

THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

75 CENTS

Expert: China holds cotton market in sideways pattern

By Blair Fannin
Special to the Dispatch

There's more price risk to the downside for cotton farmers as China sits on a stockpile of roughly 40 million bales of cotton.

John Robinson, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension cotton economist in College Station, said China's stockpile was purchased at between \$1.30 and \$1.40 a pound. That surplus hangs over the market, and if they were to decide to sell the market would experience price shock.

"If they were to dump their cotton, the market might be 30 cents to the downside tomorrow," Robinson said. "Whenever they decide to sell their cotton, it would overall weaken the market."

Hedge funds invested in cotton futures are not holding positions for the long term, he said. Instead, any geopolitical unrest could cause a 5- to 10-cent drop in prices, further pressuring any upside potential in pricing.



Blair Fannin/Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

John Robinson, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension cotton economist in College Station, checks bolls of cotton from last year's crop for quality control. Robinson said China's corner on the cotton market has world prices in flux.

See **COTTON**, Page 8

Former Greyhound notches 100 wins as coach

By Jay T. Spitzer
Special to the News-Courier

STAMFORD — With last week's victory over Merkel, head coach Wayne Hutchinson, whose Stamford Bulldogs are the reigning state champion in Class 1A-1, completed a milestone by grabbing his 100th victory underneath the bright Friday night lights.

Hutchinson doesn't fall far from the championship tree. In 1983, as quarterback just down the road at Knox City High School, he led his Greyhound teammates to their own state championship.

His first coaching gig at Kermit Middle School lasted two years before he took a six-year tenure at Archer City followed by brief stints at Whitewright and Abilene High. He then landed a job back at his alma mater in Knox City, where he remained before joining the



Special to the News-Courier
Coach Wayne Hutchinson

See **COACH**, Page 8

Munday 57, Bronte 14 Moguls mangle Horns; notch first win

By Geoff Baumgartner
The Knox County News-Courier

The Munday Moguls came out strong Friday night against the Bronte Longhorns. They played tough and were relentless on offense and defense. That effort paid off and the Moguls captured their first victory of the season over the Longhorns with a 57-14 thrashing.

For one of the state's most successful 1A Texas football programs, the Moguls certainly did not disappoint with their first hometown defense of Scruggs Field in 2013.

The Moguls brought the heat early with a strong defensive performance, forcing the Longhorns to punt within the first three minutes of the game. Alfonso Nunez rapidly returned the punt for the first Mogul touchdown of the night. The touchdown was accompanied by a successful two-point conversion and Munday was on the board 8-0.

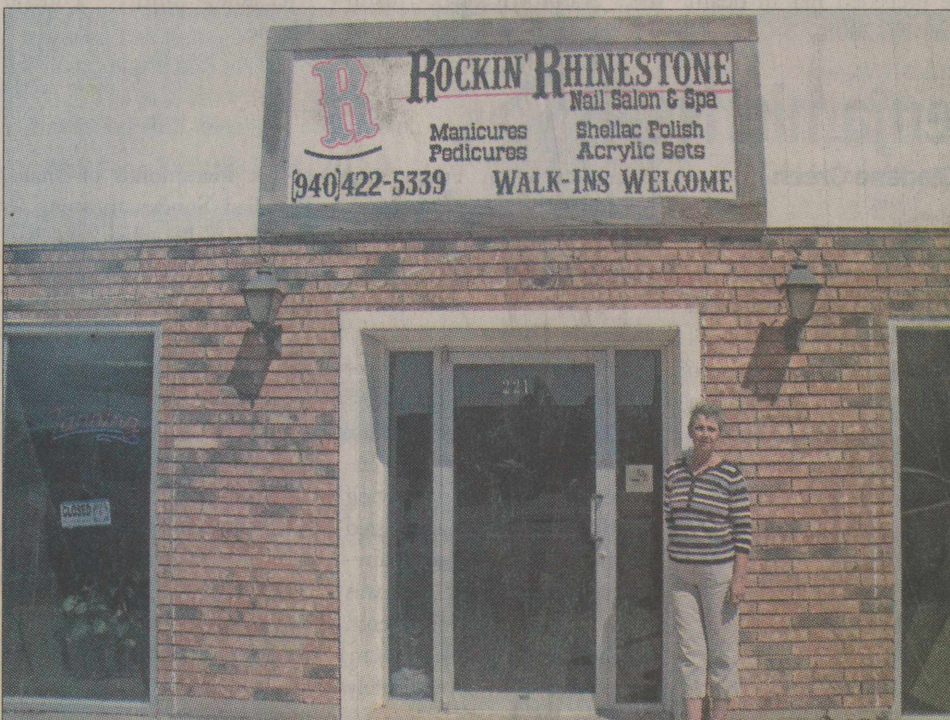
See **MOGULS**, Page 8

New businesses



Photos by Geoff Baumgartner/The Knox County News-Courier

Todd Meers sits outside of his new business Meers Mercantile on Main Street.



Pat Wild stands outside and displays The Tanning Shak, which is inside the Rockin' Rhinestone.



Pat Wild assists Knox County resident and customer Lynn Strebeck at her husband's business next door, Phillips and Bait 2.



Pat Wild proudly displays her new and improved tanning bed inside The Tanning Shak.

Munday business climate improves

By Geoff Baumgartner
The Knox County News-Courier

Two new businesses have opened up in Munday recently, and one business has relocated.

Todd Meers had opened up Meers Mercantile on 241 W. Main St., at the sight of old Osborne's farm and ranch store, of which he was the former manager.

The store opened in July, selling general

See **BUSINESS**, Page 8

Knox Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to kcnnewsCourier@gmail.com.

Spaghetti supper

The Munday High School Junior Class will have a spaghetti supper fundraiser from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday prior to the football game against Holliday. Pasta will be served either with Italian-style meat sauce or as a chicken spaghetti dish.

Photo workshop

The third annual Wyman Meinzer Photography Workshop will be at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Heritage House in Post. Event is sponsored by the Caprock Cultural Association for \$100 per participant. To reserve your place, call 806-495-4148 or email ccarts@poka.com.

Noah Project

The annual Taste of Country fundraiser for the Noah Project-North will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Oct. 8 at the Haskell Civic Center with area restaurants participating. All proceeds benefit victims of domestic violence in the five-county area. Tickets cost \$12.50 and are available from any committee member or at the Haskell Noah Project office. Tickets also will be sold at the door for \$15. Call Donna Sue Anders at 940-864-2551 with questions.

Old Glory events

Area residents are encouraged to attend a dance from 7 to 10 p.m. every second Thursday of the month at the Old Glory Community Center. Live music and entertainment and concessions. The Old Glory Musical is held on the fourth Saturday of each month, also at the Community Center. For information, call Miti Dunham at 989-2816.

Alzheimer's Support Group

The Munday Nursing Center sponsors a support group for Alzheimer's patients, caregivers, family and friends at 12:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month in Fellowship Hall at Munday First United Methodist Church. Bring a sack lunch. The next meeting is Aug. 12. Call Ronda Thompson at 940-422-4541 for information.

Veterans benefits

War-time veterans or surviving spouses may be entitled to monthly income from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. For information, contact Marsha Mahurin at West Texas Senior Resources at 806-781-3901 or email marsha.mahurin@yahoo.com.

Tour of Homes

The Knox County Visioning Group is seeking local homes to feature in the annual tour of homes in December. For information, call 940-459-4121.

Senior citizens musical

The monthly musical fundraiser for the Knox County Aging Center is from 7 to 9 p.m. the first Monday of the month. Local musicians and talent. Bring your own snacks. Tea/coffee will be served. Donations will be accepted for the upkeep of the building. All funds benefit the Aging Center. For information, contact Cassandra Shedy at 657-3618.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgkin at kcnnewsCourier@gmail.com.

News on the go



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Office

121 E. B St., Munday
P.O. Box 151, Munday, Texas
76371

Phone 940-422-5350
Email kncnewsCourier@gmail.com

PUBLISHER

William C. Blackburn

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Wayne Hodgins

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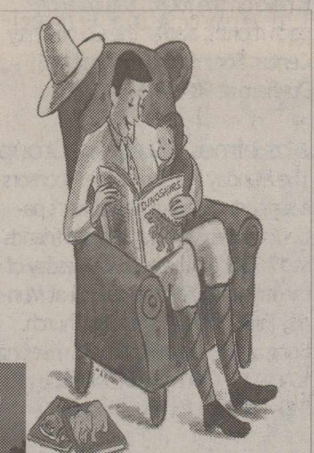
It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and the ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

DEADLINES

Advertising: 5 p.m. Fridays
Editorial: Noon Mondays

SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$30 a year in the county
\$35 a year outside the county



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Deaths

Beverly Harlan Hamilton

Beverly Harlan Hamilton of Bakersfield, California, made her way home to be with her Lord on Saturday, September 21, 2013 after a hard fought, 3-year battle with cancer. She will be cremated. Beverly was a member of the Catholic Church. Beverly was born on June 20, 1948 in Knox City, Texas, and grew up on a farm in Goree and attended school there until her senior year when she graduated from Munday High School in 1966.

Beverly was a Certified Relocation Professional and was a Licensed Realtor in California



BEVERLY HAMILTON

and an Associate Broker in Louisiana. After 30 years in the real estate field she retired in 2012 as Director of Corporate and Relocation Services

at Coldwell Banker Pelican in Lafayette, Louisiana. Previous to that she was Director of Relocation at Century 21 Beachside in Huntington Beach for many years where she managed 135 relocation team agents. Beverly was a public speaker, created agent training materials and did many presentations at Century 21 seminars nationwide.

Survivors include son, Chris Bellinghausen, of Bakersfield, California. She was preceded in death by her mother, Tommie Harlan, and grandparents, Ola and Dude Coffman.

Jimmie Ruth Lusk Redder

SEYMOUR — Jimmie Ruth Lusk Redder, 79, passed away Friday, September 20, 2013, in Wichita Falls. She was born March 7, 1934, in Knox City to Sam A. and Patsy Ling Lusk. She married Philip A. Redder in Rhineland on June 20, 1953.

They spent most of their married life in Wichita Falls. After retirement, they moved to Seymour.

He preceded her in death January 27, 2008.

She is survived by her four children: daughter Pattie Redder of Wichita Falls; son Sam Redder and wife, Kathy, of Wichita Falls; daughter Barbara Horne and husband, Tim, of Gilliland; daughter Gloria Toney and husband, Mike, of Lakeside City; seven grandchildren: Jim Williams and wife, Sabrina; Andrea Bedau and husband, Randy; Nick Williams and wife Katie, Aaron Redder, Justin Horne and wife Christina,

Clint Horne and wife Julia and Amanda Toney. Also, 12 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Jim Williams, Randy Bedau, Nick Williams, Aaron Redder, Justin Horne and Clint Horne.

Rosary was Sunday and funeral mass was Munday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rhineland. Interment will follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home.

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Has everyone enjoyed this change of weather as much as I have? I love fall, and although it wasn't "officially" here until Sunday, all last week was so nice and the rain was such a blessing. Certainly not enough to end the drought but enough to let us know it can still happen. We are thankful for every drop that falls.

About Our Ill

Kenneth Roberts is in very serious condition at the Munday Nursing Center, where he and Mrs. Roberts have lived for quite some time. His health has been declining for a while, and reports this weekend are not encouraging at all. I ask your prayers for this family at this time.

Several have asked about Hazel Stockton and how she is doing these days. She'd "hang-in there," although she is (as she puts it) almost past going. She has arthritis in all her joints, and her legs are bad. She sits in her chair most of the day. She likes to hear from her friends, so if you have time, go by and see her or give her a call—Even a card would be nice and would cheer her up. Hazel is 95.

My sympathy to the family of Jimmie Redder today. She

passed away on Friday, and her funeral is today (Monday). She was the mother of Barbara Horn at Gilliland.

Here 'N There

Imagean Young, Mike Young, and Deann Lamb were in Vernon Friday for a family day away from home. They enjoyed it and enjoyed not having to go to a doctor. Imagean said so much of their going anywhere together these days was to keep doctors' appointments, and between the three of them, there have been several lately. This was a welcome change for them all.

Peggy Hertel called on Friday to tell me that Billie Skidmore (if she was married I do not have her married name) had passed away. She was the youngest daughter of Ruth and the late Ray Skidmore, former Benjamin residents. He was school superintendent here several years ago. Ruth lives in Temple now. Peggy thought that information would be of interest to those who knew them, and I appreciate her passing it on to me.

Randolph Barnett's sister-in-law, Cathi Barnett of Mount Belview (near Baytown, is undergoing treatment for cancer at M. D. Anderson, and doctors say the long-term outlook is good for her recovery. She's Dickie's wife, and the family needs our prayers during this time.

We have learned of the death

of Pat Hammonds of Thalia. Pat died Sunday morning in Wichita Falls, where she had been in Hospice care for a few days. She was the mother of Cathy Carroll Conner, Larry's wife. Graveside rites will be Wednesday at the Crowell Cemetery.

The new bridge between Benjamin and Knox City is now open and being traveled. Seems funny not to go across the "old" one that has been there as long as I can remember. When we were kids at home, we would beg our parents to go by way of Knox City to Benjamin so we could cross the "big bridge." But that is a thing of the past, and we will just have to get accustomed to the new one.

The wreck at Knox City Friday night was tragic, and so many lives were involved. There was only one fatality, that being Steve Oudens of Knox City, but numerous injuries to several other occupants of the car were reported. Our prayers go out to all the families concerned.

Judy and Randolph Barnett were in Lubbock a couple of days last week to visit her sons, Jeff and Jim Bob Conner and their families.

In last week's listing of Hazel Stockton's visitors week before last, I failed to include the name of Charlotte Coker of Rule, who was also among the guests. I apologize for the omission.

Gladene Green is the longtime Benjamin correspondent for the Knox County News-Courier.

The Paperboy Consider D.C. stimulated

Remember all of the talk of roads and bridges during the passing of the first large stimulus package? Does "shovel ready" ring a bell?

As it turns out, President Obama was partially correct when he was telling us how the money would be spent. It was spent on roads and bridges. It was also spent on skyscrapers, mansions and parks — all for the greater Washington, D.C., area.

Under Obama, the number of federal employees has skyrocketed. In the process, it has made the public sector a very nice living while those of us in the private sector have gone largely ignored.

In fact, without the growth in government, there is no telling where the real jobless rate would be today.

Consider this: in the United States, there are 26 counties where the median family income is more than \$100,000. Of the 26 counties, nine are in the D.C. metro area and two more are within 40 miles of Washington. So, within commuting distance of the nation's capital, there are 11 counties where the average family is bringing in six figures.

Where are the others?

New York metro area has seven; Boston metro has two; and there is one each in the metro areas of Bridgeport, Conn.; Denver; Nashville; Philadelphia; San Francisco; and San Jose, Calif.

It's interesting the metro areas of Chicago, San Diego, Seattle, Miami, Dallas, Houston and Los Angeles don't include a single \$100,000 county among them.

According to 2012 figures, the wealthiest county in America — by far — is Arlington County, Va., located just across the Potomac River from D.C. Arlington's median family income (\$137,216) is more than \$10,000 higher than that of any other county in the United States.

The county with the second-highest median family income (\$127,192) is Loudoun County, Va., also located in the D.C. metro area. The third-highest tally (\$125,162) belongs to Howard County, Md., which is within 40 miles of D.C. The fourth-highest (\$124,831) belongs to Fairfax County, Va., another county located in the D.C. metro area.

Are you seeing a trend?

Washington, D.C., does not produce much. It's not an industrial city. It's a government city. It's a city built on your tax dollars. You and I may be suffering, but our tax dollars are making federal government millionaires right and left.

Out here in the real world, I see a lot of people who are good at what they do. Not many of them are paid anywhere near what the people in these counties "earn." Yet, I'd put their work ethic and dedication well above those working in the D.C. area.

Do you know why? Out here, results matter. If you don't do your job, you'll be looking for another.

In the public sector, it doesn't work like that. If it did, the D.C. metro area would be losing people right and left because as far as I can tell, they're not very good at their jobs.

In the last sentence of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, he stated "that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

We don't have that government anymore. Now it's a government of certain people, by certain people, for certain people. And those certain people live in and around Washington, D.C.

Chris Blackburn is CEO of Blackburn Media Group and owner of The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, Hall County Herald, The Hollis News, The Knox County News-Courier, The Post Dispatch, The Childress Index, Wellington Leader and The Stonewall Courier. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.

Thanks for reading The Knox County News-Courier

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The family of Robert L. (Bob) Brown would like to acknowledge the many expressions of love, concern and compassion from friends and loved ones during this time of bereavement. Words cannot express the strength you have given us during these most difficult of times.

Also, we wish to thank all the nurses and doctors at the Knox County Hospital and Munday Nursing Center for their excellent care of our loved one, as well as the First United Methodist Church for use of their Fellowship Hall for our family meal.

May God Bless Each of You,
Allene Brown
Sandy, Jerry and family

Knox officials remind voters that photo ID is required

By Wayne Hodgkin
The Knox County News-Courier

Knox County Elections Supervisor Mitzi Welch wants to remind voters that photo identification will now be required for voting in person.

"In Knox County we are working to make sure our voters understand the new ID requirements and have all the information they need to cast their ballots in November's constitutional amendment election and next year's primary and general elections," Welch said.

A voter will be required to show one of the following forms of photo identification at the polling location before the voter will be permitted to cast a vote:

- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- U.S. military identification card containing the person's photograph
- U.S. citizenship certificate con-

taining the person's photograph

• U.S. passport
With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented at the polling place.

This photo ID requirement is for voters casting a ballot in person, not by mail. Voters age 65 and older may vote by mail.

Ward encourages voters to update their voter registration to reflect the name on their photo ID they plan to use for voting purposes.

Voters may use IDs that do not exactly match the name on their voter registration if the names are substantially similar but will have to sign an affidavit stating they are the same person.

Voters may look up their registration information at VoteTexas.gov, and if their name is not an exact match they can update their voter registration at that time.

"By preparing now, voters can help make sure voting goes smoothly when it comes time for the election," Welch said. "Voter registration changes must be made at least 30 days before an election."

Changes can be made online at the VoteTexas.org website or at the county courthouse through Oct. 7, which is the deadline to register or change your voter registration information for the Nov. 5 election.

Local residents who do not have one of the listed forms of acceptable photo identification may apply for an Election Identification Certificate — or voter photo ID card — issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety's driver license division at no charge. Applications for the EIC will be accepted at DPS driver license offices across Texas. The EIC, however, can only be used for voting is not an acceptable form of identification for any other purpose.

More information on voter registration can be found at the Texas Secretary of State's website at sos.texas.gov or the VoteTexas.org website, also powered by the Texas Secretary of State's office.

For information on the Elections Identification Certificate, or voter photo ID card, visit dps.texas.gov or the nearest driver license office.

Local residents also may call Welch at the Knox County Courthouse at 940-459-2411.

KC Golf Tourney

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce conducted its annual golf tournament fundraiser last week. Following are those results:

Championship Flight

First place: Abila, Abila, Smith — 60
Second place: Acree, Bird, Rios — 62

First Flight

First place: Manning, Mangis, Thompson — 65
Skiles, Skiles, Tankersly — 66

Knox County News-Courier

Gaines farmer gins season's first bale on South Plains

By Dustin Wright
Special to the News-Courier

SEMINOLE — Billy Letkeman fell short of winning Gaines County's prestigious "First Bale of Cotton" honor in both the 2008 and 2012 growing seasons, falling just behind past winners Dwight and Pam Thomason and his uncle, John K. Fehr, respectively.

But this year, the title belongs to him, wife Jessi and son Lincoln, as the local producers brought region's first bale of cotton for the 2013 growing season into the lobby of Seminole's Commercial State Bank at 11:27 a.m. Sept. 12.

"The third time is the charm I guess," said Billy Letkeman, whose father, William Letkeman, won the honor in 1992. "It's an awesome feeling after trying for it several times.

Gaines County's first bale of cotton for the 2013 growing season, ginned by Seminole's Ocho Gin, weighed in at 520 pounds.

Letkeman's first bale, which was harvested Sept. 11, was grown from DeltaPine 1219 seed on irrigated land near the intersection of FM 1788 and CR 426, in southeastern Gaines County.

Cotton harvested for the first bale was machine picked and not defoliated, Letkeman said. The harvested cotton was delivered to Ocho Gin around 7 a.m. Thursday morning to begin the ginning process.

Ocho Gin General Manager David Spradlin said the bale was completed at 11:05 a.m. Thursday morning.

A sampling of the harvested cotton, which came off five of 385 acres of planted cotton at the farm site, will be sent to the USDA's Lamesa Classing office for classing verification.

"I knew I had a shot at (the first bale) on Monday morning, after knowing no one had turned in the first bale already and seeing how some of my (cotton) bolls were opening up," Letkeman said.

The 2013 first bale of cotton, which was on display inside the bank lobby through Sept. 18, was sold in a "Chinese Auction" Sept. 19 as part of festivities associated with the 2013 Gaines County Ag-Oil Appreciation Day celebration.

Officials with the Plains Cotton Growers office in Lubbock said the Letkeman's first bale is also believed to be the first bale of cotton processed within their 41-county growing area.

The 501 Snagged by an online car deal

I'll be switched! They got me hook, line and sinker. All but reeled in by a too-good-to-be-true car deal.

Yep, I almost bought a car online. Almost. But I got away.

The story:

A 2012 Hyundai Tucson caught my left eye as I watched the Texas Rangers with my right. Why not chat with an online salesman about the car with the fabulous price? Via my laptop computer, the deal had landed in my lap — literally.

In the end, I got baited and switched twice — first by the Rangers, who initially promised victory, and then by the distant Oklahoma dealership that, at

first glance, seemed to be selling the car.

The Rangers lost me in the top of the eighth when I headed north, car deal in the works, justifying my departure by calling it a trip to the farm to check in with the cows.

Backing up, if you've never initiated a car deal online after sundown, here's how it works:

In sales, you get the luck of the draw. You chat with a mug shot. Not to worry. They're all attractive. If you get a girl, she looks wholesome and just old enough not to be jailbait (sticking with our theme). Happily I got a cute guy instead.

His name was John. We chatted, meaning, of course, that we "typed," an increasingly obsolete word that doesn't capture the essence of a conversation. Neither were we really chatting in the true sense of the word. Should that have been my first clue the car was one shade away from reality? It all seemed real. John said he'd have to check with his sales manager, which is what real salesmen say in the daylight.

By midnight I was at the farm. By daylight, I was ready to hit the turnpike. Alas, during the night, the well pump had quit.

The prospect of buying a car can make routine well repair seem like a minor bump in the road. Quote me.

At the well, I didn't even look for black widows in the pit that houses the equipment that's sup-

posed to keep everything working. One scorpion threatened. Squish. I didn't even look for the mate. I had a car waiting for me in Oklahoma City.

Emery paper worked for sanding the corroded points of the pressure switch (sticking with our theme). Like magic, the pump kicked in, just in time for the cows to drink.

I called the sales crew at the dealership, ready to confirm the deal and take them my trade-in. The daytime salesman, Richard, said the Tucson was a parts car, not for sale, meaning not that it was good only for parts (like my trade-in) but that the parts department was driving it!

Richard tried to make me feel better by saying the car of my dreams had hail damage.

I told him I could live with hail damage.

So he tried to sell me a new Tucson with hail damage. Finally, a real salesman!

Too late.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a columnist and contributor to Blackburn Media Group newspapers.



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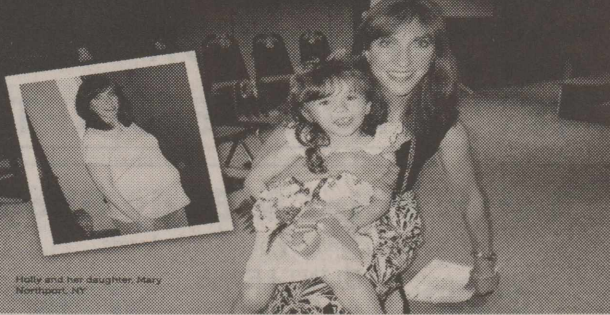
October is National Cooperative Month. JOIN THE CELEBRATION AND WIN! Sign up for a new or additional SRTC service and register to WIN A BLUE RAY PLAYER at the SRTC Office Celebrations. All entries will be entered into the GRAND PRIZE drawing at the end of the month for a NEW TELEVISION!

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When I was pregnant, I found out I had diabetes.

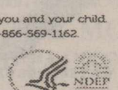


Holly and her daughter, Mary
Northrup, NY

Now, I am at risk for diabetes for the rest of my life. So is my child.

But we can take steps to PREVENT it. Gestational diabetes is diabetes that is found for the first time when a woman is pregnant. If you had gestational diabetes, tell your health care team and get tested. Tell your child's doctor.

There are steps you can take to prevent or delay diabetes and lower the risk for you and your child. Learn more at www.YourDiabetesInfo.org or call 1-888-683-NDEP (6337). TTY: 1-866-569-1162.





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Dixie Divas

The way she was

The way she was was a long way from what she became. I can't help thinking about how life veers so far away from the beginning of the journey and how the destination can vary drastically from where it all started.

To begin with, she was a beautifully made young girl with curves and a tumbling mass of blonde hair and bright blue eyes that danced with endless joy. Her laugh was contagious and her stories endlessly entertaining.

To state emphatically, she was spoiled. Terribly spoiled. Her daddy was wrapped hopelessly around her cute little pinky finger, and her mama, despite her best intentions, could never say "no" to her.

To illustrate properly, they were rich. It wasn't a case of giving in to her whims and depriving her of earthly pos-

sessions but rather one of showering her with an abundance of material things and letting her do as she always pleased.

To be completely honest, I, at times, envied the easiness of her life. If she didn't want to do her school lessons, her mama wrote a note to excuse her. If she wanted the fastest, one-of-a-kind sports car, it was delivered on an ordinary summer day — not a birthday or special occasion — with a big red bow wrapped around it. She bought many pretty clothes that she never wore, the tag never removed because there weren't enough hours in a day to wear all those clothes.

Worries were a stranger to her. She was shielded and protected in a way I yearned for because teenagers like easy much better than hard. I thought how grand it would be to awake every morning with the biggest decision being where to lunch and which beautiful outfit to wear. I worked three jobs and had to study, too.

What I didn't know then that I know now is that the easy way out always

becomes the hardest. For life is like that, you know. No one can escape life's challenges forever. There always comes a payday.

For her, the path to difficulty began so gradually that no one could see that the trouble-free path was veering slightly toward the road that no one would choose. Ever. Her father died and what had seemed to be a bottomless pit of money began to prove different.

But when you have spent a life spending like there is no tomorrow, it is hard to accept that a tomorrow truly exists. She refused to believe it and her mother, well-intentioned and unaware she was throwing her daughter toward a pit of lions, spent years trying to protect her.

She sold off whatever possible so that her daughter could continue to have boats, Rolex watches and plenty of something that she had no idea she was buying.

Drugs. The kind of hard drugs that will turn a wealthy man into a beggar. Then, her mother died and left her

with no experience of life.

I'll spare you the details of years of rapid decline and sorrow. There is no prettiness to it. The last time I saw her about 15 years ago was in a shoe store where she was browsing, and I was shopping for workout shoes. By that time, she had grown rather plump and there was a dazed look in her eyes I did not recognize, for I have never known much, if anything, about drugs.

She fell out of sight until one day two years ago when she showed up at the home of a friend of mine. Kathy said she didn't recognize her when she opened the door. The once pretty girl was dirty, toothless and looked far older than her actual years. She was begging for food, asking for a place to sleep.

Six months later, she was dead, found lifeless in a dirty alley somewhere.

And though it took 25 years, I envied her no more.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Comin'," is available at rondarich.com.



RONDA RICH

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Newcastle 70, Knox City 32

Bobcats deal Greyhounds first season loss

By Geoff Baumgartner
The Knox County News-Courier

It was a tough first loss in Knox City last Friday night, with the visiting Newcastle Bobcats getting the win over the Greyhounds, 70-32.

Knox City started the game off strong, putting points on the board first when a five-yard pass by Zach Carter found the hands of Israel Rodriguez for the first Greyhound touchdown of the evening. The extra point was no good, and Knox City was up 6-0.

The Bobcats answered before the end of the first by running in a touchdown and making good on the two-point kick, putting them ahead 6-8.

Newcastle started off the second by running in another TD and getting another good two-point kick, putting them ahead 16-6. The Greyhounds responded immediately with a 12-yard run by Chris Lewis for a touchdown with 6:02 left in the first half. The extra two-point kick was no good with KC trailing 16-12.

Newcastle responded with a 38-yard pass play resulting in a Bobcat touchdown but failed PAT. The score was now 24-12.

The Greyhounds fired right back with a 24-yard run by Rodriguez, grabbing another KC TD with 2:55 left in the second quarter. The kick was no good, closing the gap 24-18.

Newcastle answered again with yet another Bobcat score to end the first half with a 32-18

lead.

The third quarter was deciding for the Greyhounds, who let three Newcastle touchdowns go unanswered before getting back on the board.

The Greyhounds got back on the board with 6:19 left in the fourth quarter after Carter lobbed a pass for a Knox City touchdown. Zach Rodriguez put the kick between the posts, making the score 56-26.

The Bobcat offense quickly answered with another TD, but the failed PAT kept the score at 62-26.

Rodriguez found the endzone again for a Greyhound TD by splitting the Newcastle defense with an amazing 28-yard run to make the score 62-32 with 5:17 remaining in the game.

Not to be overshadowed, Newcastle would fire back with one last passing TD and two-point kick, bringing the game to a close.

The Greyhounds suffered their first loss of the season.

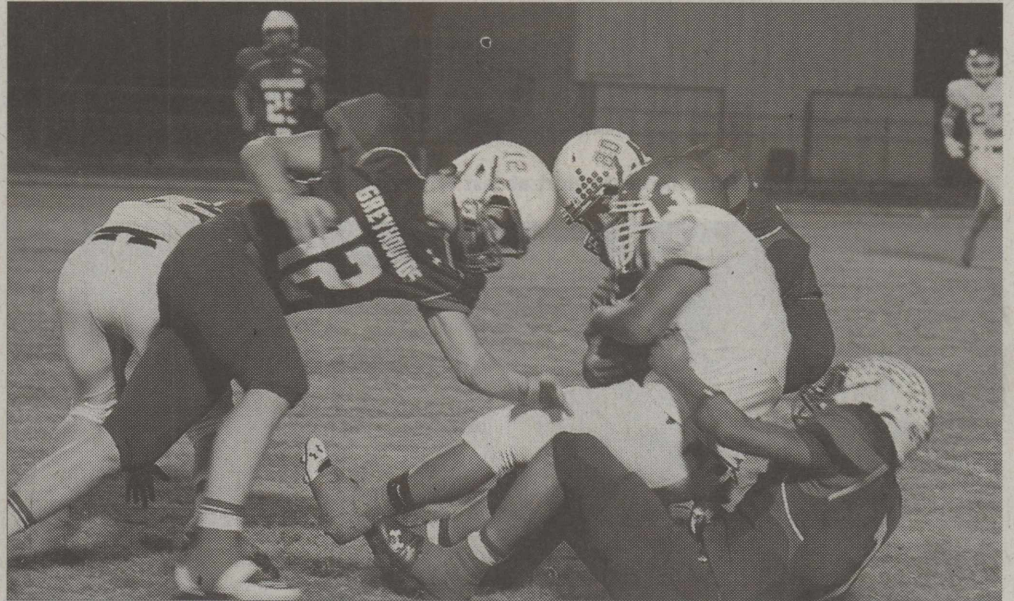
Chillicothe in Friday will travel to Knox City for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff with the Greyhounds.

STATS

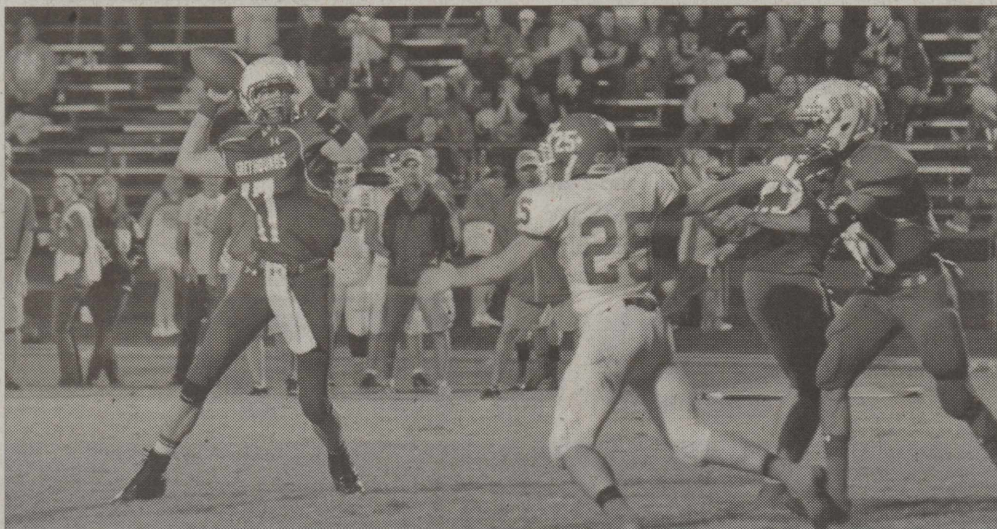
Knox City put up a total of 350 yards offense, while Newcastle had 433 yards. Knox City's Zach Carter passed for 13 yds with 2 completions on 6 attempts, while Chris Lewis threw for 11 yards with 1 completion on 2 attempts. KC's Israel Rodriguez rushed for 124 yds on 13 carries, while Tyllyne Eaton rushed for 19 yards on 6 carries.



Chris Lewis for the first down against a Newcastle defender.



Heath Welch and Ty Eaton take down an opponent from Newcastle in last week's game.



Zach Carter looks for a receiver downfield.



Greyhound Israel Rodriguez takes a run of the middle.

Volleyball

Houndettes thrash Lady Cats

The Knox City Houndettes thrashed the Newcastle Lady Cats in their most recent meeting Tuesday looking like a well-oiled machine.

This victory brings the Houndettes' record to 12-6 with district starting this week. The Houndettes are playing efficiently so far this season and appear to be a tough team to beat at home or on the road.

Some big contributors to the Houndettes' win were Kaylie Steele, sopho-

more middle hitter, 6 kills, 5 hits, 6 tips, and 2 blocks; Kinslee Cox, junior setter, 19 serves, 1 ace, and 10 assists; Cassandra Ledesma, senior outside hitter, 1 kill, 5 hits, 5 serves, 1 ace, and 2 tips; Leighton Pepper, junior outside hitter, 3 hits, 2 kills, 4 tips, 8 serves, and 1 ace; Andrea Lynn, junior outside hitter, 2 hits, 1 kill, 4 serves, 2 tips and 1 ace.

Houndette head coach Samantha Baumgartner said it has been a treat to watch the girls come together the way

they have with cooperation and teamwork.

"We've been working hard preparing for this year's district games," she said. "This latest win will help us boost our confidence and give us the energy we'll need to be successful."

The Houndettes continue district play at 10 a.m. Saturday against Lorraine.

The Knox County News-Courier

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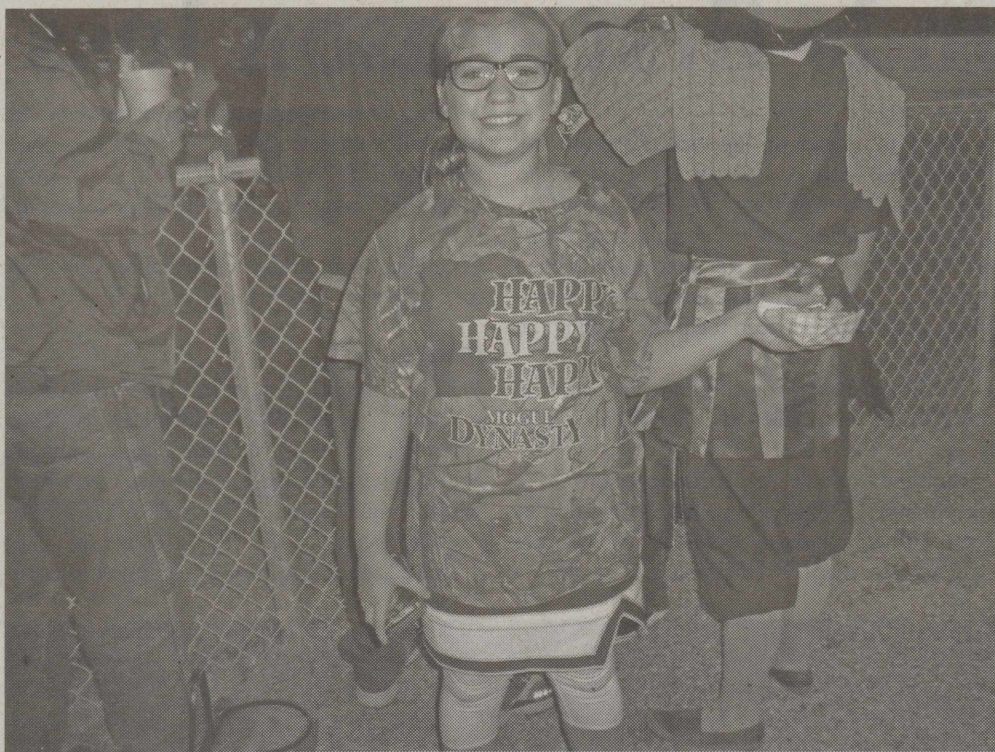
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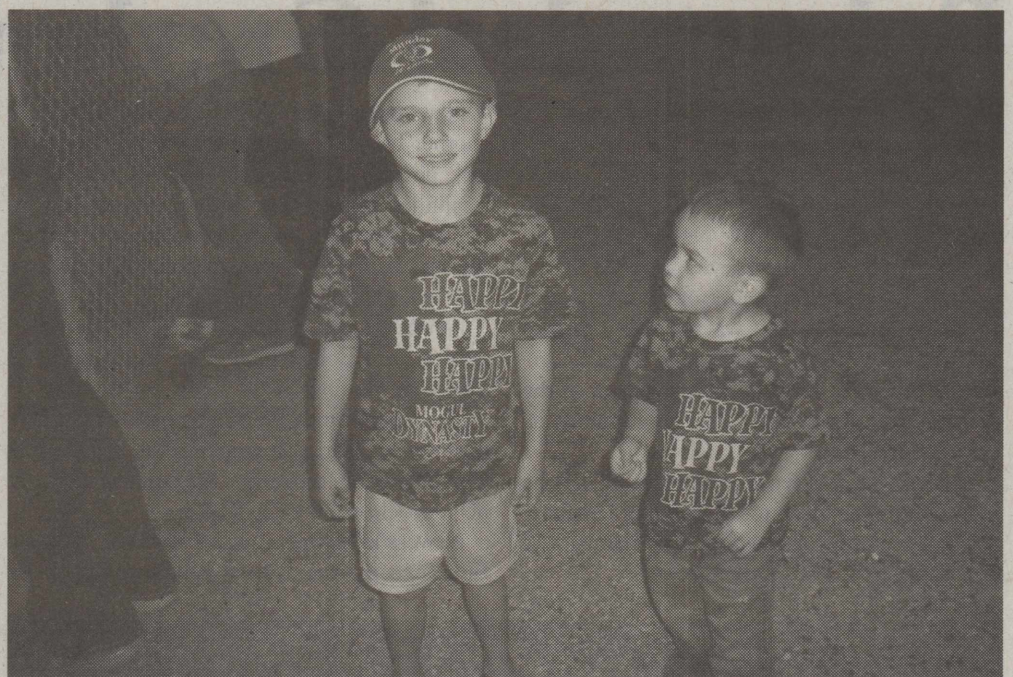
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Duck fever



Bell Dutton poses in her Duck Dynasty shirt at last Friday's game. Photos by Geoff Baumgartner/The Knox County News-Courier



Munday residents Haiden Bowman and Braisyn Dillard show off their Duck Dynasty camo green.



Munday student Darian Leija poses with the Munday Mogul in her Duck Dynasty gear.

Volleyball Munday mauls Childress teams

All three Mogulettes girls volleyball teams swept the Childress Lady Cats on Saturday in Munday.

While the Mogulettes have recently lost Raci Dillard, one of their best players, to an injury, the team remains fundamentally sound and have not let it affect their winning attitude. The varsity girls took the Lady Cats in four sets: 25-9, 25-19, 15-25 and 25-14. The standouts from the varsity squad were Kaylan Urbanczyk with 6 aces, 13 digs, 11 kills, and 3 blocks. Tatum Bufkin had 4 digs, 25 assists, 4 kills, and 2 blocks. Mayte Torres had 3 aces, 4 digs, and 8 kills, while Maria Vega had 2 aces and 20 digs. Rylie Decker managed 6 aces, 1 kill, and 2 saves.

The JV won in three sets, 27-25, 21-25, and 25-14. Standouts were Madison Edgar with

8 aces. Denise Araujo had 4 aces and 4 assists. Janie Salinas had 7 aces and 6 digs. Tori Everson had 7 assists, while Wlexis Nunez had 4 aces and 3 kills.

The freshmen squad also pulled off an impressive win in straight sets: 25-23, 25-22. Freshman standouts were Madison Edgar with 2 aces and 3 kills. Tori Everson had 2 aces and 11 assists, while Reagan Sanderson managed 3 aces and 1 kill.

Head coach Kim Kuehler said she was proud of all of her girls.

"Everyone is working harder than ever before trying to play without Raci, all going above and beyond," she said.

Geoff Baumgartner

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The Idle American Best of times worst of times

Given that timing is everything, the Lone Star State's flagship universities — The University of Texas and Texas A&M University — are once again at extremes. Could UT have picked a worse time to get its own TV sports network up and running? Or could the Aggies have selected a better time to get their own law school?

At UT, they'd love to be "caught on the horns of a dilemma," but this isn't possible, since mascot Bevo is now "hornless," having given up one to Brigham Young and the other to Ole Miss. So much for the 2013 UT football team lighting up the Longhorn TV network.

Remember when angry fans bombarded NBC with phone calls protesting interruption of a professional football game's final minute with the movie "Heidi"? Well, word has it hardcore UT fans are signing petitions for the Longhorn "Heidi" instead of UT football games.

Meanwhile, my 101-year-old Uncle Mort thinks Aggie brain trusts were brilliant in buying Texas Wesleyan University's law school.

With NCAA rumblings, adaptation to new membership in the Southeast Conference, and Texas A&M attempts to keep its star football player on the "straight and narrow," Mort believes they can keep the law school busy running two shifts — maybe three.

My uncle may be defying the aging process. At age 101, when dying brain cells typically accelerate, his seem to be multiplying.

Mort opines the law school might do well if its scope is limited to athletic issues. He figures it could clock many hours defending Oklahoma State concerning football infractions alleged by "Sports Illustrated."

Texas Coach Mack Brown might well be a client as well, what with his fortunes sagging.

Worst case, Mort says, is that if and when the law school no longer is needed, they can "flip it," like high rollers in real estate.

Danny Snyder, owner of the Washington Redskins, may need Aggie law school help with his latest hot potato. Many Native Americans insist the team take on a name other than "Redskins."

Snyder has dug in his heels, and the ar-

rows of many quivers may fly before this issue is settled. (Watching from the sidelines are the Kansas City Chiefs, holding their breath their mascots continue to blaze trails under the radar.)

The NCAA has pressed the issue with numerous smaller schools that had "Indians" as mascots. McMurry University in Abilene and Midwestern University in Wichita Falls no longer are "Indians." Bigger universities with stronger alumni bases — like Florida State University — seem untouchable.

Such reminds me of the Indian tribe that built an airport in record time. National politicians were astounded it was finished months early and millions of dollars under budget.

"How did you manage it?" a senator questioned the chief.

"We didn't get bogged down in white tape," he responded.

The way pets are being pampered, it may soon become common for angry pet owners to sue veterinarians.

"The Aggie fleet of lawyers would be most helpful in defending malpractice suits if Fido don't make it," Mort clucked.

I heard of one visionary Aggie who had a double major in doctoral study — veterinary medicine and taxidermy. His printed cards had this message: "Either way, you get your dog back."

Known more for his money-losing schemes that were supposed to be "get rich quick" plans, Mort admits Johnny Manziel's brilliant play in the Aggies' single TD loss to Alabama may have cost him a bundle.

"I was about to come out with a 'block-head' doll for 'Mr. Football,' but now don't have the heart to do it," he moaned. I asked him if he perhaps meant "bobble-head doll."

"Read my lips," Mort repeated. "block-head' doll."

Now, he's working on a Manziel doll with interchangeable heads — one that bobbles for outstanding play and another for non-game days that simply stares back — as block-heads do.

"So far, his play on the field has dazzled, easily qualifying for 'bobble-head' status," Mort admits. "But 'block-head' best fits his zany away-from-the-game antics covered well by sports media."

My uncle thinks strongest sales will be to Longhorn fans. Mort predicts they'll buy the doll, then toss out the "bobble-head," greatly favoring the "block-head" option.

Don Newbury, former chancellor of Howard Payne University in Brownwood, is a Christian humorist and motivational speaker.



DON NEWBURY

Nancy's Notions Obamacare or ACA?

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, fondly known as Obamacare or the Affordable Care Act, was the topic of discussion last Thursday night at Covenant Hospital. The Covenant Student Nurses Association sponsored an evening of questions and answers to clear the air on the legislation and how our healthcare benefits might change. As a Hospice volunteer, Mom was invited, and I just followed along with great interest as her guest.

Honestly, I was hoping to get some specifics about well checks, specialist appointments and if diseases like cancer might be handled differently as far as treatment goes. There were some interesting quotes and some "ah-ha" moments, but for the most part it still boiled down to an "agree-to-disagree: political debate."

The panelists for the night included Clarke Cochran, Patricia Freier, Nancy Ketner and Charles Perry. Cochran is a retired Texas Tech political science professor writing a blog about the ACA. Freier has her masters degree in nursing. I was unclear of her job description with Covenant but she was one of the 200 employees laid off in August in "response to the implementation of the ACA." Ketner is the Lubbock Democratic Party chairman and Charles Perry is a Republican state representative.

There were a few comments that they all seemed to agree on:

- One goal of Obamacare is to have the 20 million uninsured U.S. residents insured by 2020.
- 20 percent of the economy in Lubbock and the nation is healthcare.
- Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the nation at 6 million. It is expected 2 million of those will be insured under ACA.
- All four panelists agreed the weakest part

of the ACA is how to fund it — the funding component is missing.

- Those insured with larger companies will see minimal change.
- Medicare will see minimal change.
- Medicaid leaves out men ages 19-64. ACA will help get them coverage.
- Obamacare is basically Medicaid expansion.

We will see an increased role in nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

Ketner shared several websites with the Affordable Care Act information, guidelines, explanations, and blogs even though Perry opened the evening commenting that "there are no nonpartisan websites on the Internet."

I thought I would share some of them with you, and let you make that decision. I have not looked at any of them, but my job as the County Extension is to teach and inform by sharing information so here they are:

- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: rwjf.org.
- The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation: kff.org.
- HealthAffairs.org
- The New England Journal of Medicine: nejm.org
- HealthReformGPS.org
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: healthcare.gov
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Health Insurance Marketplace: marketplace.cms.gov

I will admit I did a little people watching. There were a few there supporting their political parties, but many were truly interested in the changes and how they will be implemented in the Lubbock area. I encourage each of you to be alert, pay attention and don't assume because how, where and when we receive treatment will look differently starting in January.

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County.



NANCY MCDONALD

Copper Breaks Ex-park ranger will teach flintknapping

Special to the News-Courier

QUANAHA — Flintknapping, the ancient art of making stone knives, arrowheads, scrapers, and other tools will be demonstrated at Copper Breaks State Park during the campsite talk scheduled for 3 p.m. Oct. 5 after Meet the Longhorns. Visitors will be able to see a tool made from start to finish in the presentation.

Retired park ranger Bob Hopkins returns to give this popular program. Hopkins, a longtime resident of Crowell, is a self-taught archaeologist and naturalist.

Hopkins retired from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at Copper Breaks State Park in 2001. He grew up hearing tales and histories of the frontier and the American Indian and early on, he developed an interest in archaeology and a fascination with how the native people made their tools.

"I kept finding all kinds of elaborate and beautifully made knives and arrowheads and I began to wonder how they made these things. So, one day, I decided to try it myself and I've been doing it ever since," Hopkins said.

Hopkins has given his flintknapping

program at schools, churches, scouting events, the Texas Legislature, and heritage festivals all over Texas.

The Saturday program is free with regular park admission of \$2 for adults. The flintknapping program is another in a series of Campsite Talks offered at Copper Breaks State Park.

For information on Copper Breaks State Park events or facilities, contact the park daily during business hours at 940-839-4331.

Copper Breaks State Park is located 13 miles south of Quanah and eight miles north of Crowell on State Highway 6.

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BUSINESS

From Page 1

merchandise, and has been going strong ever since.

"Even though business can be slow this time of year, it is staying relatively consistent right now," Meers said.

With the weather staying nice, people are still buying lawn-care equipment and supplies. However, with the onset of deer-hunting season and the acquisition on hunting licenses, that is where the business is shifting toward for the fall months.

"Dear corn is a big seller right now," Meers said.

Bait and tackle

The other new business opening in Munday is Phil-

lip's Tackle and Bait 2, located at 321 Main St. Greg Fix reopened this bait shop with a new image and new management Aug. 11.

"We sell worms, minnows, and black salties for catfish fishing, as well as chicken livers, shrimp, and a wide variety of tackles," said Fix' wife, Pat Wild, who helps out at the bait shop as well. In addition to bait and tackle, they also sell knives and collectibles.

Wild not only helps with her husband's bait shop, but also runs the Tanning Shak right next door in the neighboring Rockin' Rhinestone Salon.

"(The tanning business) opened in March but relocated in June," Wild said.

The Tanning Shak not only relocated but also made considerable improvements to

the salon.

"We spent a lot of money on new, better tanning bulbs for our bed, which gives a much better tan," Wild said.

In addition, they hope to be adding an additional bed sometime in the future.

The salon has also done some redesigning, such as lowering the tanning room wall, to make the flow of the tanning room more open — a staple design among successful tanning salons.

However, with the advent of the new Texas Tanning Law, which prohibits anyone younger than age 18 to tan in such a facility, Wild said can hurt her business.

"It takes away from our business when the high school students, especially the girls, cannot come and tan," Wild said.

COTTON

From Page 1

"I think commercial traders have been expecting lower prices as we go forward," he said. "It means more surplus cotton for everybody and price weakness."

Robinson said China may have hoped to see India's cotton production fall via inadequate monsoon rain. However, that has not happened and has prevented China from selling some of its surplus cotton to India on a price rally.

In the meantime, Robinson advised cotton producers to be aware of price risks and to consider purchasing puts or put spreads. This provides insurance for producers who are holding cotton that hasn't already been contracted in the event the market was to dip 10 cents or more.

For Texas, Robinson said about half to 60 percent of the crop is in the Plains Cotton Cooperative Association pool, which includes a number of local gins, including the Close City Co-op Gin in Garza County

and others in Acuff, Idalou, and Slaton.

"They will get their price," he said. "That's been the only forward-pricing option available for many growers, especially in dryland areas."

Decrease in production High Plains production estimates have slipped slightly from earlier reports, with the National Agricultural Statistics Service now projecting that area cotton growers will produce 2.5 million bales, down from 2.575 million bales in August.

The Northern High Plains area decreased by 280,000 bales, but the Southern High Plains increased by 205,000.

Yield per acre increased for the Northern High Plains, from 777 pounds in August to 856 in the September estimate. The Southern High Plains remained about the same, at 607 pounds in August to 610 in September.

However, the most notable difference between the two areas is in harvested acres. The Northern High Plains is projected to harvest 415,000 acres, down

from 630,000 acres in the August report. The Southern High Plains is expected to harvest 1.385 million acres, up from 1.23 million in the August report.

Statewide, the production number remained the same at 4.1 million bales. The nationwide estimate dropped to 12.27 million bales, down more than 1 percent from last month and down almost 26 percent from 2012. Markets did not react much to the report, with December futures still hovering around 84 to 85 cents at press time.

Producers across the High Plains are beginning to prepare for harvest, with several terminating irrigation. Dryland fields are fair for the most part, and the lack of recent rain continues to stress these fields. Insect pressure remains low. Overall, harvest activity is expected to be about a week to two weeks later than usual, so a rain could still be of great benefit to the crop and certainly good for the soil.

Mary Jane Buerkle contributed to this report.

COACH

From Page 1

Stamford coaching staff seven years ago.

To no surprise, Hutchison said his favorite victory was last year's state championship game, which he called "magical."

"I could feel the energy starting back in two-a-days," he said.

The state game stood out the most for him, he said, because his team kept fighting.

"To go ahead with 32 seconds left and hold off a Mart last effort was the most satisfying feeling I have ever felt as a coach," Hutchison said.

The longtime coach said his success can be attributed to programs built on the tenants of teamwork: relationships, trust, discipline and character.

"Relationships are coach-to-coach, player-to-player and coach-to-parents," he said. "Trust is based on being able to depend on our players in the classroom, on the field, and away from school. Discipline is taught by taking care of the

little things, such as our locker room being clean. ... Character is being coachable, honest, having a great attitude. These are the cornerstones of our program."

Hutchison said many other factors must come into play to have a successful program, including the support of the assistant coaches and a close-knit community of parents, faculty and fans — and a loving and patient life partner.

"There will be a special place in heaven for coaches' wives," he said. "It takes a special lady to go through the ups and downs of the coaching profession. It's very time consuming, and balancing that with life is a team effort. I am very blessed."

Hutchinson join some of the greats who have coached at Stamford High School, such as Jerry Taylor, Larry Wartes and Bill Anderson, whom the stadium in Stamford is named after.

With his accomplishments forever in the record books and plastered on billboards outside of town, he attributes his love, passion and success of coaching

to the examples of those who led, including his own coaches: Tommy Sloan, C.H. Underwood, Jimmy Rogers and Tony Daniel.

"They were all godly men; all highly successful coaches," he said. "I wanted to be like them."

Hutchison said avid goal-setting and working tirelessly to accomplish those feats is what makes a winner, but a champion is born when spirit and character come together.

"If you can walk off the playing field and know in your heart and mind, you did everything in your power to win," he said, "then you're a champion."

Special to the News-Courier Coach Wayne Hutchison, a former Knox City Greyhound and state champion who later would lead his alma mater on the gridiron, gives direction to two of his Stamford Bulldogs during the Class 1A-1 state championship game last year. Hutchison marked his 100th win as a coach last week with Stamford's victory over Merkel.

MOGULS

From Page 1

Within the minute the Munday defense, which performed strong all evening, forced the stop and regained possession of the ball. This was followed by an aggressive performance by Zac Edgar who broke two tackles to run in the second Munday touchdown of the night. Along with another successful two-point conversion, this put the Moguls up 16-0 with 8:01 left in the first quarter.

L.J. Collier (7) stopped both run attempts by the Longhorns with hard, well-placed tackling. The Moguls were then momentarily set back by a fumble that Bronte recovered. However, the Bronte drive was short lived because of the Moguls persistent, spot-on tackling and they were forced to punt once again. But it was Bronte's defense that put the rare stop to the Moguls drive, forcing the turn over on downs to end the first quarter.

The Moguls came out fighting in the second quarter with excellent pass coverage, breaking up several well-thrown balls by the Longhorns. Bronte was once again forced to punt, but once again recovered another Mogul fumble. With this, the Longhorns were actually able to recover the ball and get on the board with 6, but their two-point failed. The Longhorns then attempted an onside kick, but the Moguls recovered at their own 35-yard line, putting them in excellent field position.

After several hard-fought runs, and with only 52 seconds remaining in the first half, Lagway was able to break several tackles and run in another Munday TD. The resulting two-point conversion was no

good and the Moguls went up 22-6 to end the half.

During halftime, the award-winning Munday Purple Pride Band came out and gave an entertaining performance with a four-piece original music set in what was their first performance of the fall.

The third quarter also saw another strong offensive display by the Moguls. With 11:43 left in the third, Nunez ran a punt back all the way for a touchdown. It was Nunez again who ran in the two-point conversion putting the Moguls up 30-6.

Bronte had a difficult time stopping Nunez all night long. Bronte answered with a TD of their own, along with a successful two-point conversion, making the score 30-14.

The Longhorn celebration did not last. The Moguls next drive was nothing short of spectacular with quarterback Nunez and Lagway connecting with a 30-yard gain. This allowed the Moguls to get into field position and set up their next score, which they did when Zac Edgar ran in another Mogul touchdown. Nunez ran in two-point conversion and this put Munday up with a commanding lead, 38-14.

The Mogul defense was relentless and with the Longhorns feeling the pressure, their quarterback botched a snap and threw two unsuccessful passes, forcing Bronte to punt. With 5:31 left in the third quarter, and perhaps reeling from frustration, the Longhorns committed a facemask penalty; putting Munday 15 yards further down the field at the Bronte 35 yard line. This, of course, put the Moguls in another great field position and with 2:41 left in the quarter Lagway once again broke free to run in another Mogul TD from over 20 yards out. L.J. Collier's extra point

kick was no good and Munday was up 44-14.

The Moguls defense forced another Bronte punt and recovered the ball at their own 30-yard line, brining the third quarter to a close.

The Moguls did not back down at all in the fourth, and with 11:50 left in the game Edgar was able to run in yet another TD. This time L.J. Collier's kick was blocked, but Munday was cruising 50-14.

Munday was able to get on the board one last time when Lagway was able to find the end zone for another Mogul TD. This time, L.J. Collier's soaring extra-point kick was good and Munday went up 57-14 with 3:06 remaining in the game.

Coach Pat Corcoran was very proud of his team this week.

"I felt our defense played very strong. We executed our assignments and got to the ball. Offensively, we managed some big plays and sustained long drives."

The Moguls will be taking on the Holiday Eagles at 7:30 p.m. this Friday at Scruggs Field. Prior to the game, from 5 to 7 p.m., the junior class will have a spaghetti supper fundraiser.

STATS

In rushing, Nunez had 19 carries for 101 yards, while Zac Edgar 7 carries for 21 yards. Ian Lagway had 18 carries for 57 yards, while Victory Garcia had 1 carry for 3 yards.

In receiving, Temerrick Reagins had 5 receptions for 83 yards, while Heath Bivens managed 1 reception for 15 yards, and Ian Lagway had 1 reception for 5 yards.

Quarterback Alfonso Nunez passed for 103 yards on 17 attempts with 7 completions.



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The North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority will hold a public meeting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, to discuss and adopt a Budget for FY 2014 for the NCTMWA.

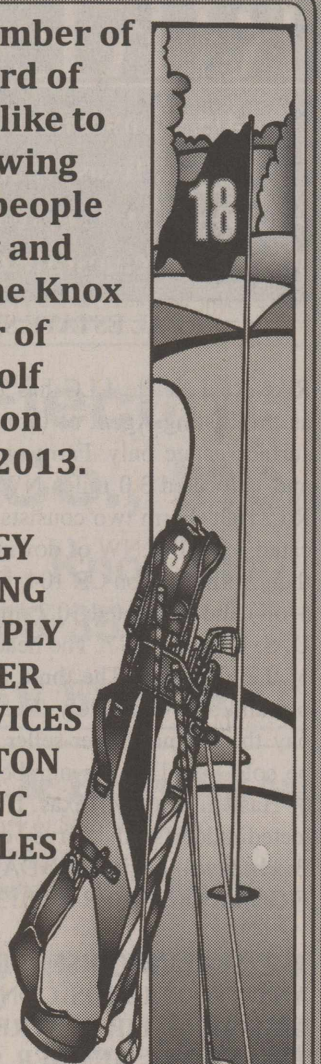
The meeting will be held at the NCTMWA office, at 135 North Munday Avenue, Munday, TX 76371.

David Kuehler
General Manager

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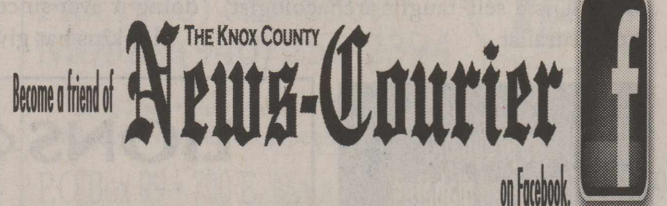
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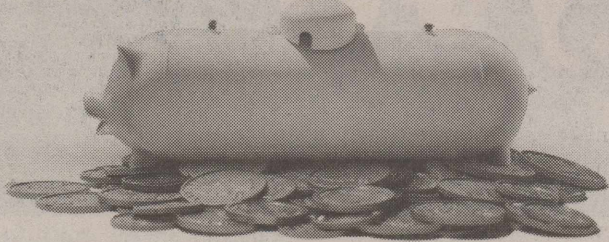
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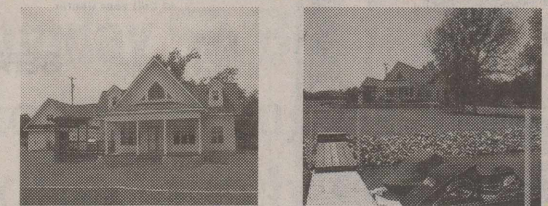
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Pink Ladies

Stephen Koehler, Knox County Hospital Administrator, met with the Hospital Auxiliary Pink Ladies September 18 to discuss the Knox County Health Fair to be held October 19 at the Knox County hospital. Pink Ladies will be serving punch and cookies inside the hospital's main entrance. Tuesday, October 29 was the date set for the hospital banquet to be held at Rhineland. The hospital's nursing staff is in charge of the food and decorations. Around one hundred and fifty guests are expected.

The roof has been replaced on the thrift store so we hope to be leak free for several years. Pink Ladies decided

to have a summer clothing sale in September and October. Each item will be fifty cents. The Halloween Party for the residents of the Brazos Valley Health Center will be covered at the October meeting. The Pink Lady Thrift Store is open Mondays from 10 to 12 and 1 to 5, Wednesdays from 1 to 4:30, and Fridays from 10 to 4:30. The members of the community and out of town folks have been keeping us busy with donations. Keep up the good work; we appreciate you.

Billie Walker

Copper Breaks News

Park celebrates 20-year volunteer effort

Special to the News-Courier

QUANAH — Copper Breaks State Park will observe the 20th anniversary of National Public Lands Day on Saturday.

Park Ranger Carl Hopper will lead a trail walk and talk at 3 p.m. focusing on erosion, environmental impact, and restoration.

The short hike will be along the park's Juniper Ridge Nature Trail, part of the park's Big Loop Trail network.

The trails are for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. The Big Loop network also includes Bull Canyon Trail and the

Equestrian Trail.

After years and years of use, the Juniper Ridge Trail is in need of repair.

"The park trail system was built and maintained by volunteers," said ranger Hopper.

"It has been a while since we have had some volunteers to help with the trails at the park."

National Public Lands Day started with 700 volunteers on three sites.

The program grew by 2012 to 175,000 volunteers building trails, removing invasive plants, picking up trash, and planting trees on 2,206 state and federal public land sites across the

United States.

In addition to the trail walk, the regular Saturday "Meet the Longhorns" program will be presented at 2 p.m.

Copper Breaks State Park events are free with regular park admission of \$2 for adults.

For information on the trail walk, Meet the Longhorns, or other park events or facilities, contact the park daily during business hours at 940-839-4331.

Copper Breaks State Park is located 13 miles south of Quanah and eight miles north of Crowell on State Highway 6.

Mogul football



Terry Messer/For The Knox County News-Courier



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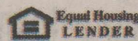
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