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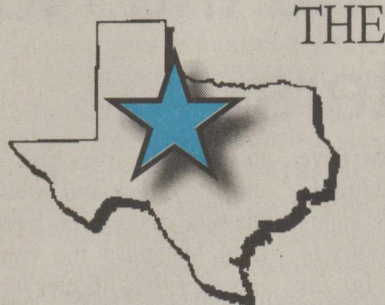


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THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

8 PAGES PLUS INSERTS
VOLUME XXXVIII

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS
THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2009

75 CENTS
NUMBER 29

LOOKING AHEAD

The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department's Golf Tournament is this Saturday! Make sure your team is registered, \$60 per 3-person team is all you need to play. Tee Off is at 1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available on the course. Cash Prizes will be allotted to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Please come and support our local Fire Fighters in their efforts to raise money for new gear and equipment!

The Knox City - O'Brien CISD Band has rescheduled the fundraising luncheon to this Sunday, May 17th at 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. with the Spring Concert at 1:30 p.m.

Freedom Group will meet this Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Abundant Life Christian Fellowship (the church with the big black bell) on Main St.

The Creative Writer's Group will meet Saturday the 16th of May at 2 PM at the Senior Citizens Center at 500 E. Belknap St. in Seymour, TX

Everyone is welcome to attend.

USDA Extends CRP Contracts

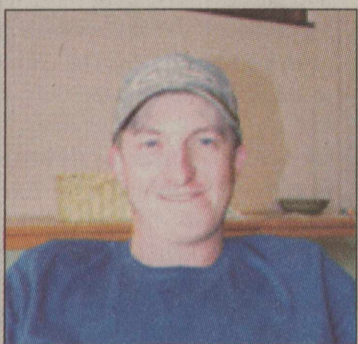
USDA's Farm Service Agency in Knox County announced today that FSA will offer certain producers the opportunity to modify and extend their Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts that are scheduled to expire on Sept. 30, 2009.

"USDA is committed to safeguarding the nation's natural resources and this program will help protect millions of acres of American topsoil from erosion and enhance the quality of our water," said a USDA spokesperson.

FSA can only extend approximately 1.5 million acres out of a total 3.9 million acres expiring this year. This extension

See USDA Page 8

Knox City Cancels Election; Heath Turner becomes new face on Council



HEATH TURNER

By Tamara Smart

At the last Knox City Council meeting, it was voted to not have the regularly scheduled election May 9, 2009 as it was deemed unnecessary by board members.

There are only three spots on the council that needed to be voted on and filled. After the period of time allotted for the City to accept nominations for

the individuals running for the Council, there were as many people running as there were slots to be filled.

For the position of mayor, Jeff Stanfield ran again, unopposed, as did Danny Lewis for one of the Member positions. A new addition to the Council though has been approved. After several years in serving the City on the council, Delbert Lloyd

decided not to rerun. The only member of the community of Knox City who stepped up to fill that position was Heath Turner.

Turner, 29, is a long time member of the Knox City community. He was born and raised here, graduating in 1998 from Knox City High School. Heath owns "Turner Home Improvements". Locals may know see his work when visiting

the Wooden Nickel or stay in the newly opened Corley Manor Bed and Breakfast.

Heath met and married his bride in Abilene six years ago and they, with their four children moved back to Knox City. When Heath returned to Knox City, he had found that "nothing had changed", which is one of the

See TURNER Page 8

Munday City, School Election Results

By Tamara Smart

Many people took several moments out of their day last Saturday and visited the polling booths to vote in our local elections for both school board officials and city council-people.

The final results of the day were harrowing for some and defeating for others. Munday elected a new mayor, and has some different faces on the Munday CISD school board.

The results of Munday's City Council election are as follows:

Mayoral Race: Buddy Norville (118 votes) beat previous incumbent, Robert Bowen (96 votes)

1 year term: Previously ap-

pointed Adrian Fletcher (163 votes) versus Shorty Gray (46 votes)

For the 3 three-year terms seats; Todd Wilson is the only new face on the council (132 votes) and Tammy Pienaar (104 votes) and Dena King (92 votes) were re-elected.

In the Munday CISD race, only one incumbent reran for election, so the new board will be have an almost "freshman" feel.

The victors in Saturday's election for Munday CISD school board are as follows:

For the 3 three-year terms positions: Todd Thompson remains on the board and is joined by Sheila Urbanczyk and Nancy

Birkenfeld.

The 1 year term that was available went to Mr. Jason Redwine.

All incumbents in Benjamin ran unopposed, so the elections in Benjamin were cancelled.

While no election was necessary for Knox City's Council, as there were as many people running for a seat as there were seats available; there was need for an election to fill the available seats in the Knox City/O'Brien School Board.

Yet, that board remains the same after the elections, as both Tracy Carter and Jim Dillon won their race for re-election.

Knox City 4th Graders Published In New Book

It was the day after Taks testing when KC Elementary 4th graders found out of their recent accomplishment. After months of waiting, nine of the local fourth graders found out that they had been published in a new book entitled, Kids Letters to President Obama. After watching the Inauguration live, the children decided to compete with others across the US for a chance to have their letters to the new president published in this book. They had hoped that at least one of their classmates would be published, but in the end, 9 Knox City students were selected for publication.

Fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Baker-Adkins states, "It is my passion to see my love for writing passed onto my students. I hope this is something they hang onto forever! I am so proud of all of my writing students. I have never seen a group of kids work as hard as these kids have. They have never given up. They have

been determined to the end. I am proud of each and every one of them. I would like to thank them for such a great year in writing!"

When asked about writing, every student in Mrs. Baker-Adkins class will reply with excitement. Angel Rodriguez stated, "My favorite time is writing has been when we wrote poetry. I loved writing my If I Poem."

McKenzie King added, "Writing is the most fun I have had in a while. I love any chance I get to write poems."

Zinziley McCrary mentioned, "Writing scared me in the beginning, but now I am excited when I get to go into writing class."

Trey Ledesma also likes writing and feels it is something he is very good at. Joey Espinal stated, "I enjoy writing. My favorite story this year has been my Monster Story. I liked making up a monster to write about."

Jacoby Thomas wishes he

would have gotten published, but maybe he will get published with the poetry we just entered.

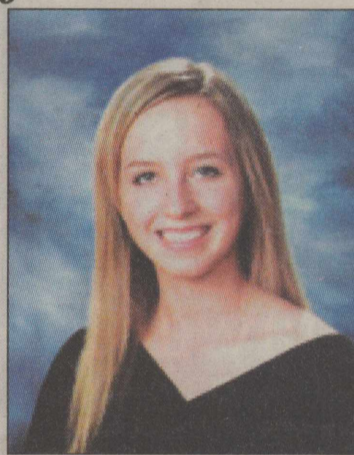
Max Diaz stated, "I feel like I am good at writing stories. The ideas for stories come pretty easy for me. It used to be hard for me until I was taught HOW TO WRITE by Mrs. Adkins --according to Max the greatest writing teacher on earth!"

Christian Abilia mentioned, "The funniest thing I have ever done in writing is write stories about myself and my experiences I have had."

Hailee Cox had to make it known on record that one of her goals in life is to at least write one book of her own that gets published. Her love for writing started in second grade with Mrs. Brockett. "I remember when Mrs. Baker-Adkins first told us we were going to try to get published in the Children's Letters to President Obama book, I was re-

See BOOK Page 8

Brittany Coop Recognized for Volunteer Service



BRITTANY COOP

Brittany Coop, 18 of Benjamin has been honored for her exemplary volunteer service with a state-level Certificate of Excellence from the 2009 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. Brittany was nominated for this award by Knox County 4-H.

Presented annually by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honor young people across America for outstanding community service activities.

Brittany Coop also has received a President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service

and Civic Participation, which recognizes Americans who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, now in its 14th year, also recognizes the top middle level and high school volunteer in each state and the District of Columbia, and will name America's top ten youth volunteers in May. More than 250,000 young people across the country will have been considered for these awards since the program began in 1995.

"The recipients of these awards vividly demonstrate that young people across America are making remarkable contributions to the health and vitality of their communities" said John R. Strangfeld, chairman and CEO of Prudential Financial. "They truly deserve all of the praise and encouragement we can give them."

"The young people recognized by the Spirit of Community Awards demonstrate an enormous capacity for giving and reaching out to those in need," said Gerald N. Tirozzi, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. "NASSP is proud to

See COOP Page 8

State CPA Organization Honors Local Student Jessica Moorhouse



JESSICA MOORHOUSE

DALLAS — The Texas Society of CPAs (TSCPA) recently announced the recipients of the organization's Accounting Excellence Awards. Every year, TSCPA's Accounting Education Foundation recognizes one outstanding senior accounting student from each of the 54 participating Texas universities.

Knox resident Jessica Moorhouse received the 2009 TSCPA Accounting Excellence Award from Tarleton State University. Moorhouse was selected for this honor by the university's accounting faculty. The award is based on academic performance.

Since 1957, the TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation has distributed almost \$5 million to promote, develop and advance accounting education in Texas. In addition to the Accounting Excellence Award, the foundation gives scholarships to the top students enrolled in Texas accounting programs. Through donations from Texas CPAs and interest on endowed funds, the TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation awarded approximately \$240,000 annually in scholarships to the top students enrolled in accounting programs in the state.

ABOUT TSCPA

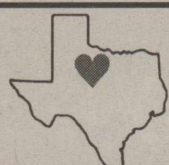
TSCPA (<http://www.tscpa.org>) is a nonprofit, voluntary, professional organization representing Texas CPAs. The society has 20 local chapters statewide and has 28,000 members, one of the largest in-state memberships of any state CPA society in the United States. TSCPA is committed to serving the public interest with programs that advance the highest standards of ethics and practice within the CPA profession.

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Photo by Tamara Smart

The writers published in the Kid's Letters to Obama Book which went on sale in April. Pictured: (Top row, left to right) Jessica Perez, Tyler Harvey, Kate Baker, Mrs. Amanda Baker-Adkins. (Bottom Row, left to right) Hailee Cox, Hayden King, Avery Frausto. (Not pictured: Elissa Hacker, Tiffany, and Jeremiah Rincon)



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OPINION

Animal "Rights" and the New Man Haters

By Edwin Locke, Ph.D.

Recently a sixth grade student threatened to bomb the headquarters of a prominent corporation, the Gillette Company. Gillette's "crime"? The use of animals to test the safety of their products. This student's role models have not been so hesitant. In the name of so-called "animal rights," terrorists have committed hundreds of violent crimes. They have vandalized or fire bombed meat companies, fur stores, fast-food restaurants, leather shops and medical research laboratories across North America. The animal "rights" movement, however, is not about the humane treatment of animals. Its goal is the animalistic treatment of human beings.

According to these terrorists, it is immoral to eat meat, to wear fur coats or leather shoes, and to use animals in research—even if it would lead to cures for deadly diseases. The terrorists are unmoved by the indisputable fact that animal research saves human lives. PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) makes this frighteningly clear: "Even if animal tests produced a cure for AIDS, we'd be against it."

How do the animal "rights" advocates try to justify their position? As someone who has debated them for years on college campuses and in the media, I know firsthand that the whole movement is based on a single—invalid—syllogism, namely: men feel pain and have rights; animals

feel pain; therefore, animals have rights. This argument is entirely specious, because man's rights do not depend on his ability to feel pain; they depend on his ability to think.

Rights are ethical principles applicable only to beings capable of reason and choice. There is only one fundamental right: a man's right to his own life. To live successfully, man must use his rational faculty—which is exercised by choice. The choice to think can be negated only by the use of physical force. To survive and prosper, men must be free from the initiation of force by other men—free to use their own minds to guide their choices and actions. Rights protect men against the use of force by other men.

None of this is relevant to animals. Animals do not survive by rational thought (nor by sign languages allegedly taught to them by psychologists). They survive through inborn reflexes and sensory-perceptual association. They cannot reason. They cannot learn a code of ethics. A lion is not immoral for eating a zebra (or even for attacking a man). Predation is their natural and only means of survival; they do not have the capacity to learn any other.

Only man has the power to deal with other members of his own species by voluntary means: rational persuasion and a code of morality rather than physical force. To claim that man's use of animals is immoral is to claim that we have no right

to our own lives and that we must sacrifice our welfare for the sake of creatures who cannot think or grasp the concept of morality. It is to elevate amoral animals to a moral level higher than ourselves—a flagrant contradiction. Of course, it is proper not to cause animals gratuitous suffering. But this is not the same as inventing a bill of rights for them—at our expense.

The granting of fictional rights to animals is not an innocent error. We do not have to speculate about the motive, because the animal "rights" advocates have revealed it quite openly. Again from PETA: "Mankind is the biggest blight on the face of the earth"; "I do not believe that a human being has a right to life"; "I would rather have medical experiments done on our children than on animals." These self-styled lovers of life do not love animals; rather, they hate men.

The animal "rights" terrorists are like the Unabomber and Oklahoma City bombers. They are not idealists seeking justice, but nihilists seeking destruction for the sake of destruction. They do not want to uplift mankind, to help him progress from the swamp to the stars. They want mankind's destruction; they want him not just to stay in the swamp but to disappear into its muck.

There is only one proper answer to such people: to declare proudly and defiantly, in the name of morality, a man's right to his life, his liberty, and the pursuit of his own happiness.



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 Monday - Thursday • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

Born To Be An Idiot

I'm an idiot.
 I thought about stopping my column right there as the statement may need no explanation. Some days I'm more of an idiot than others. At least a half-dozen times this past week I've been a major league idiot.

The other day I spent ten minutes looking for my sunglasses (I need my sunglasses because my eyes are fairly sensitive to the sun). I searched high and low ... looked in my truck twice for them and checked all of the usual places in my office.

You have to understand I park a pretty good distance from my office so the trips back and forth take awhile.

As I decided I'd misplaced them for the time being, I finally headed out the door. I got in the truck and looked in the rearview mirror and BAM! There they sat right on top of my head.

Need more proof?
 After solving the case of the missing sunglasses, I drove to Allsup's to get some mints. I walk in to buy the mints ... low and behold, I don't have any money.

"Where in the world did I leave my wallet?"

I excused myself from the store to check my truck. No wallet there either. It took me a couple of minutes to find and count the change I had located throughout my vehicle before I could afford the mints which were waiting on the counter for me.

As I sucked on a couple of mints, it dawned on me where my wallet was so I went home to get it.

With my newly found wallet secured and my sunglasses affixed to my head, I decided to take the trash out on my way back to the office. As I rose up with the trash bag in hand, I hit my head on our pantry door jam. Nearly knocked myself smooth out.

By this time, I'm starting to wonder why in the world I even bothered getting out of bed. Thinking I had all the bugs worked out, I went on to have a productive afternoon. However, my idiocy once again reared its ugly head.

Later that evening I went back to Allsup's - this time for some milk and a bag of ice. I had my wallet on me so I paid for the items and headed out the door. As I got in my truck to leave, I noticed I was lacking my bag of ice. I nearly drove off to go to another store for the ice, but I braved my embarrassment and went back in to claim my purchase. I'm sure Tammy at Allsup's must have thought I was losing my mind.

I use a lot of brainpower during the course of a week and get about five or six hours of sleep a night. As the weekend nears, I'm pretty much mush.

So, if you see me wondering around looking for my car keys when they're in my hand, think nothing of it. It's just me being an idiot.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.

TEXAS CROSSWORD
 by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- kindergarten lesson?
- TX summer reality
- Jackson Co. seat
- TXism: "___ a piece" (distance)
- and real
- TXism: "panhandle"
- NY Sen. Alfonse D'___ had to pay off on '93 Super bet to TX Gramm
- Morton newspaper
- Grand ___ TX
- former TX oilwell firefighter business: "Red ___"
- Minute Maid Park and AT&T Center
- specialized vocabularies
- TXism: "___ a soul" (no one)
- TXism: "enjoyed all this ___ stand"
- TXism: "begging like a cattle rustler ___ with a ___ rope"
- delicious Pecos ___ loupe
- Roberts Co. seat
- graves
- TX Kristofferson wrote Elvis hit "In ___"
- TX Harvey ___ "Van" Cilburn
- TXism: "fast ___ rafter"
- TX voted to ___ from the Union in 1861
- position of Astro Miguel Tejada (abbr.)
- TXism: "you're barn door is ___ (unzipped)"
- TXism: "it'll make your hair stand ___"
- Henry Wade's long-time job in Dallas Co. (abbr.)
- poppa
- TX A.J. Foyt won ___ 500" four times
- TX Howard Hughes dated this actress Gardner
- "Texas Tea"
- TXism: "when pigs ___" (never)
- Baldwin of "Great Balls of Fire" with TX Quaid
- Louise of "Stepford Wives" with TX Prentiss
- TXism: "fits like ugly ___ ape"
- fed. Indian agcy.
- Cowboy Emmitt (init.)
- TXism: "chompin' ___ the bit"
- type of computer memory (abbr.)
- horse movement
- in Morris Co. on 67
- TXism: "a good man not ___ with" (mean)
- car cooler (abbr.)
- TXism: "he ___ sleeps fast" (swift)
- TX Dabney series: "The Days & Nights of Molly ___"
- four-bagger (abbr.)
- dir. to Waco from Austin
- TXism: "strong enough to float ___" (coffee)
- TXism: "___ water" (soft drink)
- this Tim starred with TX Crystal Bernard on "Wings"

Don't Miss Your Chance to Hug A Kid Today!

Knox County Hospital District Sponsors Outstanding Rural Scholar

Abby Dudensing was recently selected as Outstanding Rural Scholar by the Office of Rural Community Affairs. Sponsored by Knox County Hospital District, Abby is a physical therapy student at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Texas.

The Outstanding Rural Scholar Recognition Program is a competitive forgiveness loan program which assists rural communities in "growing their own" health care professionals. The program matches state funds with rural community funds to sponsor individuals pursuing health care professions that are

needed in the sponsoring rural community. Upon licensure, the health care professional returns to the sponsoring rural community to practice healthcare.

Abby will have completed two semesters of the program and is scheduled to graduate in December 2010 with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy. Knox County Hospital District Administrator, Stephen Kuehler, stated "It is increasingly difficult to recruit professionals into our area. Fortunately, a great deal of talent can be found within our communities and we are pleased to sponsor Abby".



The 501 by Hanaba Munn Welch

Named for the historic FW&D Engine 501, The 501 is always exactly 501 words and dashes long, whatever the topic. Welch, a freelance writer for Blackburn Media Group, divides her time mostly between Abilene and the family farm north of Vernon.

If you've never gotten involved with roofing mastic, you don't know the meaning of involvement. You can read about the stuff, but you and mastic still won't have a real relationship. Read on anyway.

The word itself is yukky-sounding, but check the dictionary, and you discover a cousin to frankincense and myrrh:

"An aromatic gum or resin exuded from the bark of a Mediterranean tree, used in making varnish and chewing gum and as a flavoring."

Sounds nice.

It's also a tree: "The bushy evergreen Mediterranean tree of the cashew family that yields mastic and has aromatic leaves and fruit, closely related to the pistachio."

Makes me want to plant one.

Finally, a third definition describes mastic you buy at a hardware store to fix leaks in your roof:

"A puttylike waterproof filler and sealant used in building."

OK, but like putty it ain't. Putty is manageable, malleable. Mastic is more like a cross between fresh cow manure and cake icing with a mind of its own - a criminal mind.

The defining characteristic of the product is how it goes places all on its own the way poison ivy manages to infect certain people when they simply get near it. The difference is that no one is immune to the reach of mastic. No one.

My husband, Hugh, introduced me to mastic just last week when we jointly tackled a fix-the-farmhouse-

roof project. As we stood on the gentle slope of the old rusted roof over the add-on room, ceremony hung in the mid-day air. I didn't yet know why. Hugh let me open the can. Then he pronounced the genie was out of the bottle. And so it was.

Somehow, between us, it fell my lot to be the chief mastic applicator - probably the pecking order of roofers, as in the new guy gets the mastic. Hawk and trowel in hand, I applied the wobbly dark sticky gunk straight from the can. Hugh helped some, telling me things like "other side of the trowel." Some of it actually went where I intended. Some of it went elsewhere, as in not even close. I loaded a caulk gun with a tube of the same product and managed to exert a bit more control - mind over mastic. But we both still had to watch our steps and not scratch our noses.

By the end of the day, the roof was patched with smears and dots and globs of black mastic. So were we.

Household hints on mastic removal:

Diesel works best. Follow up with anything harsh enough to clean mechanics' fingernails and kitchen ovens. If you have a fancy social affair to attend, soak yourself in pure bleach, at least your fingertips. I did.

Right before stepping out, I spied three dots of mastic on my forearm, too small to match the polka dots on my blouse but looking just as indelible.

Not wanting to smell like diesel, I grabbed a pumice stone. Voila! Mastic surgery.

Expect scarring. Mine's not bad.

That's mastic.

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black, DVM

THE CAT BURGLAR

The Discovery Channel and Animal Planet have now exposed our suburban children to the dog-eat-dog reality of nature. Despite the stark images, I applaud their philosophy that it is important to show the unbreakable connection of life and death in Earth's giant panorama.

It allows the biologically innocent a significantly deeper understanding of the world than their daily doses of virtual mass shootings, bombing, zappings and killings that video games, TV and movies provide. Farm kids who are raised with both domestic and wild animals make this profound connection earlier. I think it is more an acceptance of mortality than a numbing of the senses.

Cowdogs and barn cats on farms are often functional as well as pets, but they are prey to the coyote, the lion, the hawk, wolf and the occasional man-made contraption.

A young couple, we'll call them Lafe and Annika, left their dairy farm in Freeland, SD, to do some shopping at America's biggest mall in the Minneapolis area. They stopped to breakfast and pick up her folks. All loaded and departed. It was a cool, brisk clear-sky day.

Down the road a mile Annika commented on a strong unpleasant odor. Grandpa denied. Maybe some road kill they passed or a cow carcass, they thought. Once on the freeway the smell dissipated some. As they drew closer to their destination the wisps of smell changed from a pungent acid bowel bouquet to the aroma of a burnt hair and Valvoline clambake!

In the mall parking lot Lafe popped the hood. Suffice it to say, the scene was as gruesome as Freddie Kruger's barbecue! Grandma recognized the remnants of one of the barn cats. From the evidence on the fan she remarked that "at least death was instantaneous...3000 rpms will do that."

They put the scrapeable pieces in a shopping bag and Grandma started for the trash can. From out of nowhere a shady lady in a long coat raced by Granny, grabbed the bag and ran inside! Lafe was right behind the thief and chased her to a public women's restroom. He stood outside the door banging on it. The mall police arrived just as a spine-tingling scream erupted from inside!

Within ten minutes the paramedics loaded the unconscious woman on a gurney and strapped her down. "Fainted," they said to the crowd, "Fell, maybe even a neck injury."

They were halfway to the exit when a good Samaritan came running after, "Wait a minute!" she hollered, "You forgot her shopping bag!"

"Thanks," said the EMT, as he set it down on top of the comatose bump-and-run robber, "Smells like she's been to the pet store."

We appreciate you, our readers!

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See schedule for registration times.	
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3 and 4 year olds apply for 2009-2010 enrollment
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Must bring birth certificate, Current immunization record, Documentation of annual income for 2008 or 1040 tax return
Children with Disabilities, Encouraged to Apply
Income Guidelines Apply

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PEANUT BUTTER RICE KRISPIES	FRIDAY MAY 22ND
TUESDAY MAY 19TH	HAMBURGERS/CHEESE SLICES
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WEDNESDAY MAY 20TH	PLEASE CALL IN YOUR ORDERS BY 10 A.M. TO 657-3618
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NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FILED WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

On April 20, 2009, AEP Texas North Company (TNC), a regulated electric transmission and distribution utility, filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) a Request for Approval of Advanced Metering System (AMS) Deployment Plan and Request for AMS Surcharges. The requested AMS surcharge is designed to recover the reasonable and necessary costs that TNC will incur under the AMS deployment plan. TNC also requests five waivers from the provisions of P.U.C. Subst. R. 25.130 in connection with the proposed AMS Deployment Plan.

If approved, the requested AMS surcharge will go into effect with the October 2009 billing month (which commences on September 28, 2009). The AMS surcharge will apply to electric service to residential and non-residential customers in TNC's service area, other than those who have interval demand recording (IDR) meters or take unmetered service. The AMS surcharge will be billed to the retail electric providers (REPs) who provide retail electric service to these customers. The amount of AMS surcharge borne by an individual end-use retail customer will depend on whether its REP passes the approved AMS surcharge along to the end-use customer. The costs recovered through the AMS surcharge will be reviewed by the Commission in a reconciliation proceeding to be held in the future on a schedule to be determined by the Commission.

As an element of the requested AMS surcharge, TNC requests the Commission to approve the use of the System Integration Agreement (SIA) refunds for TNC that are the subject of Docket No. 36924, to moderate the AMS surcharge and ameliorate the negative cash flow associated with AMS deployment, as opposed to being directly refunded. Depending on the Commission's treatment of the SIA refunds, the amount of the AMS surcharge finally approved by the Commission for any particular AMS class could vary from the amount requested in TNC's petition and application.

A copy of TNC's filing is available for inspection at TNC's offices at 901 Energy Drive, Abilene, Texas 79602.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon the filing should notify the Public Utility Commission of Texas as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline of June 4, 2009, has been imposed. A request to intervene or further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Post Office Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, and reference Docket No. 36928. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission of Texas at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477 (toll free). Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

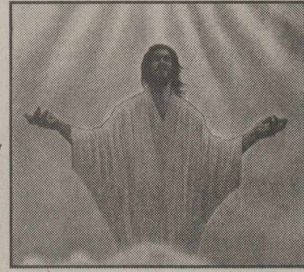
Mr. & Mrs. Toby Sanders



Misty Kurt & Toby Sanders were married April 20, 2009 on the beautiful Waikiki Beach on the Island of Oahu in Honolulu, Hawaii. Misty is the daughter of John & Viola Kurt of Whitney, Texas and Toby is the son of Jackie Sanders of O'Brien, Texas. They share six kids together.

God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor
O'Brien Baptist Church



Can I trust you? We have that question enter into our lives in many different ways. We may be thinking of a stranger, an employer, or perhaps even a loved one. Trust is a rare attribute today. Trust is truth and truth is not truth if it contains any lie. We all desire to trust and to be trusted. Can we trust God? As a nation we say with all confidence, "in God we trust". What is it that we want when we say, "can I trust you?" We want assurance that whatever we're about to share we can be confident that others will not use it to bring harm or hurt.

Many people are afraid to trust God. God can be trusted every time and with everything! Trusting God is to believe that He knows all things and that He has complete understanding. Trust is reliance and belief. When we trust Christ we are committing to His provision and supply of our needs. We believe

that He can protect us in all circumstances and through all consequences. We must lean upon His understanding and His wisdom. When we say that we trust God, we're saying, "Jesus take my life and lead me in your wisdom and teach me to follow after you and show me your perfect love and trust as I follow after you." He will never fail you nor forsake you.

Think upon these verses of scripture this week and His Word will bless you.

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4: 19)

"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God." (II Corinthians 3: 5)

Trust His love today and prove Him to be God. He will provide all your needs and remove all your fears.

Texas Senate Passes Tim Cole Act, Improves Compensation for Wrongfully Convicted, Families

HB 1736 ensures justice for those posthumously exonerated

AUSTIN - The Texas Senate today passed House Bill 1736, known as the Tim Cole Act, which will to improve compensation for the wrongfully convicted and ensure justice for wrongfully convicted Texans who have died in prison.

The legislation, by Senators Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock) and Rodney Ellis (D-Houston), and House sponsor, Rep. Rafael Anchia, D-Dallas, provides compensation for certain family members of posthumously exonerated Texans. Compensation levels are also increased for other exonerates.

"It is a tragedy that brought House Bill 1736 to the Senate floor today, but the grace and dignity that Mr. Cole's family demonstrated while leading this important cause would surely make him proud," said Senator Duncan. "As a result of their efforts, Tim Cole's untimely death was not in vain. Criminal justice in Texas will be more fair and compensation for those wrongfully convicted will be more adequate because the Legislature responded to Mr. Cole's terrible and sad struggle."

Throughout this legislative session, several men who have been freed by DNA evidence that proved them innocent, made appearances at the Capitol, putting real faces to those among the most harmed by this type of injustice. Mr. Cole's mother, brothers and other family members were also poignant reminders. They sat in the Senate gallery as the bill passed with little debate.

Rep. Anchia recognized today's passage as a great day for the state and for the cause of justice. "The Tim Cole Act could not have passed without the extraordinary efforts of a lot of courageous and committed individuals, including the exonerates themselves. We should all be proud for our state,

and for these men and their families, who have waited so long for this day."

Senator Ellis has referred to Mr. Cole's death and subsequent exoneration as "wake-up call" in Texas.

"It is time to get our house in order and enact reforms that, wherever possible, can help avert miscarriages of justice before they happen."

HB 1736 details:

- Increase the lump sum compensation for all exonerates from \$50,000 to \$80,000 per year of incarceration, including time spent in city or county jail. Current compensation only applies to time in a TDCJ cell, but not another kind of cell.
- Allows the lump sum compensation to pass to the family in the event the innocent person dies before release, as Timothy Cole did.
- Allows lump sum compensation of \$25,000 per year spent on parole or registered as a sex offender.
- Creates lifetime annuity payments to the exonerate based on a present value of the lump sum compensation, annuitized using a 5 percent interest rate and payable in equal monthly installments using actuarial factors.
- Provides up to 120 hours of free tuition if the claimant desires to attend a state college.
- As under current law, a person who receives a subsequent felony conviction loses their eligibility for compensation. Any annuity payments would cease.
- Any person who accepts state compensation must give up any civil suit against the state, municipalities or other parties.

SENATE

BRIGHT IDEAS

By Alex Mills

As the House Energy and Commerce Committee deliberated over a cap-and-trade program, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently declared that six industrial emissions endanger "the health and welfare of current and future generations."

EPA's declaration was the first formal recognition by the U.S. government of the alleged threats posed by climate change and greenhouse gas emissions.

The finding probably will change the lives of every American.

It certainly puts a new and different face on the cap-and-trade debate. Lawmakers no longer have a choice of the bill offered by U. S. Representative Henry Waxman (D-Cal.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and U.S. Representative Edward Markey (D-Mass.), chairman of the Energy Independence and Global Warming Committee, or no action at all. EPA has announced that it will draft and implement regulations if the Congress fails to pass adequate legislation.

The greenhouse gases under the watchful eye of EPA are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride.

The EPA lumped carbon dioxide with the other gases, because they share similar properties. All are long-lived and well-mixed in the atmosphere, and they all trap heat.

Greenhouse gases trap heat, and without them the Earth would be frozen. The sun's incoming energy simply would be reflected and radiated back into space if it were not for greenhouse gases.

Water vapor is by far the most dominant of the greenhouse gases, accounting for about 95% of them. Approximately 4.7% of the greenhouse gases comes from ocean biologic activity, volcanoes, decaying plants, animal activities, etc. Only 0.3% comes from human activities (manufacturing, power generation, transportation and other forms of burning fossil fuels).

James Schlesinger, the

nation's first Energy Czar before there was even a Department of Energy, and Robert Hirsch, the manager of the federal renewables program at the Energy Research and Development Administration (the predecessor to the Department of Energy), can't understand why the powers-that-be in Washington are pushing so hard to replace fossil fuels so quickly.

"Why are we ignoring things we know?" Schlesinger and Hirsch wrote in the April 24 issue of The Washington Post. "We know that the sun doesn't always shine and that the wind doesn't always blow. That means that solar cells and wind energy systems don't always provide electric power. Nevertheless, solar and wind energy seem to have captured the public's support as potentially being the primary or total answer to our electric power needs."

Schlesinger and Hirsch point out that "renewables" like wind and solar originate thousands of miles from consumers and the nation hasn't figured out the grid problem, yet. They also noted that wind and solar only produce 1% of the nation's energy requirements today.

"The United States will need an array of electric power production options to meet its needs in the years ahead," they wrote. "Solar and wind will have their places, as will other renewables. Realistically, however, solar and wind will probably only provide a modest percentage of future U.S. power. Some serious realism in energy planning is needed, preferably from analysts who are not backing one horse or another."

Dr. Scott Tinker, director of the Bureau of Economic Geology at the University of Texas at Austin, called EPA finding that carbon dioxide as a pollutant "absurd."

More and more people wonder about the credibility of the actions of the President and the leadership of the Congress when they propose such drastic changes to Americans lifestyle for something that only causes 0.3% of the greenhouse gases and a 1 degree increase in temperature in the last 100 years.

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Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
05/05	62/93	
05/06	63/75	
05/07	65/102	
05/08	71/107	
05/09	64/74	
05/10	60/84	
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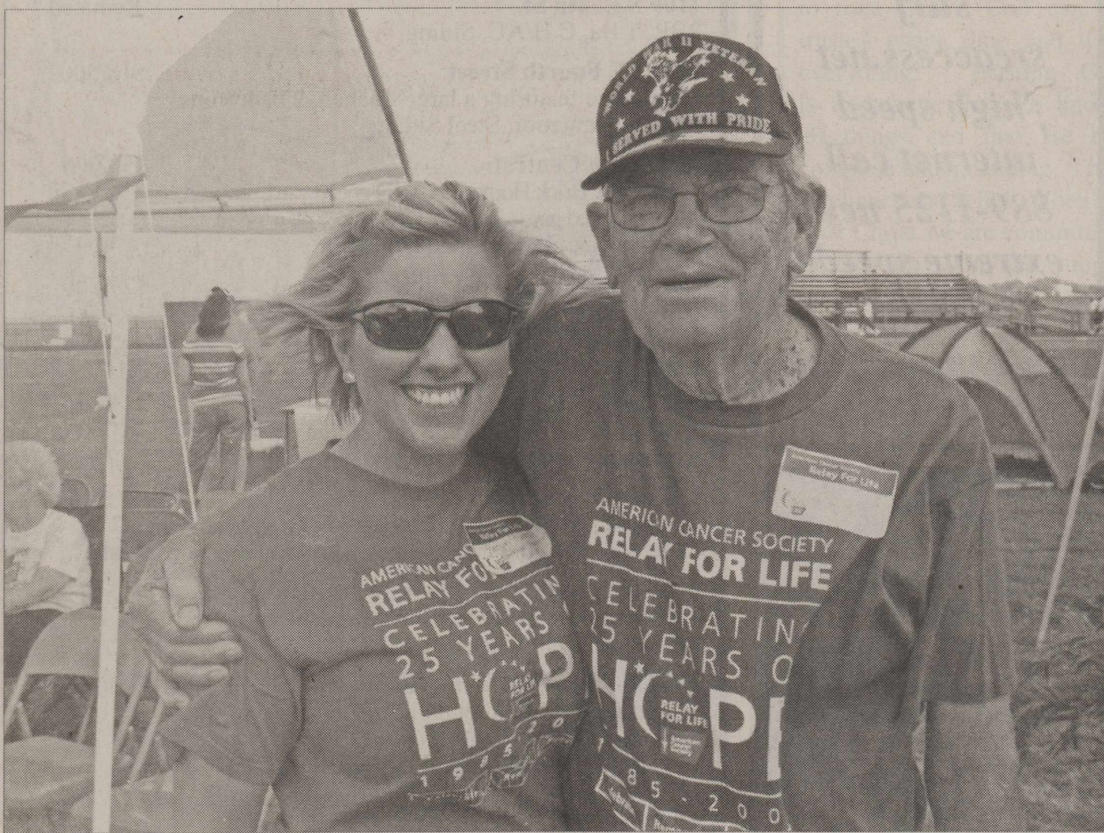
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Courtesy Photo
2009 Relay for Life survivors pledge their Allegiance to the Flag before the race.



Courtesy Photo
Cancer survivors, Kristi Moeller and Christopher Espinosa, are signing the "Fight Back" poster.



Courtesy Photo
Regan Baker, from Wichita Falls, and Jack Nuckels, cancer survivor from Munday.

Knox County Relay For Life Proves To Be Beyond Successful

By Tamara Smart

Success is not quite a powerful enough word to mark the end result of the Knox County Relay for Life. After months of planning, many hours of fundraising, more than enough sweat soaked clothes, tears of happiness (at times), tears of frustration (at times), weekly meetings, brainstorming sessions, tables of food, and countless prayers, the 2009 Relay for Life finally was complete at 3:00 am the morning of April 26, as the nine teams passed the finish line one last time.

The much awaited Relay took place in a short 12 hours of food, fun, entertainment, and, of course, walking at the Knox City Track.

The actual 12 hour Relay though, was truly not the main focus of all the months of activity, nor was it the ending punctuation to all the excitement. Last Tuesday there was a final dinner to celebrate and recognize those who worked to bring this fundraiser together.

The smiles continued after citizens of Knox County left the track in the wee hours of the morning on April 26th, as over the next several days, checks were collected and the true fruits of labor were seen. Children and adults alike were seen gaily offering their collections for the American Cancer Society to the powers that be.

After all the money is collected and sent off to the American Cancer Society; where does it actually go? The American Cancer Society reaps the financial contributions of the Relay for Life, and divvies the moneys out to several areas of Cancer Health ideology. 81% of the moneys earned go

toward Cancer fighting programs, which includes national research, programs and other activities such as grants, fellowships, nation-wide 24 hour Cancer Information Center, Website and other activities. 22% of financial support goes to Prevention and Detection through education and advocacy. In this arena, the American Cancer Society tries to reach people with information about healthy lifestyle behaviors and age-appropriate cancer screening guidelines. Another 22% of funds are filtered into patient services, which are programs supporting cancer patients and their loved ones from the time of diagnosis through the balance of life. 16% goes into American Cancer Society Management and Fundraising, but only 3% of moneys raised go toward management costs (paying employees).

Although the American economic situation is less than desirable these days because of a recession which the residents and businesses of Knox County are feeling in their wallets, the goal at the beginning of the Relay was to raise \$11,000. This dollar amount was surpassed, with the Relay for Life teams and sponsors actually bringing in \$24,292.68... more than double the amount originally set out to make. Knox County is in the "High Plains Division" which encompasses Hawaii, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas, and in our Region ("the Panhandle Region"), we are the leaders in the fund raising department. In fact, year-to-date the region has witnessed a 29.8% increase in contributions from last year, a dollar amount which extends passed the \$121,000 mark as of thus far in the year.

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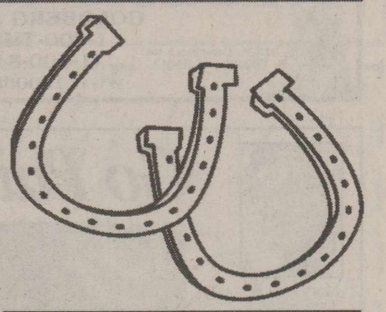
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Knox City – O'Brien Team is "Most Spirited"

Team "HOUNDING FOR A CURE" received Most Spirited Team Honors in the recent Relay For Life® event which took place at Greyhound Stadium in Knoxville April 25 – 26 from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m. Relay For Life® is a fun-filled, overnight event that empowers everyone to help fight cancer by raising money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society's lifesaving mission. Teams of people from Knoxville, Haskell and Munday camped out at Greyhound Stadium and took turns walking around the track. Each team had a representative on the track at all times during the event. Team members for Knoxville – O'Brien CISD included; Amanda Baker-Adkins, Rick & Kristi Moeller, Brittany Lowe, Kathy Bowen, Jen Utley, Brandi Manning, Cheryl Urbanczyk, Bergen & Josh Webb, Jinx Shaver, Trisha Shaver, Christie & Colin Howeth, Charles & Melissa Steele, Kurt & Pamela Maxwell, Rick & Tammy Gonzales, Sharon Wainscott and Louis & Sherri Baty. Team Captains were Mark Tucker and Marsha Quade. Bringing in donations for the event was the team's popular "Coffee Hound" Café which offered several types of coffee and flavorings along with packaged "Puppy Chow" Trail Mix.

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's signature event that brings more than 3.5 million people from 4,900 communities across the country together each year to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against a disease that takes too much. Relay For Life® symbolizes the hope that people lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face the disease have support, and that one day cancer will be eliminated.

Team Hounding for a Cure wants to thank Duckwall's for donating items to their Café.



Courtesy Photo "Hero of Hope" Karel Davis, who is also the executive producer of KFDX Channel 3 in Wichita Falls and Knoxville Secretary, Betty Johnston, share a hug for the camera.



Hounding For A Cure



Survivors signing the "Fight Back" poster.

Cancer Survivor Participants of the 2009 Knoxville County Relay for Life

Karel Davis (2009 Hero of Hope)
 Mark Brown
 Martha Andrade
 Donna Waggoner
 Claudia Tidwell
 Ernestine Dickerson
 Sue Marion
 Shirley Gass
 Cynthia White
 Donna Cypert
 Mary Cartwright
 Jay Baker
 Dana West
 Margaret Hill
 Doris Crownour
 Nancy Whittemore
 Judy Burnett
 Frankie Baker
 Raymond Carden
 Kristi Moeller
 Cathy Trepte
 Charlie Cooks
 Kenneth Baker
 James Beachamp
 Slick Myers
 Jack Nuckols
 Byron Gass
 Gary Tidwell
 W.R. Baker

Christopher Espinosa
 Ray Hudson
 Mickey Jackson
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COUNTY OF KNOX

DATED April 30, 2009, and issued pursuant to a judgment decree of the District Court of Knoxville County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter styled and numbered causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on April 30, 2009, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in June, 2009, the same being the 2nd day of June, 2009, at the Courthouse door of said County, in the City of Benjamin, between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Knoxville and the State of Texas, to-wit:

CAUSE NO.	STYLING, DEFENDANTS AND PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
8886	Knox County Appraisal District v. Jesus Mendoza and Marvula Mendoza Lot 10, Block 44, Lee Addition to the City of Munday
8961	Knox County Appraisal District v. Leonel Sigala, Josie Sigala and Citizens Bank, N.A., Lienholder (In Rem Only) Lots 9 and 10, Block 1, Warren Addition, City of Knoxville
8978	Knox County Appraisal District v. Carmel Nabarrette and Wachovia Bank, N.A., Lienholder (In Rem Only) the North 1/2 of Lot 4, Block 4, West Addition, City of Munday
8984	Knox County Appraisal District v. Billie Ray Morrow and Deveris Holmes East 75' of the Northeast 1/4 of Block 1, Davis Addition to the City of Knoxville
9013	Knox County Appraisal District v. Jose Luis Guerra Lot 9, Block 55, Lee Addition to the City of Munday
9014	Knox County Appraisal District v. Rick L. Herring a/k/a Rick Herring (In Rem Only), Diane Herring (In Rem Only) and First National Bank, Munday, Lienholder (In Rem Only) Lots 1 thru 3, Block 11, Original Townsite to the Town of Benjamin a 75' x 75' tract of land, more or less, out of the Northeast corner of Block 41, R.P. Munday Addition, City of Munday
9028	Knox County Appraisal District v. Jeanette Collier Lots 10, 11, Block 102, Original Townsite to the Town of Goree
9059	Knox County Appraisal District v. Don Hawkins a/k/a Jay Don Hawkins (In Rem Only) 140' x 153' tract of land, more or less, out of the D & W R.R. Co. Survey #56, out of Abstract 1801
9063	Knox County Appraisal District v. Michael Navarrette and Cristina Navarrette Lot 6, Block 22, Original Townsite of the Town of Goree Lots 3, 4, and 5, Block 22, Original Townsite of the Town of Goree
9117	Knox County Appraisal District v. Sindy Oustad a 130' x 100' tract of land, more or less, out of Block 27, R.P. Munday Addition, City of Munday

or upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion thereof to satisfy said judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest and costs of suit and sale; subject, however, to the right of redemption, the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the period of time and in the manner provided by law, and subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest thereon and costs of suit and sale, and the proceeds of said sale to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

DATED April 30, 2009, at Benjamin, Texas.

By
 SHERIFF, Knoxville County, DEPUTY
 Texas
 You may contact the Plaintiff's attorney at 325-672-4870.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital HIGHLIGHTS



By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — The House on May 4 approved HB 4765, legislation to raise the small business exemption to the state margins tax from \$300,000 to \$1 million but only for years 2010-11.

The primary author of the bill is Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville. One of the bill's four co-authors, Rep. Bill Callegari, R-Katy, said the timing of the new margins tax could not have been worse on Texas businesses because tax bills came due right as the economy began to worsen. "By raising the revenue exemption, small businesses will get some needed relief to help deal with the terrible aftershocks of the economic crisis," he said. Next, the Senate Finance Committee will consider the bill. The margins tax has evolved over recent sessions of the Legislature.

The 2005 Legislature, in its 3rd called session, revised the state's franchise tax to by basing it on gross margins and businesses with total revenue of less than \$300,000 were exempted from paying the tax.

In 2007, the Legislature enacted a sliding scale of franchise tax discounts for businesses with revenue between \$300,000 and \$900,000.

Senate approves CHIP bill

Families that earn more than the federal poverty level but still can't afford health coverage would be able to buy into state health insurance for their children under SB 841 passed by the Senate on May 6.

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) covers families whose annual income is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level, or about \$44,000 for four-member family.

Sen. Kip Averitt, R-Waco, said his bill aims to make it so families "will have the opportunity to pay part of the premium, so that they can grow into fully paying for their own health insurance for their own children."

SB 841 would create a program where families that make up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level, about \$66,000 for a family of four, could pay part of the premiums

and buy in to CHIP coverage.

The bill moves to the House for further consideration.

DPS chief resigns, interim named

Col. Stanley Clark, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety since September 2008, announced his resignation on May 4 after allegations of sexual harassment in the workplace against him were made public.

Allan B. Polunsky, chair of the Texas Public Safety Commission, the agency that oversees the DPS, accepted Clark's resignation and named Lamar Beckworth of Austin as the interim director. Col. Beckworth has been a DPS officer for 31 years. He is the first African-American to lead the agency.

Ag chief requests fire assistance North Texas wildfires over Easter weekend and recent weeks contributed to losses estimated at more than 220,000 acres of pasture, roughly 1,500 miles of fence and almost 500 cattle and calves.

Wildfires cost Texas farmers and ranchers about \$35 million during March and April, and Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples said that is why he has requested USDA assistance.

In a May 5 letter to U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Staples asked for access to emergency

loans and other forms of needed assistance for producers in 18 counties including: Archer, Baylor, Callahan, Clay, Cooke, Eastland, Hamilton, Hood, Jack, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Shackelford, Stephens, Wheeler, Wichita, Wise and Young.

In light of drought-related fires that ravage the state, a constitutional amendment proposed by Rep. Valinda Bolton, D-Austin, would authorize emergency services districts to impose an additional ad valorem tax not to exceed 5 cents per \$100 valuation for the acquisition of land, equipment, or apparatus or the construction of capital improvements, with district voter approval. Bolton's HJR 112 is awaiting a vote by the full House.

Cap on tuition, fees is approved

The Senate on May 4 unanimously approved a bill to cap tuition increases and mandatory fees for resident undergraduates at many public universities in Texas.

Authored by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, SB 1443 would establish a 5 percent per year cap, or the rate of inflation based on a three-year average, whichever is less. Affected would be 17 universities whose total academic cost exceeds the state median, just above \$5,000 in 2009.

SENATE

convicted of rape in 1985. He maintained his innocence until he died in prison of an asthma attack in 1999. Another man in prison for another rape, Jerry Johnson, attempted to confess as early as 1995; he succeeded at getting the attention of authorities in 2007 after he sent a letter to Tim Cole's mother. In 2008, DNA testing exonerated Tim Cole and implicated Mr. Johnson.

On Feb. 4, 2009, the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate passed resolutions honoring Tim Cole. Two days later, Mr. Cole was officially exonerated when Travis County District Judge Charlie Baird announced "to a 100 percent moral, factual and legal certainty" that Timothy Cole did not commit the crime that sent him to prison.

"I offer my sincere condolences and deepest sympathies to Tim Cole's family for the 13 long years he was forced to suffer in prison for a crime DNA proved he did not commit, and for the decade plus they fought to clear his name," said Senator Ellis. "I hope that this legislation will help them finally find the peace they have so difficultly earned."

TURNER

reasons that Heath claims to love Knox City so much.

Heath's four kids are all in the Knox City Consolidated School District schools; ranging in age from Pre-K to eighth grade.

Heath is passionate about the kids and would like to see something for them to be able to do on a Friday night in the local scene. He has ideas about what would be beneficial to the children and now, as he sits on a voting council, has more leeway to make these ideas come to fruition.

USDA

will ensure that FSA meets the statutory CRP acreage limitation of 32 million acres established in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

CRP is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners. CRP protects millions of acres of American topsoil from erosion and is designed to safeguard the Nation's natural resources. Participants receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland.

A general CRP sign-up is not scheduled during fiscal year 2009. However, producers may continue to enroll relatively small, highly-desirable acres, including land that is not extended, into Continuous CRP. Continuous CRP includes such practices as filter strips and riparian buffers.

FSA will notify participants by letter beginning May 6, 2009. The sign-up for this voluntary extension will begin on May 18 and run through June 30, 2009. Farmers and ranchers may apply for this extension at their FSA county office. FSA administers CRP on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

CRP contracts with the highest environmental benefit or with the highest potential for soil erosion will be selected. CRP contracts can not exceed 15 years in the aggregate and chosen CRP contract holders will generally be offered a three to five year extension.

Producers electing to extend their contract period will receive their current contract rental rate. All or a portion of the acreage under contract may be included in an extension, but no new acreage may be added.

Through CRP, FSA enters into long term (10-15 year) contracts with agricultural producers to protect highly erodible and other environmentally-sensitive land. Participants convert enrolled land to grass, trees, wildlife habitats and other conservation uses. The program has reduced soil erosion by over 400 million tons, protected over 2 million acres of wetlands and resulted in buffers established on over 100,000 miles of streams and rivers.

For more information about CRP and other FSA programs, please contact the Knox County FSA office at 940-658-3537 or FSA online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



Knox County News Photo

Pictured: O'Brien Middle School students after giving to the Cancer Society

BOOK

ally hoping I had what it would take to get published in this book. When [the teacher] called out my name, I was astonished that it was really me. I could not wait until I could get home to share this good news with all of my family."

Kate Baker added, "I have always kept a diary to keep up with my daily thoughts and events. Now that I have a writing class, I've opportunities for getting published. Getting published means more than diary writing to me now. My mom was published when she was 13 in a book entitled Girl Power by Hillary Carlip. I was hoping I could at least be like my mom

and be published around the age of thirteen. I am so excited that I am only 10 and now a published author. This year I have learned how to express my feelings through poetry."

Between the "Letters to Obama" publication and another contest the children featuring childrens poetry being published in an Anthology of Poetry; Knox City 4th grade is now the home of 14 publish authors: Hailee Cox, Kate Baker, Amy Harrington, Jaylon Roberson, Kirstin Tuckness, Genesis Martinez Sam Schnable, Kayla Eaton, Cara McGhee, Chris McGhee, Avery Frausto, Anthony Estrada, Skylin Ledesma and Kris Stafford. The book, Kid's Letters to

President Obama (Edited by bill Adler and Bill Adler Jr.), is a Ballantine Book production and has been on sale sine April 14th. To get a copy of the publication, one can visit www.ballantinebooks.com or a local bookstore. The local authors are willing to sign any book, so don't forget to get it autographed post-purchase!

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honor them as they are wonderful examples of the high caliber of young people in our nation's schools today."

Program applications were distributed last September through all public and private middle level and high schools, Girl Scout councils, county 4-H organizations, American Red Cross chapters, YMCAs, and affiliates of HandsOn Network. After Local Honorees were named, state-level judges selected State Honorees, Distinguished Finalists and Certificate of Excellence recipients. Volunteer activities were judged on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact, and personal growth.

NASSP, based in Reston, VA., is the preeminent organization of and national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals and aspiring school leaders from across the United States and more than 45 countries around the world. Prudential Financial, based in Newark, N.J., provides more than 50 million individual and institutional customers worldwide with life insurance, annuities, retirement-related services, mutual funds, investment management, and real estate services.

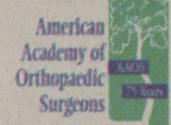
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As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



aaos.org/75years

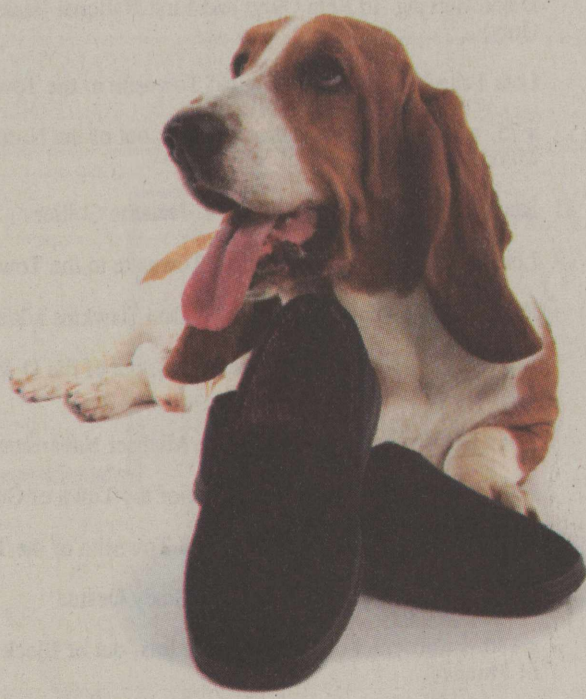


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