

THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

VOL. 39 NO. 46

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

75CENTS

Knox County News Starts a New Chapter

Tamara Smart

As anyone who closely looks at the Knox County News logo can see, the name "Knox County News" was established in 1971. Specifically, the announcement was

made in October of 1971 that the previous local paper, Knox County Herald, had to shut its doors. Because of the love and devotion of several community members who saw the need for a local pub-

lication, the Knox County News was the creation that came of that loss.

Through the years, the Knox County News newspaper has undergone some interesting twists and turns, as it would in any type of business that operates 52 weeks a year and has for almost 40 years. Some long time readers could probably tell of some times when the newspaper was great and bold, while other times, many may have found it lacking. There have been many different editors, reporters, sports writers, columnists, and contributors that have molded the paper from week to week- each story lending that week's edition to have a personality all of its own.

I have had the great pleasure of being an employee of the Knox County News for three years. It was only 2 and a half years ago that I received a promotion from

NEW CHAPTER
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Under the Friday Night Lights in Knox City, Daveine Clark captures a stunning picture of Josh Schnable taking down an Ira defender during the battle. Greyhounds met defeat to the hands of Ira. For more stats on this game, see the Greyhounds sports page 8.

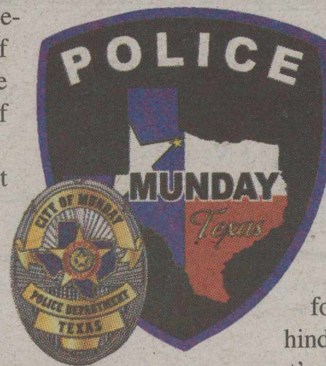
MPD Awarded \$99,640 Grant

Tamara Smart

Recently, the Munday Police Department was awarded a grant from the Criminal Justice Department of Texas in the amount of \$99,640.

The grant comes after a long, grueling process for the department of application after application for grant money. MPD has

needed several vehicles to replace older cars in their fleet to make them a more effective and operational department. Being from a smaller tax base in rural Texas and not having the tax moneys available to be allocated for this expense hindered the Department's ability to update



MPD
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LOOKING AHEAD

The monthly Musical Talent Show at the Knox County Aging Center is scheduled for next Tuesday night, Sept. 13th at 7 p.m. All are invited to attend—Bring snacks!

Coming Sept. 1, 2011- "Our Hebrew Connection" which is a women's bible study to nourish Christians from the roots of faith. Meet at Faith Chapel in Rochester Texas every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. for 8 weeks. Student books and Jewish New testament are available for purchase at time of class. For questions, call 940-864-2924 and ask for Laela Martin. Don't miss this awesome time of fellowship- women of all denominations are welcome and wanted.

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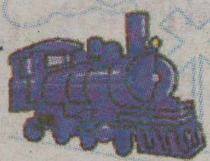


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GOD'S PROMISES

Our Child Is An Adult...Now What?

By Gary Schnable, Four-square Church

"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6 NKJV)

Five ... four ... three ... two ... one ... we have lift-off." How else can we describe this new chapter of our adult children's lives?

You've got two suitcases under your arm and you're

struggling up the stairs in your son or daughter's new dormitory (Yes, two is wishful thinking). They have negotiated with college housing for their new living quarters they will

now live in. Down the hallway, someone has cranked up their newly installed Bose system. Some have gathered around a game of Madden 2011. On the way in, you almost got beamed by an errant Frisbee. Yes, this will be home for our precious son or daughter who used to sleep under our roof & eat at our kitchen table.

Or maybe you're under the sink in your son's apartment. He has a new job and a place closer to work. It's an old place, but the rent is cheap, and it doesn't clash with his garage-sale couches, chairs and end tables. Lately, the sink has been backing up. The landlord's out of town, so your son gave you a call and, of course, you stopped by.

Or maybe you're a little farther along and you're standing a little uncomfortably, decked out in a tuxedo for only the third time in your life. In the crook of your arm rests the hand of the sweetest girl God ever created. You wish her hand could stay there forever. But then you hear, "Who gives this woman to be married to this man?" and the words echo in your head for a few seconds. You breathe deeply and swallow hard... "Her mother and I do."

And so you launch your children out into their own lives. It's hard to let go, but you know it's inevitable. You've worked toward this launching for eighteen, nineteen, or twenty-two years. This is where their

first baby steps were taking them all along.

So what are we to do? You have done all you can do up to this point. They must now take the package, what we as parents, the church family, school teachers & coaches have taught them along their youthful journey. We must release them to now fly on their own. For many of us parents we are still thinking to ourselves, "But I still have so much more to teach them!"

Our part in their lives now is to continue our parental responsibility of being faithful in prayer, continuing to live as an example of Jesus Christ & to be available when they call or come to us for advice. I still relish the calls to my 87 & 86 year old parents for simple advice...sometimes knowing the answer already just to let them know how important they still are to me.

The greatest thing I hope we will all hear them say early in their adult lives is that they appreciate most everything we did for them... especially all the times we said "NO" or stood our ground in things we knew would go sideways in their lives. Oh, they may have to go through some great tragedy, a loss or even a night in jail for God to get their attention like the Prodigal son (Luke 15:11-31). We pray (Don't ever give up!!!) for that epiphany, that life changing encounter with God that will allow them to be all He created them to be!

Just remember, if we are faithful to love them, encourage them & pray for our adult children, God will be faithful to answer our prayers! Expect great things in your son & daughters because God's Word promises us He will complete what we have started in them!

"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy...⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:4, 6 NIV)



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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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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.

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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.

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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.

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KCN OFFICE HOURS

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

MUSEUM NEWS

A few more days to go before the annual Wichita Brazos Museum garage sale on, Saturday, September 10th. Friends of the museum have been scouring the county, and beyond, to ensure customers at the Perry Patton Center will have plenty to choose from. It's sort of like going to market at Dallas for a store owner.

The grilled hamburger lunch with chips and homemade cookies on the front porch is a great time to visit with friends and brag about your purchase, or fret about not buying it before they did.

On sale day there will be pick-up and car loads of items coming in at 8:00 A.M. even as the first customers arrive. It may be a get-rid-of-it object to

the donor, but it may become someone else's treasure that they can't live without, even though they only realized they needed it upon spotting the object as it came through the door.

The garage sale at Munday, helps pay for museum operations and improvements. It's an opportunity for everyone to help the museum, so be a good citizen, clean out your closets, pull out that dusty box in the back corner of the garage and donate what you find to the sale.

But save the box, you'll need it to carry home something you can't live without.

Questions? Call the Wichita Brazos Museum at 459-2229.

OBITUARY

RICHARD WESLEY SHAHAN

Richard Wesley Shahan, 67, passed away in Knox City, Texas, August 30, 2011. Services will be held at the First Baptist Church at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 3, 2011 in Knox City with Rev. Jerry Vincent officiating. Burial will be at the Knox City Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes.

Richard was born January 31, 1944 in Hobart, Oklahoma to Carl Wesley Shahan and Mary Inez Pixley. He married Mary Anne Megehee in Gainesville, Texas on December 15, 1968 and lived in Knox City since 1985. He was an oil field worker and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Knox

City.

Richard is survived by four daughters, Sherry Ellis and husband Steven of Knox City, Andrea Coffman and husband Artie of Knox City, Betty Belshe and husband John of Tecumseh, OK, and Mary Shahan and Will Martinez of California; two sisters, Barbara Shahan of Knox City, Gale Short of Knox City and husband Owen of OK; 7 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and special friend Maritetta McWhorter of Rochester.

He is preceded in death by his wife Mary Anne; his parents; one grandchild, Mariah Shahan; 3 sisters, Connie David, Judy Gonzalez and Joyce Shahan; and one brother Ronnie Cecil Shahan.

KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES

Menus For September 12th To September 15th

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH

Meatballs/macaroni
Ranch style beans
Salad
Sliced bread
Yogurt

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH

Breaded pork chop/gravy
Turnip greens
Buttered potatoes
Hot rolls
Cookies

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH

Chef salad
Baked potato
Crackers

Cottage cheese/fruit

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

Pimento cheese sandwiches
Pickled beets
Chips
Pudding

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER

16TH

Fish/tartar sauce
Cole slaw
Zucchini & tomatoes
Hush puppies

Dessert

New serving time is 12 noon (in Knox city only)
Alternate desserts for diabetics

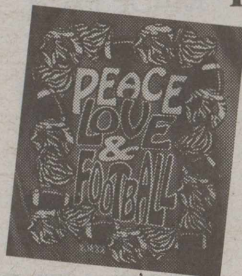
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Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.
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FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City 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 -

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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 11 a.m.

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

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Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass
Saturday Mass at 6 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin

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Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

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

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Kevin Neslon, 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.

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SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

By Sammie Offield

In Guam, I visited the baby and I had a wonderful time. All was nice and green there. The rain came every half day or so. The temperatures were 80 degrees or less, and places we visited were great. The food wasn't my "piece of cake", but thank God for McDonald's. The baby and I lined up for their food. Loved the trip to go and see my baby and spend all the time I could with him, but I'm not sure a second trip will ever happen.

As I left here, the Grindstaff's were in the process of having their mother's funeral. When I returned, they seemed to be doing bet-

ter and recovering from the pain of losing her.

When I returned, I found that Richard Shahan has also gone to be with the Lord. I know he had been having a rough time after his heart attack. God bless the family and my sincere sympathy each one of the family.

I spoke to Laura Stovall and she informed me that Chad Toleson is having a great recovery and things are looking better every day. God does create miracles.

When I left, Alfredo Abila had just undergone surgery. When I returned, the facial reconstruction had been completed. Mario says he is talking up a storm. He has been transferred to

Abilene today (Tuesday), for physical therapy for his legs. He was medicated for so long, his body has grown stiff, so he must learn how to walk again.

The guys at Bud's Café and Dawn, of course, were ready to hear about my trip and to see my pictures. Yes, they loved the story about the temperatures and about the rain. I just couldn't bring it home with me. The places were lots of fun, and to hear Marvin Jones talk about Guam when he was there while in the Navy, I can't believe the stories are about the same island. It was great to see everyone doing fine.

It is great to be home,

even though I've been sick since returning. I had ear problems, and my body was worn down. I guess the flight was very hard to do. I'm improving a little each day.

Diana Casilla has brought her mother home from the Abilene hospital, but the effect of the stroke has made it hard to work with her. My prayers and thoughts are with her as she works with her mom, day after day.

Sunday, Eddie and I had our daughter and her husband, Rodney, to come in from Corpus Christi for the weekend. We saw his parents, Pride and Middy Dunham from Old Glory. They were lots of fun to have over,

and we had a great visit. Today, we all returned to our normal lives to pick up the pieces and put them back together again.

Our dove hunters are in town and enjoying their hunting season. Please be careful and watch out for each other.

Mr. Burkham had a nice

visit with Kenny Lawson. They visit back and forth to get his parent's house ready to sell. Hope they are doing well.

I've got very little this week, but I hope to have more next week. Until then, please be careful.

God bless our troops and each one of us.

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The Knox County Sheriff's office is accepting sealed bids on the following vehicle:

2006 Gray Chevy Silverado LS 4 Dr Crew cab half ton pickup, 67000 miles, AC/PS/PB, Auto Trans., Am/FM/CD, 4.8 L V-8 Vortex Engine, Charcoal Interior, Chrome Wheels, Runs great, sounds better, body and interior very good.

Sealed bids will be accepted through September 19th, 2011. Sealed bids can be mailed to the Knox County Sheriff's Office, PO Box 257, Benjamin Texas 79505, or can be dropped off at the Knox County Sheriffs office at 104 South Stewart, Benjamin 79505. Vehicle can be seen at the Sheriff's Office. All bids must be sealed with "sealed bid" clearly marked on the outside of said bid.

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2011 Weekly Weather Report

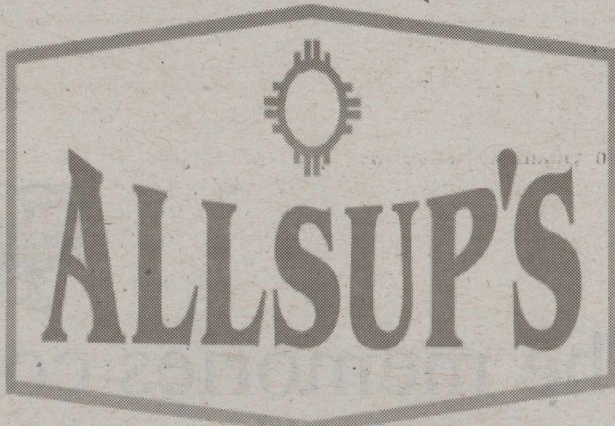
Date	Temperature (F)	Rainfall inches
	Low / High	
08/29	78/104	
08/30	76/110	
08/31	80/105	
09/01	73/100	
09/02	70/102	
09/03	73/101	
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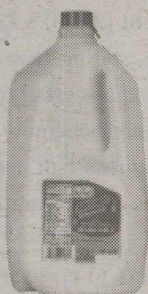
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OPINION

The Paperboy



The memories come flooding back

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Sunday marks the tenth anniversary of one of the worst days of my life. A day, that for a number of hours, had me believing the world - as we knew it - was changing forever. It did.

On 9-11, a simple plan of hate and destruction was carried out and thousands died. Just imagine, it could have been worse.

I remember the sick feeling I had in the pit of my stomach. I remember the anger I felt in my heart. I remember the confusion I felt in my head. Most of all, I remember the sadness.

We lost so much that day on such a large scale, I wondered if we'd ever recover. America's greatest city and our nation's capital had been taken to their respective knees.

Honestly, the evening of September 11, 2001, I thought was just the beginning. We would be living in a world where terrorist attacks on our soil would be commonplace. Terror would reign and normalcy was going to be beyond our reach for decades.

It took years to heal both emotionally and financially, but we did recover.

Despite what you may think of Presidents Bush and Obama, for ten years, we've been safe. Numerous plots have been

foiled and by the grace of God, we have not suffered anything remotely close to the dark day of 9-11.

Our government has not been perfect, but they have done job one very well. Apart from the policies and rhetoric, Americans should take a deep breath Sunday and realize this fact and thank God for those who have kept us safe for a decade. For all of our faults, on both sides of the aisle, they have been on the same page in this endeavor and it has worked.

Let us also remember our fighting forces which have been at war for nearly a decade. You can think what you want about the justification of the wars we've fought, but there is not a doubt in my mind that making the terrorists worry about the safety of their own backyard has made our backyard safer.

Once we end the wars and bring our troops home, I seriously doubt they will get the victorious celebration they deserve. Because unlike our great wars, we will receive no surrender from the defeated. However, that should never diminish the sacrifice made by the thousands which have given their lives for this country and the thousands more injured both physically and mentally.

Sunday, my wife was watching one of the many television shows which has focused on the anniversary. My oldest son Jackson, 8, sat in her lap and watched. I could tell by watching

his eyes that he was shocked that something so tragic took place just a short time before he was born.

After the show, we talked about that day and how it unfolded. We spoke about the heroes of that day and how it changed the country. For an innocent child, the fact there are truly evil people out there wanting to kill Americans took him by surprise. I admit, it still takes me by surprise.

Every one of us has our own 9-11 story. Where you were what you were doing and how you reacted will be the topics of discussion for many of us the rest of the week. Sure we'll talk about the game Friday and about who posted what on Facebook, but at some point each day leading up to Sunday's anniversary, 9-11 will creep into the conversation. It should.

I encourage each of you to have those conversations. Let the memories come flooding back. Harken back to the day that changed our world forever. Because when you do, it puts things in perspective. It makes you appreciate the sacrifices made to keep your family safe. As we've become accustomed to hearing this time of year: never forget!

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

New legislation promises to stop the UN from being so UNeffective

By REBECCA DIFEDE

In the past year, 22 percent of the United Nation's (UN) operations budget and 27 percent of the peacekeeping budget were funded by the United States. This week, Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, chairwoman of the House Foreign Affairs committee introduced the "United Nations Transparency, Accountability, and Reform Act," legislation designed to shake up the foundation of the long-stagnant UN.

This bill will "require the UN to adopt a voluntary budget model in which countries selectively fund UN agencies rather than according to a set formula". This is to ensure that there is a little more competition for funds and as a result, the often-dormant UN officials will actually have to take some action to get what they want.

Historically, the UN has not been the greatest at making progress. For far too long they have tip-toed their way around conflicts by sending teams to warzones with no weapons, and attempting peace talks with countries and groups who are clearly only in search of blood.

If Rwanda and the Sudan taught us anything, it was that the

UN cannot be trusted to get involved in conflicts because they refuse to adapt to the situation when the enemy doesn't want to sit down to a tea party and talk things out. The U.S. is a country of actions and if they are going to continue to receive our money they're going to need to start revising the way they handle themselves.

This new legislation would also be setting boundaries on the use of U.S. money to only purposes specified by Congress, and would prevent funding from being used for any UN agency that supports the Palestinian observer mission or its refugees. In addition, the laws would also refuse funding for the UN Human Rights Council for any members with Security Council sanctions, investigations for human rights violations or are state sponsors of terrorism.

Ros-Lehtinen is quoted on the House Foreign Affairs committee website saying, "We need a UN which will advance the noble goals for which it was founded. Unfortunately the current UN continues to be plagued by scandal, mismanagement, and inaction, and its agenda is frequently hijacked by rogue regimes which protect each other while targeting free democracies like the US and Israel. This bill is about making the UN

work again."

Americans for Limited Government (ALG)'s President Bill Wilson praised the congresswoman, stating that "for far too long the UN has been a sacred cow, and it is gratifying that Ros-Lehtinen is taking on this bureaucratic behemoth that wastes U.S. tax dollars. At some point, Congress will need to decide whether investment in the UN makes sense from both a fiscal and foreign policy perspective."

Since this legislation actually wants to enforce responsible spending and corral the crazed child that is the UN, it will likely receive opposition from the left-leaning Senate and the Obama Administration. However, it has significant and quantifiable positive outcomes if instituted, and as such it is likely that it will pass the House of Representatives.

The UN is facing a crisis of its own making. Should Ros-Lehtinen's bill become law, it just might hit its stride within the guidelines set forth by one of their major contributors, and start actually uniting some nations, rather than continuing to bask in the glory of ignorance.

Engagement Announcement



Mr & Mrs Boyd of Wichita Falls TX and Mr and Mrs Palmer of Texarkna TX are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Tyana Lynn Gabbert to Adam Cassidy McCown son of Johnny & Debbie McCown of Knox City TX.

The couple will be married November 05, 2011 in Wichita Falls TX.

**PRAY
FOR
RAIN
NOW!**

Commissioner Court Minutes

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 8th day of August, 2011, there was conducted a REGULAR Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Knox County, Texas, at the Court-house thereof, in the City of Benjamin, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

Knox County Judge Travis Floyd, called the Regular Meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. all members of the Commissioners' Court were present. Also attending were County Attorney Pro-Tem Lina Trevino, County Tax Assessor/Chief Appraiser Mitzi Welch, County Sheriff Dean Homstad, County

& District Clerk Annette Offutt, County Treasurer Rosie Ake, County Court Coordinator Michelle Esquivel, Cheryl Daniel Aging Services Director, Pam Reed 911 Director, Justice of the Peace Vonnie Ivie, Bobby D. Burnett and Gene Ward for TXDOT. The Court considered the following matters posted and filed for Record in the office of the County Clerk August 3rd, 2011.

Commissioner McCown made the motion seconded by Commissioner Griffith to approve the minutes of the Regular Session held July 11, 2011. The motion passed five to zero.

The Court considered increasing the mileage reim-

bursement to \$.55.

Commissioner Birkenfeld made the motion to increase Commissioner McCown seconded the motion, all agreed.

Bobby D. Burnett was on hand to discuss the air conditioning in the abstract office, no action was required.

Upon considering the information concerning the gate on County Road 2431 there was no action taken.

The Commissioners agreed unanimously on the Election Judges for county election precincts.

The Extension Activity Report, Aging Services Report, 911 Report, Knox County Visioning Team, and Road and Bridge Re-

port required no activity.

Commissioner Griffith made the motion to approve Financials, Budget and pay the bills for May, 2011; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Birkenfeld, the motion passed five to zero.

Gene Ward with TXDOT briefly discussed the agreement between the County and TEXDOT concerning road material.

There being no further business to come before the Court Commissioner Urbanczyk made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McCown, all agreed. The meeting of the Court was ADJOURNED

APPROVED this the 12th day of September, 2011

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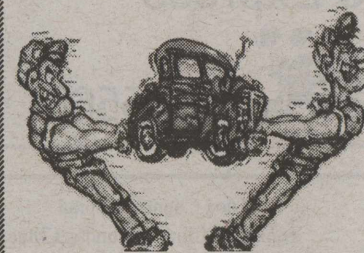
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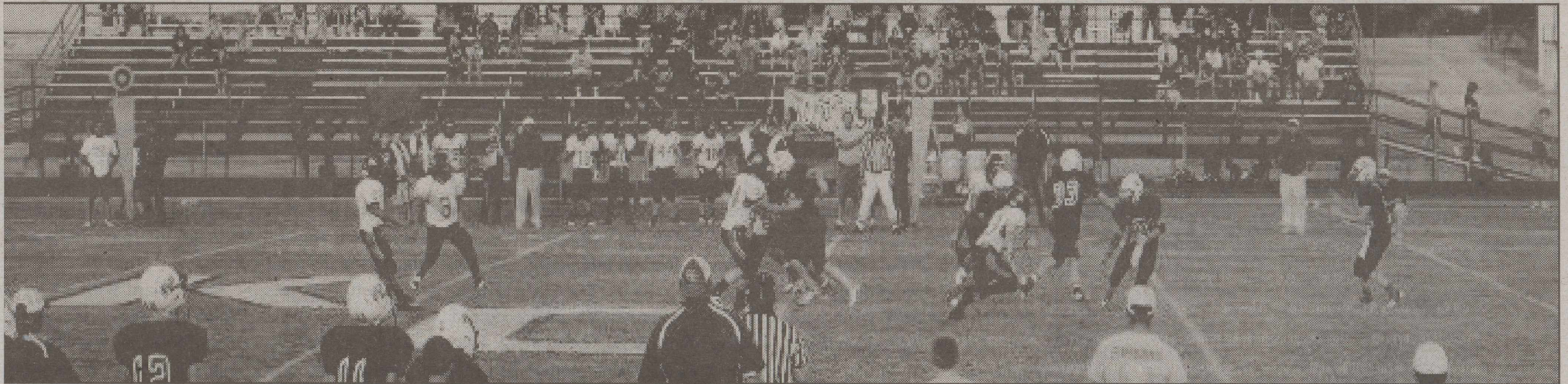


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Knox City falls to Ira Bulldogs



By Jeff Stanfield
 The Knox City Greyhounds and the Ira Bulldogs put on a show last Friday night at greyhound field. The Ira Bulldogs were the first to hit pay dirt with a 3rd and forever touchdown.

This would set the pace for the game.

It seemed like every time the Greyhounds would hold the Bulldogs for 3rd or 4th and long, Lance Morris #6 or #12 (depending on what half he was playing) would

break a long run and, with it, the Hound's hearts.

The Hounds played the second half without Blake Jones who left with a hamstring pull and played the #3 ranked Bulldogs even in the second half. The Bulldogs left Knox City with a 72-48 victory.

The Hounds were led in rushing by Ryan Ledesma 17 carries for 131 yards and 2 tds. Jarek Wilde had 3 catches for 48 yds and 1td, and Blake Jones had 3 catches for 40 yds and 1 td.

TJ Moore was 9 for 15 for 122 and 2 tds.

The defensive player of the week is Ryan Ledesma who made big plays on both side of the ball. The offensive player of the game was Austin Valimont, Tylené Eaton and Bubba York.

This week the Hounds take on Rule in Rule on Friday. The JV will play in O'Brien on Thursday against Bryson and the O'Brien Bulldogs will open up Thursday at 5:30 in Obrien. Bring your lawn chairs.....

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Thanks for Reading!

Benjamin News By Gladene Green

It's Tuesday and I'm running out of time trying to make the deadline for the paper this week. Bless Tamara and Cynthia's hearts. They do have a lot of patience with folks like me! Much nicer weather the past few days. Cool and pleasant. I can finally get a little relief from running the a/c days without any break. Still no rain, but we'll get that one day, I'm sure.

Sympathy this week to the families of Richard Shahan and also, Grace Welch. Richard passed away last week and Grace died yesterday (Monday). They will be missed by many.

About our ill:

Chad Tolson is making some progress, according to his family. He is following some of his doctor's commands and that is something he hasn't been doing. Every bit of hope is encouraging, so keep praying for him and his family and maybe every day will get better.

Jane Gideon spent Sunday night in the Knox County hospital. She was low on potassium and very weak, but no other real problems showed up. She's home and feeling fine.

Hazel Stockton was in Lubbock on Thursday to see her cardiologist. Didn't learn a lot except she did have to have some medication adjusted. She said she actually has felt better the past few days and that's al-

ways good to hear.

Little Andrew Baldwin returned home Monday night after a few days stay at Cook's Children's Hospital in Ft. Worth and heart surgery. His grandmother, Sherry Tennyson, said he's doing great and goes back in six weeks for a check-up. She said no after-effects at all except the fact they do have to be careful how they pick him up and handle him until his incision heals. He's eight months old.

Here 'n There:

Earlene Meinzer called to tell me she attended the Vera Homecoming on Saturday. She said she was kinda' late getting there, but did get to visit a few friends.

Kenneth and Jessie Roberts, now residing in the Munday Nursing Center, came home for the day on Sunday for a family birthday party honoring Jessie. Their children, Bill and Sue from near Austin, Don and Diane from O'Brien, Ken and Gaye from Wichita Falls, and Fred and Nancy McGreger and Dennis and Pam Duke, were the hosts and hostesses. Also Pam's children, Rachel, Rebekah and Zeke and their families were here. Pam said it was a good day and they all en-

joyed it so much. She also said her mom had broken her wrist on Friday, so that probably is bothering her some. I may have missed some who helped celebrate her birthday. If so, I apologize!

Saturday was a big day for Weston Herring in Munday. His parents and sister, Liz, Nathan and Taylor honored him on his first birthday (which was Sept 1) with a party in their home. Lots of relatives and friends were there to see him open all his gifts and enjoy coke and ice cream. Among his "well wishers" were his cousin Briley Hastas of Seymour who has leukemia, but is doing great. She still goes every week for chemo and blood check, but her future looks bright. She's so very active and has lots of fun running and playing and her parents (and other family members) are quick to tell you that though she has wonderful doctors, the prayers and God's goodness has been her main medicine. And they are so grateful to everyone for all that's been done for them.

Thanks to you all who have been so kind to say nice things about my column each week. Some weeks are newsier than others, but as long as I can, I'll keep on keeping on!!

Just Jeff

By Jeff Stanfield

Just a few interesting facts I thought I would share with you: Did you know that if you cross the border into North Korea you get a 12 year prison sentence? If you think that is bad, how about crossing into Afghanistan? They just kill you there.

Last month, two hikers from America crossed into Iran while hiking (why in the heck anyone wants to hike over there is beyond me). Guess what happened to them. Eight years in prison. Yet, if you cross into The United States illegally, we give you free housing, free education, healthcare, retirement and of course a tax break to start a business. I guess you do not have to be the sharpest knife in the drawer to figure out why

the US is the destination of choice for illegal immigration.

While we are welcoming anybody and everybody into the country (apparently), others are being thrown out of venues within the country. I heard a story about a little boy who walked to a public school everyday with his dog following him. The boy and the dog walk right in the door and down the hallway into the classroom. The teacher spots the dog, informed the boy that the dog was no allowed in the school, and they kick the pooch out the door.

As the dog sits crying in front of the door, he is joined by God, who walks up and consoles the dog. God says, "Don't feel bad little fella, I have been kicked out of there also."

Maybe that is the problem with this country... NO- this is one of our big reason's we are in this mess.

The newest rumor in Knox City is Tex Cox is going to participate in the "Big Rassling Show" this October. The main event will be Charles "Animal" Steele and Cowboy Johnny Mantell verse Chad "The People's Armpit" McGee and maybe a possible Mick Foley. Personally, I think the only thing Tex is going to wrestle is a biscuit, but we will have the official announcement in the next couple of days. I hope everyone enjoys the cooler weather.

God Bless


Jeff "There is no way in Hell I am wrestling" Stanfield

Swine Tag Order Deadline

The major stock show season is just around the corner. Which means it is time to decide how many swine projects you will be raising for the upcoming show season. The deadline for ordering 2011-2012 Major Swine Validation tags will be **September 30, 2011**. The cost for each tag will be **\$10.00**. We only

need the amount of pigs you will be purchasing; you do not need to have the pigs already. Tag orders can be made by coming to the extension office located on the second floor in the county courthouse in Benjamin or calling 940-459-2651. Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension 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.


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From the desk of the Sheriff

By Dean Homstad

All terrain vehicle (ATV), seems simple enough. It is however, defined by the Texas Transportation code as a motor vehicle that is: 1. Equipped with a saddle for the use of the rider and passenger, if it is designed by the manufacturer to transport a passenger, 2. Designed to propel itself with three or four tires in contact with the ground, 3. Designed by the manufacturer for off highway use by the operator only, and 4. Not designed by the manufacturer for farming or lawn care. Pretty simple and straightforward, but wait, there's more:

Under 663.031 A person may not operate an all-terrain vehicle on public property unless the person either holds a safety certificate issued under this section or by the state, is taking the safety course under direct supervision of an instructor, is under the direct supervision of an adult who holds a safety certificate, and is required to carry and display the safety certificate at the request of any Law Enforcement Officer.

663.032 State a person younger than 14 years of age operating an all terrain vehicle must be accompanied by and be under the direct supervision of the persons parent, guardian, or adult who is authorized by the persons parent or guardian. Kind of says: you cannot turn your young kids loose with an all-terrain vehicle. Doesn't say public property, rather it indicates anywhere.

663.033 seems to indicate that if you ride an all terrain on public property, it must be equipped with the following: 1. Good condition brake system, 2. Muffler system in

good working condition, 3. United States Forest Service qualified spark arrester. If it is operated on public property from just after sunset to sunrise, or anytime visibility is reduced because of insignificant light or atmospheric conditions, it must have a working headlight and taillight.

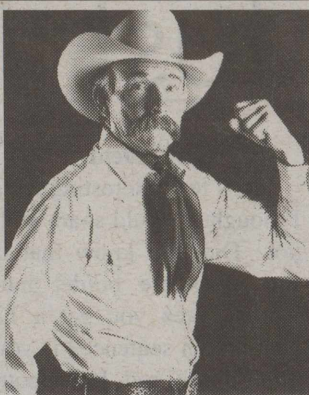
A person may not ride or operate an all-terrain vehicle on public property unless a person wears a safety helmet and eye protection.

This chapter goes on to say that a person may cross a public street but only at or near a 90 degree angle after stopping the vehicle completely, yields to oncoming traffic, and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick means of safe crossing with headlights and taillights lighted. Kind of means you would have to have the lights on, stop the ATV before crossing the roadway and yield to traffic. Now that Knox County has been upgraded to have divided roadways, the ATV can only cross the divided roadway at an intersection.

There are exceptions to the ATV being on the roadway. Section 663.037 indicates that a person may operate an ATV on the roadway if the operation is not on an interstate, which we have none of, but is in connection with agriculture in various ways, the ATV has an (8) eight foot pole attached to the vehicle with a triangular orange flag on the tope, (Not a slow moving sign dragging behind the rear of the vehicle). The vehicles headlights and taillights must be on, the operator must hold a drivers license, can be operated only during the daytime, and the

SHERIFF

continued to page 12



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black,
DVM

Farming, a life changing experience

Keith was driving me into Edmonton, AB on Hwy 26 from the west. The large grain and cattle farms began to shatter into smaller pieces of property; 40 acres, 20 acres, or 12 acres. The countryside was still green and well kept with fields of 5 horses or 3 cows. Usually it included a nice home with landscaping and a manicured entrance.

"More farm ground is disappearing every year," said Keith, noting the loss of big farmsteads. He was right but it has been going on since the pilgrims set foot in Newfoundland, it is the inexorable roll of civilization.

These smaller plots, "ranchettes," are a stage in this progression. But, I've noticed one very positive side of those new "rural lifestyleers." With the intention to teach their children some connection to the land and livestock, or for their own sake, they take on projects like gardening, raising sheep, llamas, rabbits, goats, ducks, horses or cows. And regardless whether it is an organic garden, a litter of pigs or one calf, once they get their hands dirty they begin to have an inkling of what it takes to make food out of dirt and water. It is a life-changing experience.

I think that before any person is tricked into sending money to PETA, the Humane Society of the United States, ALF, ELF, or any of those two-faced groups whose goal includes the elimination of modern farming practices, that person should be allowed to raise at least one baby Holstein calf from birth to edible, or to grow enough vegetables in one summer to feed a family for just seven days.

Once they are engaged in the process of raising food, they will appreciate that farming is a complicated process that guarantees risk, pitfalls, hard work and commitment. But they will also comprehend the sense of accomplishment of becoming part of nature, not just the skim on the top. This experience will qualify them to examine with a keener eye the often sleazy, forked-tongued and gratuitously morbid supplications for money, money, money from the animal rights grubbers.

Our twenty-acre-neighbors will gain the ability to distinguish their local Humane Societies, county agents, district agriculturalists, and veterinarians from the National Beggars Association of ANTI's who haven't raised a calf, had it butchered, or fed their family for a week from their own labors in the soil.

My advice to you farmers and ranchers who miss the old days, is to befriend your new neighbors and offer to teach them Beginning Agriculture 101. Let them experience the deep pride one gets from personally participating in one of life's most basic occupations. They will learn where food comes from. And, I repeat, it is life changing.

www.baxterblack.com



My computer sort of had a stroke yesterday. We are very close. So I had one too.

The term "sympathy pain" isn't strong enough to describe what happened. As soon as the malaise appeared, my energy ebbed. I'm glad to say we're both better now, but I had to go to bed for a while. So much for a hard day's work.

In the scheme of things, my husband was spared an artichoke. It was to be supper's piece de resistance, but I hit the sofa instead. We went out to eat, once we'd figured out I was still ambulatory. It's for sure I wasn't up to cooking. He doesn't like artichokes much anyway. Sometimes things just work out.

As for my laptop, it had started seeing red, you might say. Red appeared everywhere there should have been black. Websites jittered red. We were at a coffeehouse when it first happened. I was barely able to drive home.

Today the repairman ordered a part and eradicated the symptom by moving the screen some. He's good. Meanwhile, the red lurks somewhere, ready to hemorrhage and spill onto the screen. This must be what it's like to have an ulcer. Maybe a glass of milk will make me feel better.

MILK PAUSE.

Ah, the calming effect of half-and-half and a piece of string cheese. But why do I worry? Tomorrow's operation will be successful. Recovery will be immediate. No doubt.

By now you may have figured out I own one of those computers known for excessive customer brand loyalty.

Just the other day my service guy – call him Dr. Ken – said that people who bring their computers to him for repair describe them as "sick" and act like they're entrusting him with the fate of a loved one instead of a machine.

I'm glad I didn't have to leave mine overnight.

If computers were horses, it all would make better sense. Horses have beating hearts instead of pulsing lights. They take you places. Horses have big eyes. It's easy to get attached to a horse. But computers are just computers. Garbage in, garbage out, as the old saying goes. They are what we make them. Nothing more.

Mine is my pictures, my work, my art, my email, my life. Bottom line, it's me.

Or it's at least my Siamese twin. Our systems mingle. We share a brain.

Case in point:

When I sleep, I dream in PowerPoint. You've heard of death by PowerPoint? If I die in my sleep, blame PowerPoint.

As for a secondary diagnosis – one for me – maybe it's narcissism, except if I really were one I wouldn't admit it. Narcissists never do.

Narcissism definition:

"Self-centeredness arising from failure to distinguish the self from external objects, either in very young babies or as a feature of mental disorder."

Treatment? I'm thinking of a trip around the world on a tramp steamer. No laptops allowed. Just good books.

Maybe my husband will go too. I shall tell him there'll be no artichokes.

NEW CHAPTER continued from page 1

"news reporter" to "editor in chief" ... with that promotion, I also was delegated the responsibilities of reporter, ad sales, sports, politics, marketing, editing, office manager and (my favorite position of all) janitor. You see, for the last 2 and a half years, I have run the paper without any paid assistance.

I need to be very clear about that last statement-without any PAID assistance. There is no way that one person could put together over a hundred editions of a countywide publication by his or herself. Knox County is blessed with a great deal of pride, talent and the intense feelings of family. Because of that fact, the Knox County News show continual metamorphosis with the community it serves as that community in turn serves the Knox County News.

There are wonderful individuals who have been essential during my tenure at the Knox County News to create a legitimate product week after week. Gladene Green, Sammie Offield, Jeff Stanfield are local columnists who keep the news filled with interesting tidbits about our neighbors and/or our political scene. Cheryl Daniel never fails to send the menu for the Aging Center Services every week- along with it, a little note to brighten my day. Brandon Carr is the epitome of efficiency, always making sure that the newspaper has the current weather records from the NCRS. Anthony Munoz and Lorri Coop are amazing Ag Extension Agents who help mold our children in 4H and are constantly in touch with the news office with news releases and pictures. The KC/O'Brien CISD administrators, principals and teachers are fantastic about working with the news

in special inserts concerning our up and coming youth or any academic achievements they gain. Stacia Propps at Benjamin is always available to brag on the Benjamin kids any time of the day. Clara Brown sends in an article about our Northern-most town, Truscott, when she feels up to it. We are always apprised as to the happenings at the Wichita Brazos Museum. The Sheriff's office sends the monthly arrest reports without being asked, and utilizes the paper to get messages out to the public when need-be. David Petrusaitis has worked with me weekly; keeping me updated to the unceasing upward motions of the Munday Police Department and the improvements they make amongst the ranks. Travis Floyd, Emily Nelson, Jimi Coplen, Michelle Esquivel and Janice Tolson are constant go-to people.

No sports page could have been created in the last two years (or even longer) without the pictures provided by various proud parents and fans- specifically, Daveine Clark and Michelle Stanfield.

Knox County is a unique place where neighbors become friends and friends become family. I had never known such places existed until several years ago when I first met my husband, Jason. We were in the first stages of courting; he asked me one day if I wanted to go to Rochester. I thought, "I love New York at this time of year!" Alas, we ended up in Rochester, Texas- not exactly what I expected. Not much else in my life has turned out like I expected after that, either. I never thought that this ex-surfer, city girl would find herself a place in a rural county in (of all places) Texas. I NEVER thought I'd become

a Texan (I lived in LA, NYC or Santa Fe, gosh darn it). I wasn't the motherly type, wasn't the settle-down type, had a job that required me to travel all over the United States and rub shoulders with politically and financially charged persons.

Now, I am happily married, I have 3 step-children, a two year old biological son, and am 5 months pregnant (I guess I have developed some motherly senses). My driver's license says Texas, and I say "y'all". I have had the wonderful opportunity to witness a village raise a child- my child- for the last 2 years. I am saddened to think that my daughter who will be born in January will not know the village that brought up her brother with so much love. When I was a city-rat, I was always caught up in a melee of coming and going and here and there and doing. Now, since I have learned the enjoyments of being a country-mouse, I have learned to just stop- and be. I would rather spend time chatting with wonderful lady friends like Donna Banks, Romain Stubbs, Janoma Stevens, Evelyn Balis or Amy Schnable than putting on a suit to hobnob with someone who thinks they are important. I would rather spend a Friday night at my in-laws house playing 42 than going to galas (especially because my mother-in-law and I are completely unbeatable at the

game). I would rather get a burrito from Burrito Express every morning than have some very strangely cooked poached egg on a strange bread-like substance that is the "thing" of the moment. I would rather spend an hour in the grocery store because I have so many people to say hi to and chat with than just do the "order in" deal. I love non-ambiguity that allows me to walk down the street to be met with genuine "hello's" and honest inquiries about my schooling, family and work. Boredom or loneliness is never a problem with cafes like Bud's who at any given time of the day, harbors a schlew of coffee drinkers who are quick with the "I remember when" stories or perhaps even an old cowboy with a poetic mind.

Knox County economic scene is driven around companionships- needing a tire fixed is to have a visit with Ernie. Getting a manicure means a gal gab session with Jill. Paying bills at Lawrence Brothers means mindless banter with Carolyn or Jaime. General banking comes with smiles and warm faces in all the teller windows. A stuffy nose gets tended to by fine medical persons at the Knox County Hospital Clinics. Even getting pulled over in traffic can constitute a momentary meeting of comradary between old friends (sometimes with a ticket for a souvenir of said assembly).

All that being said- it is time that I bid adieu to the family of friends and acquaintances I have found in Knox. As many who know me already know, my husband was transferred out of town to the Metroplex area several months ago, and I am moving to join him in Weatherford. I had delayed my move several times in an unwillingness to let go at the Knox County News until a suitable replacement was found; but now I am so happy to announce: we found her.

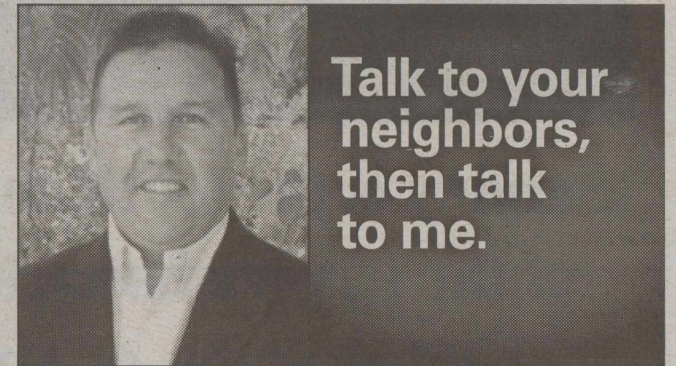
Starting next week, a new page will turn in the history books of the Knox County News as Sherry Reid will take over as Editor. Many people know Sherry and her family as they lived here, serving the O'Brien Baptist Church for a number of years. About a year ago, Sherry and her family (husband, Jim, and son, Scotty), felt it was time to move on to a different place. About 2 months ago though,

they returned to Knox for a revival, and realized that they had come home. They were gone for only a year when they came to the conclusion Knox City was where they belong.

Sherry is an amazing woman with great talent. I am so excited for the future of the Knox County News. Sherry brings over 20 years of media experience to the table, along with extreme intelligence, a remarkable eye for detail and that comforting personality that anyone can just sit back and relax around.

I will miss my Knox County community, but am excited to leave you in good hands. The Knox County News office hours are not going to change and I'm sure Sherry will have the same open door policy that has existed previously. Call her with any news, sports, pictures, or just go by and say hi.

Thank you for letting me serve you.



Talk to your neighbors, then talk to me.

Tom Bassett, Agent

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MPD
continued from page 1

their vehicle selections.

This grant will cover the costs of 2 new vehicles and all the equipment needed to make them efficient in the criminal justice division of the city. Not only will the \$99,640 cover the price of

the cars, but will also afford for radar guns, push bumpers, cages and light bars.

This is not a "matching funds" type of grant, but rather one that does not require any monetary compensation from the local-

ity that was awarded said grant.

Next Tuesday night, September 13, 2011, the Munday City Council will vote on details of the vehicles and how the money will be spent.



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SHERIFF
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operation of the ATV does not exceed 25 miles from the point of origin to destination.

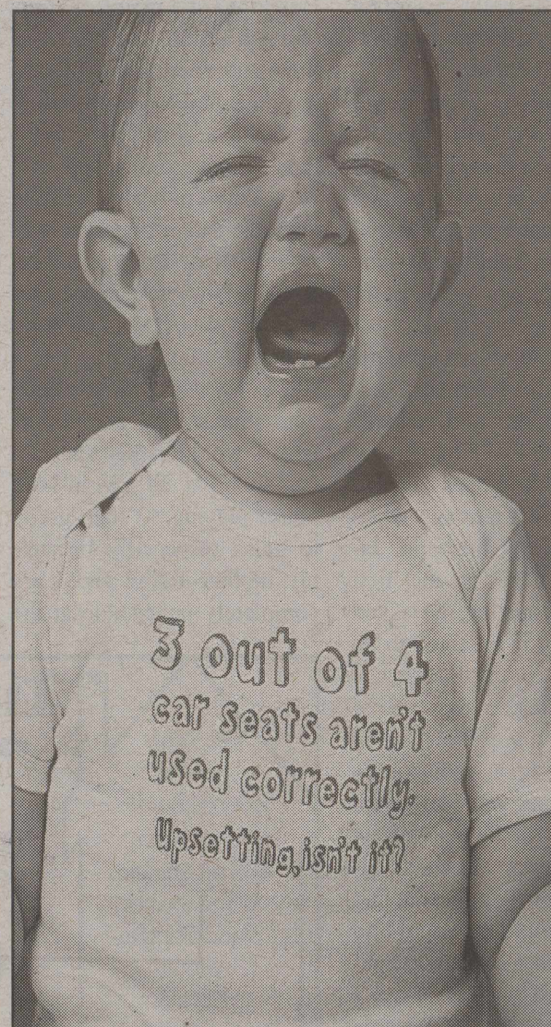
Okay, when can I, Farmer, use an ATV, I.e. 4 wheeler, on the roadway and not get in trouble?? The transportation code seems to indicate that if a person using the vehicle in connection with the production, cultivation care, harvesting, etc., or use of agricultural product, a person may if: the operator attached the aforementioned 8 foot pole with orange triangular flag to the top of it, the vehicle's headlights and taillights are illuminated, the person holds a drivers license, the operation of the all-terrain vehicle is in the daytime and the distance from point or origin to destination is not

more than 25 miles.

Seems confusing and complicated, but simply put, unless you have some reason to ride an ATV on the roadway for some agriculture, construction, or law enforcement related purpose, you cannot do it. Your kids cannot have permission from you to ride on a public roadway to the store, to a friends house, to school or whatever the excuse.

Now stop and think back, if you were ever stopped or knew of someone being stopped for operating an ATV on the roadway, how many of these safety or operating requirements were met, or even attempted. Too many times, kids are terrorizing the back roads and even the highways with an ATV, just out

of eyeshot of their parents or other concerned adults. Parents and kids alike are routinely guilty of overloading an ATV with too many persons, usually 2-5 persons on the vehicle at once. Once a complaint is received and the possible violator is stopped, the most common response is, "what about old so-and-so, they so the same thing". A retired DPS trooper once told me of an irate motorist that he stopped and was questioned why he was stopped and not the others passing that seemed to be going fast. The trooper asked the motorist, "Do you go fishing?" the motorist answered, "Yeah, why?" He was then asked by the trooper, "Do you catch all the fish in the lake?" End of argument. Have a nice day.



The LATCH system makes it easier to be sure your child's car seat is installed correctly every time. Just clip it to the lower anchors, attach the top tether, and pull the straps tight. To find out more, visit safercar.gov.

