Nathan Herring of Munday, Jessica Moorhouse of Tarleton State and Gladene Green of Benjamin.

On Christmas Eve, I went to Childress for a couple of days with Diane and family. Attended an impressive Christmas Eve service at their church, First Baptist, where former Munday resident, Chad King, is pastor. After lunch on Christmas Day, I returned home, tired, but filled with lots of pleasant memories of Christmas 2007. I'm sure many of you feel the same way.

One last note - Congratulations to the Munday Moguls on winning state.

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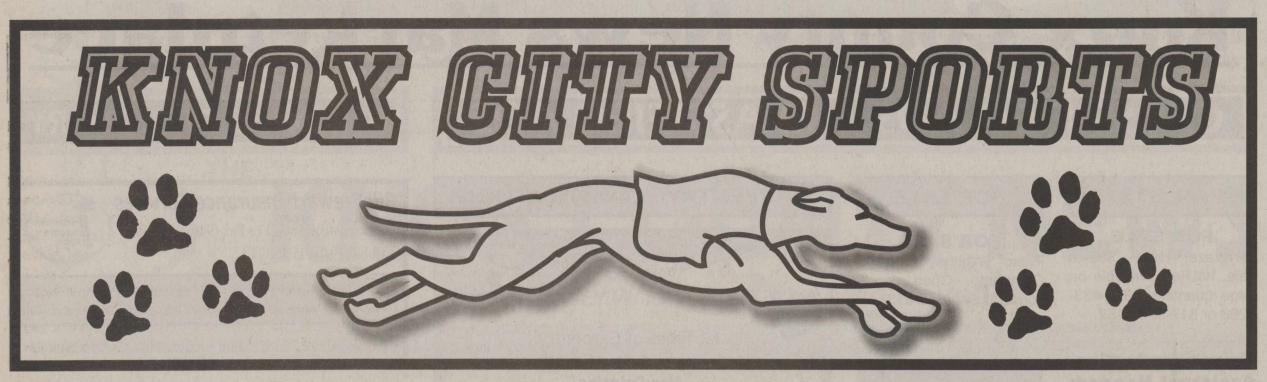
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Go Lady Hounds!

All District Football Selections for 2007 District 7A



(L to R): Travis Hawkins, Joe Albus, Kenyin Thompson, Orrin Myers, and Jordan Carter

All District Football selections for the 2007 District 7A were announced recently.

Leading the second team offense list was Knox City's Jordan Carter as Tight End and Kenyin Thompson as Running Back.

Thompson also made the second team defense list as Line Backer.

Greyhounds making the Honorable Mention list included Joe Albus as End (offense); Orrin Myers as Safety (Defense); and Travis Hawkins as Defensive End.

Congratulations!

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Knox City Kindergarten Class Performs Christmas Program December 20



Santa Clause and his elves made a special appearance in the Kindergarten class Christmas program presented Thursday night, Dec. 20. The Knox City Elementary, Pre-K through Fourth Grade, presented a variety of programs from skits to carols for the entertainment and enjoyment of friends and

The High School band

Mrs. Doris Crownover was presented her \$1000 gift card by

Landon Lynn and the Greyhound PRIDE

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The winner of the

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Lynn sold Mrs.

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Band.

Greyhound PRIDE Band Presents \$1000 Gift Card To Doris Crownover



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1-3-08-1-24-07/AG/c

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Rolling Plains Management Corporation is seeking applicants for the position of part-time Teacher Aide at Knox City Child Development Center in Knox City. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or its equivalent. Interested persons may obtain an application at Knox City Child Development Center, 502. N. 2nd St., in Knox City and returned to the same address. Completed applications must be received on or before January 12, 2008. Equal Opportunity Employer M/F.

1-3-08/RPMC/c

Deadline for news and advertising is Monday by 5 p.m. 940-657-3142 Fax -940-658-3228

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12-20-07-1-3-08/FBCKC/c

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12-20-07-1-03-08/MM/c

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FOR RENT

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12-20-07/EP/tf/c



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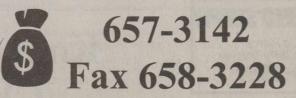
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