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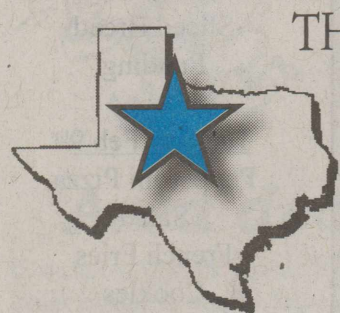
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# THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

10 PAGES PLUS INSERTS  
 VOLUME XXIX

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS  
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010

75 CENTS  
 NUMBER 15

## Knox City senior signs volleyball scholarship

By Tamara Smart

When the 2010 collegian volleyball season starts at Cisco Community College, one of their freshman members will bring with her 4 years of knowledge from playing on the Knox City Court.

On February 1, 2010, all the Knox City High School students congregated in the Knox City gym to witness one of their own peers, Brittney Gonzales, signing the papers to accept her scholarship to play for Cisco Junior College as a "Defensive Specialist" next year.

Brittney received the notice that she had been selected for the 2010 team and for a partial scholarship to help pay for her post-high school studies several weeks ago.

This only came after Gonzales attended an open try-out at CJC and impressed her future coach, Coach Moore. CJC plays several schools

around Texas throughout their season, including the Abilene Christian University J.V. team, Lubbock Christian J.V., and various other Junior College teams. Brittney is the daughter of long time Knox County residents, Rick and Tammie Gonzales. She has worked with Knox City Coaching staff for years, most recently playing under the coaching supervision of Arnold Perales. Currently, Brittney is one of the stars of the Knox City Houndette basketball team.

Brittney Gonzales signs the paperwork for her partial sports scholarship to Cisco Junior College, as Knox City Girls Coach Arnold Perales; Brittney's mother, Tammy Gonzales; Brittney's father, Rick Gonzales (standing); and CJC Volleyball Coach Moore look on.



## Barn fire continues to raise questions

Follow-up on the mysterious barn fire early last Monday morning in Benjamin:

This Morning (Tuesday) Cassidy Butler went outside to check on her dogs, and heard something in the stall of the barn, which burned last Monday. Pat Butler had already started replacing the stalls in the barn. Cassidy went to the corner of the stall from where the noise came, and found it smoldering again. Cassidy began to shovel horse manure on to the smoldering pile and, rather than put out the smoke, the horse manure began sparking. Naturally, Cassidy became terrified because "it is happening again".

Suddenly, while trying to handle the smoldering and sparking manure, Cassidy hears something else. She hears yelping. To her surprise, down in a hole that Pat had dug to replace the cross ties that had burned

last week, Cassidy then finds five puppies. Although she had not noticed it at upon first entering the barn (she had been preoccupied with the re-smoldering corner stall), Cassidy then realizes that someone had left a plastic drawer in the barn, next to where the puppies were found.

Pat, Cassidy, and many other friends who were there long before the first fire started have no idea how the barn could have caught fire in the first place. The idea that someone was in the barn that was no supposed to be has crossed all the their minds. But now, with the puppies and the plastic drawer, they know that someone was in the barn without their permission or knowledge.

If anyone has seen anything or anyone at or around Pat and Cassidy's house or barn please contact him or her immediately.

## Cub scouts badger for badges, hold pine wood derby

The Cub Scout Troop, Pack 76 out of Munday is working for badges to become the most "badged up bunch" of Cub Scouts as possible. Recently, the Troop held a derby race to help some members of the

troop get their badges. Some members are also working on communications badge learning to write letters, emails, etc.; one requirement in order to receive this badge is to write article to local paper. The following was submitted by Cub Scout Troop, Pack 76.

### Pine Wood Derby

By Webelos from Pack 76.

Cub Scouts Pack 76 had a pinewood derby. There were 19 kids in the pinewood derby. Races were run, food was served, fun was had by all. The results were:

- Tiger cubs  
 1. Gabriel Ruiz  
 2. Jonah Hernandez  
 3. Jacob Gonzalez

- Wolves  
 1. John Shaver  
 2. Braydon Durham  
 3. Aaron Espinosa

- Bears  
 1. Nathan Williams  
 2. Josh Hernandez  
 3. Kobe Ramirez

- Webelos  
 1. Brady Finley  
 2. Kade Sanders  
 3. Daniel Jackson

Over all fastest car for the  
 See DERBY on Page 10

## Local Election nominees Primary vote on March 3<sup>rd</sup> (Early voting starts Feb 16<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> at Knox County Courthouse)

**Justice of the Peace:**  
 Democrat- Vonnie Ivie\*

**County Treasurer:**  
 Democrat- Rosie Ake\*

**County Clerk:**  
 Democrat- Annette Offutt\*

**County Commissioner  
 Pct. 2:**

Democrat- Charles Griffith  
 Republican- Dan Godsey\*

**County Commissioner  
 Pct. 4:**

Democrat- Johnny Birkenfeld\*

Democrat-Gary Tidwell

**County Attorney:**  
 Democrat- Meagan Suarez\*

**County Judge:**  
 Republican- Travis Floyd\*

(\* Denotes Incumbent)

## Winter weather hits area counties

What's being billed in the Panhandle as the worst winter storm in 10 years might have been bad for drivers, but it was nothing but good news for wheat growers, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert.

"Our wheat crop was getting very dry; we've been dry for about the last three

months," said Dr. Brent Bean, AgriLife Extension agronomist based at Amarillo.

The blizzard brought from 10 to 12 inches of snow in some areas, Bean said, which translates to about 2 inches of moisture. Some parts of the Panhandle didn't get as much

See WEATHER on Page 10

## LOOKING AHEAD

Anyone interested in acquiring their GED, NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY!!!

Knox City High School, in conjunction with Region IX Service Center, will be providing the chance for you to fulfill your dream. Once our interest base has been established, a date for the 6-hour orientation will be scheduled.

This will be an on-line course and will be available at your convenience. A computer lab will be available to students without Internet access, at scheduled times. Your first step is contacting

Knox City High School, leaving your name and phone number. Region IV will set the orientation date and the school will contact you of this date.

Please make contact with the school by February 4<sup>th</sup> before 3:30 at 940-657-3565.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!** Mark your calendars for the upcoming March 2<sup>nd</sup> Election!

The Wichita Brazos Museum is having their annual fundraising BBQ dinner on Sunday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> at the Ex-students building. Brisket, Turkey,

Sausage, Beans, Deviled Eggs, Coleslaw, Potato Salad and desert are on the menu. Takeouts available. \$8 for adults, \$4-children under 12. Door Prizes, silent auction and raffle for the "Dresden Plate" quilt will be drawn.

Monday February 8<sup>th</sup>, KCHS will be hosting a Financial Aid Night. Senior's, Juniors, parents and anyone else wanting to know more about getting financial aid for further education is invited.

Just show up at 6:00 in KCHS library ready to get informed!

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- 3BR/ 1 3/4 Bath, brick/central H&A, newly remodeled, new kitchen appliances, open den/breakfast room, double car garage/outside storage building, corner lot
- 334.75 acres, MQL (Deeded), 87.59 cultivated acres + 63.2 cultivated grass, 1/2 mile river frontage, excellent wildlife
- Very nice country home with 10 acres, recently remodeled & excellent location, 3BR/2Bath/Brick/Central H&A/City Water, Nice storage/30x40 Barn/Storm cellar, Must see to appreciate!!!
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## REAL ESTATE

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**201 Central Ave:** 3 BR brick home, CH/AC, wood burning stove, new paint & flooring, big kitchen, living room dining room combination, lots of storage inside and out. Water well, cellar, 3 car carport, metal roof, mature trees and located on 4 lots. Ready for immediate occupancy.

**701 NE 3rd Street 2000+/-** sq ft frame home. 4 BR, 2Ba, CH/AC, metal roof.

**609 S. Ave E:** 3 BR, 2 Ba, CH/AC, fireplace, fireplace, Master Suite, basement, pool, fenced yard, great location!

**1105 SE 5th St:** 3BR, 2 Ba, CH/AC, frame house, steel siding, mature trees, large yard, good neighborhood.

**1109 SE 4th St.:** 2BR frame home. CH/AC, Siding, corner lot.

**1202 SE 4th St:** 2 BR frame home, new roof, steel siding.

**604 SE 4th St:** 3 BR, 2B, Brick home, CH/AC, garage, great location. Needs work! Make an offer!

**405 SE 3rd St:** 1400+/- sq ft frame home. Large front porch, basement, tall ceilings, original moldings.

**501 SE 3rd St.:** Large brick home located on corner lot. CH/AC, 2 or 3 BR, 2 ba. Detached garage, fenced yard.

**200 South 2nd St.:** Large 3BR, 3 Ba, Brick home. This home features 2 master Bedrooms! Walk in Closets, CH/AC, 2 Living areas, fireplace, covered patio, plus size 2 car garage, water well, fenced yard, new paint, lots of space, lots of storage! Great neighborhood.

**904 Central Ave:** 3Br, 1.5Ba brick home. CH/AC, bonus room, large kitchen, storm shelter.

**Grand Central Avenue O'Brien:** 1800+/- sq ft brick home. CH/AC, 2 living areas, 4 BR, 3 Ba, large carport, fenced yard, cellar, great closets!

**1101 E Main St:** Large commercial bldg, 4000 +/- sq ft, CH/AC, new roof, lots of parking, kitchen, bathrooms, ADA compliant, and more. Lots of potential for different uses! Ready for occupancy!

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# BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

Another cold "snap" has come & finally gone! It was very uncomfortable for a few days but the sun came out today and things began to look (& feel) better. The rain was nice & welcome but now a few days to dry out a little sounds pretty nice.

Imagean Young is progressing nicely since her hip replacement surgery 2 weeks ago. Is undergoing therapy & responding well so maybe she will be able to return home soon. She's in the Knox Co. Hospital.

Sympathy to the family of Jackie Horne today. Jack passed away Fri. in Hospice care in Wichita Falls. His funeral was today (Mon) in Seymour with burial following at Gilliland. His passing leaves a void in many lives & he will be greatly missed.

Also, sympathy to Cynthia White whose mother passed away last week. She

was been in failing health for quite some time.

### Ball News

On Tues of last week, our boys & girls went to Crowell to meet the Wildcats n the basketball court- Both Benjamin teams lost- The girls suffered their first defeat of the year but lost by 6 points. On Sat. (after postponing Fri due to the weather) our teams went to Chillicothe & won both games. This week we play Northside here on Tues. & Knox City at K.C. on Fri nite.

### Here N There

In both county papers last week, Jane Rutledge Draper's name was misspelled. One had Jeane & one had Mary- So to anyone else who noticed it, I hope this clears it up & I apologize.

Among those from Benjamin who attended the funeral of Jack Horne in Seymour Mon were Jack & Mary

Young, Jane Gideon, Mike & Debbie Moorhouse, Susan & Tracy Cartwright & Gladene Green.

Mark Brown called today to say he's doing pretty well, tho has been in the hospital with the flu for a few days. He's number one on the liver transplant list and is anxiously awaiting that call to come in that one has become available. He's living in the Dallas area now, having moved there right after Jan. 1.

Plans are just about complete & everything's in place for the museum benefit lunch & silent auction on Sun, Feb 7. Hopefully, the weather will be good & lots of folks will be here for the annual event. And if anyone wants to make pies or deviled eggs for the meal & was not contacted to do so, feel free to make your

choice and take it on up to the Memorial Bldg. If everything isn't used, it will be sold, so it will benefit the cause. We'll see you there.

We have learned that Juanita Welch Killian of Lubbock has suffered a stroke & is in ICU in one of the hospitals in Lubbock where she resides with her husband, Bob. Juanita is the daughter of the former Munday, Knox City, & Gilliland resident, Grace Welch (who also lives in Lubbock now-) Juanita is a 1958 graduate of Munday High & Bob is a native of Munday. Earlier in the month of Jan., their daughter-in-law was killed in an automobile accident in Lubbock. She leaves her husband, Kerry and a small son. I ask you to pray for these friends of mine (& many others) during this difficult time.

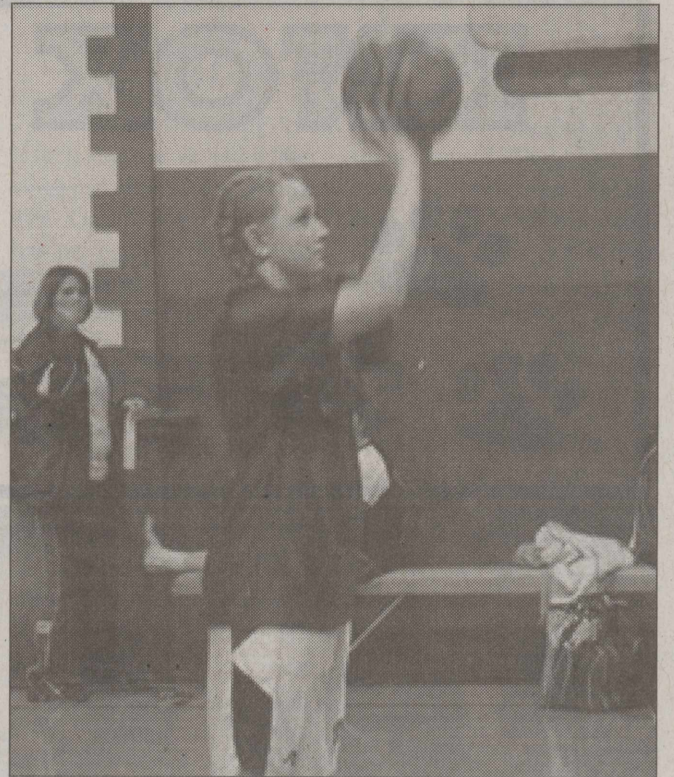


Photo by Carrieann Neises  
Foreign Exchange student, Julia Rudowicz, aims for the hoop.

### Legal Notice

#### City Bid Notice

City of Knox City will be taking Sealed bids to purchase the property located in the Betty G. Davis Addition, Block 4, parts of lots 7, 8, & 9, this being on the corner of Main and NE Ave G. This is a quitclaim deed. Bids will be taken until 5:00 pm on Friday, February 5, 2010. For more information call City Hall, 940-658-3133. Council reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. Bids will be opened on February 9, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the regular council meeting.

### Legal Notice

The City of Benjamin, will accept bids for an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) that the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA), State Energy Conservation Offices (SECO) is administering. For a copy of bid specifications, please inquire at City Hall, 303 S. Hinton, Benjamin, Texas during office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bids will be opened at the City Council meeting at 1:00 p.m., February 11, 2010. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.



Photo by Carrieann Neises  
The Mustang Men defend their hoop preventing the Hornets from scoring.

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**CAUSE NO. 2505**

**ESTATE OF L. C. GUINN, JR., DECEASED**      §      **IN THE COUNTY COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS**

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF L. C. GUINN, JR., DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of L. C. GUINN, JR., were issued January 25, 2010, in Cause No. 2505, pending in the County Court of KNOX County, Texas, to:

**GENE ANN HOLCOMB and SUE CAROLYN RICH**

The residences of such Independent Co-Executors are in the State of Texas, respectively.

The address for purposes of presenting claims is:

c/o GENE ANN HOLCOMB  
702 South Avenue F  
Knox City, Texas 79529

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this the 25th day of January, 2010.

CRAIG, TERRILL, HALE & GRANTHAM, L.L.P.  
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By: *Holly Haseloff*  
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### Legal Notice

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
That in accordance with section 30.05 Of the penal code of texas - (criminal trespass senate bill iii legislature), notice is hereby given that all lands of the W.T. Waggoner Estate are posted - save and except where written permission is given to come up on the same.  
Gene w. Willingham  
A.B. Wharton  
We (54)

### Mustang Men beat Chillicothe

Stats	Chillicothe- 30
Dylan Benson- 23	Stats
Derrick Northrup- 13	Teri Miller- 25
Mathew Acree- 11	Becky Baldwin- 6
Dusty Stevens- 2	Raqel Acevedo- 6
Cody Propps- 2	Chloe Baty- 3
Eddie Rrivera- 2	Jesse Vanderpol- 2
Boys Record- 9-10	Girls Record- 19-3
overall/ 4-3 district	overall/ 6-1 district
<b>Lady Stangs- 42 @</b>	

### Thanks For Reading!

### Legal Notice

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF KNOX CITY, TEXAS**

Separate sealed bids for the construction of **KNOX COUNTY PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE PATH - REBID** will be received by THE CITY OF KNOX CITY, TEXAS; until February 11, 2010 at 1:00 P.M., at City Hall, 902 E. Main, Knox City, Texas 79529, and then publicly opened and read aloud. This project consists of furnishing of all materials (except base material), tools, equipment, transportation, services, labor and superintendence necessary for the construction of 6,800 square yards of 6" excavation and subgrade prep., 1,150 cubic yards of 6" compacted Caliche Base (12' wide, labor only) 4,534 square yards of 1 1/2" HMA (8' wide), and 2 low water crossings. The owner will provide the base material to the site.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds, General Conditions, Notice of Awards, Notice to Proceed, Plans, Specifications, Addenda (if any) may be examined at the following location:

JACOB & MARTIN, LTD., Consulting Engineers  
3465 Curry Lane, Abilene, Texas 79606

Bids will not be received from contractors who have not obtained original plans and specifications from Jacob & Martin. Bids shall be submitted on original documents and the entire specification book must be returned with bid. No fax or copies of bid sheets will be accepted.

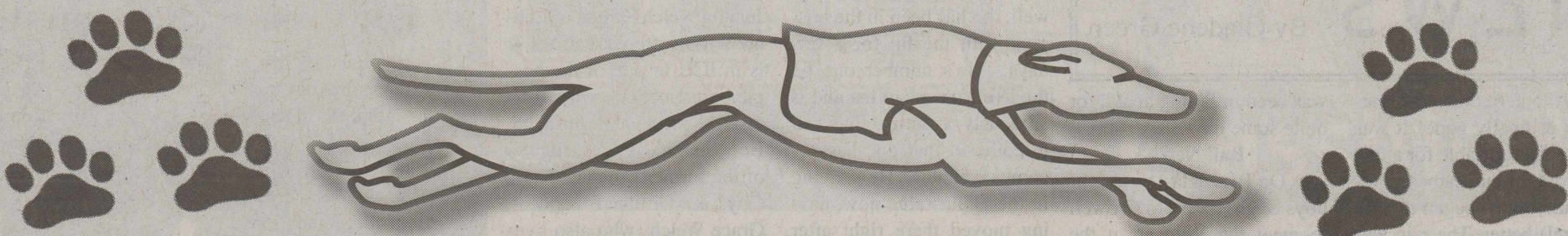
The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the contract.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from Jacob & Martin, Ltd., 3465 Curry Lane, Abilene, Texas 79606 (915-695-1070), upon payment of \$30.00 (nonrefundable) for each set. Checks should be made to the order of Jacob & Martin, Ltd.

Bid Bond: A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of the CITY OF KNOX CITY, negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond, executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with each bid.

CITY OF KNOX CITY, TEXAS  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Stanfield  
Mayor

# KNOX CITY SPORTS



The KC Hounds take direction from their fearless leader, Coach Webb.



The KC Houndettes play defense in a recent game.

## Knox City Houndettes Defeated twice On Home Turf

On Tuesday, January 26, the Knox City Houndettes hosted Vernon Northside for a district game in the Knox City gym. After the first quarter, the Houndettes were up, 18 to 10. Unfortunately, the remaining three quarters of the game belonged to Vernon Northside, who left the KC Gym victorious, beating the Houndettes 54 to 48.

Reagan Clark was the high scorer for the game, earning 14 points for Knox City. Brittney Gonzales scored 13 points, Lacey piece put 11 points on the scoreboard. Cassidy Carter and Brianna Thomas both scored 4 points in this battle with Northside and Laura Vasquez earned 2.

Friday night, the Houndettes met Crowell in the KC Gym. Although this was a high scoring game, this too was a loss for the Knox City girls, losing 76 (Crowell) to 43 (K.C.).

Reagan Clark again showed her amazing ability on the basketball court during this challenging game, once more leading the Houndettes in scoring. Clark, who plays under the #12 jersey, earned 13 points in Friday nights' game. Chastiy Tolson and Lacey Pierce both earned 9 points each. Brittney Gonzales (who recently signed with Cisco Junior College to play volleyball for her college career) netted 6 points, and Gabriela Moya scored 2.

### District Standings

Girls	Boys
Crowell 7-0	Northside 6-0
Benjamin 6-1	Crowell 5-2
Chillicothe 3-4	Knox City 4-3
Knox City 2-5	Benjamin 4-3
Northside 2-4	Chillicothe 1-6
Harrold 0-6	Harrold 0-6

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# OPINION



## The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

### Area deals with ice storm

If you had to count the downed limbs, you'd need an army. I think most of us would agree that this has been a severe winter. The major storms across the country have taken their toll on us all. People, houses, cars, businesses, animals, trees, power lines, roads, schools, etc., have all been effected. You know what? We're still here and we're coping! Power crews are all over their place working their collective tails off. The Texas Department of Transportation, Department of Public Safety, sheriff's office, police, ambulance crews, neighbors - all have risen to the occasion once again. I know the residents and business owners appreciate the sacrifices made by those trying to keep us up and running.

Our new Colossal Classifieds are a bargain. The ability to reach thousands of readers easily and affordably is attractive to sellers, buyers and someone who simply wants to get more eyes.

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My newspapers are not perfect. They never will be. In fact, the day we produce the perfect paper will be the first time it has ever been done in the history of journalism.

Newspapers are expensive to produce. They are expensive to distribute. But instead of raising our prices, we've elected to work for businesses and keep our prices down while at the same time, added color capability and Web sites to enhance the product.

We are constantly working to improve your newspaper and believe me - we are getting there.

I know our readers want to read about their towns and counties. It's where you live and hopefully, where you shop. So when I hear my company is "just another big business that doesn't care about the small town," I take it personally.

At a time when rural Americans have little or no voice, there are some of us working on ways to promote and grow our towns. Indeed, small towns and working to improve our product is what this business is all about. The Colossal Classifieds are a part of that. It gives you a huge market which means you get more bang for your buck. I think that is a good thing.

We welcome feedback and welcome your efforts to make us better. Have a camera? Use it and email us some interesting pics. Have a problem? Let us know and we'll get to work on it. Learn of a story or know some news? Let us know so we can report it.

I want all of the news content in your newspaper to be local. I understand you can learn about all of the other stuff from other places, but come to us for local news.

There is an evolution in progress however and it is a positive one. If you do want to reach that larger market and maximize your advertising dollar call us.

Since so many have taken an interest in my wife and how she is recovering, here's an update: She has improved tremendously. At times she is weak and does not feel well, but she continues to progress. She is scheduled for another procedure in June and from there, she should be good to go for decades.

Sharon is resilient and mentally tough. We joke about how hard it is to get our minds around what has happened and how we are like an elderly couple at times compared to a relatively young couple with small children.

We've always thought of ourselves as strong, but have since realized we are only as strong as those special people around us lifting us up.

Sharon is brave. She has risen to the challenge and is working to make her clothing store better and more unique than ever.

Each day she's up well before dawn getting our boys ready for their day and then it's busy messing with insurance, her store, civic duties, family and on and on.

Without bragging too much, I don't have far to look for inspiration and I thank God that she is still willing and ready to face challenges I can't even begin to fathom.

Thanks so much for your continued prayers and interest in her well-being. It means more than words can describe.

### Input sought at community conservation meeting

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Wichita-Brazos Soil and Water Conservation District invite the public and any agencies with an interest in conservation issues to participate in a Local Work Group meeting to be held at Knox County USDA Service Center at 3950 FM 1292, Knox City. This meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2010 at 1:00 PM.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive input from a broad range of local agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals that have an interest in natural resource conditions and needs in Knox County. Input received will allow the Local Work Group to make recommendations about resource concerns to be addressed for county-based funding. These recommendations will be used while implementing the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and other conservation programs offered by NRCS.

The 2008 Farm Bill stipulates that conservation programs must continue to be

locally led. Through stakeholder meetings, the public is given an opportunity to help local conservation leaders set program priorities. These meetings are open to the public.

For more information, call the NRCS office in Knox City at (940)658-3526 Ext. 3. These service center locations and conservation program information can be found on the NRCS Texas Web site at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov) for the public.

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### Stay positive in 2010

By US Senator John Cornyn

If ever there were a year that we might want to forget, it would likely be 2009. Our country saw the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression. The housing industry all but collapsed, and thousands of Texans faced foreclosure. The automobile industry laid off thousands and turned to Washington for billions in bailouts. Wall Street buckled. Giant corporations made giant layoffs, and small businesses went under.

In Washington, leaders scrambled to solve these crises by haphazardly throwing trillions of dollars at America's problems. Record-setting spending bills were thrown together, including a \$1.1 trillion stimulus package, a \$2.5 trillion health care overhaul bill, and proposals that increased government spending by more than 10 percent. We were told the stimulus would jumpstart the economy immediately, create jobs and keep unemployment below 8 percent. Yet today, unemployment remains in the double digits, and roughly 4 million jobs were lost in 2009.

Clearly 2010 must truly be a year of change. At the top of the agenda must be job creation. For every proposal considered in Washington,

we must first ask the question: will this create jobs?

High on the "2010 to-do list" for some is passing the cap-and-trade bill, which would be a devastating job-killer for Texas and our nation. The proposed language will raise taxes, kill up to 400,000 jobs in Texas alone, and be catastrophic for our energy and agriculture industries.

Today's weakened economy calls for meaningful tax relief and incentives that translate into jobs and money in the pockets of everyday Americans. A number of important tax cuts, including capital gains, are set to expire this year. These measures should be extended, or better yet, made permanent. I'm confident Texans will do a better job than Washington spending or saving their money as they see fit.

In addition to economic security, we must redouble our efforts in homeland security. As we saw in the tragic attack on Fort Hood last year, and the terror plot that came too close to completion on Christmas Day, terrorists continue to target innocent Americans. The need for vigilance against this enemy cannot be underestimated. While some are determined to treat terrorists as common criminals, we cannot allow this mindset to drive our policymaking. Instead, we must

afford our intelligence community the tools they need to secure our nation, instead of affording would-be-terrorists rights they have not earned.

Just as important, we must stand united behind our men and women in uniform as they defend our freedoms abroad. I recently had the privilege of visiting Afghanistan and meeting with several of our Texas troops serving there, in addition to the senior U.S. commander there, General Stanley McChrystal. The President's surge strategy in Afghanistan was the right decision, and we must provide our troops and generals on the ground with every resource they need as they hunt down members of al Qaeda and the Taliban.

Here at home, a concerted effort to secure our borders and reform our flawed immigration system is long overdue. I stand ready and willing to roll up my sleeves and work with the President and Congress to tackle real, meaningful, comprehensive immigration reform.

On health reform, there is still time to get it right. While we were promised a transparent and post-partisan debate on health care reform, we saw exactly the opposite. Health care proposals were crafted largely behind closed doors and layered with billions in sweetheart deals.

Fortunately, with the re-election in Massachusetts of Scott Brown to the U.S. Senate, all elected representatives and the American people must finally be given a seat at the table for this historic debate. I'm hopeful we can finally collaborate in a transparent and bipartisan way to enact real reforms that accomplish the goals of lowering costs and covering more Texans.

Although 2009 was a tough year, it is not too late to turn last year's unmet promises into this year's reality. The strength of our nation in the years to come will depend on the level of security we ensure across the board - from the economy and energy, to health care and our borders. I look forward to continuing to hear from the Texans I represent and working to make Texas more prosperous and secure in 2010.

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Agriculture, and Budget Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.

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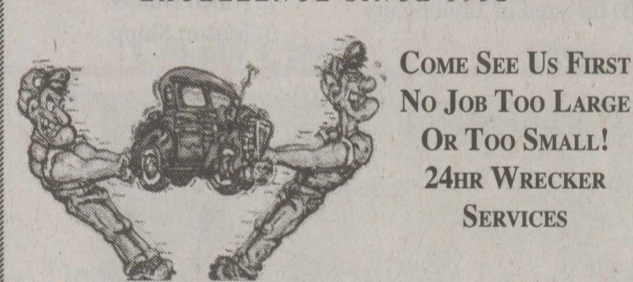
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Madolyn McCormick earned the Breed Champion Duroc Barrow, Breed Champion White OPB Barrow and Breed Champion Black OPB Barrow. They are the proud GREAT-grandchildren of Stella Carver and the late Bud Carver of Knox City.



McCrae Allen Carver McCormick, is pictured above holding his winnings from the Floyd County Stock Show, he garnered: Breed Champion York Barrow, Breed Champion Hamp Barrow, Reserve Breed Champion Major Breed with his York Gilt and Reserve Grand Champion B

## Sheriff's Report

Morelos, Angel 1/8/10 Panhandling (M-C)	Spangler, Jerry 1/16/10 DWI w/ child under 15 in vehicle (SJF) Foard Cnty	Larue, Terry 2/2/10 Delivery of controlled substance (F-)
Preston, Michael 1/8/10 TBC (M-B) Foard Cnty	Walton, Omard 1/18/10 MTR/ Possess CS in Correctional facility (F-3)	Carroll, Alford 2/2/10 Theft (F-3)
Holder, Larry 1/11/10 Deadly Conduct (M-A) Haskell Cnty warrant	Alvarez, Patricio G. 1/18/10 City Fines (M-C)	Hunter William 2/2/10 Theft (F-3)
Jones, Cindy 1/11/10 MTR/DWI (M-B) Baylor Cnty	Macias, Joe Angel 1/21/10 MTR/ Child Support (SJF)	<b>DERBY</b> big trophies
Aguilar, Patty 1/13/10 FTA/DWI (M-B) Baylor Cnty	Moore, Zacquary 1/21/10 Theft (M-B) arrested in Greyson Cnty	1. Brady Finley
FTA/Criminal Mischief (M- B) Knox Cnty	George, Robert 1/22/10 MTR/ Buglary of Bldg (SJF)	2. Nathan Williams
Dickie, Kelly 1/13/10 Theft (SJF) Foard Cnty	Herron, Brandi H. 1/29/10 TBC x 3 (F) New Mexico warrants	3. Josh Hernandez
Collins, David 1/15/10 Surety off Bond/ Robbery (F-2)	Strickland, Amy 2/1/10 MTR/DWI 1st (M- B) arrested in Taylor Cnty	4. Jonah Hernandez
		Best Paint Job
		1. Galen Garrison
		2. Anthony Martinez
		3. Dakota Harlin
		Most Creative
		1. Dane Leija
		2. Aiden Hunter
		3. Mason Shipp

## WEATHER

snow, but got some rain beforehand. But moisture in any form this time of the year is a good thing, he said. "The moisture should really help the wheat crop get going," Bean said. "It's going to be breaking dormancy in about a month."

Bean noted that in a few weeks, the immature head of the wheat will start developing, and the moisture at that time is critical for future development.

Also, the snow and rain will raise soil moisture levels, which will be needed when spring planting starts around the first of April.

"We always like a good snow," Bean said.

The low temperatures and wet conditions stressed livestock, but having been given ample warning of the impending storm, most producers had stocked up on feed, and losses were minimal, according to AgriLife Extension reports.

"Roads, schools and most scheduled events were canceled and basically shut everything down for two days during what weather forecasters are calling the worst winter storm in 10 years," said J.D. Ragland, AgriLife Extension agent in **Randall County**, south of Amarillo. "In some cases electricity was off for several hours with cattle escaping electric fencing and scattering for several miles. Some cattle death losses took place also but not to any significant numbers."

The following summaries were compiled by AgriLife Extension district reporters:

**CENTRAL:** Most areas received significant rainfall with some experiencing freezing temperatures, freezing rain and some snow. Producers continued to provide supplemental feed to livestock. Sunshine and warmer temperatures were needed for small-grain growth. Some farmers were not able to get in and prepare fields for spring planting due to wet conditions.

**COASTAL BEND:** Warmer temperatures and some sunshine encouraged growth of cool-season grasses. Wheat, oats and winter rye were doing well. However, a cold front at the end of the reporting period brought rain, further delaying row-crop planting. Farmers began to aerially apply weed herbicides. Volunteer clover and vetch were also doing well. The condition of some cattle was dropping due to low-quality hay and lack of supplemental feed, while others were doing well. Vineyard managers were pruning vines.

**EAST:** Parts of the region received as much as 2.5 inches of rain. Cold, rainy conditions were the rule. Winter forages were hit hard by the freezing temperatures and made slow progress. Soggy pastures prevented producers from applying fertilizer. Producers were still feeding existing hay stocks but were looking to purchase new supplies too. Calving season began. Livestock were in fair to good condition with producers providing supplemental feed. Feral hogs continued to cause damage.

**FAR WEST:** Wind and mild temperatures were followed by up to 1 inch of rain and as much as 3 inches of snow. Some winds were in excess of 50 mph. The much needed moisture was expected to aid wheat, oats, barley and pastures. However, rangeland conditions continued to decline.

**NORTH:** Soil moisture was adequate to surplus. Conditions remained too wet for farmers to prepare fields for planting. Pastures were saturated and flooded by excessive rain. Small grains and winter pastures greened up, but the cold weather took its toll on cattle. Livestock producers continued to supply large amounts of supplemental feed, while

they worried about dropping hay stocks. Some producers were able to get calves out of the pastures and ready to sell despite the muddy conditions. Dairy cows were suffering from the wet conditions.

**PANHANDLE:** The region received from 8 inches to 12 inches of snow. Some areas received freezing rain first, followed by snow. Highways were closed for most of Thursday and part of Friday. Early reports indicated that the moisture from snow and ice was equivalent to 1 inch to 2 inches of rain. Producers hoped the moisture will improve wheat and rangeland. Few cattle deaths were reported at this time, but thanks to weather forecasts, most producers were able to stock up on cattle feed.

**SOUTH:** Warm temperatures and lots of sunshine were followed by cool temperatures and spotty showers. Most of the region still had adequate soil moisture except for western parts where soil moisture conditions were 100 percent short. Potato planting continued in the northern part of the region throughout the week. In the eastern part of the region, early planted wheat and oats were in fair to good condition. Some sunflower and corn producers were planning to start planting soon. Dryland wheat and oat fields benefited from the light showers, but needed more rain. Growers resumed cabbage harvesting as soon as fields dried out enough. Spinach, carrots and onions were doing well following irrigation. Because of the cold and wet weather, beef producers were supplying large amounts of supplemental feed. Also, cattle's nutritional demands were high as it was the calving season. Rangeland and pastures were in good to fair condition.

**SOUTH PLAINS:** Another winter storm came, bringing from 0.5 inch to 1.5 inches of rain, followed by approximately 3 inches of snow. High winds and ice caused a great amount of damage to trees and shrubs. Soil moisture was short to adequate. The rain and snow put a stop to field work. Wheat was in fair to good condition. Pastures and rangeland were in fair to good condition. Extremely cold temperatures along with wet conditions and high winds stressed livestock, and in response, producers increased supplemental feeding.

**SOUTHWEST:** Cold weather stopped the growth of winter annual grasses. Clover needed warmer weather to grow. Livestock were consuming large amounts of hay, and producers were searching for more. What clover and other cool-season grasses were present were grazed down except where producers used proper pasture rotation and stocking rates.

**WEST CENTRAL:** A mix of rain, sleet and some snow returned. Soil moisture was good, but there was only limited field activity due to wet conditions. Wheat and oat crops were doing well. Rangeland and pastures improved thanks to the added moisture.

Beef producers continued to increase supplemental feeding of livestock. They were also actively shipping cattle and culling herds.

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