

THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

VOL. XXIX NO. 72

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011

75CENTS

KCHS Takes Second in One Haskell/Knox Relay Act Play competition



Cast photo: Top to bottom: Michael Wilburn, Terra Martinez, Katie Carr, Zakery York, Brandon York, Jose Espinal, Ryan Ledesma, Nick Estrada, Tayler Pepper, Kaley Ainsworth, Sabrina Benavides, Courtney Taylor, Makayla Harrington, Adrian Flye, Lyndon Baty, Angel Martinez, Riley Rodriguez.

See full story on page 12

Haskell/Knox Relay for life on April 1

Tamara Smart

What do you do on Friday evenings in the rural communities of Haskell or Knox County. Well, this Friday, April 1, at 7 p.m., the track in Haskell will take on the air of a Fourth of July carnival. Yet, the

festivities will be several months before the normal summer social events, and will run throughout the night- from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. People will gather at the track for a number of reasons; the concession stand, the games, the "cow-patty bingo", the live bands, or perhaps even the bouncy houses. Yet, the main attraction for the gathering will be the ongoing walking around the perimeter of the track. Between 17 and 18 teams of people, mostly from Haskell County, have opted to spend their Friday night walking the track (one person from each team must always be walking) to raise money for Cancer research for the American Cancer Society.

This is Haskell's first year to host the Relay for Life in our area, and has done an outstanding job of planning it. This event will assuredly bring in much more money than they have already earned for this philanthropy. To date, the committee that is responsible for the Relay, has raised \$25,000, which is \$10,000 more than their original goal. More money is foreseen at the Relay for Life event, as well as possible entry from more teams.

See RELAY FOR LIFE on page 12



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX51017 7505
KNOX COUNTY DISTRICT
PO BOX 196
BENAVEN, TX 79505-0196

LOOKING AHEAD

The Haskell/Knox Relay for Life will be on April 1 at Indian Field in Haskell from 7PM until 7AM.

The next Aging Venter Talent show will be held on April 12 at the Knox City Aging Center. Make plans to come on out and boogie.

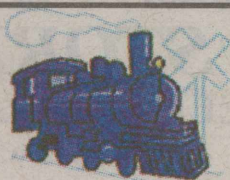


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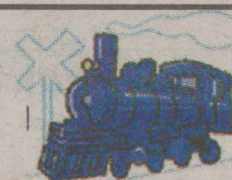
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God's Promises

Religious Offense

Tex Cox

Tex Cox Ministries

Did you know that the Gospel is offensive to religious folks? - Yep, today is just the same as yesterday and the Truth is just as offensive today as it was to the religious folks in Jesus' time and Paul's time.

Do you ever run across a

verse that has a word in it that you do not understand? I do! Sometimes we have a tendency to just run on past the word instead of trying to find out what it means!

Philippians 3:2 has a word like that - - - "*Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of concision.*"

What in the world is that word "concision"???

The word concision means "mutilation" - - - Paul's use of this word here is slanderous to those who taught that you must be circumcised to be saved. Paul is telling the religious folks of the day that "those who trust in circumcision were doing nothing more than mutilating their bodies".

Circumcision without true faith in Christ was nothing more than mutilation!!!

I tell you what, this would have been very offensive to the religious people of the day!

Legalism - religion - following rules and regulations - - - **HAVE NO SAVING POWER AT ALL!!!**

Did you know that the condition of a person's flesh is not the important thing? It does not matter that the **FLESH** is circumcised or holy..... it is the **CONDITION OF THE SPIRIT** that matters to God!

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24

Today, the act of circumcision may not be the

issue, but acts of holiness are still deemed by many as essential for receiving salvation.

What did Paul say? "*Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised; Christ shall profit you nothing.*" Galatians 5:2

"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love." Galatians 5:6

Acts of holiness, morality, following all the rules **DO NOT BRING SALVATION.** Believing on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ Jesus and making Jesus the Lord of your life **DO.**

Naturally, most religious folks will ask, "But, Tex, don't you believe in holiness? Don't you believe in living right? Don't you believe in righteousness?"

HIS holiness. **HIS** right living. **HIS** righteousness: Yes, sir. I most certainly do - - - - and **FAITH** in His righteousness that now

resides in me.....you bet. I am as righteous as I am ever going to be thanks to **CHRIST JESUS!!!** Hallelujah!

So what is our part? **Fall in love with Jesus!** Realize what He completed on the Cross! Not just our ticket into heaven - - - - - that is the **LEAST** of what He accomplished!

Oh, Tex, that sounds just blasphemous!

Well, if my kids only love me because of the house I provide for them.....

I would much rather they love me for our **RELATIONSHIP!** Amen?

Christ Jesus, through His obedience, brought us back into relationship with the Father! I'm telling you the same as I tell my folks on Sunday - - - - -

"If you will just fall in love with Jesus, you will start living more holy accidentally than you EVER did on purpose!!"

Amen?

Remember - - - **YOU ARE BLESSED!!!**

The Knox County News

P.O. Box 188
110 N. Central
Knox City, Texas 79529
940-657-3142
FAX 940-658-3228
kcnews@valornet.com

"Since 1971, Knox County's Oldest Established Newspaper"

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POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to The Knox County News, P.O. Box 188, Knox City, TX 79529. Published weekly, 110 North Central, Knox City, Knox County, Texas. Periodicals postage paid at Post Office, Knox City, Texas 79529.

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

CHRISTOPHER BLACKBURN
Publisher

TAMARA SMART
Reporter
Sports Writer
Advertising Manager

DEADLINES — *The deadline to submit news and advertising is 4 p.m. on Fridays. Exceptions may be granted only by permission from the Editor.*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Knox County News welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number to allow verification. Please keep letters to a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for any reason and to reject letters for publication for any reason. Letters deemed libelous and/or not for the public good will be rejected. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Knox County News.

SUBMISSION POLICY

The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements.

PHOTO SUBMISSION POLICY

The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

NOTICE

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

KCN OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Closed Thursday • Friday • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday is April Fool's Day!

Save 25% off the regular

price of any one

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Lynzie and Charlie Parks

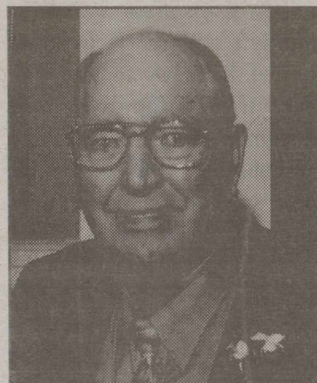
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Obituaries



LEWIS LYLES

Lewis E. Lyles, the son of Boy and Marie Lyles passed away March 24, 2011.

He was born on October 19, 1925 in Turkey, Texas and graduated from Morton High School in 1943. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Benjamin. Lewis served in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1946 on the USS Chester (San Diego, California). In 1948, he married Betty Coats in Henrietta, and two children were born of this marriage, Judy and Mike. He owned Lyles Construction Company with his brother from 1950 until

he retired in 1976.

Upon retiring from the construction company, he and Betty moved to Benjamin and pursued ranching at the Lyles Ranch in Knox County. He was preceded in death by his parents, Boy and Marie Lyles; his brother E.J. Lyles; and sister Geraldine Woods and Dorothy Hutchison.

He is survived by his wife Betty of Benjamin, daughter Judy and husband John of Sherman; son Mike and wife Tammy of Benjamin. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Sonya Robinson and Jessica of Raleigh, N.C., Susanne Brackeen and husband Monty of Gunter, Sarah Gonzalez and husband Leo of Austin, Stephanie Granberry and husband Brandon of Prosper, Joy Lynn Pool and Kip of Lubbock, Tom Lyles of Benjamin, Jacy Collins and wife Jara of Munday, Tyler Collins of Lubbock, Cassandra Lyles of Benjamin, and 10 Great-Grandchildren.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 26, 2011 at First Baptist Church in Benjamin with Sue McCurley and Rev. Troy Culpepper officiating. Burial followed in the Benjamin Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes.

A visitation was Friday evening from 6pm to 7pm at the funeral home in Knox City. Memorials may be made to Wichita Brazos Museum: PO Box 104, Benjamin, Texas 79505.



PRETRECIA KINZER

Pretrecia Ann Kinzer, 68, of

Grandfield, Oklahoma, passed away on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, at her home in Tillman County, Oklahoma.

Services will be at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, March 24, 2011, at the First Baptist Church in Grandfield, with Dr. Tim Owens officiating.

Interment will be in the Grandfield Memorial Cemetery, under the direction of Gray Funeral Home, Grandfield, Oklahoma.

Pretrecia was born June 26, 1942, in Knox City, Texas, to B. Blueford and Vivian Leona (Rankin) Hendrix. She grew up and attended Knox City School, graduating with the Class of 1960. She attended Bud Hall Beauty School in 1961. After graduating she was a beautician in Wichita Falls and in the Houston area. She married William Frank Kinzer on March 24, 1975 in Houston, Texas. She was employed by NCR in Wichita Falls, Texas from 1975 until 1981. Pretrecia was the

Superintendent's secretary for Grandfield Public Schools from 1981 until 2007, and also the Grandfield School's Treasurer from 2007 until 2010. She gave her heart and soul to Grandfield School. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Grandfield, where she served as Nursery

Director for more than 20 years. Pat was so proud of her children and grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, William Frank Kinzer, of the home; two sons, Kent William Kinzer

See OBITS
on page 11

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.

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

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

WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

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

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Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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Welding Course

The KCVG will be hosting a welding course for anyone who would like to learn to weld.

- 15 spots available
- 40 hour course (10 classes @4 hours each)
- \$150 one-time fee per student, this includes all materials
- Classes will start in April
- Must be at least 15 years of age or older
- Class taught by Rick Moeller
- Call 940-459-4121 to sign up

Find out more at www.facebook.com/kcvg.catch.the.vision

SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

Sammy Offield

Well, it seems like this has been a relatively quiet week. I understand that James Earl Stafford had a little fainting spell. He was air lifted and all turned out to be okay. He said that he had to lighten up on the workload.

Alfredo Abila is still taking more chemotherapy to get his blood cells leveled. But he is doing much better.

Donna Wojick and Maria Jackson have returned home

from Maria's brother's funeral. They are both tired and needed lots of rest after the trip.

I guess they have decided in making a new variety store in Knox City, which will help our community immensely. No more having to travel somewhere else to get what we need. I think it was a good decision that could have been made.

Later in the month of April, you will see Blossom's Boutique, owned by Jill Kilgore, moving her business to another lot. Be

patient with her during this move. She will be sure to take care of her customers. I'm sure she will be glad when it's all done.

I saw lots of new faces in town this week, and hope our visitors have enjoyed their time in Knox City.

Also, if you look around the Relay for Life for the Cancer Association will be coming up to help the people in Knox and Haskell counties. It will be held in Haskell.

It's that time again for the

Ladies Golf Association to get out their and get donations and sponsors for the Lady Wild Hog Classic Gold Tournament. If you have previously been our sponsor, please be ready for us to drop in on you. We always appreciate all the support our community gives us. If you want to talk to me about it, just call me and I will come see you personally.

Phillis Gaston has made another visit to the hospital for a little doctor care. Hopefully she will be home soon.

I spoke with JDon, Norma Conner's grandson. He's doing great after his car accident. Just a few bruises.

Also spoke to Jimmy Lynn. He was out to lunch at Bud's Café with some friends. HE looks very good and is doing great.

I had a visit with Sheila Overmyer. She told me about her little baby niece that is now a few months old. They are in need of our prayers. Their expenses are crazy, especially with the rising prices of gas and lodging. I will have more on this later.

I guess I'll leave you with this for the week- may the cold weather go away and nice weather days come back and stay.

My God bless our troops and each of us.

Knox County Market Place

Help Wanted

The Knox County Appraisal District & County Tax Assessor office is accepting applications for the position of deputy clerk, which will become available June 1st. Qualifications require high school graduation or equivalent and must pass a background check. This job consists of working with title registration and tag renewal registration, helping with voter registration, tax collection, delinquent tax collection and an other functions which arise in the office. Applicant must possess the following: Computer skills, organization skills, communicate effectively orally and in writing, work efficiently both independently and with others, and must be committed to provide exceptional public service. Applicants must have a RPC or be willing to register with the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulations and obtain certification within 3 years; Reliable transportation is a must to attend out of town classes that are required. Salary is contingent upon experience and qualifications. Applications may be picked up and returned to the Knox County Appraisal District office at 100 W Cedar St, Knox County Courthouse in Benjamin, Texas, or mailed to PO Box 47, Attention: Mitzi Welch. Applications and resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. The Knox County Appraisal district is an (EOE) Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Knox County & District Clerk Office is taking applications for a full time Deputy Clerk. Applicants should be qualified to provide a variety of accurate, general, clerical and bookkeeping support work involving legal terms, pleadings, forms and procedures for the County & District Clerk in accordance with state law and departmental procedures and regulations. Applicant must have computer skills, typing and/or data entry skills. Applicant must be a well-groomed, friendly, self sufficient and capable of working well with the public. The job offers insurance benefits and retirement. Applications may be picked up at the

Knox County & District Clerk's office in Benjamin between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. If interested contact Annette Offutt or Lisa Cypert in the Knox County & District Clerk's office in Benjamin. Phone No. 940-459-2441. Application deadline is April 6, 2011. EOE

Experienced (pulling unit) workover rig operator and crew needed. Operator position pays \$23 per hour. After 90 days, benefits are available. Call 806-269-0076 and ask for Donny.

Gavilon Grain LLC is looking for seasonal help for the 2011 harvest at their grain elevators in Knox City and Benjamin. This is an excellent 4-6 week seasonal opportunity for schoolteachers and college students. For more information call 1-877-322-1174 and ask for Ryan or Heather. EOE M/F/D/V

The City of Knox City will be taking applications for the position of swimming pool manager for the upcoming season until April 29, 2011. Information at City Hall. EOE

Brazos Valley Care Home is now accepting positions for LVN- Charge Nurses. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home at 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City

Seeking FULL TIME LVN and FULL TIME or PART TIME CNAS. Requires state license or Certification. Also seeking RN for PRN position. Competitive salary and benefits available for full time employees. EOE. For more information, please call 940-864-8537, or apply in person at Haskell Healthcare Center, 1504 No First Street, Haskell

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CNAS

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HASKELL HEALTH CARE CENTER
1504 No First St
Haskell

Museum News

By Clara Brown

The Wichita Brazos Museum archives still needs help in preserving photographic and paper recorded history of Knox County, and you may have historical records that are needed to tell the Knox County story.

Some of that history may be tucked away in your

mind. Even if some of your family's story is in a folder in the archives family file, even if your family is well documented in the cemetery and obituary albums, and the veteran's albums, you may know some family stories that your descendents don't know. So, tape it, or write

See MUSEUM on page 11

Knox County Aging Services

Menus For April 4th To April 8th

Monday April 4th
Hamburgers/Cheese Slices
French Fries
Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles & Onion
Cobbler

Tuesday April 5th
Chicken Spaghetti
Salad
Carrots
Garlic Toast
Cake

Wednesday April 6th
Meat Loaf
Pinto Beans
Spinach
Cornbread
Cookies

Thursday, April 7th
Ham/Potato Casserole
Green Beans
Carrot/Raisin Salad
Wheat Roll
Bread Pudding

Friday, April 8th
Tuna Sandwiches
Chips
Pork & Beans
Dessert
New serving time is 12 noon (in Knox City only). Alternate desserts for diabetics.

Please call in your orders by 10 a.m. to 657-3618.

Orders cant be taken after 10 a.m. And need to be picked up after 11 a.m.



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

Date	2009 Weekly Weather Report		Snow inches
	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches	
03/21	58/81		
03/22	48/90	0.01	
03/23	39/77		
03/24	34/81		
03/25	49/86		
03/26	44/70		
03/27	38/51		
Total Rainfall for month 2011 Rainfall (ytd)		0.94	

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I recently had to be hospitalized at the Knox County Hospital for an infection which had rendered me to be in a bad way. When entering the hospital care, I found that the Knox County facility was amazing, and I was so impressed. I needed to take an opportunity to let the people of Knox County know what an excellent facility that we are blessed to have in our small rural area. I especially want to send my deepest gratitude to Michelle, Aaron, Cheryl, Tanya, Dr. Finley and Chris who took wonderful care of me and helped make my stay at the KC Hospital as comfortable as possible.

**My sincere thanks and appreciation,
Evelyn Balis,
Knox City**

Dear Editor,

I, Elda Martinez, am a graduate of Knox City. My 3 children also have graduated from KC. I was always proud of the school system here.

Well, I am starting all over again, with one more child attending Pre-K through 12th grade (I hope!)

After a recent situation, I thought about pulling my daughter out of school, but after thinking about it, I decided not to.

I reported an incident that happened at school concerning a bus driver that was driving too fast after dropping off my daughter at her stop. The driver then sped away after dropping my daughter off, spraying her with rocks and dirt.

Now, I am being held at fault for bringing this situation to the attention of KC/O'Brien CISD and now because of my apparent "harassment" my daughter is no longer allowed to ride the bus.

I am going to the school board. I am going to take what is dished out to me, but I will never regret reporting this incident.

**Concerned,
Elda Martinez**

KC Sheriff issues appeal to citizens in fight against crime

Dean Homstad

Responding to the increased number of citizens wanting to assist law enforcement officials and build a stronger partnership in the fight against crime, Sheriff Dean W. Homstad announced today that Knox County Citizens are invited to become Associate Members' of the Sheriff's Association of Texas.

Membership invitations will go out in the mail over the next several weeks. Associate member funding allows the Sheriff's Association of Texas to provide critical training, technical resources, and legislative support on key criminal justice issues to law enforcement officers across the state. In addition, dues will be used to support crime prevention and awareness programs, promote pub-

lic safety, fight drug abuse, provide additional training for law enforcement officers..

Contributions to the Sheriff's association of Texas are tax deductible.

"The Associate Membership Drive helps provide the funding which is vital to our mission of making our communities safer places to live, work and play," said Sheriff Homstad.

The Associate Membership Program was created to provide citizens with an opportunity to lend their support to more effective law enforcement and better help local sheriff's protect the lives and property of citizens.

"During these hard economic times, the need for building stronger public-private law enforcement

partnerships continues to escalate, and programs such as this continue to grow in importance," said Sheriff Homstad. "I encourage every citizen receiving a membership appeal to consider joining forces with us by becoming an Associate Member. It is a valuable investment for our future."

1601 S. IH
Austin Texas 78741
www.txsheriffs.org

Founded in 1874, the Sheriff's Association of Texas is a 501 ©(3) non-profit pro-

fessional and educational organization dedicated to the preservation of peace and the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Texas. Mr. Steve M. Westbrook serves as the Executive Director. Headquarters are located in Austin, Texas. The Sheriff's Association of Texas does not solicit donations by phone. If you receive a phone call from someone who uses the Sheriff's Association of Texas name, please report it to your local sheriff or Count/District Attorney.

Remodelling & Repairs

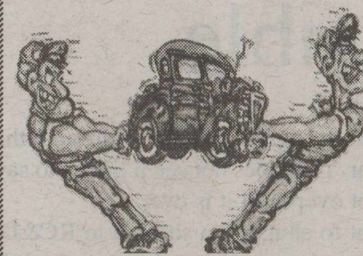
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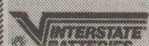
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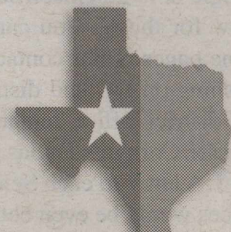
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Thanks for reading the Knox County News!



The Paperboy

The answer is all around us

By **CHRIS BLACKBURN**

In my humble opinion, we know how to create nuclear energy, but we are still not proficient at harnessing it.

If we're going to continue to progress into the clean, green world we all want to live in, we're going to have to face some hard facts.

Looking at the tragedy in Japan, it's apparent that we (developed countries) don't yet know how to properly contain nuclear reactors. Until we do, we need to ask ourselves if it is worth it and what needs to change to make it work and keep us safe?

Factoring in growth, the United States is sitting on 150 years of coal. Using clean coal technology, we can power this country and leave a smaller carbon footprint than at any time since the industrial revolution.

Clean coal technology is growing around the world. China is leading the way and India is quickly catching up. This decade, the emergence of near zero emissions technologies in coal provides an opportunity for the U.S. to reestablish itself as a world leader in production. What does coal mean to us? In one day (24-hours), this is what coal does around the globe:

- Generates power equivalent to 1,340 nuclear power plants.

- Fuels 60 percent of China's industrial sector.
- Provides more than half the electricity for three billion people.

- Provides over 40 percent of the power for 300 billion emails, 110 million tweets and the activation of 300,000 Androids.

In one day, American coal produces:

- More electricity than natural gas, nuclear, oil, wind and solar combined.

- Enough power to supply Alabama for three weeks, Kansas for 50 days and Connecticut for two months.

- 45% of the electricity to operate over 200 million computers and 100 million microwave ovens.

- More kilowatt hours than the United Kingdom uses in almost six days.

- Almost half the power to support 15,000 airports processing over 800 million passengers per year.

As our power demands increase, they must be met. If the U.S. is going to continue to lead the world for the rest of this century, coal is the answer.

Once we find an efficient way to safely harness nuclear energy and/or manufacture cold fusion, we can evolve back into that sector.

It's been proven over and over again that when someone comes out with a better mousetrap, the world accepts it.

When it comes down to it, you have to make it personal... In other words, would you be comfortable with a nuclear power plant in your backyard today?

If we have learned anything about the problems with the nuclear plants in Japan, it's that we don't know enough about creating a fail safe facility.

For the past two weeks, I've listened to "experts" predict all kinds of things regarding the leaking radiation. The fact is we don't know what impact this will have on Japan and the rest of the world. We probably won't fully understand what has happened for years if not decades.

The fact is, we live on a planet which we don't completely understand. If we did, why in the world would we be building nuclear power plants on fault lines and near water sources?

I believe one day we will have the proper technology in place to easily power the world in a variety of ways, but we're not there yet. Until we are, the answer to our problem is all around us.

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

Funding for RC&D in trouble

Hi Good People,

I have an update and a request regarding the funding for Resource Conservation and Development. The funding situation for federal assistance for our Council is approaching a critical point. As the saying goes, it is not the end of the road, but you can see it from here. It will be the end of the road unless our Senators are sufficiently energized to restore funding in the next continuing resolution for FY11 appropriations. The vote will be on April 8.

As you know, the US government is not funded for fiscal year 2011, which began last October 1st. A series of continuing resolutions have kept the government in business, and the process continues. The House went back to the budget and cut a lot of government programs as of last October 1st. Those programs included the RC&D program. The Senate cut the funding from \$50.73 million to \$25 million, which was only enough to last until March 31. A conference will be necessary after the vote in April to determine the final amount. In either situation, the RC&D program will not have federal funding after March 31st. Only if the full \$50.73 million is restored

to the budget will the RC&D program be funded through the remainder of this fiscal year. That does not seem likely, to say the least, but again, it is not over until it is over.

NRCS has no choice but to shut down support to RC&D. The details for all contingencies are being developed at all levels of NRCS. The coordinators will be reassigned to other duties; none will lose their NRCS jobs. As far as Council support, we don't even know if we will maintain our office space with NRCS. My guess is that we will, either as "Earth Teams" or with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The loss of federal funding does not impact our status as a 501c3 non-profit Council with several mission areas. Our Council will continue in operation, although there will be details to work through. Our projects that are funded by contracts and grants will continue. We really cannot do any contingency planning other than to go ahead with our projects and programs. We would obviously have to scale back our annual and five year plans, but those decisions can wait until our next board meeting.

Please contact our Texas Senators by any means you are

comfortable with. As a first step, go to their home pages via Google or at hutchison.senate.gov and cornyn.senate.gov (no www for these). You can send an email to them from their home pages. Their contact information is also listed for their Washington DC and district offices. For Senator Hutchison, her district office telephone in Abilene is 325 676-2839. Senator Cornyn's Dallas district office telephone is 979 239-1310. A letter to each Senator at their district and Washington offices would be even better. In your communication, ask that the 50.73 million dollars for FY11 for the RC&D program be restored. Mention that the funding is programmatic and not an earmark. Please make your calls now. I will send within the next few days a sample letter suggested by our national office.

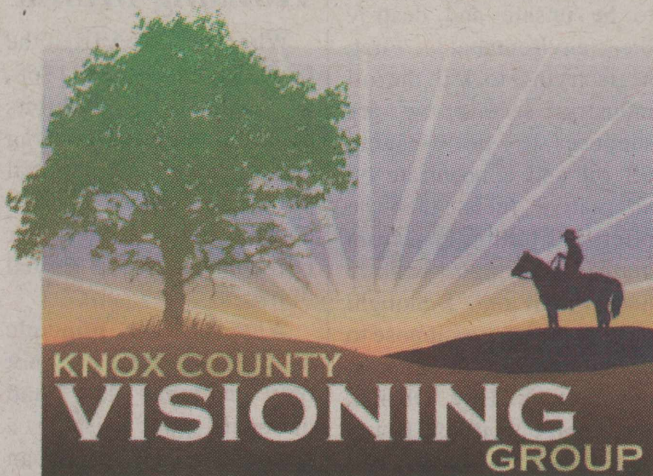
Please contact me if you have questions, comments, or ideas.

Thanks,

Joe McFarland
President,

Leon Bosque RC&D Council

Visioning with the KCVG



Jimi Coplen

Many exciting things are in store for Knox County in the near future. Some of these plans were discussed at the March 24 meeting of the Knox County Visioning Committee. A recap of the meeting follows:

The KCVG met on Thursday, March 24th at the Wichita Brazos Museum in Benjamin. **Mary Jane Young** told the group about the humble beginnings of the historical commission and museum being housed in the courthouse, and later opening this magnificent building in June 2009.

Emily Nelson, Director of the **Knox City Chamber of Commerce** handed out a 2011 calendar of events for the Knox City Chamber. She also reported on her chamber banquet that honored the energy businesses in Knox City. They had 160 people in attendance. She also reminded the group about the TxDOT meeting that was set for 6:30 pm that evening in Knox City to discuss the street and sidewalk project.

Mitzi Welch, Benjamin Chamber president reported that the **Benjamin Chamber** is seeking funding for a metal cowboy statue that will be placed on the corner of Hwy 82 and 6. Mr. Barrington out of Throckmorton will build this statue.

Jimi Coplen, KCVG Director discussed the upcoming **"Yes You Can!"** program that will be starting soon. This program is done in conjunction with the **AgriLife Extension Service**. **Lorrie Coop** will be doing the classroom side of this soon with high school kids. The KCVG will use remaining grant funds to help pay students salaries to work in area businesses. There are fewer grant dollars this year, so the program will be smaller. We will be seeking out kids who need a job for the summer and employers who would like to hire them.

Ms. Coplen also reported the upcoming **welding class** that will start in April. Ads are running in both newspapers. The class is limited to 15 students and will cost \$150 per student.

Ms. Coplen also discussed the **April Business Development Workshop**. The topic of this workshop will be **Customer Service and Hospitality Training**. It will be held in Munday at the Perry Patton Center on April 26th from 6-7 p.m. People are encouraged to tell business owners and friends about the workshop, and the possibility of sending employees.

The first annual **Knox County Adventure Days** is slated for June 17-19. This will

be a heritage tourism event, exposing people to what is available in their own backyard. The group is working on a photography scavenger hunt, an amazing race, a 5K race, a hiking trip, and more. A committee is being formed to hash out details of this event. Anyone wishing to help plan this event is encouraged to contact the KCVG.

The KCVG **Summer Internship** through Ogallala Commons deadline was extended to April 15th. It was originally set for March 25th. Juniors and seniors as well as college kids are welcome to apply. Applications can be found at high schools as well as the KCVG office in the courthouse in Benjamin.

The group discussed the upcoming **Summer Music Camp**. We are still awaiting details on a final date. The KCVG will be helping with this event. The Knox Prairie Events Center has added 8 showers and additional furniture to their dorm rooms and accommodations will be even better this year. Last year's camp hosted around 15 students. We would like to get 50 people signed up this year. The registration fee covers room and board as well as instructor's fees for four days of camp. No age limit or prior music experience is needed. More details to come.

Additional flyers were shared about upcoming events such as:

- Texas Midwest Community Network Luncheon in Stamford on March 30th from 11:30-1:15.

- Texas Midwest Community Network meeting on How to Create a Local Leadership Training Program, March 31st from 5-7 at the WTCOG Board Room in Abilene.

- Rain Water Harvesting Program on April 8 at 6pm at the Perry Patton in Munday.

- A Texas Rural Leadership Program being offered through Cisco College. The class will be held once a month for 8 months. This class is open to anyone wishing to learn more about leadership.

The price is \$320 to attend.

The KCVG is made up of various entities, businesses and individuals from each city in the county. Sponsors investing in this community include Knox County, the Munday Development Corporation, the Knox City Development Corporation, the

City of Munday, the City of Knox City, the City of Goree, Quality Implement, First National Bank, Citizen's Bank, Knox County Hospital, Knox County Abstract, AEP and Circle Bar Ranch. The KCVG meets monthly and is open to anyone wishing to get involved in community and economic development in Knox County.

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JUST JEFF

By Jeff Stanfield

This past week we had track and lots of it. I can tell you anything you want to know about Jayton, Texas if it pertains to their track. We spent 7 hours there on Thursday, and another 10 hours on Friday. Thursday it was windy, had lightning, a few drops of rain, and then it got colder than Nancy Pelosi's heart.

On Friday it was hotter than two mice wrestling in a sock. We all baked like lobsters. So that is how a family with a junior high student and senior in high school finish off a week. We brought home more sand and dirt than you can imagine.

Although I am moaning about the weather and the long hours associated with this weekend's track meet, I know I sure am going to miss high school track next year.

Zach and his buddies sure have left a lot of memories that I will never forget. It seems like yesterday that our oldest kid, Andy, was playing against Haskell in our last 11-man game. Now, it's like we blinked, and in 2 months Zach will be walking across the stage getting his diploma.

Jocelyn Decker who works at the bank is finally gonna get hitched. Yes she has been trying real hard to get officially engaged for the last year. I had nicknamed her the Cat-lady because I was starting to think she was gonna end up with 12 cats and no husband. Well, congrats to Laramie Reaves. You have a great future wife. I had planned on giving Jocelyn a 800 number for Rescue the Animals, but I guess she won't be needing that after all.

It looks like we will be seeing the re-birth of the Duckwalls on (or around) June 1st. The Hometown Variety Store will be opening up, and will be a bright spot for us in Knox City. I have really missed having a store here. I am not a shopper at all, but when I need something I sure do miss the convenience of it being downtown. I would like to thank Steve Pepper, David Counts, David and Jo Ann Albus, Tracy Carter, Dr. Zeke Duke, Ray Penman, Marla Hawkins, and Louis Baty for helping our town out. I have had many people ask about the store and what the City did to help out. Folks, I am hear to tell you that this is not a money maker for these people, but a investment in our town. This is not a project that will make

anyone wealthy, rather it is a huge service to our town, which will generate tax dollars that we are missing, create jobs and give us a convenience that we have all missed. Thank you for stepping up to the plate. My only request would be a Ice-e machine like the old Gibson's in Wichita Falls had.

My soapbox for the week: President Obama has pledged that his administration wants to assist the Brazilian Government with "technology and support" in developing its offshore oil reserves. "A black gold mine," he called it. "And when [the Brazilian government] is ready, we want to be your best customer," Obama said.

What the Sam Hell is wrong here??? He is the President of The United States (Lord help us). He has shut down off shore drilling in the Gulf because it is not safe and bad for the environment, but it is okay for everyone else

to be unsafe and destroy the environment? First, he is trying to kill the oil industry; second we are suppose to be weaning off oil and concentrate on alternative fuels; then he offers a 2 billion loan from our export - import bank to help Brazil out. I thought politicians where suppose to be helping out our interest not Brazil's. Hey, Obama, why don't you let Brazil concentrate on thongs, and Carnival- let us take care of the oil thing. The funny thing is somebody reading this will be offended, and say he is doing a good job! Bull Breeze on that if you think that. I beg you nay-sayers: Please, please, please, tell me two things that he has done good for U.S. citizen's... Oh, wait, I've got one: he has created a lot of work for airports and golf courses around the globe, since he takes more vacations and plays more golf than Tiger Woods.

**God Bless our Troops
and Texas.
Jeff "Tea Party"
Stanfield**

Proclamation of April as Fair Housing Month

Whereas: Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it's a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States;

Whereas: The principle of Fair Housing is not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement to all Americans; and

Whereas: the forty-third anniversary of this National Fair Housing Law, during the month of April, provides an opportunity all Americans to recognized that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and consideration of all Americans,

NOW THEREFORE, WE The City of Benjamin, do proclaim April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Benjamin and do hereby urge all the citizens of this locality to become aware of and support the Fair Housing Law.

In witness whereof we have affixed our signatures and sel on this 15th day of March, 2011.

-Sylinda Meinzer, City of Benjamin Mayor
Tami Gaddis, City Secretary (Witness)

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Benjamin News *By Gladene Green*

Well, here we go again- Cooler weather is back! After several days of unreasonably warm temperatures, Sunday morning was quite a change. There was some light mist in the area and we sure hoped heavier rain would follow, but so far nothing.

My sincere sympathy to the family of Lewis Lyles this week. Lewis passed away Thursday morning after several years of failing health. He had lived in Munday Nursing Center for quite sometime. Lewis was a good friend of my family- our girls were reared on his ranch as we lived out there nearly 14 years and there are lots of good memories of those days. His funeral was Saturday in Benjamin.

Also sympathy to the families of Patricia Kinzer and Bernice Rowan, both former residents of O'Brien. Pat was a sister to John Hendrix and had lived in Grandfield Oklahoma many years. Berneice had been in Henrietta near her son for quite some time after her health began to fail.

Shower on Sunday

Melina and Clayton Conner are about to experience a life changing event. The birth of a baby girl. So on Sunday, the community came together at the Methodist Church for a "Pink" shower. So many useful things were received and the young parents-to-be were elated over every one of them.

There in attendance were served cookies and punch by

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the hostesses, Judy Barnett, Irma Bell, Jan Carver, Carol Dickson, Pam Duke, Nancy McGregor, Laura McCanlies, Jessie Roberts, Mitzi Welch, and Mary Jane Young.

Here 'N There

Lana Mendoza was in Petrolia one night last week for the One Act Play competition. Her son, Colton Caldwell, who goes to school in Seymour, was a member of the cast from SHS. They didn't advance, but Colton did make the All-Star cast, so she was pretty proud of that.

Lorene Powers, Gloria West and Debbie Clower attended a bridal shower for Sara Leathers bride-elect of Kyle Douglas Bartlett in the home of Brenda Jones in Guthris on Saturday morning. Sara is the daughter of Joe and Louis Leathers and is a former Benjamin resident.

My great grandson, Dillon Keys, was dismissed

from the Seymour Hospital last Wednesday, but has to go back every day for 7 days of anti-biotic I.V. He's doing much better, but still not sure when he will go to Dallas.

Edith Broach, who lives in Lubbock, visited with her daughter, Janet Reed, and family during the weekend and attended the baby shower on Sunday.

Bud Conner and I attended a birthday party honoring Dorothy Jean Dykes on Sunday. It was scheduled to be in the park, but the change in the weather caused a change in plans. It was moved inside to the community center, but that was o.k. Lots of well wishers dropped by to say "Happy 75th!" It was a nice party hosted by Dorothy Dykes daughter, Patti.

Had a nice visit with former residents, Bill and Judy Bland, during the weekend. They live at Throckmorton.

They were her for the Lyles funeral. Bill and Judy are former Benjamin residents. It was good to see them.

Jan and Fred Carver attended the funeral of Pretrecia Kinzer in Grandfield,

Oklahoma last Thursday.

Jan, Fred, Mike and Tammy Lyles had several visit during the weekend and attended the Lyles funeral on Saturday. Among their visitors were Gary and Stasia

Antilley, Ryan of Wingate, Callie Antilley and Ryder and Justin Laird of Abilene, Jacy and Jara Collins and family, of Munday, and Tyler Collins and a friend, Kelly, of Lubbock.

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Observe National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 4 - 8

Navigating construction can be difficult, not to mention risky for both drivers and workers.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) manages more than 1,000 highway projects at any given time on 80,000 miles of Texas roads. To remember victims and raise safety awareness for workers and motorists, TxDOT will join the Federal Highway Administration and other transportation partners April 4-8 to observe the twelfth annual National Work Zone Awareness Week.

Work zones can be hazardous for both motorists and highway crews working to improve Texas' highways. However, because of increased safety measures and public outreach, TxDOT has seen a 35 percent decrease in work zone fatalities in 2009 from the previous year.

While there has been a significant decline in work zone fatalities and crashes, there is still work to do. In 2009, 108 people were killed

in highway construction and maintenance zones in Texas. Since 1938, there have been 270 TxDOT employees killed, with 200 of those deaths occurring in work zones.

Thankfully, in 2009 the Childress District had no fatalities, but we have had nine crashes that occurred in a work zone. More than four out of five, or eighty-five percent, of those killed in work zones are drivers or their passengers. Speeding and inattention are the most common causes cited. Rear-end collisions account for one in three crashes.

Safety is TxDOT's first priority, no matter what job—behind the desk or on the highway. Slow down and follow posted speed limits. Traffic fines are double in work zones. Pay attention. Workers are often close to traffic. Be patient. Delays can be frustrating, but it only takes a few minutes to slow down in a work zone. Plan ahead. Leave early to reach your destination.

Drive safe to be safe.

Arrest Report

Pursuant to your open records request, the below is a list of those arrested within the indicated tome and processed through the Knox County Jail:

March 6 - March 17

Dennis, Lana
3/10/11

Possession of Marijuana (M-B)
Knox County

Gaines, Brian D
3/15/11

FTA/Criminal Trespass (M-B)
Knox County (arrested in Wichita Falls)

Costilla, Robert Jr.
3/16/11

Criminal Trespass (M-B)
Baylor County

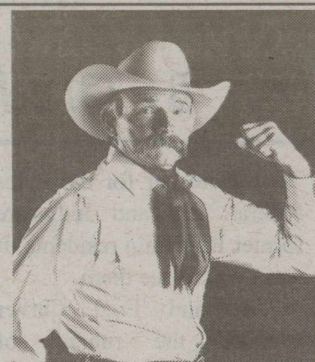
Williams, Kristie
3/17/11

Burglary of a Habitation (F-2)
Tarrant County Warrant
Arrested by Baylor County

Johnson, Savannah D.
3/17/11

Terroristic threat (M-A)
Baylor County

Submitted by Dean Homstad,
Sheriff, Knox County



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE by Baxter Black, DVM

THE SIMPLE ANSWER

I was on the shuttle bus to pick up a rent car at the Denver Airport when we passed the giant rearing blue horse with glowing red eyes. On my bus were an oriental man and his child. They were tourists going skiing, so I deduced from their luggage. The boy exclaimed, "Daddy, what's the matter with that horse!" I could see the dad trying to think of an answer. He said, "I think he is...mean."

He might have harbored the suspicion that the Red-Eyed blue horse was intended to be a politically incorrect slur on equines, or a blatant corporate-funded endorsement for Visine, or a protest against the Denver Broncos, or most likely, the sculptor was related to the present governor of Colorado. The dad looked at me conspiratorially, thinking, I guess that I might be able to help teach his son a lesson about the dark side of American corruption.

I admit that sometimes I have the urge to butt in. Give him my two cents worth. Maybe even clear things up. Explain the blue horse is an exhibition of modern art and put the kid's fears to rest, but then wisdom overcame my mouth and I realized, "Ya know, I don't have a dog in this hunt."

When we question the motives for someone's action or decision, our imagination can go wild. My daughter had a suitor. A nice boy, but insecure. I only heard her side of the telephone conversation; "No, but thanks. I just don't feel like going. No, there's nothing wrong. No, I'm fine. Yes, my car is running fine...No, there's no snowdrift in the driveway. It's nothing you said, I just don't feel like...of course not, there's no one else! Sure I still love you..!"

This could go on for hours! Her real reason for not going? She just didn't feel like it.

Ockham's Razor is one of those pieces of wisdom that has lasted through the ages. It states that the easiest solution is usually the best. Why did the chicken cross the road? She had an intrinsic sense of direction to migrate? She saw a dead bug? She was driven from her homeland by an abusive rooster? The simple answer is; to get to the other side.

How did you get on the top of Mt. Everest? "Well, I was just standin' here and these two Sherpas invited me for lunch."

How did you get to be president of the Rotary Club? "I missed the last meeting."

How did you manage to stay on that rearin' buckin' horse? That was an amazing ride! "My jean jacket got hung

See BAX on page 11



Friends of mine are going to Florence. They didn't ask me to go along, so I'm having a Florentine omelet instead — something that's probably not on the menu in Florence.

Only in America, I'm guessing, does Florentine simply mean spinach. Who knows what they call a spinach omelet in Florence, where Florence is Firenze.

My husband, Hugh — Uberto in Frieze — when he's feeling generous, lets me help him with the French words on the crossword puzzles he tackles daily. Monday he asked me this one:

"Five-letter word with French?"

I think he'd already deduced it was "fries," but sometimes he humors me.

Of course in France they don't have French fries. They just have fries.

Daniel, a French teenager, once spent several weeks with me one summer, an unofficial exchange deal. He loved the French fries at a local hamburger joint — not because they were better than "pommes frites" in France but because he could put ketchup on them. Every time he grabbed the ketchup bottle, he smiled and his eyes lit up. Somehow the French hadn't yet discovered ketchup with fries — not then. McDonald's may since have changed everything.

Daniel, by the way, told me I spoke French with the accent of Bourgogne. I thanked him. He told me it wasn't a compliment.

If you're in France and you hear John Wayne French, you might be in Bourgogne.

Back to Italy, because I can't think of anything else to say about France, except I hear there's talk that the French might end up in

charge of the war, or whatever it is we're having, in Libya. I'm guessing that the French might depend on Libya for oil. Just guessing. Where is Libya anyway? Next to Algeria? Ivory Coast?

MAP PAUSE.

Forget Ivory Coast. Libya lies between Algeria and Egypt. I've never met a Libyan, but I've met two Algerians — Djedir in Marseille and Herr Hellal in Vienna, which suggests Algerians get around more than Libyans. Maybe it's because Algerians (at least the two I encountered) speak French, a more universal language than Libyan, thus making them more sophisticated and likely to wind up in other countries. Herr Hellal, as I recall, had a wife in Bulgaria. That's sophisticated.

OK, maybe you spotted my error. They don't speak Libyan in Libya. They speak Arabic, albeit Libyan Arabic. Interestingly enough, the Internet stuff I'm reading indicates Libya's primary second languages (oxymoron intended) are English and Italian. Why not put the Italians in charge of the war thing? Just kidding. Incidentally, they used to rule Libya.

Wow. There for a second I thought I read that terrorism is rare in Libya. I blinked my eyes and saw instead that "tourism" is rare. Close.

The more I read about Libya, the better I understand why they don't get out more. They're always getting invaded. When the world comes to you, you don't have to go anywhere. Think Florentine omelet.

Meanwhile, I'm thinking couscous for supper, Libyan style. Close enough to Tripoli for me.

over the saddle horn.”

They tell of a crusty ol' coyote hunting-duster pilot in Montana who was teaching flying lessons. One particularly talkative student showed up for his sixth lesson. Ol' Montana told him to climb in on the pilot's side, that he was ready

BAX continued from 10

to solo.

“Gosh,” said the student, “I’ve only had five lessons, most people say you need at least seven, I’m not sure I’m ready. I’ve read about the danger of flying before your confidence is built up, the need to know all the rules, and even

though I consider myself a good student, I’m just concerned we might be jumpin’ the gun, are you sure I’m ready to solo, what if I crash?”

Ol’ Monty patted him on the arm and said, “Son, this isn’t my plane and yer no kin to me, so take your best shot.”

MUSEUM continued from 4

down the anecdotes your family tells about good times, and hard times. Tell when they left where they were, to come to Knox County, and how they traveled here. Tell what they did to pass the time away, before television. The Museum has a file on births, deaths, marriages, and other information, but not the particulars, like how tall, color of their eyes and hair, or what they really looked like.

Help to show how different life was then from now.

One family still laughs about the grandmother (when television was new) who passed through her living room filled with men waiting to see the Kentucky Derby. She glanced at the (perfect) picture on the screen, and said, “We can’t get that channel,” and switched the channels. How would that lady be treated today? Does

that show a change in the culture? Your stories will help reveal the flavor of your family like, the attitude of the times.

Give the museum a story, one story and you’ll learn, “the rest of the story”, what happened (one column ago), when that pasture on the North Wichita River was suddenly filled with the sound of galloping horses, shouting and shooting.

OBITS continued from 3

and Kevin Frank Kinzer, both of Grandfield; two daughters, Kimberly Kay Colbert of El Reno, OK, and Kristy Kay Barnett, and husband, Marc, of Frederick, OK; one brother, John Hendrix and wife, Rose Ann Riggs of Truscott, TX; two sisters, La Docia Morris of Fort Worth, TX, and Francis Howell and husband,

Jimmy, of Canyon Lake, TX; a sister-in-law, Sue Kinzer of Hillsborough, NC; eight grandchildren, Kourtnee, Karrigan, Kinnedey and Kotton Kinzer; Kaspem and Kason Colbert; Kole and Kinzer Barnett.

She was preceded in death by her parents, B. Blueford and Vivian Hendrix and her

beloved sister, Leona Lanear Phillips.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church, 101 E. 3rd Street, Grandfield, OK 73546, the Grandfield Public Library, 101 W. 2nd, Grandfield, OK 73546, or the Grandfield Ambulance Fund, PO Box 655, Grandfield, OK 73546.

From the D.A.’S desk



As your District Attorney, I am saddened to inform you that we are facing an epidemic that threatens life in our communities as much as the flu or any other contagious and potentially fatal illness. The increase in the numbers of methamphetamine related cases across Baylor, Cottle, King and Knox counties is staggering. Over 1/3 of the felony cases presented to a Baylor County Grand Jury last month were methamphetamine related. And if statistics hold true, many of the burglaries and financial crimes in our communities stem from illegal drug use in one way or another. I am joining with your local

law enforcement in an effort to raise awareness of methamphetamine manufacturing and use. It is our goal to stop this drug and its life threatening consequences in Baylor, Cottle, King and Knox County.

Knowledge is power. The more you know about Meth, the more we can attack it head on.

Empower yourself by reading the facts below:

Meth (Methamphetamine) is a super powerful and highly addictive stimulant that affects the pleasure centers of the brain.

It goes by many names: “Meth”, “Speed”, “Chalk”, “Ice”, “Crystal”, “Crank”, “Glass”, “Yaba”, “Fire”, “Tina” and “Tweak”.

Its chemistry is deadly and EASY to conjure up. Ingredients include over-the-counter drugs (mainly decongestants, such as pseudoephedrine), drain cleaner, anhydrous ammonia, kerosene, nail polish remover, starter fluid (ether), and even battery acid.

It’s cooked in illegal, homemade Meth labs. These labs involve the use of toxic and volatile substances. They emit offensive fumes and harmful gases. These labs can be highly explosive and can very well be next door to you right now.

Meth can be ingested into the body by swallowing, snorting, smoking, injecting with hypodermic needles or inserting anally.

When taken, Meth enters the bloodstream and invades the central nervous system. It reacts with the body’s natural levels of dopamine, which floods the pleasure centers of the brain. This is what is called a Meth high, which can last from 6 to 24 hours.

You will be hearing more from me about this illegal drug under the headline ZEROMETH. I want you to be assured that my office makes the use and/or manufacture of methamphetamine a priority for prosecution. We are making every effort to stop this dangerous and destructive epidemic.

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See RELAY FOR LIFE on page 12

It is not too late to enter the Relay in order to support the cause. All one needs to do is gather a group of willing participants who are prepared to spend an evening (or part of an evening/ early morning) walking. Just walking. No running is required, nor are

there any number of laps that a team is required to do. All for a cause that can possibly make all of our lives better for now and for the future. The teams have no limits on number of participants. The City of Munday has created a team of 65-70 people, who

have all been allotted times to take on walking for the cause. As of now, there are between 17 and 18 teams registered.

To enter a last minute team, or for more information about the relay, call 940-864-3448 and ask for Janice or Stacia.

Need new wheels?

If it's got wheels, there's more than a good chance that we can make a vehicle loan to help you buy it. So, if you need a new car, pick-up, truck, tractor, SUV, RV, combine, motorcycle or a trailer for your boat, make your first stop to see us to line up your money. We can get you set up with payments that handle as easy as your new rig. Subject to credit approval.



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MUNDAY - HASKELL - STAMFORD



KCHS Takes Second in One Act Play competition

Tamara Smart

This weekend was packed full of activities in the lives of both parents and students of Knox City HS. Not only was there a two-day track meet in Jayton, The One Act Play competition in Vernon kicked off the One Act Play season for the high school students as well. Knox City HS prepared a play called "Quiet Please" under the direction of Terra Martinez and co-directed by Katie Carr.

Michael Wilborne and Zak York were named to the prestigious AllStar cast post-

production; and Makayla Harrington and Brandon York were also recognized with Honorable Mention awards.

The cast and crew of the production brought down the house with their rendition of this One Act play by Howard Buermann. In the play, we find two brothers, Jeff and Judd, who are in the midst of a long-time quarrel. Yet, their fighting changes pace when a young, stranded dame's car breaks down near there house, and she seeks their domicile for refuge. The comedy ensues as the

two brothers deal with their uninvited guest, concluding with ... well, perhaps it's not fair to give away the ending.

To find out the way the brothers handle the situation, as well as the status of their long-lasting feud, perhaps one can join in the audience at Throckmorton this Wednesday, where KCHS will once again compete with Rule's depiction of "The Actor's Nightmare", which won first place in the Zone 1 competition, as well as Paint Creek and Newcastle's OAP productions in battle for the 2011 OAP District Title.

Benefits to Rain Water Harvesting

Anthony Munoz - County Extension Agent

There are many basic essentials that we need for everyday living. These are basic elements such as food, water, and clothing. All of these items are very easy to obtain because all we have to do is go to the store and purchase them or turn on the sink faucet and it is right there. Unfortunately, due to the increase in population and levels of impermeable surfaces, alternate routes need to be looked at to conserve and meet the demands for fresh water use in Texas.

When looking at innovative and alternative routes to water conservation there are many different choices to look at, one of these choices happens to be Rain Water Harvesting. Rain Water Harvesting is a process in which rain water is captured, diverted, and stored. Depending on the complexity of the system it can either be translocated immediately if it is simple or captured, filtered and distributed for a later use if the system is complex. The capturing of rain water is done through your basic forms of gutters that many people have lining the roofs of their houses. By capturing the rain falling

from the roof, the water is then channeled through filtered down spouts to capture debris and into some kind of container, in some cases a 55 gallon barrel or even up to a 500 gallon poly tank. Once the rain is stored in the tank, then it is up to the owner's discretion of what they will do with the water. Depending on the complexity of the rain water harvesting system, many different uses can be implemented from the water. One of the most popular uses of rain water is for supplemental irrigation on landscaping around the house because rain water is free of salts and other harsh minerals. Other great uses for rain water are for providing water to livestock animals and luring in wildlife species.

To put into perspective how beneficial rain water harvesting is; the roof that you live under can produce .6 gallons per square foot with 1 single inch of rainfall. For example, if the roof of your house covers 2,000 square feet and you get 1 inch of rain that would equal to 1,200 gallons of usable water. If it were an average year in Knox County in which we would receive 20 inches of rain or better, you

are looking at close to 24,000 gallons per year. The majority of this rainfall would be able to be captured for use with some being lost to evaporation and other causes.

Implementing rain water harvesting techniques will have many direct benefits to our state and our pocket books by lowering water bills. Furthermore, rain water is not only a valuable resource for irrigation but it can also help in the reduction of the demand on the water supply. It will reduce run-off from rainfall that can greatly impact erosion and prevent the contamination of surface water with sediments, fertilizers, and pesticides. By looking at the above material you can get a broad overview of what rain water harvesting is about. 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.