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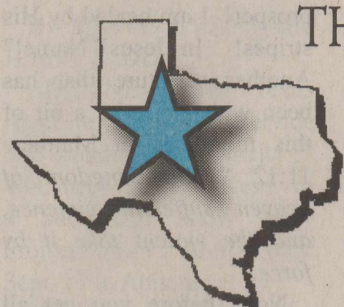


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THE

# KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

10 PAGES PLUS INSERTS  
VOLUME XXIX

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010

75 CENTS  
NUMBER 42

## Rural State Agency awards \$249,950 grant to the City of Benjamin



Benjamin officials accept the nearly quarter million dollar check from TDRA on Tuesday.

The Texas Department of Rural Affairs (TDRA) presented an oversized ceremonial check to local officials in the City of Benjamin to recognize the community for securing a grant from the agency's Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) program. Agency staff presented the check on Aug. 3 at City Hall.

"We are very pleased to award this grant to Benjamin," said Charles S. (Charlie) Stone, executive director of TDRA. "Community development projects such as this help Texans in rural

communities improve their quality of life."

The City of Benjamin will use its \$249,950 grant to install a 60,000 gallon per day reverse osmosis plant, filter equipment, pipes and valves at the Lake Benjamin Water Treatment Plant. In addition, the City will construct a two-acre evaporation pond to hold wastewater from the reverse osmosis plant. The project will reduce the high levels of nitrate in the water supply, so that the City can meet minimum requirements set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). As of now, the City

Photo by Wyman Meinzer

only has the ability to treat 30 gallons of water each day. "Now, with this new unit, even our cows will have the best water available," says Mayor, Sylinda Meinzer.

The agency awarded \$1,747,565 to seven West Central Texas communities, including O'Brien, Haskell, Goree, Ranger, Loraine, Rising Star and Benjamin.

The grants come from the Texas Community Development Block Grant program, the largest CDBG program in the nation. Rural cities with populations less than 50,000 and counties See AWARD on Page 9

## Benjamin hires new Athletic Director

By Tamara Smart

Hailing from a small town, much like the communities that make up Knox County named McLean, Texas, Coach Robert Sprinkles feels at home in his new surroundings in Benjamin, Texas as he takes his newly appointed post as athletic director for BISD.

Couch Sprinkles, 47, has an extremely impressive resume. As a Veteran of the United States Air force, a one time snow crab fisherman, an alumni of Angelo State University and a coach for the last 13 years, Coach Sprinkles is not only a physical force to be reckoned with, but a mentally and emotionally strong man. This is a very important trait for Coach Sprinkles to embody, not only because of his duties on the field of high school battle, but as a father to a 24 year old, a four year old, a two year old, and soon, another mini-Sprinkle is due to arrive to Coach and his wife of seven years, Dina.

Dina Also has a new job in Knox County, which should make for some interesting home life for the couple. Dina will be a new Special Education teacher in Knox City CISD, a noted rival on the court of her husband's team.



Coach Robert Sprinkles

Photo by Tamara Smart

The last job that Coach Sprinkle had before moving to Benjamin was in Diamond Hill, a part of Fort Worth. Coach wanted to move to the smaller town because he was tired of the foul language, the bad attitudes and the racism in the larger town. Coach

wanted to "get back to his small town roots". He loves the fact that his students now are hard workers. In fact, upon meeting with Knox County News on the first day of 2-a0days, Coach only had four young men See ATHLETIC on Page 9

## Angel Food Ministries offers a helping hand for families in Knox County

Angel Food Ministries (www.angelfoodministries.com), an organization dedicated to providing affordable, high quality food to those in need, is offering relief and joy to families in Knox County.

Angel food ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing financial support in the form of food relief to communities throughout the United States. Established in 1994 to provide relief for struggling families in the Monroe, GA area, Angel food Ministries today serves hundreds of thousands of families across 42 states, recently welcoming Nevada to the roster where Angel Food's benefits can be realized. Since inception, Angel Food ministries have fed more than 22 million American families.

In response to current economic conditions, there is a greater need for Angel Food's services nationwide and expansion of services to the people of Knox County is one example of the amplified need for quality, affordable food that is the core of Angel foods mission. Angel food provides individuals and families with fresh, brand name for

a fraction of the retail price. By purchasing food in bulk, directly from some of the top suppliers in the country, food is discounted by up to 50 percent of retail. A standard medium-sized box of food ma be purchased for \$30, and contains top quality food samples from every food group, including chicken or beef, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruits. Each of the regular boxes of food will feed a family of four for about one week, or a single individual for almost a month. The menu selections vary each month, and consist of both fresh and frozen items, saving American money with no sacrifice to quality. There is even a box geared towards the nutritional for people on the go.

Angel Food ministries service is available to everyone and anyone. There are no income requirements, and they also accept SNAP. There are no limits of the quantity of boxes per individual; nor are there any applications or qualifications for eligibility.

Recently, a host site was set in Knox City to serve the Knox County area with Angel Food See MINISTRIES on Page 9

## Post office officials will reveal Knox County's own stamp cancellation

Post office officials will reveal Knox County's own stamp cancellation at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the Benjamin Post Office.

The Texas Plains Trail Region and the United States Postal Service are partnering for a special year-long stamp cancellation project. Each of the 52 counties in the Texas Plains Trail Region will be featured on a stamp cancellation this year.

Each Wednesday a new county stamp cancellation —

in alphabetical order — will be revealed at the county seat post office. A complete list of the Texas Plains Trail counties and their respective stamp cancellation date can be found on the Texas Plains Trail Web site, www.texasplainstrail.com.

The project is the effort of Texas photographer Rick Vanderpool to connect the communities of the Panhandle. Vanderpool asked students in the Texas

See STAMP on Page 9

## Knox City—O'Brien CISD registration Aug. 18

Note — All students new to the district will need to bring the following documents: (1) Current Immunization Record (2) Certified Copy of Birth Certificate (3) Social Security Card (not the number but the actual card) (4) Previous School Information

Knox City Elementary School (Grades PK-4)

Registration will begin at 1 p.m., Aug. 18 in the

See CISD on Page 9

## LOOKING AHEAD

Here it comes- the first scrimmage of the season for the Knox City Hound Football team will be this Saturday. The JV team will play Harrold in Benjamin Saturday morning at 10 am, the Varsity will play Newcastle and Paducah at home Saturday evening. People are asked to bring towels to the game so the players can use them in the locker room

Friday 13, Saturday 14, "Sarah Behind the Door" will meet at the Goree Baptist Church. Sarah Behind the Door is a Women's Conference dedicated to the study of Sarah, and women's roles in

the community. Friday the conference will start at 7 p.m. Saturday, the conference will reconvene at 9 a.m. Ranger Creek will cater a lunch on Saturday for \$8.75. All women in the area are invited to attend, please RSVP or for more information call Rita at 940-203-2568.

Summer is winding to a close- Knox County schools all reconvene for the Fall Semester on Aug. 23.

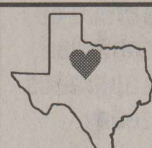
The St. Paul Baptist Church will be collecting funds for their new building through a can collection drive. Anyone with cans can donate them to

the cause by simply dropping your cans off at 308 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Knox City. There is also a raffle going on through the end of August, please see a St. Paul member for more details.

Looking forward to the Liberty Church 16<sup>th</sup> Homecoming/ 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will take place Sept. 4 & 5. At the Liberty Church located at 302 Aspen Street. The festivities will include Games, a Musical, Church anniversary Service, Fellowship, and much more. Make sure you mark your calendar- everyone is invited to attend.

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# KC AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City

Jerry Vincent, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City

Timothy Trimble, Pastor  
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
No Sunday Evening Service

## ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -

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

## FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City

Gary A. Schnable, Pastor  
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
Mens Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am. Wednesday Morning

## SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH BILINGUAL - Knox City

Father Charles Gorantla • Deacon Ben Vasquez  
Sunday Mass at Noon

## LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knox City

Gene Ward Jr., Pastor  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.  
Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

## ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rhineland

Father Charles Gorantla • Deacon Jim Novak  
Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass  
Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Timothy Trimble, Pastor  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

## GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie

Matt Harrington, Pastor  
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.

## CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin

Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

## THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL - Highway 222

W.O. Smith, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Mid-Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

## O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien

Jim Reid, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m., Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.  
Sunday Mornings on KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.

## WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

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

## MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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# God's Promises

About a week ago, Tamara called and talked with Melesha (my wife) about my participation in the weekly "God's Promises" section that Pastor Jim Reid used to write each week. As I understand it, Pastors in our community will take turns from week to week, and as this is my week, I decided to use one of the weekly email "devotionals" that I send out each week to those who participate in "Tex Talk."

In these weekly "Tex Talk" emails, I will typically either answer a question that has been sent in by a reader, or just send out what the Lord places on my heart. Below is the question/answer email dealing with something that I find very commonplace in ministry.

**This week's question:** "Tex, I've been trying to live my life right and it just seems like every time I take a step forward I take two steps back. I don't know how much longer I can keep this up! What can I do?"

My Mother has a saying she loves to repeat - "NEVER GIVE UP!" If what you are doing is according to the Word of God, DON'T QUIT! DON'T GIVE UP! God says it this way in Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." You know the clichés - "it's always darkest before the

dawn"...."the sun will come out tomorrow"....."what doesn't kill you can't hurt you...." etc., etc.

The Word says, "...do not grow weary in well doing, for you SHALL REAP in due season.... IF you faint not." For me, that says simply, and very clearly - DON'T GIVE UP! God has another way of saying this in Isaiah 55:11, "So shall My Word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper [in the thing] whereto I sent it..."

Contrary to popular belief, GOD'S WORD WORKS! Do not grow weary! Continue in His Word! Continue to believe! I say this prophetically to you today, YOUR HARVEST IS UPON YOU! If like many, you are waiting for a financial break through in your life, stand on the Word. Luke 6:38 says, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom." Have you given? Then believe God's Word! Get ready for some pressed down, shaken together, running over!!! Start praising God now, because His Word is about to come to pass in your life! Expect it!

What would you think about a farmer that planted his wheat seed and then walked off, saying, "Well, bless God.... whatever God wants to do God can do...." and not even be expecting a harvest come harvest time??? Crazy, huh? Yet that is what so many Christians are doing today! They are sowing the seed, but not expecting any results! YOUR HARVEST IS HERE!

Do you have problems in your life that seem impossible to overcome? NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD!!! Let me ask you a question. When is the last time you spoke to your mountain? You say, "Tex! Have you lost your mind?"

Let's see what the Word says. In Mark 11 verse 23 Jesus said, "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

Guess what? JESUS didn't say that - - - JESUS did! Your problem is the mountain that He is telling you to speak to! That's right! SPEAK TO! "Debt! In the Name of Jesus, you get out of my life! I am blessed! My God shall supply all of my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus! You have no place in my life! Leave!"

In Jesus' Name!" "Strife! You have no place in my life! I walk in peace,

covered by the blood of Jesus and I will not allow you in my home anymore!" "Sickness, disease, etc. etc.. (whatever your problem is in your life) I will have no more of you! No weapon formed against me shall prosper! I am healed by His stripes! In Jesus' Name!" Another scripture that has been with me quite a bit of this month is in Matthew 11:12 "...the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."

Now, before you get all theological on me, and start trying to "put it into context", let me just sum this verse up in light of what we have been talking about. THOSE WHO WISH TO LIVE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF HIS PRESENCE AND GLORY, MUST BE WILLING TO PUSH THROUGH AND TAKE WHAT JESUS MADE AVAILABLE!!! If you think the devil is not going to put up a fight, you are wrong. But like most bullies, once he sees you mean business, he will flee from you. (James 4:7) Remember! YOU ARE BLESSED!

If you would like to participate in the weekly "Tex Talk" email, please send your request to [tex@texcox.org](mailto:tex@texcox.org) - - - or visit us on the internet at [www.texcox.org](http://www.texcox.org)

Until next time!

Tex

# Choose Your Ride emphasis for DPS Labor Day safety plan

This year's annual Labor Day *Drink, Drive, Go to Jail* campaign to prevent drinking and driving will have an emphasis on the importance of choosing not to get behind the wheel if you have been drinking. The "Choose Your Ride" theme features modified patrol cars that have decals making the vehicle look like half a police vehicle and half a taxi cab. In addition to being on billboards and posters, these vehicles will be out on the streets in communities with a high incidence of alcohol-related fatalities. The message is that if you choose to drink, you should call a cab, designate a sober

driver ahead of time, use public transportation, stay put, or call a friend or family member for a ride.

The *Drink, Drive, Go to Jail* campaign runs from August 20 to September 6, 2010. During this time, law enforcement statewide will be working overtime to find and arrest drunk drivers.

Driving drunk is not only dangerous, it can be very expensive. In Texas, if convicted of a first-time DWI, offenders can pay a fine of up to \$2,000, lose their driver's license for up to a year, and serve 180 days in jail. Other costs associated

with a drunk-driving arrest and conviction can add up to more than \$17,000 for bail, legal fees, court appearances, court-ordered classes, vehicle insurance increases, and other expenses. Drunk drivers with children younger than 15 in the vehicle face even stiffer penalties. They can be charged with child endangerment and face up to a \$10,000 fine, two years in a state jail, and loss of their driver's license for up to two years.

The real consequences of drunk driving are the senseless deaths and injuries that result from this reckless

behavior. Preliminary statistics show that in 2009, there were 27,108 alcohol-related crashes in Texas that resulted in 955 deaths and 17,542 injuries. Data from police crash reports show that in 2008, 28.1 percent of the total traffic fatalities in Texas were caused by drivers under the influence of alcohol. And, 25 percent of people killed in alcohol-related crashes in Texas were between the ages of 20 and 25.

This year, Texans can take a stand to not drink and drive and to keep friends and family from drinking and driving. Remember, choose your ride carefully, and keep Texas roads safe during the upcoming Labor Day weekend. For more information, visit <http://www.texasdwi.org/>.

# The Knox County News

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### KCN OFFICE HOURS

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Charlie and Julie Schur of Knox City announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Meagan Adele Schur, to Seth Wilson Raines, son of Tony and Gayla DeHoyos of Vernon. The couple will exchange wedding vows at 5 p.m., Nov. 6, 2010 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Vernon with the Rev. Paul Neuberger, pastor, officiating. Miss Schur is a graduate of Knox City High School and the LVN School at Vernon College. An LVN, she is currently attending the RN Transition Program at Vernon College. Raines graduated from Vernon High School and is employed at Sullivan's Funeral Home. Miss Schur is the granddaughter of Janice Browning of Vernon and the late Kenneth Browning and Patsy and Charles Dinges of Vernon and the late Charles V. Schur. Raines is the grandson of Dennis and Bernadine Raines of Vernon and Tony Raines of Dallas, formerly of Vernon.

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### COWPOKES®

By Ace Reid



"Hey, I came out pretty good on this swap, I got a broke rope, a spur, two boots, a pair of pliers, and got rid of a hoss and a feed bill!"

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**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.*

The trouble with perfecting an art is that once you've done it, there's no place to go. To wit, Julius Caesar – or was it Alexander the Great? – wept because he had no more worlds to conquer.

**RESEARCH PAUSE.**  
It was Alexander the Great. Not that Julius Caesar wasn't ambitious and successful too. But neither of those guys can outdo me in my realm of expertise: the art of taking a cheap vacation, wherein I've just outdone myself and taken things to a cheaper level than I previously imagined possible.

Consider Julius Caesar's most famous vacation -- a trip on the Nile with Cleopatra. I haven't seen the movie, but I'm guessing they had a first-class cabin and attentive slaves who fanned them with palm leaves. Only the best for those two.

If Alexander the Great took any famous vacations, the bio I scanned didn't list them per se. But he did get drunk a lot.

As for me, I'm the queen of cheap. My new approach to escaping the tedium of things like everyday living and conquering neighboring countries is cheaper and nobler than getting drunk and cheaper than all my previous cheap vacation ideas. You need not cross the North Atlantic in winter or go someplace hot in the summer or visit the beach after an oil spill. You just have to get up early.

If you already get up and out early, it won't work. Sorry.

But for the rest of us, it can be quite a getaway. It was for me today.

My husband woke well before sunup. He brewed coffee and fetched the morning paper – all he needs to start his day. Not me. I require half-and-half. I'd put the last of ours in the macaroni and cheese.

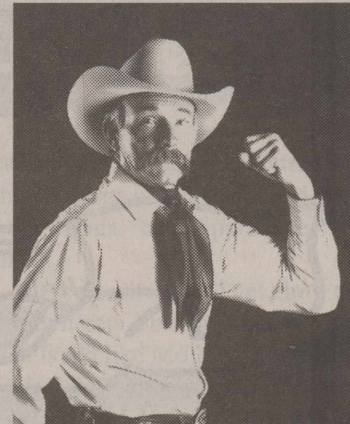
So off I went to the supermarket at dawn, mentally prepared to walk to the farthest corner for my dairy fix, my mind otherwise blank. Suddenly I found myself transported in time and space to Avignon, France, Aug. 3, 1991.

My friend Lupy and I had just stepped off the early morning train. The famous Festival d'Avignon had ended just the day before. The town was waking up and workmen were sweeping up. There's nothing like arriving somewhere when all that's left of a big bash is the litter. It sort of makes you glad you missed it. Eventually we found a café. We ate croissants and drank big cups of café au lait with the other first customers of the day. Nice.

This morning, as I shopped to the loud drone of a floor polisher and saw bananas coming out of boxes and price-changers changing prices, it was Avignon all over again -- the dawn of a clean new day, and I was there for it.

If I'd settled for black coffee, I'd have missed it all.

Anyway, the next time you want to go somewhere different, try the grocery store at dawn. Half-and-half gave me my cheap drunk. Who knows where a Caesar salad might take you?



**ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE**  
by Baxter Black, DVM

**RODEO STOCK CONTRACTORS**

Bennie Beutler got inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame this summer. One of a good handful of stock contractors that have been so honored.

Stock contractors are an odd lot. They're not smilers. They're always on the job...sort of a cross between a prison guard and the captain of a pirate ship! Maybe it's because they are trying to maintain order in a sea of chaos. They are merely attempting to match up one cowboy with one animal, neither of which takes orders very well! I've had the pleasure to be with several of them when they attempted to relax. Unfortunately, it's like watching Queen Elizabeth in her Bermuda shorts texting her broker at Billy Bobs!

I was there at the Agribition watching Harry Vold trying to pick octopus limbs out of his chow mein at the hotel where Bob Tallman was asked to leave and Leon Coffee took on the Royal Canadian Mounties!

And, when Cotton Rosser surprised his guests at his birthday party by having me ride one of his big paint horses into the dining room. That same night he invited a skydiver to parachute into the parking lot wearing an American flag. Many were relieved that no one was seriously injured, but Cotton I think appreciated the excitement when the skydiver hit a lamp post and landed in a tree.

Jim Korkow took me home with him after a big night at the Silver Spur in Ft. Pierre where we concluded by singing "On the Wings of a Snow White Dove" with the All-Girl Indian Band. His wife drove, thank goodness. I remember he put me to bed but I woke up the next morning under the kitchen table downstairs!

I've been Mike Cervi's pen pal, listened to Wayne Vold sing "Oh, Canada" flat on his back, done pre-rodeo announcing for Bobby Christensen, and held the door for Jim Sutton and Reg Kessler and admired many from afar.

Back to Bennie, one of the more sartorially splendid rodeo producers, he's usually in a suit, clean shirt with that natty little scarf around his neck, carrying on the tradition. In the early 80's during rodeo's more "homey" days, Bob Edson was the commissioner, Bruce Ford, Roy Cooper, Tom Ferguson and Brad Gjermundson filled the stands, and the PRCA Convention was held in Denver.

In the evenings the halls were lined with hospitality rooms. My wife and I often played music with others...just jammin'. Cindy Lou was from Oklahoma and played a fine fiddle. Bennie, it seemed, would often hunt her out and sit around listening to her play all those great ol' songs that were part of his Oklahoma upbringing; Faded Love, Maiden's Prayer, Take Me Back to Tulsa, Oklahoma Hills. His serious demeanor would melt for awhile...and he would smile.

Of course, we all knew that he was still workin' out ways to get cowboys bucked off, but for a few minutes he looked almost...happy. [www.baxterblack.com](http://www.baxterblack.com)

**KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES MENUS FOR AUG. 16<sup>TH</sup> TO AUG. 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**Aging Services Menu**

Monday August 16  
Salisbury Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Broccoli/Cheese  
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Cookies

Tuesday August 17  
German Sausage/ Potato Casserole  
Fried Okra  
Salad  
Slice bread  
Cake

Wednesday August 18  
Sliced Ham  
Great Northern Beans  
Spinach  
Cornbread  
Cheesecake

Thursday, August 19  
Chicken Strips/ Gravy  
Butterfied Potatoes  
Apple. Celery Salad  
Biscuit  
Cobbler

Friday, August 20  
Sub Sandwiches  
Chips Pickled beets  
Dessert

Now serving time is noon (in Knox City only)  
Alternate desserts for diabetics. Please call in your orders by 10 a.m. to 657-3618. Orders can't be taken after 10 a.m. and need to be picked up after 11 a.m.

**NRCS**

United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center  
Knox City, TX

**2009 Weekly Weather Report**

Date	Temperature (F)		Rainfall	Snow
	Low	High	inches	inches
8/02	70	103		
8/03	72	102		
8/04	74	102		
8/05	71	101		
8/06	76	98		
8/07	73	103		
8/08	77	102		
Total Rainfall for month			0.0	
2010 Rainfall (ytd)			27.33	6.6

**Knox County Market Place**

**Help Wanted**  
Brazos Valley Care home is accepting applications for: LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES or REGISTERED NURSES. Full and Part-time positions available. Apply in person or call Sandra Logsdon, DON for more information. 605 S. Ave F. Knox City, Texas 79529 (940) 658-3543.

**NOW HIRING** Penman's Convenient Store Knox City 609 E. Main APPLY IN PERSON

Lake Creek Golf Club, Munday Texas seeks responsible and motivated person for the for the position of greens keeper. Experience with operation and maintenance of light farm equipment preferred. Mail application to P.O. Box 747, Munday, TX 76371 or call 940-2562324. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Knox City housing Authority is accepting applications for full time permanent maintenance person until August 16,2010. Position is salaried with benefits. Salary based upon qualifications. Applications may be picked up at Knox City Housing Authority between 9 and noon Monday thru Thursday. KCHA is an equal opportunity employer.

The Knox County Sheriff's office is currently accepting applications for the position of patrol deputy. Benefits include supplemented medical, vacation, holidays, retirement, cell phone supplement is applicable. Requirements are current TCLEOSE issued peace officer license, any additional certificates, honesty and common sense are a plus. Knox County is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants are subject to background investigation. Applications may be requested by contacting the Knox County Sheriff's office at 940-459-2211, or apply in person at 104 South

Stewart, Benjamin, Texas. Position will remain open until filled.

**For Sale**  
For Sale: 2007 16 x 76 Single wide Mobile home. Central Heat/ Ac. All electric. Call 940-422-4417 for more information

**For Lease**  
Hunting Lease  
First time Lease- Deer, Turkey, Hog, Quail, Dove, Electricity, 300 acres. For information call 940-658-3092 or 940-658-3807 or (cell) 940-256-0182.

**House For Sale**  
4 bedroom, 2 bath in Rochester on Corner lot. Living room, dining room, pool room. Fenced in Yard. Low price. The Call 940-743-3452 and ask for Bobby for more information.

House for Sale 507 Ave E 3/2/2 brick, corner lot, water well, storage, pecan trees, lots of updates (940) 658-3744

3 Bedroom, 1 bath house for sale by owner. Needs work. Call 657-3196 after 3 pm.

**PRICE REDUCED!** Home For Sale 507 Ave. E 3/2/2 Brick, Corner Lot, Water Well, Storage, Lots of Updates (940)658-3744.

**Garage Sale**  
Exa Lee's Storage building garage sale, corner of S. 7th & Main Street, Munday, Texas. August 14, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Different and first time items.

**ANOTHER BIG GARAGE SALE AT THE YOUNG'S!** We added lots of items including: Large picture Frame, Towels, Linen, much more. 400 S. Stewart in Benjamin. Saturday 7am -12 noon.

**Buying live wild hogs**  
Phone  
940-474-1020

*Thanks for reading the Knox County News!*

If you would like to place your classified under the Knox County Market Place Please Call 940-657-3142

**WestMark Realtors**  
Knox City Branch Office  
Looking to Buy? Sell? Call us! (940) 657-5100 or Contact Sue Stephens (806)777-8923 or C.H. Underwood (940)256-4204

**Residential**

- Spacious 4 BR, 2.5 bath, Brick home, prime location, 300 S. Central, Knox City- REDUCED
- NEW- Charming, well-kept older home. 3 BR 405 SW 3rd Knox City
- NEW! Nice, brick, country home on 1.48 ac. Storage building and large modern metal barn. Fenced yard with large trees. Possible extra acreage available. 3.5 miles east of Rochester on CR 165.
- Newly on Market- In country, 2 acres with 2 houses. On Pavement. Quiet Setting near O'Brien.

**Farms/Land**

- Haskell Co. 805 AC., near Rule, 600 Ac. Cult.
- 781 AC., near Rule, Tanks, Hunting
- 654 AC., Irrigation Pivots, CONTRACT 290 AC.
- 324 AC., 1/2 irrigated, 1/2 CRP
- 300+ AC farmland. Irrigation and side roll and 165 ac. Some fenced. Two ground tanks, dove, quail, deer & turkey. Off Hwy 6- South of Rochester. Excellent for peanuts, wheat, cotton or cattle.

**Commercial**

- Commercial Real Estate and Equipment- Knox City- \$55,000.
- Nice Modern Restaurant, recently built. Also could be used for hunting lodge- Weinert, TX

**Does print advertising work?**  
It just did.  
Call to place your ad today!  
940-657-3142

**Counts Real Estate**  
David Counts, Broker  
Marla Hawkins, Agent Patsy Gonzales, Agent  
102 North Ave. A (940)658-3390  
Knox City, Texas

**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. REDUCED

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

**609 S. Ave E:** Split Level 4 BR, 3 Ba, Brick home. C H/AC, Fireplace, Master Suite, basement, pool, fenced yard, great location!

**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!

**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. Call for occupancy!

**HUNTING** 1900+/- featuring 12 tanks, varied terrain, small bunk house, covered patio area, barns, and lots of wildlife!

**600 +/- Acres Prime Hunting land:** Approximately 1 mile of Brazos river frontage, fences, corrals, water well, electricity, good roads and lots of wildlife! Motivated seller!

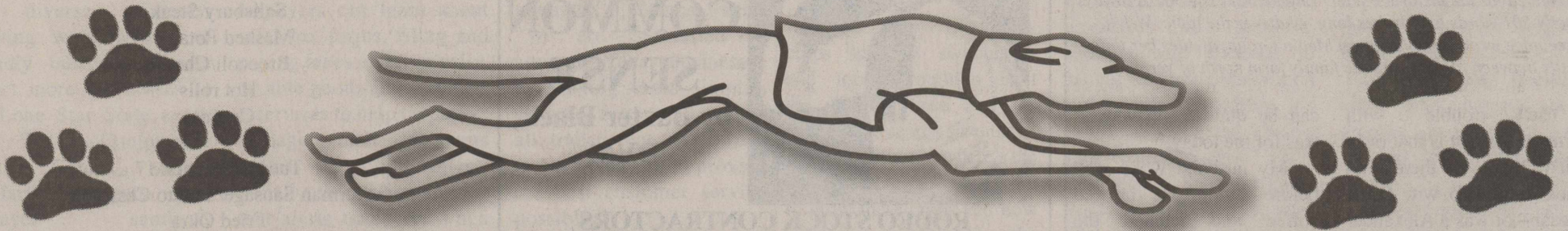
**New Listing!** 377+/- Acres with Brazos River frontage, Hwy frontage, HUNTING, farm house, some miners.

**Munday, TX:** 4 BR, 2 Ba. home. C H/AC. Metal roof, covered patio, front porch. Fenced back yard, water well for the yard, nice storage bldg. \$37,000

**New Listing!** 1106 SE 2nd Street. 3 BR, 1 Bath home. Central H/AC freshly painted interior, updated bathroom, fenced yard, exterior storage, storm cellar, covered parking. \$27,500.00

**3 Bedroom, 1 bathroom Home** at 702 South Central. Move in Ready. \$36,000.

# KNOX CITY SPORTS



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*Backing the Hounds since 1976*

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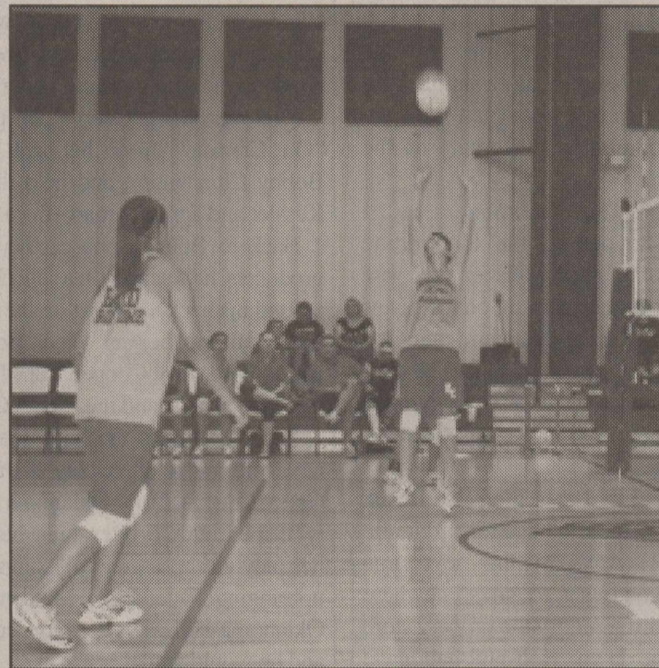


Chastity Tolsen returns one back to the opposition during the opening scrimmage of the season for Knox City Houndettes.

Photo by Daveine Clark

## Knox City Houndettes gear up for season opener

It was the first scrimmage of 2010. With 17 girls hailing on the Houndette teams, featuring four seniors and four juniors, the girls showed up to the scrimmage against Northside and Memphis (at Northside) with season opening "jitters." After a slow start, with a few fundamental errors, the girls eventually shook the jitters and pulled together as the game went on. In fact, Coach Perales told Knox County News, "I was impressed with some of the plays the younger girls pulled off." This year, Coach Perales says their serving is better. With six returning varsity players, they have a veteran team. Although no score was taken at the scrimmage, Perales was pleased with the performance of his girls. The actual season will open Tuesday night against Harrold in the Knox City gym. Both Varsity and JV will attend tournaments this weekend in Bryson. *Knox County News* will bring you the results of these games next week.



Reagan Clark sets up the ball for a spike against the opposing team to start off the 2010 volleyball season.

Photo by Daveine Clark

## Hound football season begins this weekend

Here it comes- the first scrimmage of the season for the Knox City Hound Football team will be this Saturday. The JV team will play Harrold in Benjamin Saturday morning at 10 a.m., the Varsity will play Newcastle and Paducah at home Saturday evening. People are asked to bring towels to the game so the players can use them in the locker room.

**Thanks for Reading!**

[www.knoxcountynewsonline.com](http://www.knoxcountynewsonline.com)

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Complete Aerial Applications and Helicopter Service  
STAN WOJCIK  
OFFICE (940) 658-3744

50-212 (Rev. 08-09/10)

**2010 Property Tax Rates in KNOX CITY**

This notice concerns 2010 property tax rates for KNOX CITY. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

**Last year's tax rate:**

Last year's operating taxes	\$	25,351,400.00
Last year's debt taxes	\$	
Last year's total taxes	\$	25,351,400.00
Last year's tax base	\$	205,346.00
Last year's total tax rate	\$	.81000 /\$100

**This year's effective tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$	204,103.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$	25,207,153.00
= This year's effective tax rate	\$	.80970 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

In the first year a hospital district or city collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, it must insert the following lines unless its first adjustment was made last year:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$	/ \$100
= Effective tax rate	\$	/ \$100

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$	204,103.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$	25,207,153.00
= This year's effective operating rate	\$	.80970 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$	.87448 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$	/ \$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$	.87448 /\$100

A hospital district or city that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following lines:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$	/ \$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$	/ \$100

For a taxing unit with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:

+ Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$	/ \$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$	/ \$100

**STATEMENT OF INCREASE/DECREASE**

IF KNOX CITY ADOPTS A 2010 TAX RATE EQUAL TO THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE OF \$ .80970 per \$100 OF VALUE, TAXES WOULD DECREASE COMPARED TO 2009 TAXES BY 0.0003

**Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

TYPE OF PROPERTY TAX FUND	BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	-0-

This notice was prepared by Mitzi Welch, Chief Appraiser

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The City of Knox City  
Is scheduled to vote on the  
proposed  
Annual tax rate for the fiscal year  
2010/2011  
At the regular city council meeting  
to be held on  
August 12, 2010 at 7:00 pm  
At City Hall  
902 E. Main

# BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

Talk about lack of news. This week has sure been slow as far as "new happenings" in the community go. Most of the talk is hot weather and folks preparing for a new school year. And then there are a few plans for that last short trip for teacher, parents and students before the first bell rings on Aug. 23.

The two-a-days seem to be going pretty well. Not sure how many are out for football, but hopefully by the beginning of school, things will look pretty encouraging. We have a new coach from the Ft. Worth area that is working diligently with them getting them ready for a scrimmage right away.

**Here 'N There**

Jessica and Anthony Lamb were in Wichita Falls during the weekend where they helped with activities to do with the deer-fest at the MPEC center.

Weekend guests of Jen and Fred Carver were Stacia, Gary, and Ryan Antilley of Wingate; Callie Antilley and Ryder of Winters; Rick, Heather, Jennica, Bella and

Ashburn Carver of Abilene; and Tammy and Cassie Lyles of Benjamin. Also Jacy Colline, Lexie and Talon of Munday.

All were her to attend the wedding for Jacy and Jara Gray at the First Baptist Church in Munday on Saturday afternoon.

Judy, Barnett told me today (Monday) that her aunt, Corrine Parrish, is still not feeling too well and is to begin therapy soon to see if the pain in her back and hip can be eased. That seems to be her main problem. We know Corrine sure does not feel well as she has not been able to be in church in a few weeks- We miss her being in "her pew" on Sundays and hope and pray she will feel better soon.

Ericka Holmes and daughters, Jayden and Jayce have been on the go the last few days. They Made a trip to Six Flags and then on the weekend attended a family reunion at Lampasas. Then they have been doing some school shopping for Jayden; she will begin Pre-K when school starts.

## Just Jeff

The weather just keeps staying hot. I mean it is hotter than Al Rios in a Speedo, and only Dena can appreciate that.

It seems the older I get, the hotter it gets. I bet to someone that is old like Mo Magana, it feels like living on the sun everyday. I should not talk about Mo's age but I did hear that she was a waitress at the Last Supper. I really love Mo, but she is no spring chicken. I will say this for her, she is a great asset to our school and I will always appreciate all the help she did with my kiddos. Thank You Mo.

I am in the process of writing my first book. I hope to have it done within the month. It is a collection of short stories that I have heard, seen or lived. My Book is titled, "I Have Been To Every Damn Wal-Mart in Texas". I figure if every Wal-Mart will sell 10 books, then I can afford to pay for this healthcare that is getting stuffed down my face.

Speaking of stuffing my face, Michelle will start baking cookies for football in a couple of weeks. So Bud and Marilyn, I would appreciate if you and some of the others who seem to eat more than 5 cookies in the 1st quarter would ask for some Oatmeal and Raisin. I cannot eat another chocolate chip cookie.

Some things I have noticed around town: If someone is on a diet it is always someone that needs to be. When we played 11-man football the kids were big and coaches

skinny. We play 6-man football, the players are thin and the coaches are plump. We went from a coach who could shop in the kid's section, to a coach who cannot shop in the men's section. I have noticed that the officiating gets worse each year, or so it seems. Louis Baty use to always look at me like I was some kind of psycho the way I yelled, and gave words of encouragement to the officials at the football games. But, I noticed this last year as his sons started getting involved, Mr. Baty has also become more involved. Either the officiating is getting worse or I have become calmer.

We had Midnight Madness this past Thursday night for the football team. It was a good turnout and looks like the Hounds should be very good this year. We have 24 players out this season, and you can dang sure tell they have been using the weights this summer. I look for both the JV and Varsity to have great years.

A few things I noticed at the Golf Tourney this weekend. I was fortunate to share a cart with Coach Steele; that is a lot of meat in one cart. We named ourselves

"Team Slim". Boy, we put a hurt on the food and drink, just not the golf course. Fred "Big Head" Ledesma needs to give up the game or let his wife do his putting. It was nice for a change to get beat by Bruce Skiles without him telling me about how him and two old ladies beat me again. You would think having Tex on your team that you would get a little help upstairs on putting. No, it did not happen.

My "Citizen of the Week" is Me. No, I will wait until "Citizen of the Year". Really my "Citizen of the Week" is Tracy Carter. Why? Why would anyone ask? Tracy is a class act. He is very active with his Church, Booster Club and does so much to help others. He is a great husband and father. Tracy is a school board member and a great asset to Knox City.

Last week we had a very touching moment at church. Tex Cox put together a power point for Zach and Brandon for a senior year kick off. Both boys have been the best of friends since pre-K. It was very touching and made a fat boy tear up.

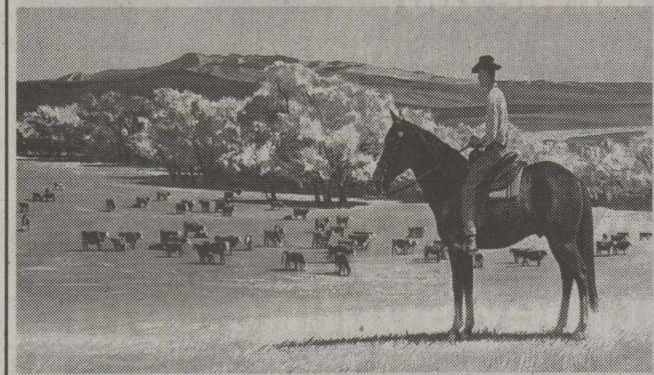
Speaking of church. I played golf with Sam

Tankersly, a former resident who lives in Stamford. He told me a story of a mutual friend we have who was leaving church one day. As he was leaving, the Pastor came up and thanked him for visiting. He told the Pastor that he was not visiting but is a member. The pastor looked puzzled as he has been there for 5 years and it was the first time he had seen him at services. He told the man that in his 5 years he has never seen him at services before. The man looked him straight in the eye and told him, "I am a member, just not a fanatic".

God Blessed Us by making us Americans, Do the American thing. Vote for those with Christian Values in November and let's take this country back!!!

istanfield@windstream.net

## PROTECT YOUR HERITAGE



Do Your Part, Don't Let A Wildfire Start. TEXAS FOREST SERVICE

Thanks For Reading! The Knox County News!

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Knox City 609 E. Main  
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50-212 (Rev. 08-09/10)

2010 **Property Tax Rates in** BENJAMIN CITY

This notice concerns 2010 property tax rates for BENJAMIN CITY. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

<b>Last year's tax rate:</b>	
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 3,645,963.00
Last year's debt taxes	\$
Last year's total taxes	\$ 3,645,963.00
Last year's tax base	\$ 29,545.00
Last year's total tax rate	\$ .81036 /\$100

<b>This year's effective tax rate:</b>	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 28,764.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 4,507,990.00
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ .63807 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

In the first year a hospital district or city collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, it must insert the following lines unless its first adjustment was made last year:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ /\$100
= Effective tax rate	\$ /\$100

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	
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+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 4,507,990.00
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ .63807 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ .68912 /\$100
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= This year's total rollback rate	\$ .68912 /\$100

A hospital district or city that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following lines:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ /\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ /\$100

For a taxing unit with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:

+ Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$ /\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ /\$100

**STATEMENT OF INCREASE/DECREASE**

IF CITY OF BENJAMIN ADOPTS A 2010 TAX RATE EQUAL TO THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE OF **\$.0.63807** per \$100 OF VALUE, TAXES WOULD DECREASE COMPARED TO 2009 TAXES BY **0.17229**

**Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

<b>TYPE OF PROPERTY TAX FUND</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
GENERAL FUND	-0-

This notice was prepared by Mitzi Welch, Chief Appraiser

50-212 (Rev. 08-09/10)

2010 **Property Tax Rates in** BENJAMIN CITY

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x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ .68912 /\$100
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= This year's total rollback rate	\$ .68912 /\$100

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= Rollback tax rate	\$ /\$100

For a taxing unit with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:

+ Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$ /\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ /\$100

**STATEMENT OF INCREASE/DECREASE**

IF KNOX COUNTY GENERAL ADOPTS A 2010 TAX RATE EQUAL TO THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE OF **\$.0.63505** per \$100 OF VALUE, TAXES WOULD INCREASE COMPARED TO 2009 TAXES BY **0.01066**.

IF KNOX COUNTY SPECIAL & JURY ADOPTS A 2010 TAX RATE EQUAL TO THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE OF **\$.0.13120** per \$100 VALUE, TAXES WOULD INCREASE COMPARED TO 2009 TAXES BY **\$0.00195**

**Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

<b>TYPE OF PROPERTY TAX FUND</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
GENERAL FUND	-0-

This statement of Increase/Decrease notice was prepared by Mitzi Welch, Chief Appraiser

# Texas Beef Quality Program

The Texas Southern Cattle Raisers Association and Texas AgriLife Extension Service will be hosting a Beef Quality Assurance Training on Tuesday, August 24 at the Wilbarger County Auditorium. The Wilbarger Auditorium is located at 2100 Yamparika Street in Vernon, TX. The training will begin with registration starting at 9:30 a.m. with the program to follow at 10:00 a.m. A lunch will be provided for all participants.

The TBQP program was developed to assist cattlemen in producing a safer and more

wholesome food product. Better beef management practices help deliver a better and safer meal to all consumers. The TBQP program is built upon a proven system of Best Management Practices. Through these trainings participants are also able to receive industry updates, record keeping, environmental stewardship and proper management practices associated with genetic selection, cattle handling, culling, vaccination, drug use and more.

If you are interested in attending the training please

R.S.V.P by August 20 to the TSCRA at (800) 242-7820 or the Wilbarger Extension Office at (940) 552-5474. Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting or program are encouraged to contact the Knox County AgriLife Extension office at (940) 459-2651.

# Local food service managers complete certification training

Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Haskell and Kent Counties, conducted a professional food manager certification training course for area food service managers Thursday, August 5, 2010 in Aspermont. The program prepared foodservice managers for the certification examination and provided valuable

education regarding the safe handling of food. Foodservice managers learned about:

- identifying potentially hazardous foods and common errors in food handling
- preventing contamination and cross-contamination of food
- teaching and encouraging

personal hygiene for employees

- complying with government regulations
- maintaining clean utensils, equipment and surroundings
- controlling pests

Foodborne illnesses can be prevented by following simple food safety practices.

# Buck Wild Days Rodeo

SILVERTON, Texas – When people talk about the sport of rodeo, there's a lot to discuss.

When they think of rodeo, two events tend to come to mind: saddle bronc riding and bull riding, both mainstays in the sport that has been going on for more than a century. Bull riding popularity has exploded the past three decades, with stand-alone events and cowboys receiving rock-star accolades.

But bronc riding is the classic event of rodeo. It's Casey Tibbs. It's "Hawkeye" Henson. It's Brad Gjermundson. It's Dan Mortensen. It's Billy Etbauer.

The tradition will continue at the Buck Wild Days Rodeo, set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 12-Saturday, Aug. 14. This year marks the 118<sup>th</sup> version of the annual event, but the first time it will be associated with the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, the premier sanctioning body in the sport.

"I'd say 80 percent of the contestants we were getting already had their PRCA card, but we weren't getting many of the top 15 in the world," said Ken Wood, chairman of the rodeo committee that produces the event.

Another step the committee took was hiring Dallas-based Carr Pro Rodeo, a livestock producer that is quickly becoming one of the elite contractors in ProRodeo.

"Every horse out there can't be great, but the probability of getting on a good horse at Pete Carr's rodeos is pretty good," said Ty Atchison of Jackson, Mo., ranked among the top 15 saddle bronc riders in the world through mid-July. "You pretty much know if you go to one of Pete's rodeos, you have as good a chance as any to win."

It's an ongoing process for the Carr crew, whether it's developing a colt or caring for an established bronc.

"We take everything into account when we dummy colts and gradually elevate them to riders and ultimately evaluate the talent level or prospective level to make an educated assessment on whether that animal is going to fit in our outfit or not," Carr said.

It's not just the horses. Carr, a former roughstock cowboy, takes certain pride in the growing pen of quality bulls.

"Air Up There is one of the most athletic bulls we own,"

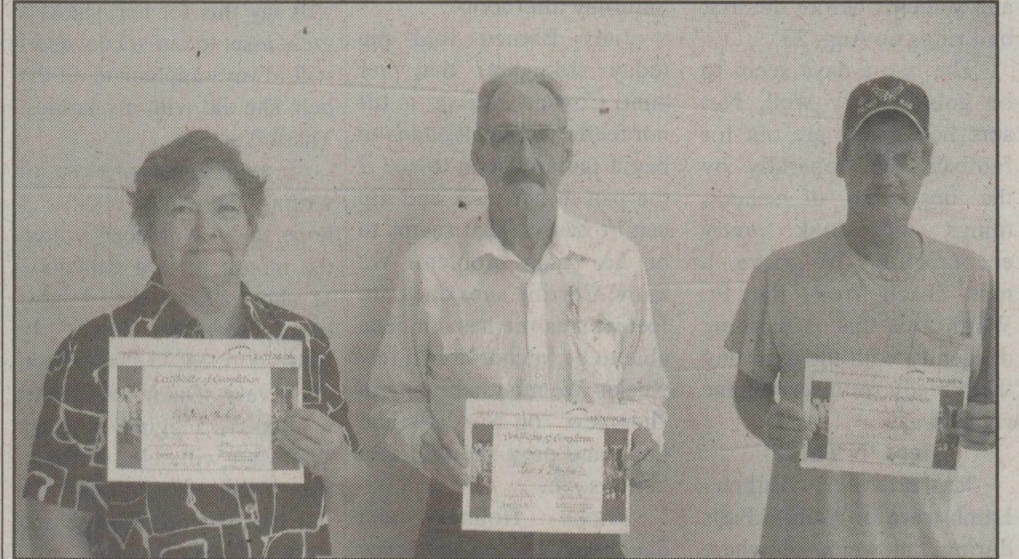
Carr said of the animal that was named the Texas Circuit bull of the year just a few seasons ago. "He gets so much air when he turns back and bucks, it's really amazing than an animal that big can jump that high flat-footed."

Air Up There grew up in the Panhandle, part of the herd owned by McCloy Rodeo of Morse, Texas. His return to this neck of the woods will be a welcome site for the top bull riders in the game.

"He just leaps in the air and turns back to the left," said Shawn Hogg of Odessa, Texas, the world standings leader with more than \$100,000 in earnings so far this season. "He's one bull everybody would want to draw, that's for sure."

And whether it is bulls, broncs or bareback horses, the contestants know they'll have a good chance to win money in Silverton.

"What makes Carr Pro Rodeo special is that, No. 1, Pete tries to put a good, even pen together," said all-around cowboy Bandy Murphy, of Morgan Mill, Texas. "He's not scared to give a guy an opportunity, and that means a lot to me."



L-R: Phyllis Shahan (-Munday, TX); Garry Johnson (r - Desert Rose, Knox City, TX); and David Hanson (Knox County Aging Center, Knox City, TX)

Photo by Tamara Smart

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50-212 (Rev. 08-09/10)

2010 **Property Tax Rates in** KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL

This notice concerns 2010 property tax rates for KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

**Last year's tax rate:**

Last year's operating taxes	\$	159,141,974.00
Last year's debt taxes	\$	
Last year's total taxes	\$	159,141,974.00
Last year's tax base	\$	692,012.00
Last year's total tax rate	\$	43484 /\$100

**This year's effective tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$	691,666.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$	164,229,052.00
= This year's effective tax rate	\$	.42115 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

In the first year a hospital district or city collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, it must insert the following lines unless its first adjustment was made last year:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$	/\$100
= Effective tax rate	\$	/\$100

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$	681,355.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$	164,229,052.00
= This year's effective operating rate	\$	.42096 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$	.45464 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$	/\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$	.45464 /\$100

A hospital district or city that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following lines:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$	/\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$	/\$100

For a taxing unit with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:

+ Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$	/\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$	/\$100

**STATEMENT OF INCREASE/DECREASE**

IF KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL ADOPTS A 2010 TAX RATE EQUAL TO THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE OF \$ .42115 per \$100 OF VALUE, TAXES WOULD DECREASE COMPARED TO 2009 TAXES BY 0.01369

**Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

TYPE OF PROPERTY TAX FUND	BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	-0-

This notice was prepared by Mitzi Welch, Chief Appraiser

50-197 (Rev. 05-06/10)

**Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase**

The Knox County Commissioners Court will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 5 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on August 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. in the Assembly Room at the Courthouse.

The second public hearing will be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 A.M. in the Assembly Room at the Courthouse.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Judge Floyd, Commissioners Birkenfeld, Godsey, McCown & Urbanczyk  
 AGAINST:  
 PRESENT and not voting:  
 ABSENT:

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in 2009 last year was \$ 27,214 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). Based on last year's tax rate of \$ 0.75366 (preceding year's adopted tax rate) per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$ 205.10 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in 2010 this year is \$ 27,433 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$ 0.729765 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 199.96 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$ 0.766253 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 209.95 (tax on the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

# OPINION



## The Paperboy

### A big decision...

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

There are moments in all of our lives where it all comes down to a decision. Sometimes the decision is one of trust.

With Sharon's health problems and being behind at work, we didn't have the opportunity to get away for a vacation this summer. We did, however, take a couple of days off and took the boys to the Alamo and SeaWorld in San Antonio.

While walking around SeaWorld, Jackson, 7, had already established which rides he was tall enough to ride and he was ready ... or so he thought.

The two of us left Mom and Sutton Hawk at the penguin place and headed to the 150 foot tall Steel Eel - where Jackson was just tall enough to ride.

We made a pit stop on the way, and I was becoming impressed with Jack's attitude because the roller coaster is rather imposing. It's over 3,000 feet long, so you walk underneath it some several hundred feet. Let's just say the screams from the riders can be heard clearly.

"Daddy, I think I need to go to the restroom," Jack said as we got closer to the ride.

"We just went," I said. "Do you have a problem?"

"Well ... my stomach is feeling a little funny," he said as he swallowed hard.

"Boo, do you think it's because you're a little nervous?"

"Maybe," he said. "That sure is a big ride, and it looks pretty scary. Do you think we should wait awhile until my stomach feels better?"

I got down on one knee and looked my son directly into his

big blue eyes. "Jackson, do you trust me?"

"Yes sir!"

"You know Daddy would never put you in a situation where you are not safe, right?"

"Yes sir..."

"Make a decision son, either we ride or we don't ... no big deal, it's your call."

Jack looked down and paused for a second (I think he said a quick prayer) then looked back up and said, "I guess we better go ahead and ride."

There was no line and within a couple of minutes we were seated and strapped in. At this point, the boy was north of nervous, but south of terrified.

The ride started, and he grabbed my hand.

We climbed the 150 foot first hill and in his mind, I bet it seemed like it took a day. As we neared the top I said, "Relax son, this is going to be great!"

We came to the apex of the climb, and the cars seemed to stall for just a couple of seconds then ... we plunged into free fall!

Jacks grip tightened and his head buried into my shoulder. Then all of the sudden he lifted his head and started to giggle - uncontrollably at first.

We were really moving and climbing the second hill quickly and he yelled, "THIS IS GREAT!"

Up and down and side to side ... the Steel Eel was giving Jackson a dose of big-time thrills! It was an absolute blast!

He was fired up when the cars came to a stop, and his little heart was pounding.

"That was awesome Dad, best ride of my life! I can't believe I just did that! I asked God for courage and now it's over and I'm fine! I just can't believe it!"

I hugged him and said, "There's still no line, do you want to go again?"

"Uhhhhhh, we better go check on Mom and Sutton, we don't want to leave them for very long."

"You're right," I said. "We better go tell them how you did too."

We quickly made our way back to them and as soon as Jackson saw them, he went into every detail about the ride. He displayed that feather in his cap like he had just journeyed to the moon and back.

I'm proud of Jack for facing his demons and taking the ride. He knows me well enough to know the decision was on him as I was fine with whatever he wanted to do. There was absolutely no pressure with the exception of what he placed on himself.

Throughout our lives we make decisions. Some seem monumental at the time they are made. For a young man, this was one of those times. I thank God I was apart of it because the thrill of experiencing it with him was much more thrilling than the ride could have ever been.

That evening, the boys made the comment that it was the best day of their lives. That made Mom and Dad very happy!

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

## Were Labor Unions Ever Necessary?

By ADAM BITELY

A common argument made by some Republicans and conservatives is that labor unions were necessary in society a hundred years ago, but they are no longer needed in today's workplace. This argument, however, has many flaws. When looking deep into the history of the labor movement, unless you support a society modeled closely around that of the U.S.S.R., labor unions were not just unnecessary a hundred years ago, but have created lasting damage and are still continuing to wreak havoc across the nation.

Many fail to see the downside of the American labor movement at the time of its inception. Few remember that it was a product of the progressive movement, which created many of the problems in society that we deal with today.

Just take a look at the progress that the labor unions have made in their short history. From just 90 years ago, labor unions have gone from trying to "protect" the workers that they represented to taking complete control of the companies that they were "protect-

ing" them from. In essence, they have a track record of completely dismantling the companies that they have set up shop in.

If you need an example of this, just look to Detroit. Of the Big 3 automakers, two have ceased to exist in the form that they did for most of the 20th century. One of them, Chrysler, has been completely taken over by the United Auto Workers, a union that sought to protect the employees of the car manufacturers from the supposed "greedy" leadership that was going to sell the workers short.

The UAW can even claim General Motors as a victim of their ruthlessness. GM has completely disappeared from being a publicly traded, privately owned mega company into a publicly owned, taxpayer funded zombie corporation all due to labor union malfeasance.

The goal of the unions has not been to protect the workers, but to stop private companies from turning profits that they claim do not enrich the employees that made them possible. Instead, the unions have taken far greater roles in dismantling the companies that pay the workers handsomely and in turn, destroy the companies while enriching only

the union leadership.

In short, labor unions have turned into a total scam. They hustle money from the paychecks of those they represent and pad the pockets of those in leadership — selling short the employees that could live better lives without the so-called protection offered by Big Labor.

While the auto unions provide a good look at what Big Labor has done to private industry, the same type of damage has been done in the public sector.

Teachers unions have made it nearly impossible for poorly performing teachers to be removed from the classroom. The harm done hurts the students and the taxpayers that pay for these services. Teachers unions care nothing about the level of education offered, but look more to what they will earn on the taxpayer dime.

Just look at what is happening in New Jersey. When Governor Chris Christie attempted to clean up the New Jersey education system, he was met with stiff resistance from the teachers unions, even though the taxpayers wanted a change. The unions are not in the

business of providing better services; they are simply in it for the interests of the union leadership.

The federal government should not go without blame either. It is the fault of Congress that has led to such powerful labor unions across the country. With legislation such as the Wagner Act, which created the National Labor Relations Board, unions have become institutionalized in America.

There is much more wrong with Big Labor in America and this is simply the tip of the iceberg. But at no point in American history has there ever been a need for such organizations such as the SEIU, AFL, NEA, UAW, and so on to "protect" workers in the workplace.

Americans have always had the ability to vote with their feet. If a job is bad, they can move on. But at no point has a hustler of one's paychecks been necessary for the greater good. And to believe so is to lose trust in the free market system that made America great.

## The Coming Catastrophe: State Governments

By DICK MORRIS & EILEEN MCGANN

As Congress reconvenes next week to pass a \$26 billion bailout of state and local governments entombed in their own deficits, we witness a foretaste of the crisis that will be the central event of the first half of next year: the collapse of state governments.

As long as the Democrats control Congress, they will continue to rubber-stamp Obama's requests for bailouts of profligate states. But when the Republicans take control, they will be less than forthcoming. Republicans will ask the central question: Why should taxpayers from states that have cut their budgets and observed spending restraint, pay for the extravagances of the other states? Why should forty-seven states have to pay for California, New York, and Michigan?

State government employment has risen by 16 percent since 1995 and overly generous Medicaid and other spending has climbed alongside it. Pension obligations, initially incurred as a cheap alternative to pay raises for public workers,

are increasingly driving state budgets over the brink.

State and local governments and school boards are hostages to the public employee labor unions that control their finances through their contracts and their politics with their donations and votes. These nominally democratic government bodies are as much under the sway of their union captors as the auto companies are of the UAW.

When a Republican Congress turns off the spigot of federal bailouts, the municipal and state bond markets are going to take the hint and stop buying state paper at any interest rate. California will find its debt has become unmarketable and will come begging Congress for relief. First it will seek federal money and then its demands will escalate into a federal guarantee of its state debt.

The Greek financial crisis will come to our shores in the form of state bankruptcies.

Hopefully, Republicans will not be so weak-kneed as they are in the face of the current shortfall and next week's demand for aid. With two Senators caving in, the Democrats were able to

pass their aid bill and send it to the House next week.

The Republican solution to state financial distress should be simple: The Party should insist on a change in the federal bankruptcy law providing for a procedure for state bankruptcy (none now exists). This process must call for abrogation of all state and local public employee union contracts as is usually done in private sector bankruptcies. By freeing states and local governments (including school boards) of their union obligations on wages, work rules, staffing, and pensions, they have a chance to survive and, indeed, to prosper. But merely subsidizing these massive expenditures just prolongs the misery of the states in question.

The collapse of overspending state governments must trigger the diminution of the power unions hold over their budgets and their politics. Their coming bankruptcies offer an opportunity for reform and the Republican Congress - backed by newly elected Republican state governments - give us precisely the opportunity we need to effectuate it.

## Unemployment at 9.5 Percent With 131,000 in Job Losses

By ADAM BITELY

The Obama administration is in more trouble with news that the unemployment situation in the United States has not improved. On Friday morning, the Department of Labor announced that the unemployment rate had remained unchanged in July at 9.5 percent. On top of that, another 131,000 jobs were lost.

These jobs and unemployment numbers are not only troubling, they are devastating. The economy has been in a downward spiral since 2008 and is showing no signs of recovery. Just consider the following things.

First, the unemployment rate according to the Department of Labor accounts for the number of people that are unemployed — not the number that have given up on looking for jobs. Currently the underemployment rate is at 16.5 percent but if you factor in the number of people that have walked away from

the civilian labor force altogether the number would be much higher. Now those are not numbers you often hear reported in the news.

Second, unemployment among America's youth is skyrocketing. This is the group of Americans that are going to be depended on to pay in to Social Security in the coming years to help offset the major losses expected as the Baby Boomers retire. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from February of 2009 to July of 2010, the unemployment rate amongst 16-19 year olds has risen from 21.8 percent to 26.1 percent. This is startling to say the least, as it indicates that job growth is not even keeping up with new entrants into the workforce.

Third, there is now enough evidence to support charges that Obama's "stimulus" spending has done nothing to help the economy recover. Even further, the \$26.1 billion "stimulus" package being passed through

Congress right now to provide a bailout to bankrupt states is just a further extension of the failed 2009 "stimulus." This increased spending has not spurred private sector job creation, and even more "stimulus" spending can further harm the situation.

Also in last week's unemployment report was the announcement that the private sector only created 71,000 new jobs. While there was a total net loss of jobs in the month of July, this is an important number to watch. If we assume that all other factors hold steady, and that private sector job creation remains around 71,000 per month, in 9 years or so, we could arrive back to pre-recession employment levels. Besides the Great Depression, that would be the slowest recovery in modern US. history.

The private sector is still nervous about where the economy is headed and continues on holding out on investing in job creation at the rates that Obama and his economic team

predicted they would. Perhaps such lackluster performance in the economy based on predictions and policy prescriptions prescribed by his chief economic adviser, Christina Romer, can provide some insight into her recent resignation from the administration.

Clearly the "stimulus" infusions into the economy have done nothing to turn America around. While some critics might suggest that the initial "stimulus" package in 2009 was not enough, the simple question then is what is the correct amount?

The fact of the matter is that government spending cannot create jobs. If those critics were correct, we would have seen some job creation and the economy heading in the correct direction. But we have not seen anything that indicates that spending over \$1 trillion dollars has done anything positive. Instead we have seen prosperity destroyed and America plunged deeper into debt.

## Texas Comptroller's Office Schedules August Tax Help Seminars

A diverse economy, growing work force and friendly business climate attract more businesses to the Lone Star State every day. Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' office regularly presents free taxpayer seminars throughout the state to help new and existing business owners understand their state tax responsibilities.

Five seminars will take place throughout August at various locations across the state. A complete list of locations, dates and times is available at [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/seminars.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/seminars.html).

At the seminars,

taxpayers can learn about sales tax forms, filing and paying taxes electronically, taxable goods and services, e-services to help taxpayers manage their accounts online, the Comptroller's e-mail subscription service that alerts taxpayers when new tax information is posted online, and the array of other services and information available from the Comptroller's office to assist taxpayers. Comptroller representatives will answer questions and provide assistance to attendees.

"A strong and diverse business community is the key to Texas' economic

strength," Combs said. "We are committed to assisting Texas businesses by making taxes simpler, smarter, faster and, above all, transparent. We owe it to our taxpayers to provide the best customer service possible."

For more information about the seminar in your area, call the Comptroller's field office in your area.

Those who are unable to attend the seminars can call the Comptroller's tax assistance line at (800) 252-5555. Tax forms and tax information can also be found on the Comptroller's website, [www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us).

## Pack a lunch with a lesson in nutrition

HOUSTON — Parents may urge their children to pack their lunch to lighten their own load during the busy school year but it also helps teach kids important lessons about nutrition and responsibility, said a Baylor College of Medicine ([www.bcm.edu](http://www.bcm.edu)) expert.

"Allowing children to pack their own lunch provides a great opportunity for children to take on more responsibility as they get older," said Dr. Teresia O'Connor, assistant professor of pediatrics — nutrition at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center (<http://www.bcm.edu/cnrc/>) at BCM and Texas Children's Hospital ([www.texaschildrens.org](http://www.texaschildrens.org)). "It is also a great occasion to talk to your child about a balanced diet and teach about healthy balanced meals."

Parents should offer a little guidance initially, however. Younger children and parents should pack lunches together, and as the child gets older, he or she can take on more of the responsibility. This way, parents can teach their children what constitutes a healthy lunch. Later, parents can check in with them, learn the child's preferences and help make sure that everything is available from the grocery store.

No matter who packs the school lunch, O'Connor recommends that it include a serving of fruit and a serving of vegetables. Veggies can include carrot sticks, celery or some other cut up vegetable as well as sliced tomato or lettuce on a sandwich. Sandwiches can be made on whole wheat bread to get the whole grains recommended

on [Mypyramid.gov](http://Mypyramid.gov), a resource of the USDA ([www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)). Low-fat or skim milk or water makes a great drink option.

Fruit is a good way to satisfy a sweet tooth, but a healthy lunch can still include occasional cookies or other sweets, O'Connor said.

"Sweet snacks have a place in a balanced healthy diet but the key is moderation," O'Connor said. "If the child gets a sweet at lunch, give them different choices for their after school snack or after dinner. Think about what the child ate throughout the whole day."

The same rules apply if your child decides to buy lunch at school. They should select foods from a variety of food groups, including fruits and vegetables.

## Biofuel study looks at cost to wildlife and environmental diversity

OVERTON — Whether we can grow bio-energy crops such as switchgrass and forage sorghum isn't the question, said a Texas AgriLife Research scientist.

The question is, where's the nitrogen going to come from to grow these crops and how much is it going to add to the cost of the end product, said Dr. Gerald Smith, AgriLife Research legume breeder based in Overton.

And there also are hidden costs, such as the effect of fencerow-to-fencerow crops on wildlife and biodiversity, he said.

"It's time to take the monoculture blinders off," Smith said.

Smith and a team of scientists based at Texas AgriLife Research and Extension centers at Overton, Beeville, Beaumont, Stephenville, Vernon and Lubbock are looking at various cropping systems to solve both problems — the cost of nitrogen and ways to preserve habitat for valued species such as the whitetailed deer.

"We don't know the long-term future of cellulose bio-fuel crops, but we want to be ready in Texas to grow them if they prove lucrative," he said. "And we want to preserve our wildlife while we do so."

Smith and other Overton forage and livestock researchers have worked with legumes for livestock systems specifically for East Texas and the southern U.S. for years. Smith, a legume breeder, has developed numerous varieties bred for improving winter grazing, including Apache Arrowleaf Clover and Rio Verde lablab, a new forage and seed crop for Texas.

But this study is one of the more complicated that he's been involved with, he said, as it tries to look at the interactions in the big picture, not just what is happening in the hay pasture or wildlife food plot.

"We know we can use legumes as a source of nitrogen," Smith said. "We have a couple of different kinds that we have worked with here that we know will work in these soils. But now

we want to look at sustainable production of cellulosic biomass with attention to natural resource conservation and wildlife stewardship. It's a different ball game. There's a lot we need to learn."

Smith and the team know that both cool-season legumes like clovers and warm-season legumes such as cowpeas can bring a lot of nitrogen in a cropping system. They even have a pretty good idea of how much nitrogen, in terms of pounds per acre, different varieties under various cropping systems can add to the soil.

Any type of plant other than a legume quickly exhausts nitrogen reserves in the soil and has to have some source of nitrogen, either from commercial fertilizer made from fossil fuels or animal waste such as composted chicken litter. The cost of producing and hauling the litter to the field can be a limiting factor on economical crop production, particularly in the southern region, where nitrogen is more quickly leached from sandy, acidic and weathered soils, Smith said.

"We have known this for a long time," Smith said. "But there's a lot of things we don't know. We also want to be able to match that or complement the use of the fertilization nitrogen with the nitrogen that we are gaining from the legumes. If we have to apply nitrogen (as well) through commercial fertilizer or manure, we want to make sure the plant that we are applying it for uses it very efficiently."

For example, though it's known how much nitrogen a legume fixes in the soil, it's not known how much will be made available to a crop such as a high-biomass sorghum. And if commercial fertilizer or manure has to be added to the system, it is not known when can it be added so that the legume won't over-compete with the biomass crop for space and nutrients.

And there are questions about the effect on wildlife. In previous studies, Smith and Dr. Billy Higginbotham, Texas AgriLife Extension Service wildlife specialist, have established the most attractive legume mix for whitetailed deer food plots. But they don't know how deer will adapt to various cropping systems where legumes are intercropped with high-biomass sorghum.

"There are a lot of questions," Smith said. "Can we make the system more efficient by using multiple sources of legumes and a really low rate of fertilizer, or is it more efficient to maybe even skip a year of application of fertilizer? Is it more efficient

to grow cowpeas one year and the high bio-mass sorghum the next year?"

There are also questions about what happens in a drought, in terms of crop survival and nitrogen usage, he said.

All these questions make for a very complicated research design. And in Texas, one size or design doesn't fit all, Smith said.

For example, from eastern to the western limits of northern Texas, average annual rainfall varies greatly. In Longview, it is about 46 inches. In Lubbock, 450 miles to the west, it is less than 19 inches, he said.

"Obviously such a gradient will dictate differing specifics such as farming systems, appropriate legumes, adapted cellulosic biomass species and targeted wildlife such as whitetailed deer, quail and turkey," Smith said.

Soils and other environmental aspects also differ widely from border to border. In northeast Texas and southeast Oklahoma, soils are sandy and low in plant nutrients and nitrogen costs for pastures or any crop will be high.

At the Overton site, tests will examine how legumes fit into any forage production system for grazing or biofuel feedstock. Smith and Higginbotham will give special attention to the effect on whitetailed deer grazing using automatic cameras, Smith said.

In Central Texas, near the Stephenville, dryland trials will examine biomass production from native, warm-season perennial grasses grown with native warm-season annual legumes and naturalized annual cool-season legumes. The tests will look at carbon sequestration, soil organic matter and nitrogen levels on different soils over several years.

At Vernon, team members will work with annual medics and alfalfa, both legumes, to reduce nitrogen fertilization on perennial cool-season and warm-season grasses.

At Beeville, about 70 miles north of Corpus Christi, annual precipitation is about 32 inches and temperature varies from 42 degrees in January to 95 in August. Team members will look at multi-year and multi-location cellulose yields of native, warm season perennial grasses fertilized with native warm-season annual legumes.

Despite the different cropping systems, it's important to remember that sites will evaluate adapted legumes as nitrogen-source crops for cellulosic biomass production systems, Smith said.

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Si contesta sí a uno de las preguntas y vive en los condados de Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Stonewall o Throckmorton, es posible usted puede elegible para ayuda del Aspermont Small Business Development Center, Inc. El Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) y los fondos del Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) están usado por ASBDC, INC. para suministrar services a las familias con ingresos bajos. Hay un proceso de aplicación a determinar elegibilidad para ayuda. Llame usted ASBDC, INC. para mas información o si tiene preguntas.

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If you answered YES to any of the above questions and live in Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Stonewall or Throckmorton counties, you may be eligible for assistance from the Aspermont Small Business Development Center, Inc. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) funds are used by ASBDC, Inc. to provide services to low-income households. There is an application process to determine eligibility for assistance, so call ASBDC, Inc. for more information.

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# AgriLife Extension sets district-wide beef clinic in Abilene on Sept. 17

By STEVE BYRNS and JERRY KIDD

ABILENE - The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the District 7 4-H beef clinic, "Keys to a Successful Show Steer Project," from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Sept. 17 in Abilene.

The clinic will be held in the Griffin Arena, located on the grounds of the Taylor County Expo Center. The event will be held in conjunction with the West Texas Fair also held at the Expo Center, which will take place from Sept. 10-18.

"The clinic is geared toward 4-H members who are new to showing steers, but there will also be plenty of information for those who have not exhibited cattle in a while or who need information on the latest trends involved with this particular project," said Jerry Kidd, AgriLife Extension agent in Menard County and clinic coordinator.

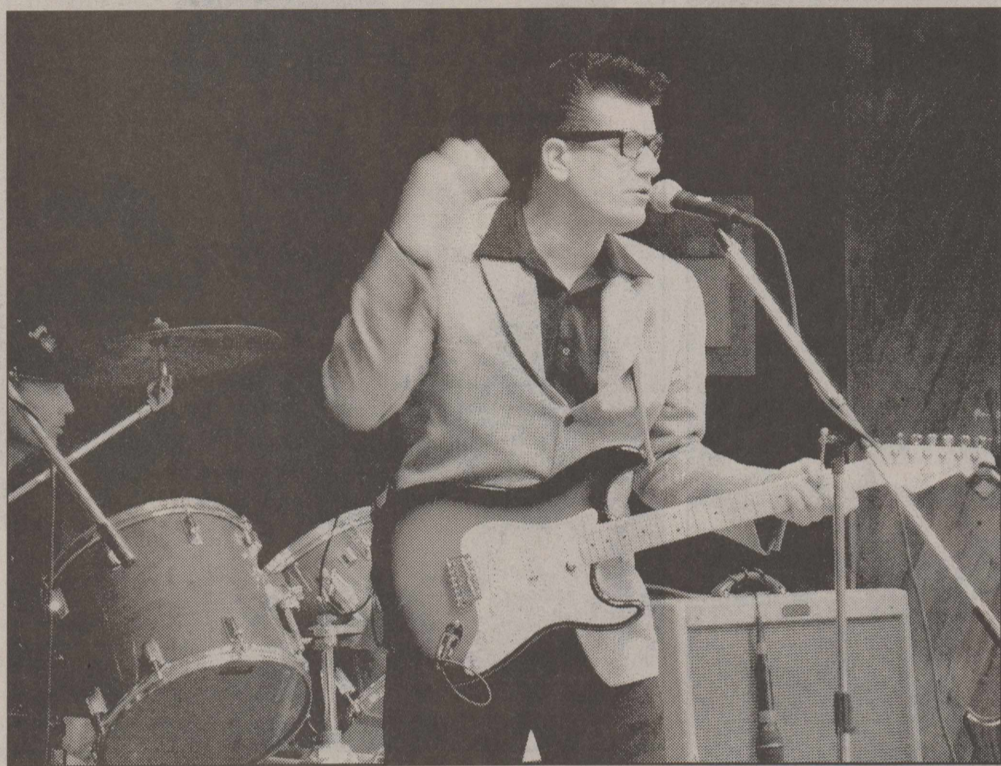
Topics covered will include: selection considerations, the importance of a routine, halter training, hoof and health

care, nutrition to optimize conformation, and hair care for slick-shorn shows and for shows in which the hair is left unshorn. The clinic concludes with showmanship tips.

The clinic is free, but those attending must purchase a ticket to enter the West Texas Fair.

For more information, contact the AgriLife Extension office in Menard County at 325-396-4787 or go to <http://menard-tx.tamu.edu>.

# Johnny Rogers in concert



Wearing his "Buddy Holly" glasses, Johnny Rogers plays and sings in a 2008 performance with backup from drummer Terry Thompson.

QUANAH - Branson to Las Vegas, Rock 'n' Roll showman Johnny Rogers is in the business of bringing yesteryear's music to life. He'll be doing it in Quanah on Saturday, Sept. 4 at the Community Center on Airport Road.

The Chicago singer-guitarist will present his latest Branson show with backup from singer-keyboard artist Ginny Mac, guitarist Ronny Dale Shultz and drummer Terry Thompson.

Rogers' repertoire is rich in convincing renditions of the memorable hits of Buddy Holly, Bill Haley and the Comets, Elvis Presley, The Everly Brothers, Jerry Lee Lewis, Ricky Nelson, Roy Orbison and others from the golden age of Rock 'n' Roll.

The energetic entertainer

gives more than a passing nod to country artists like Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, George Jones, Waylon Jennings, Conway Twitty and Hank Williams.

"Johnny is the best showman I've performed with," said Tommy Allsup, veteran producer and performer and former guitarist for Holly.

"Johnny Rogers is the best male entertainer that I have witnessed in Branson in 25 years," said Gary Wackerly, Branson, Mo. theater critic, on his website [bransonshowsreviewed.com](http://bransonshowsreviewed.com) in 2009.

Rogers' performances showcase his vocal versatility, his guitar prowess and his ability to identify with an era that was history before he was born.

Photo By Hanaba Welch

The energetic performer connects with audiences too, characteristically coming off any stage that allows him to combine his rock 'n' roll acrobatics with his singing and wild guitar playing.

"He can do anything, and he plays the fire out of that lead guitar," Wackerly said.

The performance in Quanah will begin at 7 p.m.

"This is expected to be a sold-out performance," said J W Sollis, who is coordinating the show.

For tickets, call (940) 663-2335 or visit Flowers Etc., 122 S. Main St., in downtown Quanah. For more information, contact Sollis at [jwsollis@yahoo.com](mailto:jwsollis@yahoo.com) or visit [www.sollisproductions.com](http://www.sollisproductions.com).

Tickets prices are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door, if available.

## STAMP

Plains Trail Region to draw a simple picture representing the Panhandle for use on an envelope cachet — a graphic that usually appears in the bottom left corner of the envelope.

The Plainview Daily Herald coordinated a contest for the artwork and judged the cachet entries, selecting a piece by 17-year-old Jaime Vaquera, a senior at Plainview High School, to appear on envelopes sold at each post office in the Texas Plains Trail Region.

Vanderpool also invites each community to spotlight its youth's artwork by creating its own cachet.

"I want to see people in the region come up with as many opportunities to connect and form partnerships as they can," Vanderpool said. "I want youngsters to learn and grow from that experience. They know it's a big country out here, and sometimes they wonder who's over that next hill."

Texas Plains Trail officials will also be available to speak about the region's history and heritage with local fourth- and seventh-grade students or other local organizations.

Pak Mail, Plainview's premier packing, crating, freighting, shipping and mailing center, is sponsoring a schedule of events for the stamp cancellation project each week in the Plainview Daily Herald.

The Texas Plains Trail Region is made up of 52 counties in the Texas Panhandle, stretching from the Oklahoma and New Mexico state lines and south to Big Spring. The Texas Historical Commission has also designated nine other heritage trail regions in Texas.

More information can be found at [www.texasplainstrail.com](http://www.texasplainstrail.com) or by contacting Texas Plains Trail Region Executive Director Deborah Sue McDonald at 806-231-3479 or [txplainstrail@yahoo.com](mailto:txplainstrail@yahoo.com).

## CISD

Main Building on campus. Registration will end at 3:00. Please bring any record of updated immunizations.

O'Brien Middle School (Grades 5-8)

Registration will begin at 1:00, August 18, 2010, in the Main Building on campus and will end at 3:00. Please bring any record of updated immunizations.

Knox City High School (Grades 9-12)

Registration will be held August 18, 2010 in the High School Library. Please bring any record of updated immunizations.

Seniors	1:00-1:30
Juniors	1:30-2:00
Sophomores	2:00-2:30
Freshmen	2:30-3:00

Any question please call:

Marsha Quade, Elementary Principal @ 657-3147

Mark Tucker, Middle School Principal @ 657-3731

Rick Moeller, High School Principal @ 657-3565

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## AWARD

that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 are not eligible for direct funding from HUD may apply for the agency's TxCDBG program. This program serves 1,017 eligible rural communities, 245 rural counties and provides services to over 375,000 low- to moderate-income beneficiaries each year.

## MINISTRIES

services. The First United Methodist Church has been accepted as said site for the Ministries. They are currently accepting orders for August at the church from Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. until 11. They will continue taking August orders until Wednesday,

August 18. Orders can also be placed online at [www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com) with a debit or credit card until Sunday, Aug. 22.

For more information visit the Angel Food website, or call Emily Nelson at 325-721-5277.

## ATHLETIC


show up. Rather than letting that frustrate the Coach, he seemed more proud. He said he wasn't worried about the small turnout because "these kids work, they have other obligations for right now", a fact that Coached seemed to really appreciate.

Coach Sprinkles favorite

sport to coach is football. With there not being enough girls in Benjamin High right now to make a volleyball team, Coach is left to focus all his energies on the Mustang football team.

Knox County News wished the Mustangs and Coach Sprinkles the best of luck this school year.

# Thanks for Reading!



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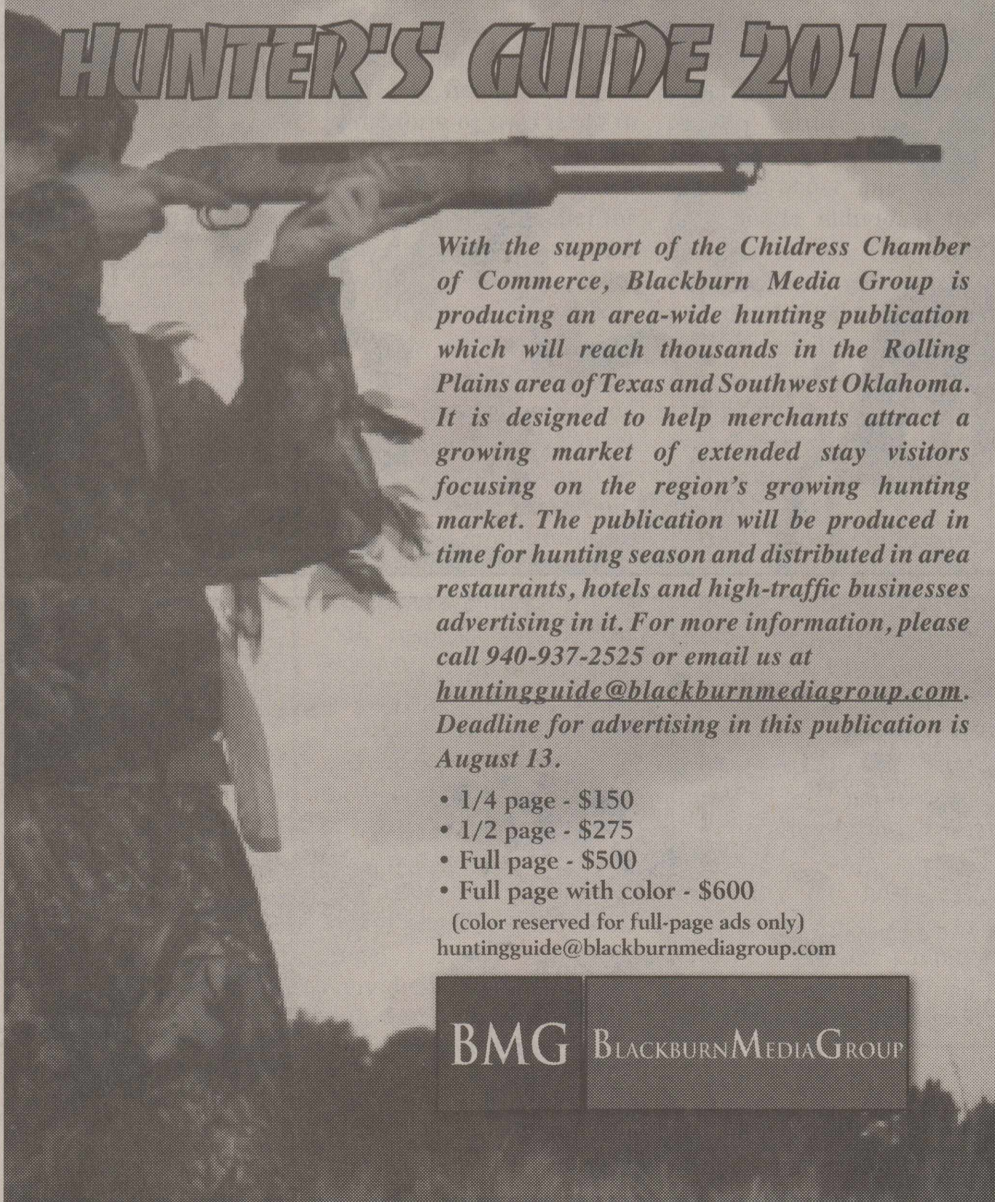
**Announces School Lunch Guidelines**

Children need healthy meals to learn. Benjamin ISD offers healthy meals every school day. Lunch costs \$1.00 PK-4th grades and \$1.50 5th-12th grades. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced price is .40 cents for lunch.

- 1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Complete one application to apply for free or reduced-price meals. Use one **Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.** We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. **Return the completed application to: Benjamin School P.O. Box 166 Benjamin, TX 79505.**
- 2. Who can get free meals?** Children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly the Food Stamp Program) or TANF can get free meals regardless of your income. Your benefit letter from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is your documentation for free meals. If you have not already received a letter from your school stating that your household is eligible for free meals, you may take your HHSC benefit letter to your child nutrition office to be certified for free meals. If a member of your household is directly certified due to receiving SNAP or TANF benefits, all members of your household are eligible for free meals. If a child in your household is not included on the Letter of Direct Certification, sent to you by the SEA, or if you have questions, call the school at **940 459-2231.**
- 3. Should I fill out an application if I got a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced-price meals?** In most cases no, however read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at **940 459-2231** if you have questions or a member of your household is not listed on the letter. If your household does not receive SNAP or TANF, your children may still be eligible to receive free meals if your household income is less than the amounts listed on the federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Please complete the application and submit it to your child nutrition office. Head Start students and Even Start children and most foster children may also qualify for free meals.
- 4. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?** Yes. If you have not been notified of free status under these categories, please call **Benjamin School** to see if your child(ren) qualify.
- 5. Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Income Chart.
- 6. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please fill out an application.
- 7. Will the information I give be checked?** Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.
- 8. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?** Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting SNAP, TANF or other benefits (such as unemployment benefits).
- 9. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Benjamin School P.O. Box 166 Benjamin, TX 79505.**
- 10. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced-price meals.
- 11. Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include yourself and all people living in your household, related or not (such as children, grandparents, other relatives or friends).
- 12. What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime pay, include that amount as income. If you do not normally get overtime pay, do not include it as income.
- 13. We are in the military; do we include our housing allowance as income?** If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

If you have other questions or need help, call **940 459-2231.** Si necesitas ayuda, por favor llame al teléfono: **940 459-2231.** Si vous voudriez d'aide, contactez nous au numero: **940 459-2231.**

# HUNTER'S GUIDE 2010



With the support of the Childress Chamber of Commerce, Blackburn Media Group is producing an area-wide hunting publication which will reach thousands in the Rolling Plains area of Texas and Southwest Oklahoma. It is designed to help merchants attract a growing market of extended stay visitors focusing on the region's growing hunting market. The publication will be produced in time for hunting season and distributed in area restaurants, hotels and high-traffic businesses advertising in it. For more information, please call 940-937-2525 or email us at [huntingguide@blackburnmediagroup.com](mailto:huntingguide@blackburnmediagroup.com). Deadline for advertising in this publication is August 13.

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# Community Vacation Bible School features 'Saddle Ridge Ranch'



By Tamara Smart

Last week, Aug. 1-5, the children of Knox City were definitely not bored come 6 every evening. Saddle Ridge Ranch was in town, a program that a lot of Vacation Bible schools around the Christian community are prescribing to this year.

The Saddle Ridge Ranch challenged the Children who participated to know that they are God's special creation, think about the reason why he put them here, learn Bible verses, and have fun doing it.

The kids participated in crafts, recreation, story time, and even had an old fashioned

water gun shoot-out (where the children turned on the "Sheriff", George Gross, shooting him rather than each other.)

The Knox City VBS hosted about 55-56 children each day, feeding them dinner and giving them valuable life lessons for 2 and a half hours.

At the end of the week, the children had the option to go to yet another VBS, hosted by O'Brien Baptist Church. This time, the theme was again Saddle Ridge Ranch and was an all day affair, beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. with a hamburger dinner for the families of participants.



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