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The KNOX COUNTY NEWS

Proudly Serving The Knox County Area Since 1971

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012 • 31st YEAR, NO. 1 • KNOX CITY, TEXAS • PRICE 75¢

Knox City-O'Brien a finalist to \$25,000 Grant

Winning a grant of \$10,000 or \$25,000 can enhance educational opportunities for a school district in a rural community. Knox City-O'Brien CISD in Knox City was recently named as a finalist to receive consideration for an America's Farmers Grow Rural Education grant. Knox City-O'Brien CISD is one of 23 finalists in Texas.

"We received so many outstanding applications from rural school dis-

tricts across the county," said Deborah Patterson, President, Monsanto Fund. "The finalists truly went above and beyond what was expected and stand out as top tier choices."

More than 61,000 farmers shared their passion for rural education by nominating more than half the eligible school districts. Finalist schools were chosen for their program ideas and funding needs. Knox City-O'Brien CISD also benefited from communi-

ty support through numerous farmer nominations which strengthened the district's application.

The grant review process includes an online application scoring system based on merit, need and community support; a review by science and math teachers from ineligible school districts; and a farmer advisory council.

Now that the finalists have been chosen, the America's Farmers Grow Rural Education Advisory Council,

a group of 26 farmer leaders from across the country, will select the winning grant applications. In 2012, the Monsanto Fund plans to award nearly \$2.3 million to eligible school districts across the country. To see the full list of finalists please visit GrowRuralEducation.com

America's Farmers Grow Rural Education started with a successful pilot in Illinois and Minnesota, in which farmers were given the opportunity

to nominate a public school district in 165 eligible counties in those two states. The Monsanto Fund awarded more than \$266,000 to local schools in 16 CRDs. Now, the program has expanded to 1,245 eligible counties in 39 states.

America's Farmers Grow Rural Education is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund to help farmers positively impact their communities and sup-

See GRANT on Page 6



Trish Shaver sits beside the shoes that have been donated for the project she has begun, called "No Child without Shoes." Shaver's effort helps students start school with a new pair of shoes.

'Shoe' effort helping local students begin school year on the right foot

While working as a substitute teacher, Trish Shaver noticed that some students didn't have much to stand on.

Literally ... no new shoes to start school in.

With that in mind, Shaver decided to do something about the situation. She founded a community-wide project named "No Child without Shoes."

Shaver said the project was her way to do something for kids that she has

grown fond of through the years.

As part of the effort, Shaver said she is trying to get the community together in order to get new shoes for the needy children.

According to Shaver, the "Shoes" project takes boys and girls shoes - all sizes 0 but mainly focusing on elementary-age children. Any one wishing to donate a gently used, or new, pair of shoes can participate. Monetary dona-

tions are also accepted, and will go toward the purchase of new shoes.

Shaver said individuals wishing to donate their shoes or funds can take their donations to the Foursquare Church, or give them to her in person.

Shaver said she plans to take advantage of the state's tax-free weekend to purchase shoes at a discount. Tax-free weekend is this weekend. She said

See SHOES on Page 2

State's tax-free weekend set for Aug. 17-19

In 2012, Texas shoppers get a break from state and local sales taxes on Aug. 17-19 — the state's annual tax holiday. Lay-away plans can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday. As in previous years, the law exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend.

Retailers will not be required to collect state and local sales or use tax on most footwear and clothing that are sold for less than \$100 during the holiday. The exemption applies to each eligible item that sells for less than \$100, regardless of how many items are sold on the same invoice to a customer. For example, if a customer purchases two shirts for \$80 each, then both items qualify for the exemption, even though the customer's total purchase price (\$160) exceeds \$99.99.

The exemption does not apply to the first \$99.99 of an otherwise eligible item that sells for more than \$99.99. For example, if a customer purchases a pair of pants that costs \$110, then sales tax is due on the entire \$110.

The exemption also does not apply to sales of special clothing or footwear that the manufacturer primarily designed for athletic activity or protective use and that is not normally worn except when used for the athletic activity or protective use for which the manufacturer designed the article. For example, golf cleats and football pads are primarily designed for athletic activity or protective use and are not normally worn except for those purposes; they do not qualify for the exemption. Tennis shoes, jogging suits and swim-

suits, however, are commonly worn for purposes other than athletic activity and thus qualify for the exemption.

Additionally, tax is due on sales of accessories, including jewelry, handbags, purses, briefcases, luggage, umbrellas, wallets, watches and similar items.

The sales tax holiday exemption does not extend to rental of clothing or footwear; nor does it apply to alteration or cleaning services performed on clothes and shoes. These items continue to be subject to state and local sales or use tax.

Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are exempt. A backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller.

Texas families also get a sales tax break on most school supplies priced at less than \$100 purchased for use by a student in an elementary or secondary school.

No exemption certificate is required - with one exception. If the purchaser is buying the supplies under a business account, the retailer must obtain an exemption certificate from the purchaser certifying that the items are purchased for use by an elementary or secondary school student. "Under a business account" means

See TAX-FREE on Page 6

County implements 90-day burn ban

The fire better be out in Knox County. If not, it could get you into some deep trouble.

The Knox County Commissioners Court voted unanimously on Monday to place the county under a burn ban, effective immediately. The commissioners, due to a lack of rainfall and the extreme heat over the last few weeks, said the ban was needed to prevent a safety hazard to the public.

Under the order, all outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of the county is prohibited for 90 days. The order does not affect outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that has been authorized by the Texas Natural Re-

sources Commission, including firefighter training, public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations, harvesting or planting crops, or prescribed burns.

Under the ban, the use of any combustible materials in an outdoor environment is prohibited. Outdoor welding operations are permitted with the stipulations that all welding and grinding associated with welding cannot take place when the wind is in excess of 15 miles per hour. Welders must also notify the Knox County Sheriff's Department, and clear all brush, leaves and debris from within a 50-foot

See BAN on Page 6



Benjamin High School graduate Tabetha Golden is expected to arrive in Knox County on Friday after having spent the past year in Afghanistan with the National Guard.

Tabetha Golden heads home after tour in Afghanistan

TOMMY WELLS
 The Knox County News

Tabetha Golden is headed home.

A member of the National Guard serving in Afghanistan, the 2009 graduate of Benjamin High School will be returning home on Friday.

"Knowing her return will be very hard, Loren, Alexis and I are so proud of her and will be helping her through every step to recovering back into normal life," said Golden's mother, Dawn Wilson. "We are so proud of her."

Golden spent the past year serving in the Middle East. During

her tour, her Guard detachment encountered many obstacles, including as explosions, the loss of friends, sleepless days, no days off, and scorching heat.

Golden initially enlisted in the National Guard as a senior at BHS. She went through basic training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina in 2010, and was shipped to Afghanistan in 2011.

In addition to seeing her mother, a highlight of Golden's return will be reuniting with her daughter, Alexis.

"She is coming home and eager to see her daughter. She is why Tabetha did this (joined the Guard), to make their lives better."

SHOES

Continued from Page 1

she will go to Abilene over the weekend to buy footwear. She said she hopes to have all the

shoes by Aug. 22, which is the first day of registration for the local schools.

Donations will continue to be accepted following Aug. 22, she said. Shoes gathered following

that date will be distributed at Christmas or later in the year.

Eventually, she said, she hoped the project branch out to help children in all of Knox County.

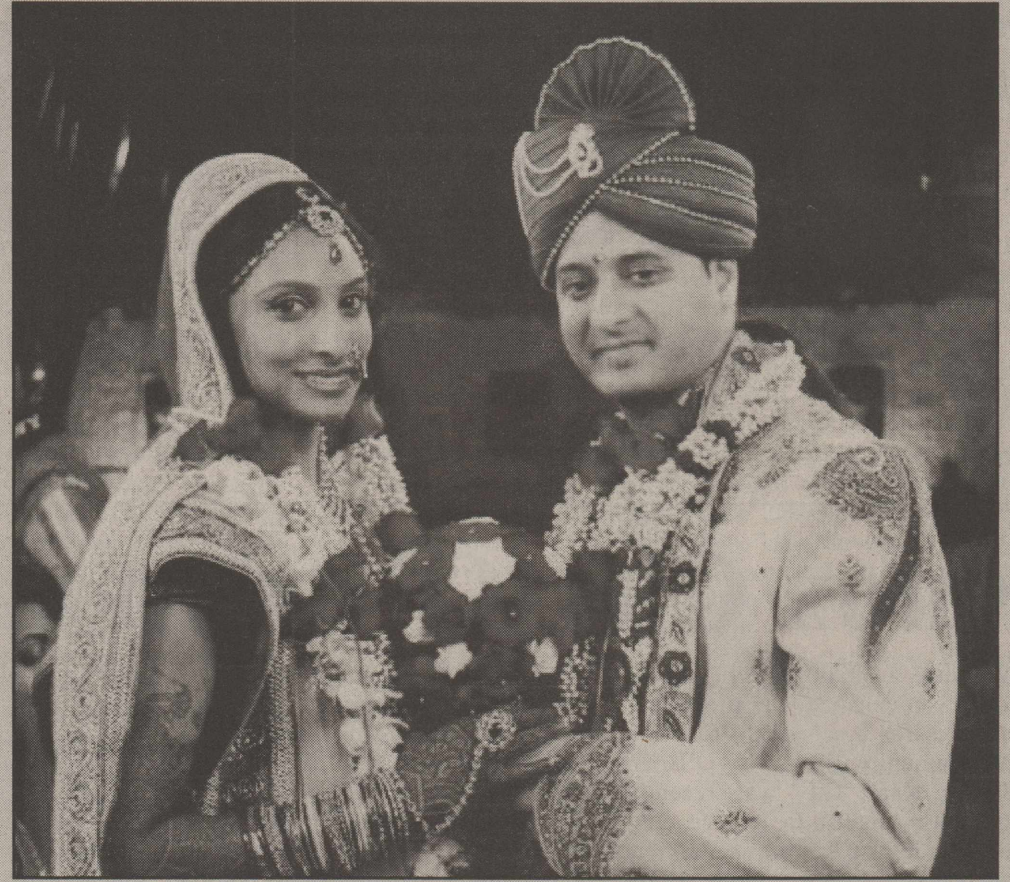
ACROSS

- this co. had ownership interest in San Antonio Spurs
- San Juan, TX AM
- this Estrada was in "Border Blues" with TX Busey
- TXism: "hasta ___ vista"
- Dublin's Hogan
- TXism: "___ ___ nails"
- rattlesnake casas
- this Weaver was in "Heartbreakers" with TX Love Hewitt
- short plays (2 wds.)
- "Did Oswald act ___?"
- TXism: "he'd be ___ in a battle of wits"
- TX chili: "___ of the devil"
- this Don was Deputy Barney Fife
- TXism: "___ ___ a lap dog"
- TX Pride's "She's Just an ___"
- "Roger the Dodger" (init.)
- longing for the past
- TXism: "risky as huntin' a gas leak with ___ match"
- this West was in "Myra Breckinridge" with TX Farrah
- New Mexico UFO location?
- halftime performer: Texas ___
- fish eggs
- TXism: "strong as ___ breath"
- force out
- explosive
- TXism: "___ on"
- Houston's transit org. (abbr.)
- noted Galveston architect Clayton
- TXism: "___ ___ a doornail"
- TXism: "blaze ___ trail"
- Dallas Stars league (abbr.)
- ___ Valle, TX

DOWN

- pint-sized guitar near El Paso: "Ysleta Del ___ Pueblo"
- Taylor Co. seat
- Jerry Jones before Cowboys (2 wds.)
- "Big ___ dog stink?"
- breeding horse
- he signs up to race
- okayed?
- Coca-___
- '06 national football champ (abbr.)
- TX Hall of Honor rancher Mary ___ West
- "love" south of the border
- this Guthrie performed at TX Willie's Farm Aid III
- TXism: "___ slinging drunk"
- TXism: "___"
- "Aquarena Springs"
- TX shotputter Randy ('60's)
- Victoria FM
- Mexican cheers
- TX Lucille ___Sueur (Joan Crawford) pleased
- sail support
- "no ifs, ands or ___"
- buyer offer at a cattle auction (2 wds.)
- dish popular in neighboring state "___ beans"
- first president of Rice: Edgar ___ Lovett
- Elisha Pease was a Reconstruction gov. appointed under martial ___

The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2006 by Orbison Bros.



B.J and Anita Patel shared photos and information about their daughter's wedding in India at a recent Women In Action meeting. Dimples (left) and Mitul were married on Dec. 27, 2011 in a traditional Indian ceremony.



Patel wedding highlights WIA meeting

At the monthly meeting of Women In Action at the First Baptist Church in Knox City, B. J. and Anita Patel of Houston shared pictures and a video of the wedding of their daughter, Dimple.

Dimple and Mitul were married in India on Dec. 27, 2011, with the wedding festivities lasting four days. It was an event with live singers and dancers, elaborate decorations, and lots of food. B. J. and Anita began making preparations for the wedding in May of 2011. Each household is invited to the wedding with a face-to-face visit to the home. The parents of the bride take a gift to the household, and the household presents a gift to the bride. There were about 2,000

people, including family, attending the wedding ceremony on the fourth day.

The wedding ceremony was a traditional Hindu ceremony, lasting two to three hours.

B. J. said he added his own ideas for the clothing, entertainment, and decorations for some of the events preceding the ceremony. The video and pictures gave an insight into the country's traditions, customs, and culture.

Giving praise where praise is due

If there are any heroes in the Abandoned/Neglected/Abused horse quagmire, it is the BLM Wild Horse Program. The "Unintended Consequences" of Wild Horse Annie's dreams have taken



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

the pendulum of reasonable "wild horse" management...to the extreme.

No one who personally contributes their money or time toward the care of these animals doubts that, but many have been caught in a trap of their own making. One of the most obvious contributors to the demise and destruction of the status and value of The Horse, wild or tame (remember they are both domestic animals), are the animal rights groups. Their leader is the Humane Society of the United States. They are stumbling through the nightmare of this continuing horse-abuse landscape of their own creation, lurching like a 35 ton money-sucking tick.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is routinely bashed and criticized by both those who favor horse slaughter, and those who don't. The BLM, by law, is allowed to run a limited number of horses on federal lands. The horse slaughter advocates have always accepted this premise. Most of the animal rights, anti-slaughter advocates do not understand why overrunning the range with horses is bad for both man and beast. The animal rights groups and their supporters have declared

it "illegal, immoral, and abusive" to sell unadoptable wild horses to slaughter plants. But they are of no help when the BLM has to thin the range herd.

The HSUS, whose revenue in 2010 was \$148 million, does not offer to feed, treat, care for or house the unwanted horses. The politicians who support HSUS (and I assume are supported by), take no responsibility either; like Rick Santorum, (PA), Senator Landrieu (LA) and Governor Martinez of New Mexico. What's worse is they offer no help and impede those who are trying.

So, the BLM pays ranchers to keep the unwanted horses in feedlots or pastures for the rest of their lives.

I have deliberately connected the wild horse problem with the privately-owned horse abuse crisis, because their plights are entwined and laid at the feet of the same people. But my admiration goes out to those who continue to try and hold back the tidal wave of "unintended consequences"; the horse rescues, local humane societies, ranchers, farmers, deputies, vets, knowledgeable politicians and the good horsemen and women workin' for the BLM.

Knox County Aging Services

The following lunch menus have been listed for the week of Aug. 20-24 for the Knox County Aging Services

All meals are served with Wheat Bread, Margarine and 1 percent milk.

Monday, Aug. 20 - Pork chop, back-eyed peas, spinach, cornbread, baked apples.

Tuesday, Aug. 21 - Swedish meatballs, parsley noodles, mixed vegetables, whole wheat roll, Angel Food cake/strawberries.

Wednesday, Aug. 22 - Chicken tenders/gravy, garlic mashed pota-

toes, turnip greens, whole wheat roll, Mandarin oranges.

Thursday, Aug. 23 - Ham/beans, spinach, seasoned corn, orange/pineapple cup, country apple crisp.

Friday, Aug. 24 - Hot dog meal, baked potato/sour cream, seasoned broccoli, pineapple gelatin.

NOTE: New serving time is noon (in Knox City only). Alternate desserts available for diabetics.

Please call in your orders by 10 a.m. to (940) 657-3618.

Orders cannot be taken after 10

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by the

If you would like to sponsor the crossword puzzle please contact the News office.

Not advertising is like winking at a beautiful woman in the dark ... you are the only one that knows about it.

Knox County News

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

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Office Manager
Patricia Wells
Benjamin Correspondent
Gladene Green

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Knox County Commissioners Court will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 5.9 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on August 23rd at 9:00 A.M. in the Assembly Room at the Courthouse.

The second public hearing will be held on August 27th at 9:00 A.M. in the Assembly Room at the Courthouse.

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

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

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in 2011 last year was \$ 29,109 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). Based on last year's tax rate of \$ 0.766254 (preceding year's adopted tax rate) per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$ 223.05 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in 2012 this year is \$ 30,120 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$ 0.69553 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 209.49 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$ 0.73642 per \$100 of taxable value (2.984 cents less than previous year), the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 221.81 (tax on the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

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

Obituaries

Flora Mae Tankersley

Flora Mae Tankersley, 89, of Knox City passed away early Tuesday morning, Aug. 14, 2012, at the Knox County Hospital in Knoxville. Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m., Friday, Aug. 17, 2012 at the Knox City Cemetery with Mark Daniels and Steve Willis officiating. Burial will be at Knox City Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes. Family and friends can visit the funeral home in Knoxville from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, to pay respects to Mrs. Tankersley.



Flora Mae Tankersley

Flora's home for more than 65 years where she was a member of the First Baptist Church. She was a loving homemaker and a wonderful cook which enabled her to be a beautiful hostess to

family and friends. Mrs. Tankersley took great pride in serving children in Sunday school class, as well as, served many years for the church's T.V. ministry for the homebound. Flora was proudly devoted to the Lord and always served Him faithfully without hesitation.

She is preceded in death by husband, Buddy Tankersley; her parents, O.D. and Minnie Pool; four brothers, Carl Pool, L.B. Pool, Bill Pool, Cecil Pool; two nephews; and one niece.

Flora is survived by her brother, whom she adored, O.D. Pool, Jr. and his wife Patsy of Rochester; and her brother-in-law, Sammy Tankersley and his wife June of Knoxville.

Online condolences and memories can be shared with the Pool and Tankersley family at www.smithfamilyfh.com.

Juanita 'Nita' Posey

KNOX CITY - Juanita "Nita" Posey, 67, and lifelong resident of Knoxville passed away early Tuesday morning in Haskell. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012 at the First Baptist Church in Knoxville with Bro. Clifton McFadden officiating. Nita was laid to rest along side her parents in Rochester at the Rochester Cemetery. Arrangements were made under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes of Knoxville.



Juanita 'Nita' Posey

Nita was born in Knoxville on March 2, 1945 to Ophus Ola and Laura Frankie (Gunnels) Posey.

She is preceded in death by

her parents, Ophus and Laura

Posey; and a sister, Bonnie Cleo.

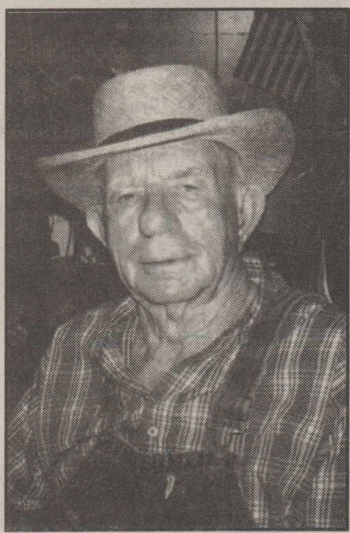
Nita is survived by her three sisters, Patsy Wilson of Haskell, Mildred McFadden of Iowa Park, Linda Vaughn of Tyler; two brothers, Roy and wife, Francis Posey, of Andrews, Gary Posey and wife, Nancy, of Hawkins; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Serving as pallbearers for Nita were her nephews, Keith Posey, Joey Posey, Lee' McFadden, Wayne McFadden, William Wilson and Tymothy Wilson.

Online condolences can be shared with the family at www.smithfamilyfh.com.

James Deward Wallace

The funeral service for James Deward Wallace was held at Loam on July 2, 2012, at Beaty Funeral Home in Mineola, Texas. Visitation was from 6-7 p.m. on July 1 at Beaty Funeral Home, with interment at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Mineola.



James Deward Wallace

James Deward "Papaw" was born July 14, 1926 in Lampkin, Texas to Floyd and Cordia Daniel Wallace. He died on June 28, 2012 in Quitman, Texas. James served in the U.S. Army, stationed in Germany. He raised his family in Graham and later lived in Knoxville. James worked all his life in the oil field, starting with Taubert & Steed on March 1, 1955 until Oct. 31, 1986, then Energy Production from Nov. 1, 1986 through March 31, 1996. After retiring, he continued to work as a pumper for several years when needed. James loved our lord, Jesus, and his family. He enjoyed fishing, dominoes, gardening and especially the Daniel Family Reunion held every August.

Known as "Papaw's Kitchen," James went to BBQ cookoffs for several years and even won a few trophies. He was loved by

all who knew him and he loved people.

James was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Clifford, Odell, Phillip and sister, Quada. He is survived by his

Four children, Audrey Lue Canaday Wallace, David Wallace and his wife, Donna of Graham, Brenda Wallace of Mineral Wells, Linda Parkison and her husband, Bob, of Marshall, and Donna Williams and her husband, Craig, of Knoxville. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and one great-great grandson, all of whom will dearly miss their papaw. He is also survived by one brother, Jerry Max, three sisters, Patricia, Waldean and Deborah; and numerous nieces and nephews that fondly knew him as uncle Deward.

We need a law against coupons

Just Jeff



By Jeff Stanfield

Well, how do you judge stupid? I would have to vote for the Hill Jack who gets stuck in line at a Wal-Mart behind coupon clippers. Guess who that would be?

Yep ... me.

The same guy who has boycotted Wally World? Yep ... that would be me again.

I just needed a few items. I run in and what should have taken only 10 minutes took over an hour.

Why? Because the ladies in front of me had enough coupons to bail out Obama's economy. Jeez, they had coupons from every store within 50 miles and they had to point out each purchase and then match that coupon with some other store's to the cashier. Hey, I have no issue with someone saving money but when they have two registers open on a Sunday evening and two grouchy ladies take an hour of my time to buy \$100 worth of groceries for \$60. How many other customer said "to heck with this, I am out of here?" If I owned a store I don't think I would take coupons. If I had not been the poor sap stuck behind them in line and could have left I would have just went to my truck.

This is what really got my underwear knotted up. There where

three of them and the other lady had tied up the only other register. Walmart has 40 registers but never have more than three open. I just don't understand.

I played golf this weekend in the Ag-Oil Tourney and had a great time. I played against a group of older gents and Justin Coker. Ol' Justin should be ashamed as the old men carried him all day. The only thing Justin did that was worthwhile was make us laugh.

He kept bragging about how great his beloved Texas A&M Aggies are, and how they would win the SEC this season. He even told us that if he ever has another son he will name him Kyle after the Aggies' playing field. Poor Mike and Kay, they had a darn Aggie marry their daughter and now he he's wanting to name

a grandson after their football field.

The Olympics are over and as usual the Americans (the same ones that are portrayed as fat and lazy by the rest of the world) kicked everyone's rear end. I, for one, am really proud of our athletes what an honor it would be to represent our country.

Tony Stanfield and Coach Steele are working on their routine for the 2016 Olympics and look forward to representing the USA in synchronized pairs swimming. They have figured out if they go with the one-piece Speedos they can utilize more of their bodies for advertisement.

Imagine the NASCAR cars with all the ads. I can see it now after they take gold. On the medal stand we would see their would like to thank Coca-Cola, TrimSpa, Fruity Pebbles, Preparation H, Gold Bond Foot Powder and Home Depot-tattooed torsos. They will probably also want to throw in a message to Elton John for the beautiful dance music.

Be nice to see two pleasantly plump guys from West Texas live out our dreams of dancing in water.

Jeff "No Coupons" Stanfield, is a local columnist.

KC AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knoxville

Jerry Vincent, 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.
FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knoxville and O'Brien

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knoxville

Thomas Carter, Pastor

406 2nd Street • 658-3517

knoxcity-fumc@hotmail.com-umckc.net

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Evening Bible Study - 7 p.m. Monday, Breakfast Bible Study 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morning Bible Study 10 a.m. Wednesday, Youth Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Worship Team Rehearsal 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Outreach Lunch 12 noon every 3rd Sunday
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 - Knoxville

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.
Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am. Wednesday Morning

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH BILINGUAL - Knoxville

Aju Prince Phillips, Sacramental Minister • Deacon Ben Vasquez
Sunday Mass at 11 a.m.

LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knoxville

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

Aju Prince Phillips, Sacramental Minister • Deacon Jim Novak
Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass
Saturday Mass at 6 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Thomas Carter, 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

Shannon Waters, 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.

MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY IS BROUGHT TO YOU EACH WEEK BY THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS:

Knox County Hospital
657-3535

O'Brien Co-op Gin
658-3631



Sylvia Jo Elizabeth McGhee

Sylvia Jo Elizabeth McGhee

Sylvia Jo Elizabeth McGhee was born on May 25, 1941 and was promoted to Heaven on July 27, 2012.

She leaves behind two sons, Chad McGhee and Chris McGhee as well as a daughter-in-law, Brandi Britt.

A Memorial service will be held Friday, Aug. 17, 2012 at the Abundant Life Christian Fellowship Church (308 East Main, Knoxville) at 10:30 a.m.

Have a News Tip for the KC News? CALL 940-329-1540

2012 Fall Registration

www.vernoncollege.edu

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Vernon Registration <i>On-site and Online</i></p> <p>August 21</p> <p><i>See registration guide for registration times</i></p> <p>Classes begin August 27</p> <p>Register for Continuing Education classes at any time</p> | <p>Wichita Falls Registration <i>On-site and Online</i></p> <p>August 22 & 23</p> <p><i>See registration guide for registration times</i></p> <p>No Late Registration</p> |
|--|--|

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705 N Avenue E
Haskell, TX 79521
Bus: 940-864-3250
tom.bassett.m8yb@statefarm.com
Mon-Fri 8:00am to 5:30pm
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Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Knox County Commissioners Court will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 5.9 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on August 23rd at 9:00 A.M. in the Assembly Room at the Courthouse.

The second public hearing will be held on August 27th at 9:00 A.M. in the Assembly Room at the Courthouse.

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

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

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in 2011 last year was \$ 29,109 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). Based on last year's tax rate of \$ 0.766254 (preceding year's adopted tax rate) per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$ 223.05 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in 2012 this year is \$ 30,120 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$ 0.69553 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 209.49 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$ 0.73642 per \$100 of taxable value (2.984 cents less than previous year), the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 221.81 (tax on the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

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

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

There's a hint of fall in the air this afternoon. Not temperature wise at all but a "hazy" looking sky. Sort of makes one think of late September or early October--(not mid August). But that's where we are and still waiting for a rain, and by my calculations, we are closer to one today than yesterday. (Or looking at it another way, farther from the last one!)

REGARDING OUR ILL

Jan Carver is back in HMC in Abilene and though doing better, it's not real clear when she may be released. She had trouble with her leg healing where she had some surgery a couple of weeks ago, and had to have more surgery this past week. She's being kept in the hospital until it heals. She's ok--just a waiting situation until she can come home. Of course, we wish her well.

I learned that Troy Oxford will be having surgery on the 17th for a malignancy on his neck. He's had further testing, but no word on the results of those tests. Troy lives in Wichita Falls and is the son of Sue and Dave Oxford. He's "one of ours", having grown up here and graduated from BHS in 1984.

We all wish Troy well and pray it won't be long before he's well on his way back to better health.

My sympathy to the families of W. C. Orr and Nita Posey this week. Both of these friends passed away last week. Funeral services for W. C. were Thursday morning, and Nita's services were Thursday afternoon. They were Knox City residents.

HERE 'N THERE

Debi Moorhouse and grandson, Dillon, were in Abilene Thursday for Dillon to see a foot doctor. He will be having some corrective surgery in September. Of course, he's ready to get that over with.

Keith and Pam Conner, Casey and Lacy Conner, and Carson, all of Midland, visited in Benjamin on Saturday.

I visited with Marq Brockett Saturday, and he was telling me about the damage the Baptist Church in Gilliland received Tuesday in what appeared to be a small tornado that came through that small community. He said the east end of the roof was torn off, and rain saturated the interior.

They are not sure how long until it's usable again. Right now, they are meeting in the Community Center until repair is completed. Marq is the pastor over there.

Robert Clower of Electra visited his Mom, Gloria West, during the weekend.

Has everyone enjoyed the Olympics? I have been interested in most of it, but some of the events were just not my "cup of tea." But it's over now for another four years, and I am proud of the athletes from the good 'ole USA, who won first ahead of lots of outstanding competition.

Mary Jane Young has received the "Yard of the Month" honor for August. She is a devoted "yard person," who spends many hours keeping hers looking good. With the dry weather and hot winds, it takes lots of labor and patience to keep anything attractive, but she has managed to do just that. I congratulate her for winning this month.

I visited with Becky and Tracy Beatty on Thursday after the Posey funeral in Knox City. Tracy is a former teacher here, and she is the former Becky Welch. They live at Howe. It was good to see them.

We need Olympic events for those of us in the 'modern age'

Although I'm not much of a television watcher, I did the patriotic thing and watched some of the Olympic Games.

For the most part, I enjoyed watching the Americans win. I'm a big fan of the women's beach volleyball, although I'm still trying to figure out who won. Heck, for the first three matches I didn't even know they kept score.

But, here's the deal. We need to downsize the whole Olympic experience, you know. I'm not saying get rid of the Olympics ... just change them a bit so all the Bubbas can enjoy it a bit more.

As I sat there on the couch eating pretzels and soda pop, I wondered to myself why the games have become more easy.

"Self," I said to myself. "Why haven't the games become more easy?"

"Well, Tommy (that is how I address myself when I answer my own questions), I just don't know."

That got me to thinking. Wouldn't it be great if everyone

Off The Beaten Path



By Tommy Wells

could compete in the Olympics? Wouldn't it be great if there were events for everyone?

As you may have guessed, I have come up with a plan to get us all a gold medal. With just a few changes, we could all be in the Games.

First, we have to reinvent certain events, like say the 100-meter dash. I don't know about you, but 100-meters is just too darn far to be running. I think it would be more fun to compete in the

20-meter Refrigerator Dash.

At least when you got there, you could stick your head in the freezer to cool off.

And this whole shot put thing. That should be morphed into something everyone can understand, like the Alternator Throw. I don't know about you, but I've felt like setting a few world records because of alternators.

Tennis would also have to be changed. I'm thinking X-Box could easily take its place. No sweating. No pulled muscles.

And who the heck put trampolines in the Olympics? That would have to be replaced with couch jumping (for the kids).

The one thing we can't change is beach volleyball, though.

If anyone knows who finally won let me know. I told SWM-NBMM that I knew who won ... but that I couldn't remember.

(Tommy Wells is the editor of The Knox County News. Everything in this column is true, except for the parts that are fabricated, exaggerated or just plain lies.)

Question of the Week

Are you ready for football season?



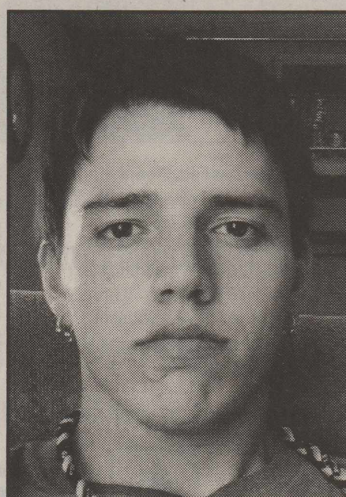
Des'Rae Richter
Big Spring, TX

"No. That means summer is over."



Tinmiq Hailstone
Noorvik, AK

"I guess. They don't play that here."



Michael Spraggins
Gordon, TX

"Yes. I love football."



Iraqtaq Hailstone
Noorvik, AK

"I would be if we could see it."

Sports

'Hounds to open preseason against Paducah, Harrold

The Knox City Greyhounds will get their first chance to hit someone besides themselves this Friday when they compete in a three-way scrimmage against the Paducah Dragons and Harrold Hornets.

The scrimmage is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. at Greyhounds Stadium. The Knox City and Paducah JV teams will be the first two squads to hit the field.

For Knox City head coach Charles Steele, the most important

thing about the scrimmage is the gauge his team's progress against another team.

"It's a chance for us to see where we are at this point compared to another team," said Steele. "It will let us know what we need to do to get ready for the season."

During the scrimmage each team's offense will start at the 30 and run 10 plays. Teams will have three downs to reach the 15. Once inside the 15, teams will have four

downs.

The junior varsity teams will have only 10 plays while on offense.

The KCHS junior varsity will lead off the scrimmage on defense against Paducah. The Greyhound varsity offense will follow the JV series.

Paducah's offense will face off against Harrold's defense in the second varsity scrimmage.

Fresh off a berth in the state quarterfinals, Steele will be looking for several younger players to step up and take the lead of the KC program this season. The Greyhounds were hit hard by graduation in May.

Through the first week of practice, Steele said he is happy with the team's progress.

"I have been very pleased with the players' attitudes and work ethic," he said. "They have been stepping up and doing what we have asked them to do."

Benjamin ISD announces policy for free reduced meals



Three dog weekend ...

High school football teams throughout the area will swing into action this weekend during the first official dates for scrimmages. Knox City and Throckmorton will both be in scrimmages on Friday, while Strawn will be in action on Saturday.

News begins work on fall section

The Knox County News will begin offering advertisement space in its upcoming sports preview special section. The section, which will be published prior to the Greyhounds' first football game, will

offer stories, photos and schedules for the area football and volleyball teams.

To reserve your spot in the section please contact the Knox County News at 657-3142.

Hunting, fishing licenses now on sale

Current year Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except year-to-date fishing licenses) expire Aug. 31, and new licenses for 2012-2013 are now on sale, effective Wednesday, Aug. 15.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department issues about 2.1 million hunting and fishing licenses annually through the agency's 28 field offices, more than 58 state parks and at over 1,600 retailers across Texas. Licenses may also be purchased online through the TPWD Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/buy or by phone

(800-895-4248) with a \$5 convenience fee required for each transaction. Call center hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday — Friday. The online transaction system is available 24/7. A transaction receipt may be printed at the time of purchase for online and a confirmation number is provided for phone orders, and the physical license is mailed separately. Confirmation numbers will verify that a license has been purchased, which is sufficient for dove hunting, but will not allow hunters to take fish or wildlife that require a tag.

Hunter education certification is required for many Texans

Hunter Education Certification is required of any hunter born on or after Sept. 2, 1971 and who is at least 17 years old. For hunters who are unable to work in a hunter education course before hunting season for whatever reason, TPWD does offer a deferral option that allows people 17 years of age or older a one-time only extension to complete the state's hunter education requirements. The individual must first purchase a hunting license and then may purchase the deferral option #166.

1971). The extension is good for one license year, by which time the person needs to complete a hunter education course.

This option is not available to those who have ever received a conviction or deferred adjudication for lack of hunter education certification.

For information concerning the latest regulations and articles on hunting and fishing in Texas, check out the 2012-2013 Outdoor Annual available at license retailers and online at www.txoutdoorannual.com.

Hunters using the deferral must be accompanied by someone 17 years old or older also licensed to hunt in Texas. The accompanying individual must have completed hunter education or be exempt from the requirements (born before Sept. 2,

Have a News Tip for the KC News? CALL 940-329-1540

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

2012 Property Tax Rates in KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL

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

Last year's tax rate:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----------------|
| Last year's operating taxes | \$ | 690,390.00 |
| Last year's debt taxes | \$ | 0.00 |
| Last year's total taxes | \$ | 690,390.00 |
| Last year's tax base | \$ | 169,054,734.00 |
| Last year's total tax rate | \$ | 0.408380 /\$100 |

This year's effective tax rate:

| | | |
|---|----|-----------------|
| Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property) | \$ | 686,063.00 |
| + This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) | \$ | 185,122,050.00 |
| = This year's effective tax rate | \$ | 0.370600 /\$100 |

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

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

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----------------|
| - Sales tax adjustment rate | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |
| = Effective tax rate | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |

This year's rollback tax rate:

| | | |
|--|----|-----------------|
| Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) | \$ | 684,644.00 |
| + This year's adjusted tax base | \$ | 185,122,050.00 |
| = This year's effective operating rate | \$ | 0.370600 /\$100 |
| x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate | \$ | 0.400240 /\$100 |
| + This year's debt rate | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |
| = This year's total rollback rate | \$ | 0.400240 /\$100 |

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

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----------------|
| - Sales tax adjustment rate | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |
| = Rollback tax rate | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |

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

| | | |
|--|----|-----------------|
| + Additional rollback rate for pollution control | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |
| = Rollback tax rate | \$ | 0.000000 /\$100 |

STATEMENT OF INCREASE/DECREASE

IF KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL ADOPTS A 2012 TAX RATE EQUAL TO THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE OF \$.37060 per \$100 OF VALUE, TAXES WOULD DECREASE COMPARED TO 2011 TAXES BY \$.03778

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances

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

| TYPE OF PROPERTY TAX FUND | BALANCE |
|---------------------------|---------|
| GENERAL FUND | -0- |

This notice was prepared by Mitzi Welch, Tax Assessor

BACK TO SCHOOL SALE

NO SALES TAX

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Benjamin ISD announces policy for free, reduced meals

Benjamin ISD announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals

for students served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.

Each school or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits. Students from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of the state agency or court are eligible for free meal benefits regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside.

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for their children. Applications also are available at the administration office in each school. To apply for free and reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the

purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits, households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly Food Stamps)/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) only have to list their child's name and SNAP or TANF case number. An adult household member must sign the application.

Households that do not list a SNAP/TANF case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the last four digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate that a Social Security number is not available by writing the word "None," "No Number," or some indication that the person does not have a Social Security number. The application must be signed by an adult household member.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the superintendent will

review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to the superintendent.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the students of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Republican Party Primary runoff results

A total of 146 voters came out to vote in the Republican Primary Runoff in Knox County on July 31. Ted Cruz received 84 votes to David Dewhurst's 73 for the U.S. Senator race. Warren Chisum got 57 votes to Christi Craddick's 80, and Greg Parker got 65 votes to Barry Smitherman's 61

in the Texas Railroad Road Commissioner's race.

John Devine got 67 votes to David Medina's 63 for Justice, Supreme Court.

Cruz, Craddick, Smitherman and Devine will be on the ballot running against the Democrats in the General Election in November.

Reverse osmosis water system nearing a start in Benjamin

Work has been underway for several months to install a reverse osmosis system for the entire town of Benjamin. The City of Benjamin received a grant for this purpose, and the project is nearing completion.

The water for the city will be run through the reverse osmosis system and then pumped into the

water tower in Benjamin. This will give all the residents access to reverse osmosis water.

Ronnie White, City Manager, said a representative from Bob Johnson and Company will travel to Benjamin during the first week in September to conduct an inservice and put the system in operation.

State to seal coat Highway 277

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will seal coat more than 183 miles of state roadways in the coming weeks.

In Knox County, the state is scheduled to seal coat U.S. Highway 277.

Motorists can expect lane closures and a pilot car traffic.

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 152.013, Local Government Code, notice is hereby given of salaries, expenses, or allowances of elected officials proposed to be increased for FYE 09/30/2013.

| Elected Official | Present | | Proposed | |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| | Salary | Increase | Total | |
| County Judge | \$31,771 | \$1,200 | \$32,971 | |
| County/District Clerk | \$27,932 | \$1,200 | \$29,132 | |
| County Attorney | \$26,033 | \$1,200 | \$27,233 | |
| Tax Assessor/Collector | \$15,518 | \$1,200 | \$16,718 | |
| County Treasurer | \$27,932 | \$1,200 | \$29,132 | |
| County Sheriff | \$33,889 | \$1,200 | \$35,089 | |
| Commissioner Prct 1 | \$29,037 | \$1,200 | \$30,237 | |
| Commissioner Prct 2 | \$29,037 | \$1,200 | \$30,237 | |
| Commissioner Prct 3 | \$39,646 | \$1,200 | \$40,846 | |
| Commissioner Prct 4 | \$29,810 | \$1,200 | \$31,010 | |
| Justice of the Peace | \$27,932 | \$1,200 | \$29,132 | |
| Constable | \$3,237 | \$0 | \$3,237 | |

Hearing on salary increases will be held during the regular budget hearing on August 30th, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

• PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF TEXAS §
 COUNTY OF KNOX §

ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court has determined that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoors burning;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court of Knox County that all outdoor burning is banned in the unincorporated area of the county for 90 days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code § 352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Natural Resources Commission for (1) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or, (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code.

The court hereby places these restrictions on outdoor burning as follows:

- The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to the use of all fireworks, outdoor cooking apparatus and materials used outdoors in activities such as welding and any other activity that could result in a fire.
- Notwithstanding No. 1 above, outdoor welding shall be allowed under the following circumstances:
 - Welding and cutting and grinding associated with welding activities shall not take place when the wind is over 15 miles per hour;
 - The welder must notify the Knox County Sheriff's Department before any welding, cutting or grinding begins;
 - All grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared within a fifty (50) foot radius surrounding the area where the activity is to take place before any welding, cutting or grinding begins; and,
 - A spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any welding, cutting or grinding begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.
- Notwithstanding No. 1 above, outdoor branding shall be allowed under the following circumstances.
 - The heating method for the brands shall not be from an open wood fire, but from a butane/propane unit.
 - All grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared within a fifty (50) foot radius surrounding the area where the activity is to take place before any branding begins; and,
 - A spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any branding begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.
- Notwithstanding No. 1 above, backyard cooking shall be allowed under the following circumstances.
 - Outdoor cooking activities shall not take place when the wind is over 15 miles per hour.
 - All grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared within a fifty (50) foot radius surrounding the area where the activity is to take place before any outdoor cooking begins; and,
 - A spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any outdoor cooking begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.

The purpose of this order is the mitigation of the public safety hazard posed by wildfires during the current drought and severe weather conditions by restricting use of combustible materials.

In accordance with Local Government Code § 352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

Approved and so ordered this the 13th day of August, 2012.

Travis C. Floyd
 COUNTY JUDGE
 TRAVIS C. FLOYD

Attest:

Annette Offutt
 ANNETTE OFFUTT, COUNTY CLERK

• PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase


The KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT will be conducting public hearings on August 23rd and August 27th on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of KNOX COUNTY from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 5.9 percent.

The total tax revenue raised last year at last year's tax rate of 0.766254 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$1,289,564.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of 0.73642 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,349,871.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of 0.73642 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,366,883.

The KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on August 30th, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. at The Knox County Courthouse Assembly Room.



Knox County Hospital District

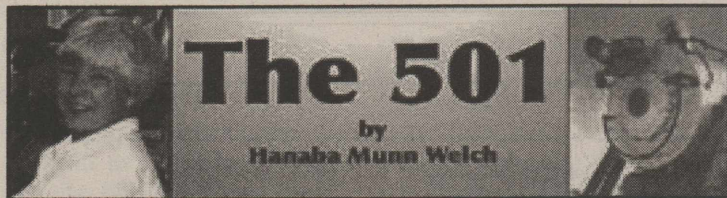
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 SEYMOUR MEDICAL SUPPLY
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940.657.3535
 940.657.5521 (fax)



Fast-food fried chicken strips, cream gravy, fried okra, mashed potatoes, more gravy. Yum.

That's the kind of food a prisoner on death row somewhere in the Deep South might order for his last meal. Or her last meal, except I think a woman might opt for something more costly and sophisticated. My gut feeling.

The afore-mentioned meal is what our daughter brought to our house last night so I wouldn't have to fix supper. Knee surgery yesterday morning put me on crutches, or, better said, on the sofa. Love that sofa.

The choice vittles were much appreciated by me and my husband, who doubtless put in a special request for the okra. Fine by me. We added cantaloupe and Coke to the menu. Good.

What is it about death row and a post-op situation that makes it seem like it's OK to eat what you want instead of what's good for you? Maybe not everybody feels that way, but I did yesterday, and I still do today. I'm drinking a small Pepsi with a dash of half-and-half - my version of a Dairy Queen cream Coke.

Sure enough, here's what an Alabama guy, who spent 32 years on death row, ordered:

Chicken leg quarters, French fries, American cheese (no kidding), orange drink, coffee and chocolate pudding.

As for condemned women, one in Virginia asked for fried chicken, sweet peas, German chocolate cake or apple pie and a Dr Pepper. So much for my theory about gender-related dif-

ferences in last meal preferences. Hmmm. Wonder why she didn't ask for black-eyed peas? Makes more sense. That's what I'd want, along with steak and lobster and watermelon. And a Dr Pepper.

Yes. Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow you must die.

That philosophy jibes with the last meal tradition for the condemned. By the way, it's Biblical.

Here's how the preacher says it in Ecclesiastes, King James Version:

"Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun."

The concept comes across differently in the Gospel of Luke when the rich guy tells himself, "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry."

Whether he was consciously quoting Ecclesiastes, the man was erroneously assuming he was in control of his life. Cocky and self-assured, he didn't realize he was on his own death row and wouldn't even make it to sunrise.

In essence, that's where we all are, even if we're not confined to a cell or restricted to a prison menu and don't have an execution date circled on the calendar.

An illness or a surgery - sometimes even someone else's - reminds us of the brevity and uncertainty of life.

Gather ye roses while ye may. Eat fried chicken.

SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

I'm so sorry--last week I didn't have a column, but I was so busy when Roy got so sick and didn't think about anything else until I had a phone call Monday. I didn't have a column. As you probably understand, my brother was pretty ill for a while that all my time I was with him or praying for God to help me, and He did. He has been with me when I wasn't with Roy at the hospital. Nothing was found, and we are on the road to recovery. Thanks to God.

W. C. Orr will be very much missed. He was always such a wonderful person. We keep the families in our prayers and thoughts as always. May their healing process and our support help them get through this, and they are not alone. God bless y'all and take care.

We also had the loss of a young man--Renee Garcia of Weinert. I saw him lots of times with some of the guys he worked with. He was always full of life and had a smile. He had a great way to greet people anywhere he went. I know he will be greatly missed by all who love him. May God bless you, and our prayers are also with those families.

Miss Posey has also gone to be with our Heavenly Father. I can remember her all the way back when we were kids. She was always so happy and very polite. I know she will be missed dearly. She was a blessing to everyone she came in touch with. God bless the families, and our prayers and thoughts are with

you all. As for our road construction, it's still on its way downtown. They are doing a great job, and our street lights are being put up. They are really looking nice. Hopefully soon, they will all be done, and our little town will be back to normal.

If you go downtown, you need to visit the new business known as "Signs by Design." It's owned by Nancy Marin Peters. I'm sure she is really enjoying her location. Be sure and get ready to have your school special shirts for Moms and for little ones also. You've got to check it out--looks like it would be lots of fun. Good luck guys.

Our Moms are all getting ready to get all the little ones ready for school, and our college kids are all packing and getting ready to go back or start the first time. Guys, may God bless you. Take care and be careful.

Well, I guess Marvin Jones had a nice and enjoyable weekend, as I spotted Carl in town this weekend. Hope they really had a great weekend. I spend time with them every day. They are great friends to catch up with when I'm out of pocket.

Gilbert and Diana Casillas and their kids and families were gone this weekend to a family reunion on Diana's Mom's side of the family in south Texas. I'm sure they were looking to have a great time, and I'm sure they did.

Homer Rolston and his family also attended a family reunion on the Rolston side of the family.

I'm sure they all had great times together to recall memories and make new ones. Hope they all return to their homes safely.

Well as for our Knox City Country Club, they had their annual Ag-Oil golf tournament on Saturday. That apparently went very well, and some teams went home very happy to have won. I'll tell you what, in this tournament, everyone has a great time with lots of food and drinks, plus all free prizes and all the raffle. I heard Terry Utley won the Callaway irons, and that was a great prize to win. Congratulations, Terry. It made for a long weekend for our wonderful guys who ran the tournament--Tracy Carter, Cody Manning, and Eddie Offield, while Gilbert Casillas and Homer Rolston were on family reunions. Hey guys, y'all did a great job, and I'm sure all you sponsors and cooks also. Everyone was very grateful for your efforts.

Alex and Julie Ledesma are very happy to be home with their little girl, and all the kids are happy to have them home.

Thanks to God, and may He bless you all. Like me, they are very thankful for all your prayers and calls during the traumas of our loved ones. It's great to live in a small community because everyone is family. Thank you God.

If you listened to the news this last week about the guy found dead in his home, he was kin to the Dockins from Munday--that's all I know right now. Please pray for that family also. The pain we all experience is very hard. It doesn't matter how! It always hurts. God bless ya'll.

Melissa Casillas is still in the hospital recovering from foot surgery after a bad infection. Hopefully, things will work that the doctors are trying to heal the foot. God bless you, Melissa.

Today it's Monday morning, and all is quiet and back to its normal day. Take care and be careful.

God bless our troops and each of us, Sammie

TAX-FREE

Continued from Page 1

the purchaser is using a business credit card or business check rather than a personal credit card or personal check; being billed under a business account maintained at the retailer; or is using a business membership at a retailer that is membership based.

School break ...

The following is an all-inclusive list of qualifying school supplies (if priced less than \$100):

- Binders
- Book bags
- Calculators
- Cellophane tape
- Blackboard chalk
- Compasses
- Composition books
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Folders; expandable, pocket, plastic, and manila
- Glue, paste and paste sticks

- Highlighters
- Index cards
- Index card boxes
- Legal pads
- Lunch boxes
- Markers (including dry erase markers)
- Notebooks
- Paper; loose leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board, and construction paper
- Pencil boxes and other school supply boxes
- Pencil sharpeners
- Pencils
- Pens
- Protractors
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Writing tablets

TAX FREE

- Baby clothes
- Backpacks for use by elementary and secondary students

RPFCD Tax Proposed Tax Rate Meeting
The Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District will hold a meeting at 7:00 p.m. on August 16, 2012 at 135 N. Munday Ave. in Munday, Texas to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2012. The proposed tax rate is \$0.01980 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District by 0.0000%.

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY PROPOSED TAX RATE MEETING
The North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority will hold a meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 11, 2012 at 135 N. Munday Ave. in Munday, Texas to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2012. The proposed tax rate is \$0.1000 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority by 0.0000%.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The KNOX CITY-O'BRIEN CISD will hold a public meeting at 8:00 p.m. August 30, 2012 in School Administration Office 606 East Main Street Knox City, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Maintenance Tax | \$ <u>1.17</u> | /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | | |
| Approved by Local Voters | \$ <u>0.065</u> | /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----|----------|--------------|
| Maintenance and operations | <u>0</u> | % increase | or | <u>0</u> | % (decrease) |
| Debt service | <u>2.5</u> | % increase | or | <u>0</u> | % (decrease) |
| Total expenditures | <u>0</u> | % increase | or | <u>0</u> | % (decrease) |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

| | Preceding Tax Year | Current Tax Year |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Total appraised value* of all property | \$ 131,980,132 | \$ 167,206,480 |
| Total appraised value* of new property** | \$ 176,240 | \$ 1,543,010 |
| Total taxable value*** of all property | \$ 82,402,272 | \$ 104,766,879 |
| Total taxable value*** of new property** | \$ 176,240 | \$ 1,543,010 |

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 410,000.00

* Outstanding principal.

NRCS

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

2012 Weekly Weather Report

| Date | Temperature (F) | | Rainfall inches |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| | Low | High | |
| 08/06 | 76 | 105 | |
| 08/07 | 78 | 107 | |
| 08/08 | 75 | 100 | |
| 08/09 | 73 | 108 | |
| 08/10 | 71 | 98 | |
| 08/11 | 63 | 103 | |
| 08/12 | 75 | 109 | |
| Total Rainfall for Week | | | 0.00 |
| Total Rainfall for month | | | 0.00 |
| 2012 Rainfall (ytd) | | | 11.07 |

BENJAMIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology Education Programs

- The Benjamin Independent School District offers career and technology education in programs in Agricultural Science, Computer Applications, and Business Education. Admission to these programs is based on grade level and desire of the student.
- It is the policy of the Benjamin Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- It is the policy of Benjamin Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- Benjamin ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.
- For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Olivia Del Hierro Gloria, at P.O. Box 166, Benjamin, TX 79505; telephone-(940) 459-2231.