

WEDNESDAY, May 14

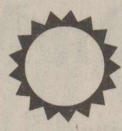
THURSDAY, MAY 15

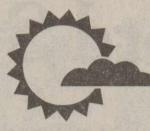
FRIDAY, MAY 16

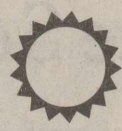
SATURDAY, MAY 17

SUN

 High/Low
81°/54°
40% Thunderstorms

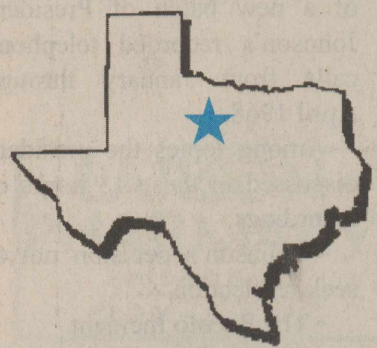
 High/Low
87°/63°
Sunny

 High/Low
89°/66°
Mostly Sunny

 High/Low
87°/57°
Sunny

 High/Low
85°/57°
Mostly Sunny

 High/Low
87°/64°
20% Thunderstorms



THE

KNOX COUNTY NEWS

Proudly Serving Knox and King Counties

Volume XXXVII

Number 28

Thursday, MAY 8, 2008

Knox City, Texas

8 Pages + 1 Insert

Price 75 ¢

Looking Ahead

•Benjamin Elementary Round-Up

Benjamin ISD is holding their annual Pre-K Round-Up from 8am to 4pm. For more information call 459-2231

•KC Elementary Round-Up

The Knox City Elementary will be holding their annual Pre-K round-up May 6th - 8th. For additional information call Marsha Mcgaughey at 940-657-9147.

•KC Head Start

Head Start will have their annual Round-Up this year on May 8th from 12:30pm to 3:30pm. For more information call Sheri Ellis at 658-3770

•Brazos Valley Quilting Guild

Brazos Valley Quilt Guild will meet at the Benjamin Ex-Students Building May 8, 2008 at 6:30. Meal will be provided. Block of the Month will be provided by Judie Witten. Anyone interested in quilting at any level is invited to attend.

•KC Circle Club

The KC Circle Club will meet at the Doug Meinzer Community Center at 6:00 pm on May 13, 2008. The program will be Pests in the pantry given by our AG extension agent Adam Bonner. Anyone interested in this program or our on going programs are welcome to attend. Contacts for the KC Circle Club are Cathye Williams, Pam Mongrain or Sherry Hacker.

•KC-O'Brien Ex-Students Homecoming

The homecoming will be the first weekend in June - June 6 & 7, 2008.

•F.U.M.C. Youth

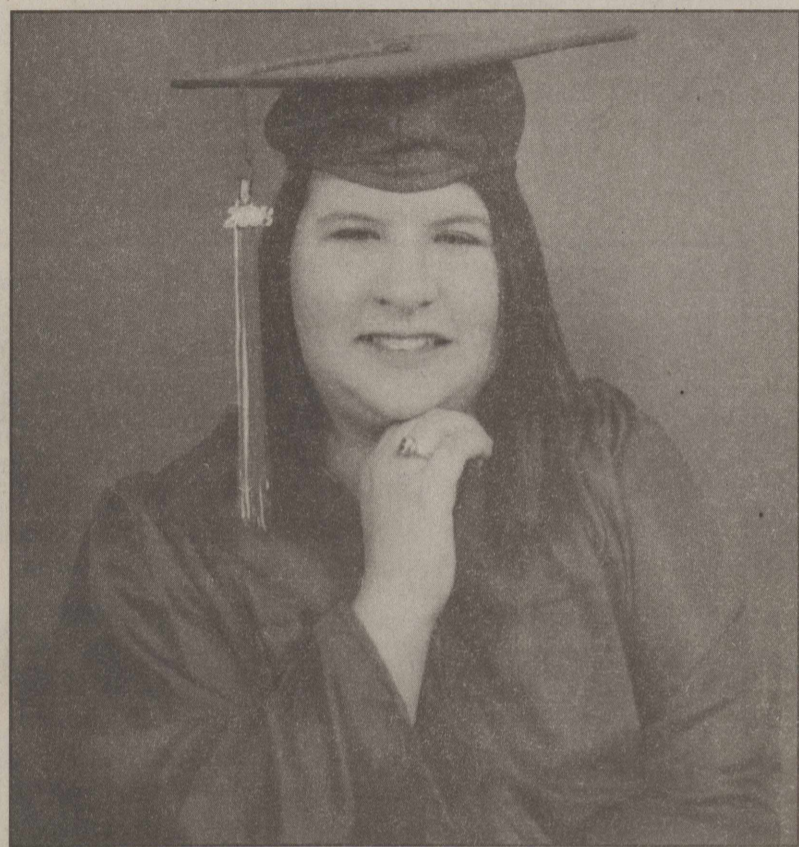
The First United Methodist Church Youth will be hosting an Spaghetti Dinner on May 14th at 5:30 - 7:30 pm. For ticket information call 658-3517

•TOPS

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

Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful Mom's on your special day!

Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc. 2008 Scholarship Winners



Heather Moore A Senior At Knox City High School

High School seniors, Heather Moore and MaCade Gholson have been chosen as recipients of the annual Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc., \$1,000.00 scholarships. Heather Moore is currently a senior at Knox City High School. Ms. Moore's plans are to attend Vernon College majoring in criminal justice.

While attending Knox City High School, Heather has been active and held office in FFA, FCCLA, band, involve with one act play as well as showing livestock animals. During Heather's senior year she

is taking college level courses thus showing her determination to achieve a higher education.

Heather is the daughter of Marilyn Mayberry of Knox City. MaCade Gholson, senior, attending Aspermont High School is the second recipient of a \$1,000.00 Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc., scholarship. Mr. Gholson is actively involved in school activities. These activities include; Class President, officer of FFA participating on wildlife and livestock judging teams, Spanish Club, was well as AHS football team captain.

Academic honors collected by MaCade include: National Honor Society (4years),

"Who's Who" Among High School Students, US National Mathematics Award, WTC Merit Honor Roll, Pre-Calculus Award, US History 1301 & 1302 Award, World Geography Award, All-American Scholar Award, FFA Top Hand Awards, Lam & Goat Proficiency Awards and Academic All-Six Man Football Award.

MaCade's college plans are to attend South Plains College where he will major in engineering, then transferring to Texas Tech University to conclude his studies.

Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc., scholarships are made available to the child or grandchild of any guardian member who is currently enrolled in their senior year in high school. Membership requires being a SRTC telephone service customer.

The funds for the SRTC scholarships are made available through the division of Unclaimed Properties of Texas, which allows for a percentage of the yearly reported dollars on unclaimed or un-cashed monies to be placed in a scholarship fund. The scholarship is also funded by capital credit refund donations made by SRTC prior customers or families of customers.

A total, to date, of \$15,000.00 has been awarded to SRTC membership scholarship recipients.

T.J. Felts Participated In American Southwest Conference



T.J. Felts pictured above after placing first in pole vault

Carol and Zoanne Felts of Knox City recently watched their grandson T.J. Felts participate in the ASC (American Southwest Conference) Championship track meet in Abilene, on April 25th. T.J. is currently a sophomore at Howard Payne University in

Brownwood. He placed first in the pole-vault with a jump of 14'. Felts' personal best for the season is 15'. He also placed in the 100 M Dash, 4 X 400 M Relay, and Long Jump and qualified for All Conference. T.J.'s parents are Tab and Jo Ann Felts of Eastland

It's election time again in Knox County. If you don't know who your voting for this year, turn to pages 6 & 7, to get a quick update on the candidates, and the issues they stand for. Remember, election the date is Saturday May 10th. To cast your vote please go to the Aging Center from 7 am to 7 p.m.
Every Vote Counts!

Melanie Verhalen Mitchell Is Back To Show Her Art Work In Knox City

After a short break of only twenty-two years, former Knox City resident, Melanie Verhalen Mitchell will have another showing of her artwork at the Citizen's Bank in May.

Mrs. Mitchell grew up in Knox City, the oldest daughter of the late Mat and Lillian Rae Verhalen.

She attended Sunset School her first and second grades, until the rural school consolidated, and her family and many neighbors were bussed to Knox City or Munday Schools. Her first artistic endeavor that she remembers was a chalk drawing of a parrot she did in Mrs.

Mary Vaughn's third grade class (it is still in a box somewhere in her house); that same year she also wrote and illustrated a manila paper book, "Tippy the Elephant."

Art classes did not exist in school at that time. She was married with three small children, when, in 1970 she read an ad in the local paper about oil painting classes given by Henrietta Lott in Rule.

Those classes began her artistic career, later followed by workshops



Melanie Verhalen Mitchell pictured here with some of her artwork.

in oil glazing, taught by the late John Crump of Anson.

Many local artists studied with Crump, including Frankie Baker, Laura Clonts, Kay Denton, Barbara Howell, Dean Johnston, Bobbie

Harrison, Sue Clayton and Mary Hope Carr.

Mrs. Mitchell, then - Mrs. Whitley, served as high school secretary at KCHS for twelve years, while her children Kimberly,

Melissa and Chad were students there. She organized monthly art shows for local artists at the KC bank, and also exhibited her paintings at school.

Around 1980 Melanie taught

herself to watercolor, mainly because of the easier clean-up process, and taught classes here and some in Wichita Falls.

She won art show awards from Haskell to Snyder, Vernon to Breckenridge and Austin.

In 1986 she married Mike Mitchell, moved to Young County, and traded her brushes for horseback riding and antique malls.

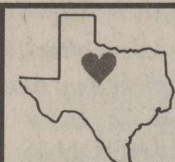
Lately, she has found the time and desire to paint again and is exploring the medium of acrylics.

She and her husband live in the scenic Fort Belknap area, which is represented in some of her newer works.

Melanie invites her many friends, especially former art patrons and students, to her show, which will remain at the Citizen's Bank through May.

It includes new paintings as well as prints of some of her more popular works.

During the Knox City School Homecoming weekend, June 6 & 7, her paintings and prints will be exhibited in the high school library.



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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital HIGHLIGHTS



By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN - Secretary of State Phil Wilson said he received in recent days many inquiries about a statewide proposition to provide school tax relief to elderly or disabled taxpayers.

Voters will find no such proposition on their May 10 ballot.

"Information being circulated across the state regarding a constitutional amendment election to provide school property tax relief is inaccurate," said Wilson, the state's chief elections officer.

"Texans are heading to the

Secretary Of State Sets Record Straight On May 10 Ballot

polls to cast votes for many important initiatives and races, but there will not be a statewide proposition on the ballot."

Early voting for the May 10 elections began April 28 and ended May 6.

Senators hear report on YFZ Carey Cockerell, director of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, testified before a state Senate committee about the agency's ongoing investigation of the polygamist YFZ Ranch near Eldorado.

On April 30, Cockerell told the Senate Health and Human Service Committee that state investigators are still checking for evidence of various forms of child abuse that may have been committed at the

1,700-acre compound.

The focus had been on minor girls, but the agency turned some of its attention to minor boys.

The number of ranch children in state custody and placed in foster care increased to 464 when one of the girls delivered a healthy baby boy at a hospital in San Marcos on April 29.

Custody hearings for ranch children are to be completed in early June, Cockerell said.

Lt. Gov. supports voter I.D. ruling

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst on April 28 made public his support of the U.S. Supreme Court's April 27 ruling in Crawford v. Marion County Election Board, upholding Indiana's voter identification law.

The Indiana law requires citizens voting in person to present government-issued photo identification at the poll.

The main stated purpose of the law is to detect and deter voter fraud.

The ruling, Dewhurst said, "is a victory for democracy in

our nation and I'm pleased that the court agreed with the vast majority of Texans who want to protect the sacred American principle of 'one person, one vote.'

"With this legal challenge now behind us, I look forward to passing a fair voter I.D. law in Texas next year that fully protects the voting rights of all U.S. citizens registered to vote in Texas."

State lawmaker arrested for DUI

State Rep. Mike Krusee, Round Rock, was charged with drunken driving in north Austin on April 30.

Krusee, a House member since 1993, was booked into the Williamson County jail late in the evening and released on bail the next morning.

He is chairman of the House Transportation Committee and also is a member of the House

Judiciary Committee.

Delisi named transportation chair Gov. Rick Perry appointed his former chief of staff, 35-year-old Deirdre Delisi of Austin, as chair of the Texas Transportation Commission, the five-member board that oversees the Texas Department of Transportation.

Former chair Ric Williamson died in office in January. Hope Andrade of Boerne served as interim chair after Williamson's death.

Perry also appointed William Meadows of Fort Worth to the commission. Meadows was vice chairman of the North Texas Tollway Authority.

Delisi and Meadows are subject to confirmation by the Texas Legislature. If confirmed, their terms will expire Feb. 1, 2013.

Early 1968 LBJ tapes are released

The Lyndon Baines Johnson

Presidential Library at the University of Texas at Austin announced on May 1 the release of a new batch of President Johnson's recorded telephone calls from January through April 1968.

Among topics the president discussed in these 13 hours of recordings:

- Johnson's decision not to seek re-election
• The Pueblo Incident
• The Tet Offensive
• U.S. Sen. Robert Kennedy's entry into the presidential race
• The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Correction

In the previous State Capital Highlights, the name of the chairman of the House Select Committee on Property Tax Relief and Appraisal

Reform was incorrectly reported. The chair is Rep. John Otto, R-Dayton.

COW POKES

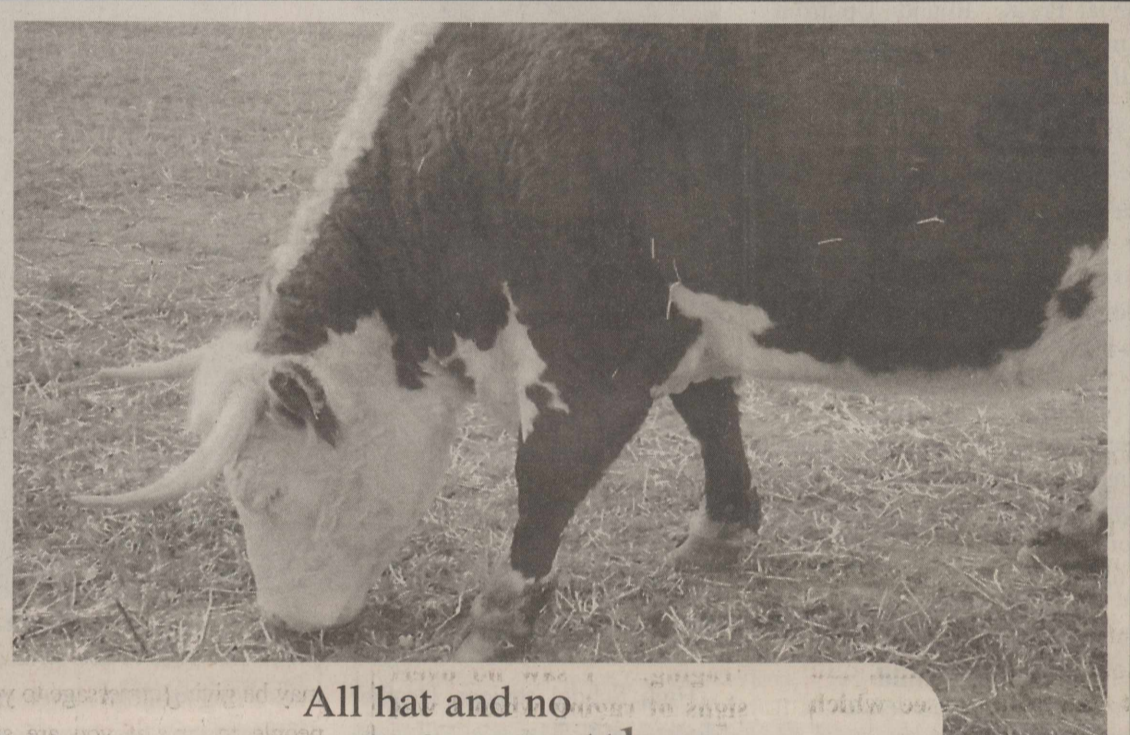
By Ace Reid

http://www.cowpokes.com



© ACE REID 5/4/08

"You better buckle your seat belts, fer in about a mile we're gonna git in rough country!"



All hat and no cattle

There's a great expression when someone talks a good game and doesn't back it up. All hat and no cattle. You're either a cowboy or you're not.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Within Knox County & O'Brien: \$26/Year
Within Texas: \$28/Year
All others: \$30/Year

DEADLINES - The deadline to submit news and advertising is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Exceptions may be granted only by permission from the Editor.

JEFF JORDAN Publisher
BRANDY WISE Editor
AMY STRICKLAND Reporter
SHERI BATY Sports

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.

SUBMISSION POLICY - The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements. PHOTO SUBMISSION POLICY - The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will be kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

NOTICE - 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.

ACROSS

- 1 TX Byron Nelson book: " "
2 Played The Game"
5 longtime U.S. Rep. "Tiger" Teague
6 this Arthur directed TX film "Bonnie and Clyde"
7 TXism: "tickled half death"
8 the month Congress voted to admit TX into the Union (abbr.)
9 TX Autry's "That Silver-Haired of Mine"
14 TXism: "sticks out like a thumb"
15 TXism: " could hide in a lettuce patch"
19 what TX "Spanky" McFarland wrote on Dallas' Flying Red Horse (2 wds.)
21 product ID
22 golfer of 1-across was a caddy at Fort Worth's Gardens course
27 TXism: "in neck of the woods"
28 plot of TX land
29 N.C. birthplace of singer Randy Travis
30 TXism for soft drink
32 TXism: "hasta vista"
33 TXism: "he in the amen corner" (religious)
36 this Karolyi trained Retton in Houston
37 TX moonwalker Bean (init.)
38 TXism: "a wrestle King Kong" (daring)
39 a TXn flew the scout plane for this WWII bomber
42 type of bomb carried by plane in 39-across
43 TXism: " a wet hen"
46 state an opinion
47 "Texas Monthly" (abbr.)
48 Middle East "top dog"
49 Canasta requirements
50 Alpine's Sul Univ.
53 actor Nick
54 TXism: " seein' eye to eye" organ. for some TX teachers (abbr.)
56 "Deaf" Smith's job in TX Revolution

DOWN

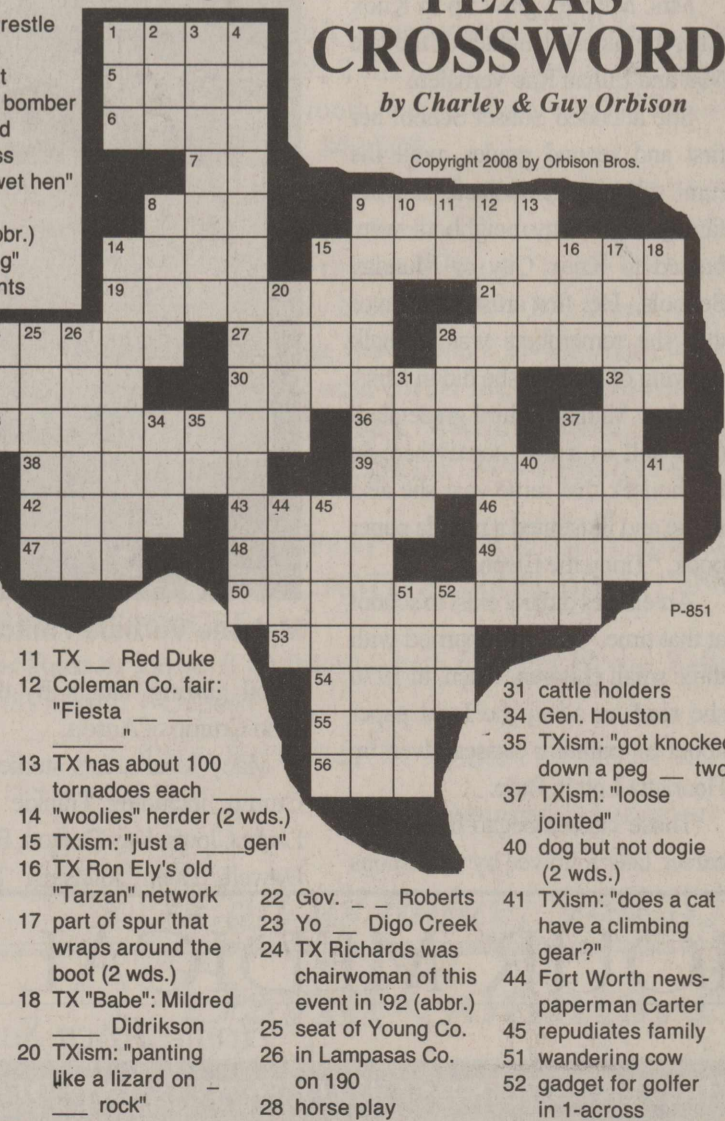
- 1 TXism: "a skip and a jump"
2 Grand Opry
3 Runnels Co. on 83
4 book about double murder in Commerce: "The Last
8 TXism: "it'll a pinch"
9 TXism: " in the woods?" (yes)
10 Greg Abbott's TX title (abbr.)
11 TX Red Duke
12 Coleman Co. fair: "Fiesta "
13 TX has about 100 tornadoes each
14 "woolies" herder (2 wds.)
15 TXism: "just a gen"
16 TX Ron Ely's old "Tarzan" network
17 part of spur that wraps around the boot (2 wds.)
18 TX "Babe": Mildred Didrikson
20 TXism: "panting like a lizard on rock"
22 Gov. Roberts
23 Yo Digo Creek
24 TX Richards was chairwoman of this event in '92 (abbr.)
25 seat of Young Co.
26 in Lampasas Co. on 190
28 horse play
31 cattle holders
34 Gen. Houston
35 TXism: "got knocked down a peg two"
37 TXism: "loose jointed"
40 dog but not dogie (2 wds.)
41 TXism: "does a cat have a climbing gear?"
44 Fort Worth newspaperman Carter repudiates family
45 wandering family
51 gadget for golfer in 1-across

The Original

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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Aging Center Lunch Menu

May 12th to May 16th

Monday, May 12th - Beef Tips, Noodles, Sweet Peas, Salad, Hot Rolls, Cookies

Tuesday, May 13th - Burrito, Salad, Whole Kernel Corn, Pudding

Wednesday, May 14th - Stir Fry Chicken & Vegetables, Glazed Carrots, Buttered Rice, Sliced Bread, Fruit Crunch

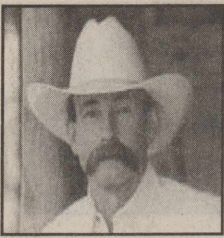
Thursday, May 15th - Sliced Ham, Butter Beans, Turnip Greens, Cornbread, Ice Cream

Friday, May 16th - Beef Spaghetti, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Garlic Bread Sticks, Jello / Fruit

Alternate Desserts for Diabetics Call in Orders by 10:00 a.m. 657-3618

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

YOUR COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED! (Menu subject to change)



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Moose Roping

I was at the Governor's Ag Conference in Dover, Delaware recently. My column runs in the Delmarva Farmer. Bruce, the publisher asked me...well, here's how he put it:

"A debate is raging here about which tastes better, grass or grain fed beef. What do you think?"

My first thought was, - 'does the continuing use of my column in his paper depend on my answer!'

As I recall, they served chicken at the noon luncheon, so I didn't get a chance to surreptitiously overhear his comments about beef. To parse the question, he did not say grass fat or grain fat beef. Had that been the case I could have passed along the observations of meat guru Dr. Gary Smith at CSU, who said, "People crave 3 things; salt, chocolate and fat."

I'm not sure how he determined that. Did he look three diabetics with congestive heart failure in a room? Keep them off feed for 24 hours then lay out platters of salt and pepper, chocolate and vanilla, and fat and tofu to see which disappeared first?

Or did he take a random grouping of Farm House fraternity boys, put them in a locker and waft the scent of fat, chocolate and salt by them to see which made them drool? Maybe use BBQ sauce, woman's perfume, and new car smell as controls?

But obviously, grain or

grass fat is not the issue. What needs to be addressed is grass vs. grain. First, grass is cheaper where it rains. You don't have to haul it to the cattle. You haul the cattle to the grass, which immediately brings up fencing. Barb wire, hog wire, electric, wooden, plastic, rail or pipe. Inedible fencing material would be the best choice because if it were wood, we'd complicate the problem by having to consider the taste of pine-fenced cattle vs. cedar vs. osage orange which might flavor the meat.

Regarding grain fed cattle, the grains include corn vs. all the others. Corn fed beef is supposed to have a yellow fat. It looks better with some meals than barley or wheat-fed cattle, which have a white fat.

So, it comes down to comparing, clashing, or complementary-colored side dishes. Sweet potatoes, for instance, and pinto beans go better with white wheat fed beef; peas and pickled beets enhance yellow corn fed beef.

In conclusion, the key word in this question is "raging." I saw no overt signs of raging when I was there. But I do know that the one place I do not want to be is in the middle of anything raging.

Be it a fire, a pancake breakfast or a controversy wherein beef is in the taste buds of the beholder.

Sorry, Bruce. I guess I chickened out. Would that be free range or wheat fed chicken?

Youth Engagement Day

On May 13th, a gathering of more than 150 youth and interested adults from communities and schools in Knox, Foard, and Baylor counties will take place at Knox City High School Auditorium, in an event known as Searching for Gold.

A "Youth Engagement Day", sponsored by Ogallala Commons, the Ranch Country Communities, Knox County Visioning Team and our local schools.

According to Remelle Farrar, community development professional who works with these communities, "the purpose of the event is to motivate teenagers to see opportunities and to become involved in their communities.

One of the focuses will be on sharing the rich history and culture of our region, an absolute essential we are too often missing out on with our teenagers, since these roots are what make us want to come back home.

We also want to inspire them with creative ideas to prepare for future career...and the possibility of bringing that career, and themselves, back to their hometowns.

This just makes sense for our communities, since 90% of our students tell us, year in and year out, that they would like to come back home if there was a way for them to do so and have a good job"

"Each year in any Great Plains community, high school graduates leave for colleges never to return, and more young families move away due to lack of job opportunities in their hometowns.

While many believe this is a trend due strictly to economics, a closer look reveals that rural towns may be giving a message to young people to says if you are smart,

seek your opportunities elsewhere. Instead of throwing up our hands about youth out-migration, the adults and youth gathered on May 13th will work together to create a strong message that youth can build a good life here...now and in the future",

Darryl Birkenfeld, Director of Ogallala Commons, and a presenter for the event, hopes to create a passion for youth engagement. "Youth are not simply bystanders in our communities, waiting to grow up so they can do something.

We want our youth to become engaged now in service and development of their communities.

We truly need their amazing gifts.

Their creativity, their service work, and their ideas for creating new businesses and other good things for a community.

Clearly, we want young people to have great opportunities: to travel and have new experiences. But, we also want them to know, that when they are ready to settle down in the future, we want them to consider coming back home."

The Youth Engagement Day will begin at 8:30am with a Jr. & Sr. High Assembly in the Gym at Knox City High School Auditorium. Students will visit with entrepreneurs and professionals who have successfully followed their dreams, back home.

They will also participate in workshops and exercises on creating local entrepreneurial opportunities, developing youth involvement in community planning and leadership, regional cooperation and community service.

Schools participating in the day are Benjamin, Crowell, Knox City, Munday and Seymour.

Madyson Nicole Castorena

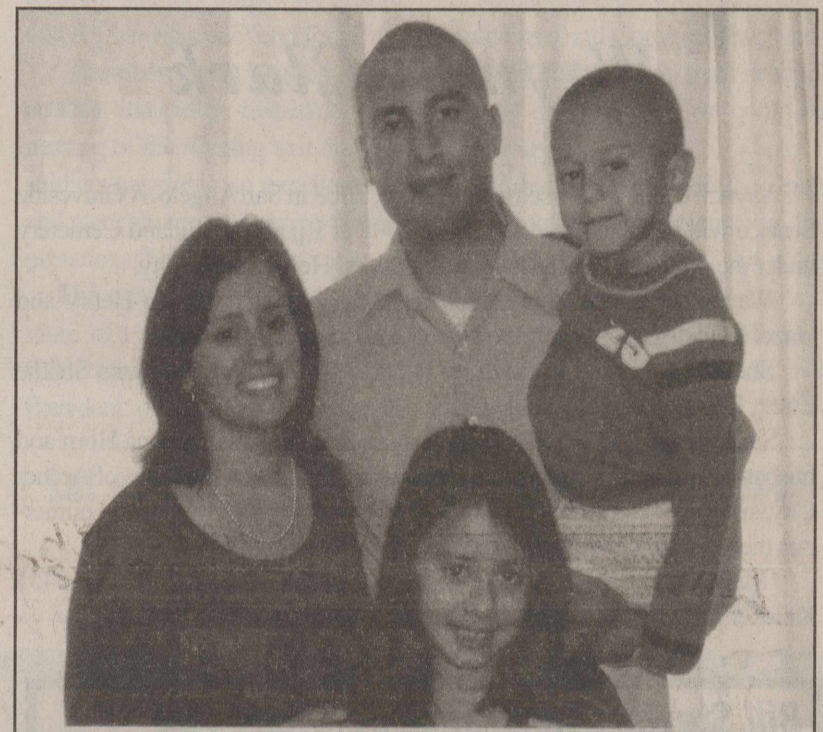


Daughter of Christina Gobel and Daniel Castorena was born on April 16th at Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene. Madyson weighed 6 lbs. and 5 oz.. She was welcomed into this world by many family members and friends.

YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

NICK JIMENEZ

FOR
KNOX CITY 0 O'BRIEN C.I.S.D.
ELECTION MAY 10TH, 2008



(Pd. Pol. Adv. by Nick Jimenez & Matt Herrington, 805 Apsen, Knox City, TX 79529)

Please Vote

Knox City has been very good to me through the years while raising a family and pursuing a career. It is time to give back to Knox City. I am running for City Council and promise to represent you to the best of my ability.

Please vote Saturday May 10, 2008. Early voting is available weekdays at City Hall through May 9, 2008.

Thank You. Steve Pepper for City Council.

If you would like to be a sponsor for the Church Directory please give us a call at 657-3142

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2006 DODGE STRATUS 4 DR. NICE	\$9142.00 SALE PRICED!	2002 CHEVY TAHOE GREAT RIDE!	\$12,995.00 SALE PRICED!
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2005 CHEVY 4X4 RED HOT	\$10,366.00 SALE PRICED!	2007 MALIBU MAXX 4 DR. ECONOMY	\$12,641.00 SALE PRICED!

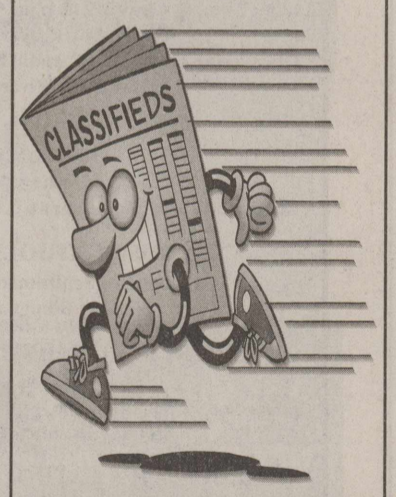
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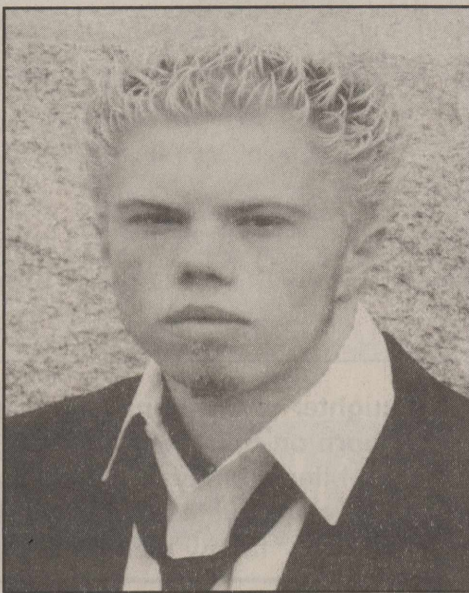
OBITUARIES

Richard Peyton Barnard

Richard Peyton Barnard, 24, of Fort Worth, passed away Monday, April 28, 2008. A Funeral Service will be held 2:00 pm, Friday, May 2, 2008 at Abundant Life Christian Fellowship in Knox City. Burial will follow in Knox City Cemetery, under the direction of Mansell-Smith Funeral Home.

Payton was born March 4, 1984, in Fort Worth. He had a second birth on Oct. 25, 1990, when at the age of 6 1/2 years old he received a heart transplant at Loma Linda, Calif. He graduated from North Dallas High School in 2002 and attended Tarrant County College. Payton loved his friends and family. He always had a great attitude and looked for the good in everything he did. Payton was an avid video game collector and sports fan who will be missed by everyone who knew and loved him.

Survivors include father Richard P. Barnard and wife Twyla; mother Norma Carter and husband Mike; sister April Wisdom and husband Johnny; brothers, Pual Sikes and Peter Sikes and wife Amanda; sisters Kathleen Siegle and husband Tim, and Kelley Barnard; stepbrothers, Sean and Thomas Cater; grandmothers Sue Riffle and Barbara J. Barnard; five nephews; and four nieces.



Waynell Clark

Waynell Clark 70, passed away May 3, 2008 in San Angelo. A Graveside Service will be held Tuesday May 6, 2008 at 1 p.m. in Gilliland Cemetery under the direction of Mansell Smith Funeral Home, Knox City.

Waynell was born September 26, 1937, Gilliland TX, to Henry and Hazel Clark. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and three brothers Shadie Clark, Lois Clark, and Donald Clark.

Survivors include a sister Nina Baty of San Angelo, Ramona Horn and husband Jack of Gilliland, brother Wayne Clark and wife Ruby of Archer City, sister-in-laws Ruth Clark of Keller, Louise Clark of Azle, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Legend Oaks Nursing Home 5455 Knickerbocker Rd San Angelo TX.

Omitene Barnett

Omitene Barnett was born on Easter Sunday, March 23, 1913 in Blue Ridge, Texas. She passed away on Sunday, May 4, 2008 at the age of 95. Her family was at her bedside.

Omitene moved to Benjamin in 1943 with her parents Andrew and Della, brother Howard, and sister Waynelle. She was a Benjamin Highschool Graduate. For 37 years she worked as Secretary to the County School Superintendent in the Knox County Court House. She was a member of Knox County Teachers Association and Texas Retired Teacher's Association. Omitene was a member of the First Baptist Church of Benjamin, where she was active in her Sunday School and Bible Study groups.

On August 15, 1957 she married Pete Barnett. They had a beautiful life together for 31 years. He preceded her in death in 1988. Also preceding her in death were her parents, and her brother Howard.

Omitene enjoyed painting and crocheting. Her family will treasure these artistic gifts.

She is survived by her sister Wynelle Holloway of Fredricksburg. Omitene considered her 10 nieces and nephews as her children. They are; Betty Riggs of Elk City, OK., Jerrel and Darlene Barnett of Baytown, TX., Randolph and Judy Barnett of Baytown, TX., Pat and Dick Culver of Paris, TX., Connie Porter of Fayetteville, AR., Dickie and Cathi Barnett of Mont Belview, TX., Annette and Bill Elliott of Dallas, TX., Don and Sue Holloway of Baytown, TX., Betty and Wayne Martin of Nacagdoches, TX., Bill and Carol Holloway of Baytown, included in her family are 21 great nieces and nephews, and their families.

A Funeral Service will be held 2:00 pm, Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at First Baptist Church, Benjamin, with Dr. Troy Culpepper officiating. Burial will follow in Johnson Cemetery, Munday, TX., under the direction of Mansell-Smith Funeral Home, Knox City. Visitation will be held 6:00 to 8:00 pm Tuesday at the Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, Benjamin.



God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor
O'Brien Baptist Church



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PRAY PRAY PRAY
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Matthew 7: 7,8 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

May you experience the love of God everyday in every-way.

I would appreciate your vote in the Knox City - O'Brien CJSB School Board election on Saturday, May 10th. I am interested in Providing the Highest quality education with as many opportunities as possible for all students in our school district.
Scott Lynn

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USDA ANNOUNCES \$5.8 MILLION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

TEMPLE, TEXAS, April 25, 2008 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the selection of 10 organizations in nine states for \$5.8 million in loans to spur economic development.

The funding is being made available through USDA Rural Development's Intermediary Relending Program. It is provided to community development or regional planning groups who then re-lend the money to local businesses. The loans must be used to start new businesses, expand existing ones, or create or retain jobs.

Neighborhood Housing Services of Dimmit County, Texas, was selected to receive a \$750,000 loan to provide small business loans in rural Texas.

It is estimated that this loan will provide approximately seven loans to businesses that will create and/or save approximately 40 jobs.

Neighborhood Housing has an excellent track record of providing low interest loans to the residents of Dimmit County and surrounding areas.

The following is a complete list of groups selected to receive Intermediary Relending Program awards. Funding of individual recipients is contingent upon their meeting the conditions of the loan agreement.

Intermediary Relending Program Recipient State Award

Amount Superior California Economic Development CA \$500,000 Valley Small Business Development Corporation CA \$750,000 Southeastern Montana Development Corporation MT \$250,000 City of Big Rapids MI \$300,000 Lake Agassiz Regional Development Corporation ND \$500,000 Neighborhood Development Services, Inc. OH \$500,000 Logan County Economic Development Council, Inc. OK \$750,000 Cumberland Area Investment Corporation (CAIC) TN \$750,000 Neighborhood Housing Services of Dimmit County TX \$750,000 Vermont Small Business Development Corporation VT \$750,000

USDA Rural Development mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents.

Rural Development has invested nearly \$91 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

More than 1.7 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments.

Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

New Scholarship Established at Vernon College



Members of the Vernon Retired Teachers Association (back row) Irl Holt and Jim Strickland (front row) Luanne Byars, Bettie Lawson, Peggy Strickland, and Dr. Carl Craighead visit with Dr. Steve Tomas, President of Vernon College, after signing scholarship documents

Vernon College announces the establishment of the Vernon Retired Teachers Association Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship is available to both full and part-time students. First preference will be given to students from Wilbarger and Foard Counties who demonstrate evidence of financial need.

The Vernon College Retired Teachers Association Scholarship was started in August 2003 in memory of D.L. and Beulah Thigpen and Freeman and Florence Strickland. Since that time, this scholarship has been fully funded.

"Peggy and I wanted to help establish an endowed scholarship for the Vernon Retired Teachers. Since we had some extra money from her parents, we decided to start the scholarship in honor of our parents who believed in the worth of education," stated Jim Strickland.

Dr. Carl Craighead stated, "When I first moved back to Vernon in 2000 and joined the local association I soon discovered that we were not awarding a scholarship to students. That became one of my dreams to fulfill and within one year the executive committee agreed that we could start a fund raising project to attempt to raise

scholarship money. With the help of all the association members and the three local banks, we were able to achieve this over a four year period and are very excited to be able to offer a scholarship to students at Vernon College."

Dr. Steve Thomas, Vernon College President stated, "On behalf of all of our students who benefit from their generosity, I am very pleased that the members of the Vernon Retired Teachers Association have worked so hard to endow this scholarship.

Since nearly 80% of our students need some type of financial assistance to go to Vernon College, scholarships such as this are the lifeline for their future success.

I can't say thank you enough to the Vernon Retired Teachers Association for their support."

For more information about the Vernon Retired Teachers Association Endowed Scholarship or the Vernon College Scholarship Program contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (940) 552-6291 ext. 2293. To donate to this scholarship or any Vernon College scholarship contact Michelle A. Alexander at (940) 552-6291 ext. 2293.

Congressman Thornberry Visited Afghanistan and Pakistan

The United States party included 2 Democrats and 3 Republicans. The party included Adam Smith, Chairman of the Committee, Mack Thornberry, Ranking Member, Gabriel Giffords of Arizona, Mike Conaway also of Texas and Bill Shewster of Pennsylvania.

The excursion was launched due largely to the fact that the U.S. had several concerns with recent activities in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The first issue that Congressman Thornberry addressed was the success that the United States Military has had with the training of the Afghanistan Army.

There are presently 82,000 Afghanistan troops with an additional 82,000 under the Minister of Interior. (Police, Militia...etc.)

The purpose of the U.S. Army is to train the Afghanistan troops in hopes that it will soon become a self-sufficient means of protection for the troubled nation.

This will allow the United States to bring soldiers home and ensure that Afghanistan can fend for itself.

Thornberry was pleased to announce that after first-hand witnessing of the training that the U.S. soldiers are doing an excellent job and went above and beyond the expectations their call of duty.

The next issue of concern was more of a diplomatic nature. The U.S. Representatives met with the President of Pakistan, Musharraf,

and the Prime Minister, Gillani, (which is head of the Pakistan Government due to it's Parliament reign) with hopes of clearing up concerns that the United States has with recent agreements that have been taken place between Pakistan and the Federally Administered Tribal Area.

Congressman Thornberry states this is a "lawless" area that has not been under any government for many years.

It is now a U.S. major concern because of confirmed reports of Al-Qaeda and Taliban troops. The Pakistan government has been rumored to agree to remove their troops from the area which, the U.S. fears, will give such terrorist an even greater "safe-haven" and freedom to disrupt democracy.

The Texas Congressman also addressed the fuel issue that our nation is facing. Quoting Thornberry, "...it's too easy for politicians to point the finger at big oil companies or somebody else, when in fact, it's politicians and Congress that intentionally tie our hands from producing all of the energy we could be producing."

With this idea in mind the Texas Representative is introducing his "No More Excuses Act" he states already has several co-sponsors and the support is growing. The Act will allow us to produce more fuel of all kinds at home.

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Time To Get Out And Vote

Saturday May 10th Knox County Citizens will head to the polls to choose new City Council members as well as School Board members. Voters may cast their ballots at the Knox County Aging Center located at 601 N. Avenue E. from 7 am to 7 pm.

The City Council meets every second Thursday of each month; however, May's meeting will be held May 15th after the elections are completed. The

Knox City School Board meets the first Tuesday after every second Wednesday but is subject to change according to school activities.

Meeting dates are posted at least 72 hours in advance and can be located on the front door of the Administration building.

Both meetings are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. Everyone is encouraged to vote.

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

James Manning

James Manning is a native Knox City Resident and is running for council.

He says that some of the things on his agenda are to bring new business to Knox City and just be a part of the decision making process. James and his wife, Pearce, have two children, Cody and Christie and are the proud grandparents of five granddaughters.

Terry Utley

Terry Utley is an incumbent and a resident of Knox City for the last four years. Terry states that his goal as a council member is to make the best decisions possible to make Knox City a great place to live.

He and his wife, Jennifer have a one year old son, John Cross and attend the Knox City Baptist Church. He is the current manager of the O'Brien Co. Op. Gin.

Steve Pepper

Steve Pepper has been a Knox City resident for 32 years. When asked what his agenda was as a council member Steve stated, "Knox City has been good to me.

It is been a great place to live, work and raise my family and it's time I give back." Steve says he wants to make Knox City an attractive place to live both financially and physically in hopes that the children who go off to college will want to return and make this home once again.

He feels that if Knox City "looks good and feels good" this is exactly what will happen and the city will continue to thrive. Steve wants to remind everyone that a hometown vote is one that you can see where voting makes and difference and encourages everyone to go to the polls.

Steve and his wife Kay have two children, Stephanie and Jarred who were both Knox City Graduates.

O'BRIEN CITY COUNCIL

Richard Garcia

Richard Garcia was appointed to Mayor and is currently running for Mayor election.

Richard states that some of the things on his agenda will be cleaning up O'Brien but they have run into some problems with funding. He says that several old vehicles have acquired over time and he wants to see what can be done about this.

He also states that O'Brien has a considerable problem with stray animals in the area and hopes to address this as well.

He and his wife, Aurora, have lived in O'Brien since 1989.

Three individuals are running for council in the upcoming elections, Charles Brothers, Jan Frost and Matt Baxter. We were unable to contact them for comments.

Letter To The Editor

Sarah Burt has gone to school in Knox City all of her life. She has been involved in all sports...Volleyball, Basketball and Track...all four years of Junior High, as well as, High School. She has gone to State both her freshman and sophomore years and won medals both times. She was also a Cheerleader in Junior High and, as well as her sophomore year in High School. Sarah has always maintained her name on "A-B" Honor Roll and is currently taking college classes this year. Sara has represented Knox City High School in all accomplishments. During the Distract Track meet was put in as an alternate on the girls Sprint Relay. Sarah went to Regionals where the team qualified for the State Track meet. During "Senior Week" she missed 2 days of practice due to school approved functions. One was a trip to Texas Tech for Senior Skip Day, which all students as well as the parents were made to sign a waiver stating they would not return to Campus that day! Because of this, Sarah was told that she would not be able to participate in the State Track Meet because she missed practice twice. Since she is the ONLY Senior on the team, she was the only one punished for attending her Senior Trip. This was brought to the attention of several school officials who held a meeting Monday May 5th and they did not even see fit to review this issue for Sarah.

Anonyms

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Danny Reece

Danny Reece is also an incumbent and a resident of Knox City since 1978.

He has been a retired pumper going on four years. Danny says his goal is to make Knox City a place that people want to call home.

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KNOX CITY/O'BRIEN CISD SCHOOL BOARD

Charles Schur

Charles Schur is an incumbent of 9 years and has called Knox City home for the past 17 years.

During his tenure he has played a major part in making college credits available to Knox City High School students and improving campus grounds. Schur also states that caution with the use of taxpayer's money has always been a major part of his agenda.

Charles (Charlie) reports that he believes strongly in hiring locally and promoting internally with positions that became available in the school district.

He feels this will encourage graduating students who leave for college to return to Knox City and make it their home for life. Charlie says that he has full faith in the administration and faculty currently in place.

He feels they are doing an excellent job at upholding the laws and guidelines that govern them. He is adamant that every child is entitled to a free education, one that is designed to suit the needs of each child.

Charlie and his wife Julie are proud parents of Meagan who graduated from Knox City High School in 2006 as Salutatorian and Jessy who will graduate in 2008 as Valedictorian.

The Schur family is an active part of the Methodist Church.

Scott Lynn

Scott Lynn is a veteran board member of nine years. He is a native to Knox City and has been employed with Lynn Electric since 1978. Scott says he has no hidden agenda as far as a school board member.

He says that his goal as a school board member is to provide top quality education for the children in our community and provide as many options and opportunities for the employees and children.

Scott and his wife Lawri currently have four children, Landon, Allison, Andrea and Preston, all attending the Knox City School system.

Clint Lewis

Clint Lewis is another one of Knox City's homegrown. He and his wife Tonya, an RN at Knox County Hospital, have two children in Knox City Elementary School, Carson and Cason.

Clint is owner and Operator of Lewis Paint and Body Shop. Clint says his agenda is nothing more than to serve and vote and do a good job for the school as a whole.

Clint and Tonya would like to extend their appreciation for any votes!

Tony Stanfield

Tony Stanfield has resided in Knox City for 15 years and is co-owner of Stanfield Hunting Outfitters.

Tony reports that his goals, if elected, will be to resolve issues over faculty resigning and the record number of students we have transferring to other school districts. Tony believes that it is important for school board members to have children in the school system so the board members can be in-tune to what is going on.

If elected Tony hopes to upgrade elementary playground equipment as well as make repairs to the existing grounds so the children are ensured a safe place to play.

Tony says he would like to see changes in the High School athletic department. Tony also states he would like to change disciplinary issues to benefit the entire student body. Tony and Sarah are the parents of Devin and Kylee Stanfield.

Cody Manning

Cody Manning is another candidate that was born and raised in Knox City. Wife, Brandi, is a graduate of Knox City High as well and is currently an Elementary teacher.

Their three children, Shailee, Abby and Ainsley all attend the Knox City school system as well.

Cody is running for school council because he wants to be an active member in the decision making process for the children in his community.

Nick Jimenez

Texas State Trooper, Nick Jimenez, is a candidate with the hopes of providing excellent academic opportunities for the children in our community.

Nick has already been a very active member in Knox City with children's activities. He has coached Little Dribbers, Little League Baseball, and the Football Benefits and is currently coaching girl's softball.

He feels that being a member of the school board will help to even further incorporate him into the community.

Nick has been a State Trooper since 2003 and he has been stationed in Knox County for the last four years with his wife, Alma, and their two children, Alexia and Matthew. Nick says he wants to give back to the community that has given so much to him and his family.

He feels that the decision-making abilities that the State of Texas has entrusted him with will carry over as a competent school board member.

He is confident that he will be able to make reasonable and beneficial decisions for students and the administration as a whole.

If elected, Nick is greatly looking forward to working with the administration and school board and is asking for your vote.

Dusty Bradley

Dusty Bradley is a third generation graduate from Knox City High. He and his wife Julie are now raising two fourth generation Greyhounds, Brandon and Blayne. Dusty states he cares about this community and he cares about the kids and wants to see the Knox City Schools to continue to thrive academically and athletically.

If elected, Dusty's goal is to accentuate and expand the positive and address any concerns that may come up regarding the school.

Dusty says that if he is elected he will vote according to what he feels is right and will stand his ground.

His major concern is the number of students that is being lost to the surrounding school districts. As a school board member he hopes to be able to help resolve this issue and help keep more kids at home.

The Bradley family is already an active part in the Knox City School system. Julie is the current secretary for the middle school and both children attend Knox City.

Dusty states there are a lot of really good points to the Knox City School system and he hopes to be a part of future goals for the school.

Bruce Railsback

Bruce Railsback was also born and raised in Knox City.

He currently works for Baker Petrolite. He believes that education is one of the most important factors in our children's lives and the best way to provide a strong education is to become part of the process.

If elected, Bruce states he will do his best to provide the best possible education and opportunities for the community's youth.

Bruce feels that Knox City has good students and more than competent teachers and wants to do his part to ensure they both; students and administration have the support and necessary tools to accomplish their goals.

Bruce wants to ensure that the students have a safe and productive learning environment.

Bruce and his wife, Sandy have one daughter, Katie, who was a Knox City Graduate in 2006.

Good Luck To All The Candidates

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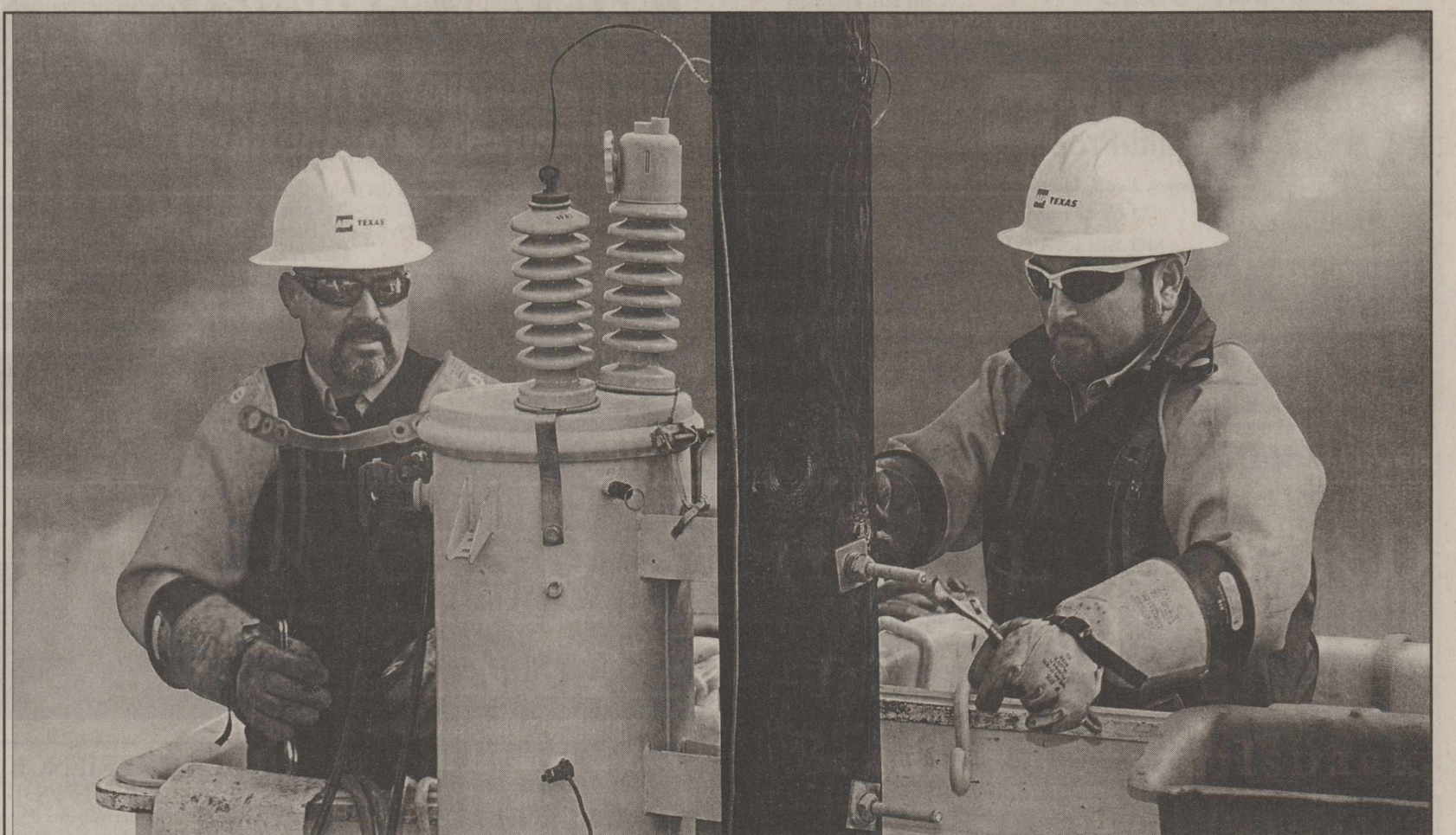
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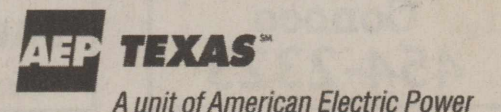


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Yeast Gives Rise to New Concept: Cell Fuel is "Brains" Behind Division

COLLEGE STATION - With the cost of diesel and gasoline getting nearer to the hourly minimum wage, too bad the fuel doesn't do more work - like deciding what route to take and pressing the gas pedal.

While that concept isn't likely to work for vehicle fuel, a new study has found that it is, in fact, what goes on in the cells of yeast.

Mitochondria, the fuel of a cell, has been found to be the "driver" for cell division, according to Texas AgriLife Research biochemists. This discovery could play a big role in finding cures for many human diseases, they say.

The biochemists studied yeast cells and found that mitochondria, which generates 90 percent of the cell's energy, can be the deciding factor - the "brain power" - behind how fast cells divide.

The finding by Drs. Michael Polymenis and Mary Bryk and their research groups in Texas A&M University's biochemistry and biophysics department was published in today's open-access journal Public Library of Science-Genetics.

The research was funded by the National Institute of Health.

"The finding changes the traditional view of the mitochondrion from an 'energy depot' at the service of its larger cellular host to a 'command center' that directs cell division," Polymenis said.

The researchers used regular baker's yeast - commonly used in breads, wine and beer making - because many of the yeast cell's processes are similar to those in human cells, according to Bryk.

"From unicellular yeast to complex mammals, the process is the same," Bryk said. "The job of a cell

is to divide and grow. Metabolism takes in 'food' and turns it into fuel and building blocks for DNA replication and gene expression."

But when these processes falter, diseases can result. Too much cell division too quickly, for example, is typical of cancerous cells, Polymenis pointed out.

Conversely, poor metabolism - stemming from mitochondrial deficiencies - is at the root of damage to various organs such as the brain, heart, skeletal muscles and liver.

"All of the body processes that require a lot of energy are impacted by this," Polymenis added.

"In fact, at least 1 in every 4,000 people worldwide suffer from mitochondrial deficiencies that result in problems with normal development, motor control, vision, hearing, or liver and kidney function."

On the other hand, there are times when speeding cell division might be useful as with wound healing and plant or crop production, Bryk noted.

"If we can understand the basic pathway that regulates cell division, we can think of ways to tweak the different steps in that path with therapeutics to help people who have problems with these high-energy organs," she said.

Polymenis said the research showed that when a yeast cell's mitochondria decided to "turn on the switch," the cell's nucleus - which carries most of the genetic material - received the message and cell division began.

"So now we need to connect that link," Polymenis said. "We need to understand how and when the message is sent. If we know how the message is sent from the mitochondria, we might be able to control it."

BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

We are well into may and the days get busier and busier. Students, teachers and most parents are all anxious for the last school bell of the year to ring.

The Prom is Saturday night those Juniors and Seniors are ready for the much "looked forward" to event.

Sympathy to the family of Omitine Barnett today. Omitine passed away Sunday after several months of failing health. Omitine was loved by everyone and will be missed greatly. Her funeral is 2 pm Wednesday at First Baptist Church here.

Regarding our Ill

Linda Griffith got her MRI results and she has to see an orthopedic Dr. in Lubbock on Thursday. She's hoping she will be able to avoid surgery but we'll know more about it after she sees the Dr. She's still on crutches and says when she fails to use them her knee really hurts.

Irene Reed also took a fall this weekend. She, too, didn't break any bones but she's also sore and "bruised up." Maybe both of them will get better soon.

Jan Carver was due to have knee surgery in April but she is on some medication and will have to be off it for a while before she has surgery so she's now due to have in November. Something to look forward to!

She was ready for April but now has to get prepared all over again.

Here 'n There

Jessa Moorhouse of Tarlton State was home for the weekend.

Jack and Mary Young of Dutch and Imagean Young were in San Antonio for the weekend and at a "mini reunion" with some of the guys "kin".

Debbie Moorehouse spent the weekend with her son and family, Cody and Kyla Taylor and children in Amarillo. She stopped in Childress Friday night and watched her grandson play ball before going on to Amarillo.

Charles and May Sue Flannery of Alvin visited her aunt, Earlene Meinzer one day last week. They had been to Abilene for Mary's class (Munday High Class of '56) reunion. Mary was the former Mary Sue Ballard.

Maggie Seidenberger of Texas Tech was home for the weekend with parents, Wyman and Sylinda Meinzer.

Lorene Powers spent a few days last week with relatives in Midland and to see her doctors.

I learned today of the death of Wynelle Clark of San Angelo. Wynelle died this weekend. She was a resident of the Brazos

Valley Care Home before being moved to San Angelo. She was such a sweet person and always had a big smile for you when you went into her room. Everyone will miss her. Her funeral is Tuesday at Gilliland Cemetery.

Sunday is Mother's Day. I hope everyone has a wonderful day and if you are traveling do be careful. There will probably be lots of traffic on the road.

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Hayden King, Avery Ball, Amy Harrington (back), Alexia Jimenez, Hailee Cox, Cara Espinosa, Kaitlin Ledesma, Melissa Rogers, (bottom) Rebecca Rodriguez, and Brogan White.



Red Hots softball girls Amy Harrington, Alexia Jimenez, Avery Ball, Cara Espinosa, Rebecca Rodriguez, and Hayden King getting ready for game at Aspermont.



Alexia Jimenez ready and waiting for anything that comes her way.

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Knox City VFD Report

The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department had 13 calls in April, 9 Fires, 4 L.Z. (Landing Zone) calls,
Reported by P.I.O. Terry Butler #214.

O'Brien Middle School Honor Roll

"A" Honor Roll

- Cox, Kinslee 5
- Lynn, Andrea 5
- Wilburn, Jessica 5
- Carter, Zachary 6
- Fox, Garrett 6
- Vasquez, Kelsey 6
- Bradley, Blayne 7
- Lynn, Allison 7
- Billington, Destini 8
- Carter, Cassidy 8
- Harrington, Kyle 8
- Wilde, Jarek 8

"A/B" Honor Roll

- Short, Nicholas 5
- Silva, Adrian 5
- Trevino, Joanna 5
- Baty, Lyndon 6
- Bernal, Tynne 6
- Moeller, Tanna 6
- Self, Travis 6
- Taylor, Courtney 6
- Esquivel, Tiffany 8
- Martinez, Jo 8



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