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# THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013

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## GOP race for county judge will be hot

By Wayne Hodgin  
The Knox County News-Courier

BENJAMIN — The race for Knox County judge is chock full of candidates, at least on the Republican ticket, as the month-long qualifying period ahead of the March 4 state primary wrapped up this past Monday.

Not only that race, but most others, too, also will be contested both in the primary and general elections, dealing a healthy dose

of democracy to the Knox County political landscape.

On the Republican side, voters will choose from a field of four candidates to represent the county in the general election against lone Democratic qualifier Charles Griffith, currently seated as commissioner for Precinct 2.

Those running on the GOP ticket include incumbent County Judge Travis Floyd, who seemed to have made a last-minute decision to be re-seated. Prior to Monday's

deadline, all signs pointed a graceful exit from county politics by the longtime leader.

Others who hope to oust Floyd include Republicans Jim Dillon, Jason Doran and Steve Shahan.

In commissioners' races, Daniel Godsey and Craig Wilde have qualified to run as Republicans for Precinct 2. One of them will face Democratic candidates Fred Cash or Kim Sealy in November's general election.

Republican Nathan Urbanczyk

and Democrat Robert Bowen each will face none other challenge than themselves next November as they were the only ones of their respective parties to qualify.

Longtime County/District Clerk Annett Offutt, a Democrat, will face a challenge from one of her deputy clerks, Republican Lisa Cypert, to retain her seat in November.

In other races, Democrat Rosie

See **RACE**, Page 8

## Knox Notes

Events are listed free of charge as a service by this newspaper for nonprofit groups, civic organizations, churches, schools and select community events. Listings should be submitted at least two weeks in advance and will run as often as possible through the date of the event. News staff does not guarantee placement of events. Emailed submissions are preferred to [kcnewscourier@gmail.com](mailto:kcnewscourier@gmail.com).

## Recipes Exchange

The News-Courier is asking for Christmas cookie recipes from our readers to be printed in an upcoming edition. Share your family's favorite recipe for shaped/molded/rolled/refrigerator/no-bake cookies or drop cookies or bar cookies. Three recipes per person-one per category-will be published. Email submissions preferred to [kcnewscourier@gmail.com](mailto:kcnewscourier@gmail.com) or leave it in the box outside the Munday Chamber of Commerce office.

## Live Nativity

"O Little Town" a Living Nativity, Dec. 15, 21, 22; Presentation times are 7pm and 8pm on those evenings. Enjoy, live narration, music, interact with the Wise Men, shepherds, animals and townspeople as the story unfolds. Bring your family and celebrate the true meaning of this magical season - the birth of Christ. Every one welcome. O'Brien Baptist Church, 902 Grand Central Ave., O'Brien, TX. Contact the church for more information 940-658-3553.

## Community Choir

The Munday Community Choir will present "Bethlehem Morning" Sun., Dec. 15 at 6:00 pm at the First Baptist Church-Munday. Talented musicians from St. Joseph's Catholic Church, First United Methodist Church and First Baptist Church featuring Sarah Reeves and Lyndie Reeves as soloists, Sandy King as director. All are welcomed to attend.

## Taxpayer Clinic

Students at the Texas Tech School of Law conduct free clinic for low-income taxpayers throughout the year to assist them with federal tax issues related to individual tax matters. Eligibility is determined by the federal poverty guidelines. For information or schedule an appointment, call Nancy Mojica at 806-834-7972 or 800-420-8037.

## Ragtown Theater

Ragtown Gospel Theater is performing "Say Nicklaus!" through Dec. 14. For information or to purchase tickets visit [ragtown.com](http://ragtown.com).

## Veteran's benefits

Wartime 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](mailto:marsha.mahurin@yahoo.com).

## Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgin at [kcnewscourier@gmail.com](mailto:kcnewscourier@gmail.com).

## News on the go



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## Military warplanes exhibit unveiled at Garza Museum

By Wayne Hodgin  
The Post Dispatch

POST — Chances are most people in Garza County neither know of nor have ever heard the name Patrick Reilly.

Chances are Patrick Reilly never gave much thought to Garza County either until just a few short years ago when passing through Post.

Two years ago, Reilly, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who fought in Vietnam, in an effort to gather financial support to construct a monument to honor veterans who fought in the Vietnam War on the grounds of the Texas Capitol, gave a lecture at the Old Algerita Hotel when it was still in use as a venue by the Post Arts Guild.

Linda Puckett, an official on the Post Arts Guild board and curator of the Garza Museum, later invited Reilly to tour the museum during which he told her of a vast collection of cast-dye, mint-quality model airplanes he had that would be a perfect fit for the museum's exhibit hall.

"The idea really came to me when as we were on our way to the museum, we traveled down this stretch of your Main Street just east of the courthouse that looks like a huge airstrip," Reilly said from his home in Cedar Park on Wednesday.

"I asked Ms. Puckett if she would be interested in such a collection, and we let the idea bloom from there."

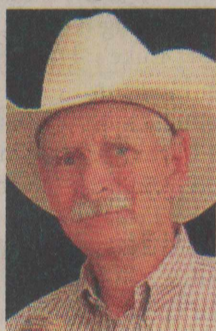
The airplanes — of which there are about 100 of more than 150 on display — will be a part of the museum's permanent collections, Puckett said.

"We're just thrilled to be able to offer this new exhibit for the residents of Post and Garza County and throughout the region," Puckett said. "We encourage all our military veterans to come view the exhibit."

The exhibit was officially unveiled during an open house event at the museum last Saturday to coincide with Pearl Harbor Day on the 72nd anniversary of the bombing of the U.S. fleet by the Japanese off the coast of Honolulu.

Reilly, a recipient of the Purple Heart for wounds he sustained during one of the Vietnam War's most bloodiest battles — the TET offensive — said he hoped to be able to see his collection on display at the museum at some point.

See **EXHIBIT**, Page 8



Reilly

## Looking good



Wheat variety trials across the state help Texas AgriLife Research agronomists determine what varieties work best in what regions.

## Millions of acres of Texas wheat in good condition

By Robert Burns  
Special to the News-Courier

Despite roller-coaster variations in temperatures, an ongoing drought and a shortage of preferred varieties, most Texas High Plains wheat is in fair to good condition, says a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

"Late freezes in the spring of 2013 and other weather conditions limited the amount of available seed produced of preferred varieties, particularly AgriLife Extension's 'Pick' varieties," said Calvin Trostle, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Lubbock.

"Those Pick varieties were sometimes spread over more acres at a slightly reduced seeding rate," Trostle said. "But management keys like suitable planting date, irrigation and timely top-dress nitrogen applications in late winter 2014 will help compensate for lack of availability of preferred wheats."

Though there were some crops other than wheat planted in place of the preferred varieties, by far, most farmers turned to alternative wheat varieties: those shown by AgriLife Extension and Texas A&M AgriLife Research variety trials as possibly not performing as well on irrigated or dryland acres as the Pick varieties, he said.

Winter wheat is a very large and important crop in the Texas High Plains. In the Texas Panhandle region alone, total acreage often exceeds 2.5 mil-

lion acres, Trostle said.

"A large proportion of the winter wheat is grown solely for grazing or dual-purpose uses — grazing plus grain. But wheat for grain produces the greatest value," he said.

There was some late-planted wheat, but late-planted wheat can still do well if it has enough warm days to get it up and growing, he said.

"Delayed planted wheat will have very slow emergence in some cases, particularly if they planted after early November," he said. "I think overall, that most of our grazing wheat is in better shape, because it was planted earlier and was well-established before recent freezing weather. Some late wheat for grain will grow slowly over the winter, but if we have a wet spring, then that all changes for the better very quickly."

Though some might be concerned about the effect of this year's unusually cold weather on the wheat crop, Trostle isn't, he said, at least for wheat grown for grazing.

"If we have 70-degree days, and all of sudden it goes down to 25, that's hard on anything — plants or animals," he said. "But remember, wheat is a cool-season crop. It's adapted to this kind of thing. We could certainly have some modest injury over the winter if it's excessively cold, but if the tillering is in place, when things warm up in the spring, it comes to life, and sometimes we might forget how maybe it didn't look very good back there in December and January."

## Houndettes receive 2013 district honors

Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — Several Knox City Houndette student athletes have been selected for all district and honorable mention resulting from their play during the 2013 regular volleyball season.

The district honors not only recognize an athlete's performance on the court, but off the court as well; several all-district academic awards are also given out each year. In order to be recognized by the district or the state a student athlete has to maintain a certain statistical percentage in the field or on the court.

Leighton Pepper received first team all-district honors while Kinslee Cox, Andrea Lynn, Shailee Manning, Jordyn Eaton, and Kelsey Vasquez all received second team academic all-district honors. In addition,

Vasquez and Cassandra Ledesma received honorable mention while sophomore team leader Makaylie Steel received the Newcomer of the Year award.

When asked how she felt about her students receiving the recognition, Head Volleyball Coach Samantha Baumgartner said she could not have been more proud of her girls this year.

"First of all I am proud of every single player we have here in Knox City, but it is nice for the district to recognize when the girls really go above and beyond for their team and community," said Coach Baumgartner.

"With the basketball season in full swing and volleyball in the rearview, it is nice to now reflect on a tough, hard fought, well-rewarded season. We will do even better next year," Coach Baumgartner continued.



Knox County News-Courier

All of the recipients of the district honors dawn big smiles as they pose for the camera inside the Knox City high school. They Houndettes volleyball season came to a close this year with a long-fought 5 set-loss to Aspermont.

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The Knox County News-Courier

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



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**Menus**

**Week of Dec. 16-20**

**Knox City-O'Brien Breakfast**

**Monday:** Sausage biscuit or cereal bowl, toast, mixed fruit, juice, milk  
**Tuesday:** Biscuits with sausage gravy or cereal bowl, toast, peaches, juice, milk  
**Wednesday:** Pancake wrap or cereal bowl with sausage, applesauce, juice, milk  
**Thursday:** Waffles with syrup or cereal bowl, toast pears, juice, milk  
**Friday:** Breakfast pizza or cereal bowl, toast, pineapple, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday:** Rib sandwich or antipasto salad or bologna and cheese, corn, green beans, mixed fruit, slushy, milk  
**Tuesday:** Frito chili pie or fajita chicken salad or turkey and cheese, carrots, lettuce, fruit, slushy, milk  
**Wednesday:** Chicken quesadilla or garden pasta salad or ham and cheese, Mexicali corn, refried beans, applesauce, slushy, milk  
**Thursday:** Steak fingers or zesty tuna salad or tuna salad, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, slushy, milk  
**Friday:** Pizza or chef salad, po-boy combo, tator tots, baked beans pineapple,

**Munday Breakfast**

**Monday:** Waffles with syrup, honey graham, fruit, slushy, juice, milk  
**Tuesday:** Cereal bowl, honey graham, peaches, slushy, juice, milk  
**Wednesday:** Pancake wrap, applesauce, slushy, juice, milk  
**Thursday:** Cereal bowl, honey graham, pears, slushy, juice, milk

**Friday:** Pizza, honey graham, pineapple, slushy, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday:** Rib sandwich or bologna and cheese, corn, green beans, mixed fruit, slushy, milk  
**Tuesday:** Frito chili pie or turkey and cheese, carrots, lettuce, honeydew, slushy, milk  
**Wednesday:** Chicken quesadilla or ham and cheese, Mexicali corn, refried beans, applesauce, slushy, milk  
**Thursday:** Steak fingers or tuna salad, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, cantaloupe, slushy, milk  
**Friday:** Pizza or po-boy, tator tots, baked beans, pineapple, slushy, milk

**Knox County Aging Center**

**Monday:** Salisbury steak, diced potatoes, English peas, whole wheat rolls, fruit cocktail  
**Tuesday:** Pork chops, black-eyed peas, spinach, cornbread, baked apples  
**Wednesday:** Beef soft taco, Spanish rice, broccoli, tortilla, Mandarin oranges  
**Thursday:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, Italian vegetables, broccoli, garlic toast, jell-o  
**Friday:** BBQ sandwiches, tator tots, carrots and zucchini, brownies

Come eat with us and support your aging center program.  
Please call in your orders by 10:00 a.m. to 657-3618.  
Orders can't be taken after 11:00 a.m. please pick up by 11:00 a.m.

**AgriLife Extension sets 4-H livestock, showmanship clinic Dec. 21 in Lubbock**

By Steve Byrns  
Special to the News-Courier

LUBBOCK — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will present the District 2 Livestock Ambassadors Steer, Swine, Lamb and Goat Showmanship/Feeding Clinic from 10 a.m.-noon Dec. 21 at the Texas Tech Arena in Lubbock.

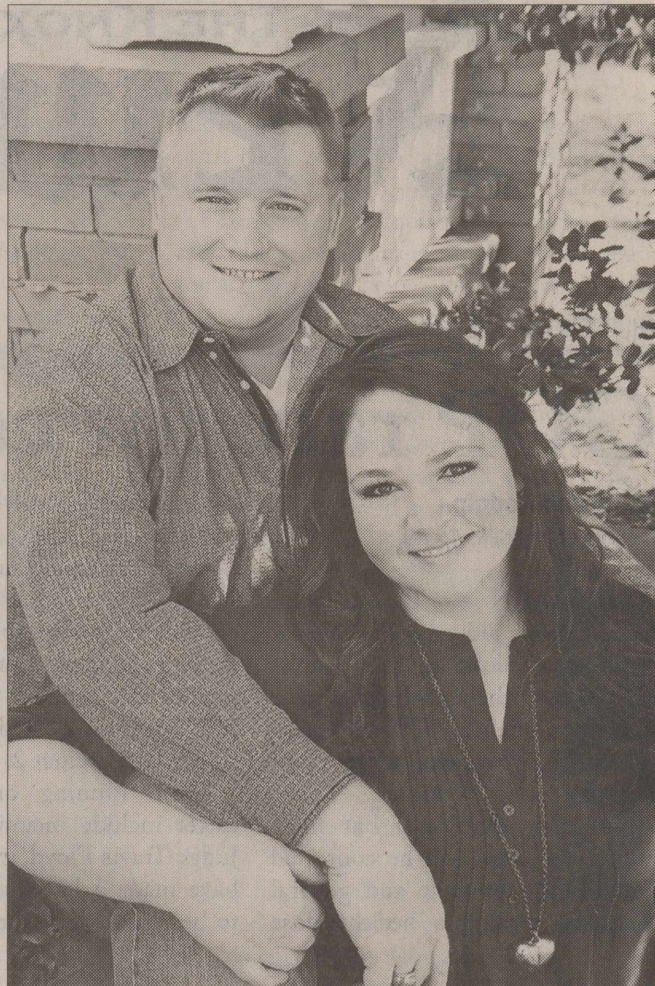
Admission is free to 4-H and FFA exhibitors who may bring their project lambs and goats only; no cattle or swine, according to organizers. For more information, contact Robert Scott AgriLife Extension agent in Lubbock County at 806-775-1680, rj-scott@tamu.edu.

"This is a chance for youth and their families to gain experience from older 4-H members who have 'been there, done that,'" Scott said.

The Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador program consists of high school-aged 4-H members who receive in-depth instruction and are selected to represent the agricultural industry in Texas, Scott said. They are required to commit at least 30 hours of service annually and in most cases, the service consists of helping novice 4-H families with their livestock projects.

"We've selected six of our top ambassadors to conduct this training," he said. "They are all 4-H veterans and know first-hand the ins and outs of competing in the show ring. This is a real opportunity for youngsters just getting started to hear from the 'old pros' in a hands-on setting. And this experience should help to get them ready for the upcoming stock show season."

**Celebrations**



Karl Thomas and Amy Turner

**Turner, Pennington nuptials pending**

Cole and Susan Turner of Rochester announce the engagement of their daughter Amy Suzanne to Karl Thomas Pennington.

The bride is a 2004 graduate of Rochester High School and received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Hardin Simmons University in 2010. She is currently employed at St. Luke's Emergency Department in The Woodlands, having recently transitioned from Transplant IMU at St. Luke's Hospital in Texas Medical Center, downtown Houston.

The groom is a 2000 graduate of Alief High School and received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Energy Commerce from Texas Tech University. He is employed by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation in The Woodlands. His parents are Gwen Sue and Jim Hoffmaster.

The couple plans a May 2014 wedding and will make their home in The Woodlands.

**The Knox County News-Courier**

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## Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Like a couple of weeks ago, the weather has gotten much of the attention the past few days. Cold temps, sleet and snow left our roads ice covered and very dangerous—Good weather to stay inside and do whatever was necessary to keep yourself occupied. Some of us were in and out anyway, but we were careful, and as far as I know, we didn't have any serious accidents around the area. There were a few fender benders, but that's about all. Maybe it's going to clear up now for a few days.

### About Our Ill

Mike Young underwent open heart surgery Friday in Abilene. He is doing well, and if his progress continues, he should be home within the next few days. His mom, Imagean Young, is in Abilene with him. He is in ICU in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Sympathy to the family of Carl Engbrock today. Carl was found dead at his home Monday morning. He had been in failing health for awhile, and the exact cause of

his death has not been determined. A memorial has been set for Saturday, December 14, at the Methodist Church here at 11 am.

### Here 'N There

The Ex-Student sponsored chicken spaghetti supper scheduled for this past Saturday night was postponed due to the weather. No reschedule date has been set, but when I learn when it will be, I'll pass that info along. And if you were called to make a dessert for it, save your ingredients! We'll need them later.

Work has begun on the annual Christmas program. It's to be at the Baptist Church on Sunday, December 15, at 6 pm. The program will include as many of the children as we can get (from elementary grades on down) of the community.

So far as I know, the tour of homes for Monday night is still on. For a few days, it looked like the weather might be a deciding factor as whether to have it or not, but it looks like now everything will be ok for it. Locally, the home of Dennis and Pam Duke is on the tour.

We had a call from Ralph Escobar

Thursday night. He and Mary live in the San Antonio area. She had a stroke some time ago, but he said she is improving all the time. Ralph is a former Benjamin resident and a good friend of Bud Conner. It was good to hear from him.

Kim and Tina Sealy are nearing completion of the remodeling of their house (Debbie Clower home). She said they would be in by Christmas, and if you have noticed when you go by, they have their lights on the outside and the yard decorations out, and a tree in the window, so it's already looking festive. They are anxious to get in, and I'm told it is very nice.

As you see, news is very scarce this week. Everyone I called had the same answer—that being that it's been too cold to get out, and the main thing they had done was stay in the house and try to stay warm. We sure hope for warmer days as there's lots to be done before Christmas, and we need to get started! Time is passing fast.

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

## The Paperboy

### Take time this season to think of others

What is it about the holidays that make it seem like time is going in fast forward?

Don't get me wrong, it goes fast regardless. But it seems to accelerate in November and December.

When you're a child, those days leading up to Christmas are excruciatingly slow. How nice would it be for the days to be that long as an adult?

One nice thing about living in a small town is that it's easy to identify those in need and just as easy to help them out.

There are local organizations

geared to help those in need and the volunteers who oversee these groups and take part should be commended. They make a tremendous difference in the lives of many people.

Years ago there was a man who had moved to Childress who was unfamiliar with Toys for Tots. When he found out about the program, he began buying new bicycles. I can't remember how many bikes he purchased, but it was a bunch. He was not a wealthy man, but a fellow who did not want to see a child go without anything for Christmas.

He died several years ago, but I think of him each year and the difference he made in the lives of so many children.

Are you someone who airs your laundry out on Facebook or Twitter? If so, stop it.

Parents getting on coaches and

teachers, people bickering over local businesses, friends fighting with friends ... I've seen it all. And I've seen enough to know there are no winners when it comes to this conduct. It's juvenile.

As someone accustomed to getting my rear chewed, I can tell you it is much better to take it to the source. When you do that, at the very least you'll earn the respect of the individual you have a grievance with.

We live in the age of technology, but that should not mean we lose our civility.

If you have a problem with someone, take it to them and try and resolve it. It's the prudent thing to do and you'll be better for it.

Christopher Blackburn is CEO of Blackburn Media Group and publisher of The Knox County News-Courier.

## MCC presents Christmas program

The Munday Community Choir will present "Bethlehem Morning," written by Russell Mauldin, at 6 p.m. Dec. 15 at First Baptist Church of Munday.

The Community Choir is composed of dedicated and talented musicians from St. Joseph's Catholic Church,

First United Methodist Church and First Baptist Church and will feature Sarah Reeves and Lyndle Reeves as soloists with Sandy King as director.

"Bethlehem Morning" tells the miraculous story of Christmas through traditional carols and Christmas favorites, but also reminds us that the

story of God's love didn't stop there.

"We sincerely believe you and your family will enjoy this presentation as we celebrate the birth of Christ and as we remember that special 'Bethlehem Morning,'" King said.

Michele Fetsch

## Church to bring Nativity to life

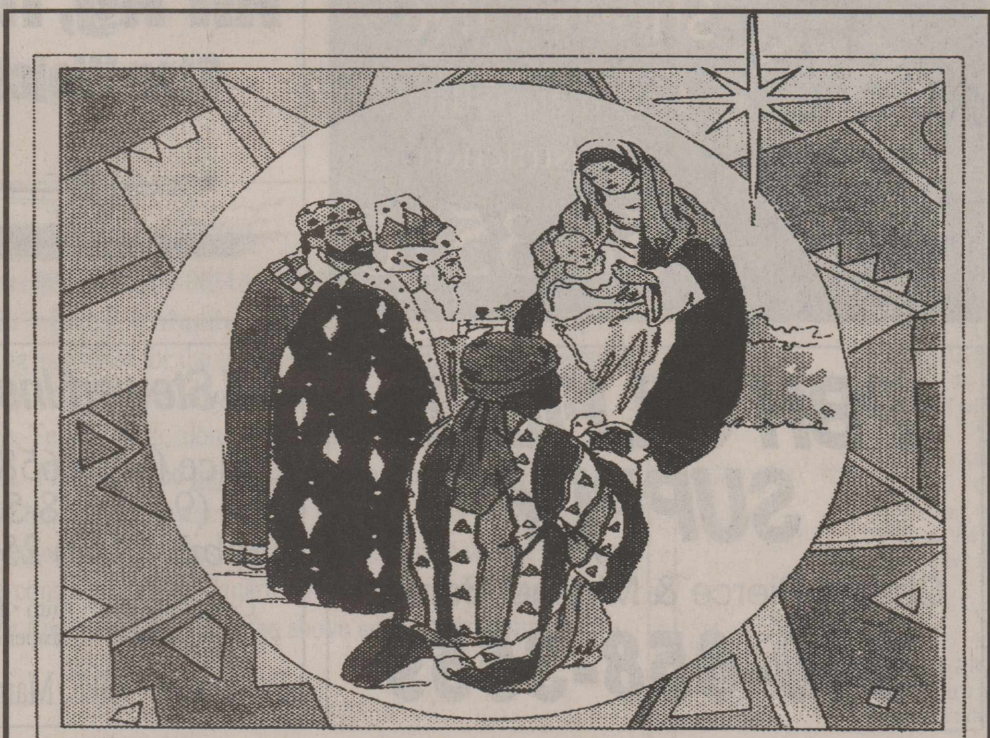
O'Brien Baptist Church will present "O Little Town," a living Nativity over the next few weeks leading up to Christmas.

Witness the Christmas story through live narration and music, interact with the Wise Men, shepherds, animals and townspeople as the story unfolds in "O Little Town."

Presentation times will be at 7 and 8 p.m. Dec. 15, 21 and 22 at O'Brien Baptist Church, 902 Grand Central Ave., O'Brien.

Bring your family and celebrate the true meaning of this magical season—the birth of Christ. Refreshments will be provided.

Michele Fetsch



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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Awana's, Pre-K to 6th grade:  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Youth: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



### SET THE TABLE FOR SAVINGS!

Bring in three non-perishable food items to be donated to a local food pantry and receive waived installation fees on up to three connections on new or additional services, including television, telephone and internet.

*Offer good through December 31, 2013. Donations accepted at all SRTC offices. All non-perishable food items must have a current use-by date. Some restrictions may apply. Services where available. Up to three connections waived additional connections \$20 each.*

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# The 501 Cow-a-BANG-a!

**F**irst the bad news: The newborn calf didn't live. The good news: The mama survived.

Free information: A mother cow can be very protective of a baby calf, even if it's dead and frozen to the ground.



**HANABA MUNN WELCH** By the third hit, I was expecting it.

Picture a tossed-off bull-rider scrambling across soft arena dirt to escape a still-bucking bad-attitude bull. Except, alas, there was no audience. I wasn't wearing chaps, and the young cow was smaller than a rodeo bull, although equally aggressive.

That's when a rodeo clown jumped out from behind a tree, giving me my chance to get away.

OK, I made up that part. I'm not sure how I got away.

It all started when I found the cow and her dead calf at first light. I decided to take her feed and water. After all, she was in a weakened state and could use a little extra nourishment and pampering. Right?

When I rattled the tasty range cubes at her from a few feet away, she stared at me blankly, cow-like. Then, something seemed to click in her brain. She headed toward me, racehorse-like, at top speed from 10 feet away. Think starting gate.

I thought she was happy about the feed cubes. Cows love cubes. But for this cow, those cubes weren't even on her radar. She aimed for me, a one-cow stampede toward a one-person target. The cubes went flying.

Some of our cows have horns. She doesn't. I'm glad.

My black wool ski cap is still there somewhere on the frozen ground. That's OK. It wasn't a souvenir of a ski trip to Austria. Moths ate that one. It was just a thrift store bargain — ugly but warm.

I went back later to look for it. (Yes, I can still walk.) No luck.

Each dark object in the snow turned out to be cow manure. The cubes

also had vanished. Either the cow ate them after she got rid of me or some other animal snarfed them up. Makes me wonder which forest creature is wearing my cap.

It's a good thing Mad Cow (her new name) didn't knock me unconscious. I could have frozen to death.

And to think, I was worried about my husband, stuck at our house in the city, winding up a demanding work project. Would he step onto ice on the porch on his way to fetch the morning paper? I pictured him falling, hitting his head and lying there unconscious in the freezing cold, unnoticed by the neighbors in the shadow of the house.

Either way, it's the stuff of YouTube videos. YOUTUBE PAUSE.

Guess what. People falling on ice? It's a popular YouTube theme.

People getting hit by cows? Rare. One shows a woman trying to be nice to a cow with a newborn calf.

Not a good idea.

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

# USDA farm storage loans available

The News-Courier

USDA Texas Farm Service Agency Executive Director Judith A. Canales reminds farmers and ranchers that Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL) are available through FSA.

The Farm Service Agency offers low-interest loans to grain producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage,
- Perforated floors, safety equipment, quality improvement equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility,
- Remodeling existing storage facilities to increase storage capacity.

Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The new maximum principal loan amount is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment.

Additional security is required for poured-cement open-bunker silos, renewable biomass facilities, cold storage facilities, hay barns and for all loans exceeding \$50,000. New loan terms of seven, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Contact your local FSA Office for more information on Farm Storage Facility Loans or visit online at [fsa.usda.gov/tx](http://fsa.usda.gov/tx).

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Krys Campos (#41) goes in for the basket and leaps as he raises the ball toward the rim and well above the Petrolia Pirate's guards. The Greyhounds lost to the Pirates 56-49 what was a high scoring offensive battle. Knox City will be hosting the Munday Moguls on Dec. 20 before the Holiday break.

## Nancy's Notions

# Not your mom's trip to the grocery store

**M**om went to the local grocer with her shopping list and a fistful of coupons as part of a weekly chore, but today's savvy food shopper heads to the supermarket with a smartphone and store loyalty card as part of a fairly social outing.

Recent research into how consumers view their trip to the grocery indicates the way consumers buy food is changing considerably in a new post-digital landscape. The following research was released Nov. 26 from "Foodlink, Connecting Farm to Fork," a website from Feedstuffs, a leading agribusiness publication.

"How consumers interact with their food and favorite brand will continue to evolve as we head into 2014," said Phil Lempert, a food industry consultant and analyst. "Shoppers are looking for convenient, healthful and satisfying food for themselves and their families, and brands will rise to meet these demands through product innovation and the use of mobile technology to make shopping faster and more convenient."

Lempert examined the top trends in the grocery industry for packaged food giant ConAgra Foods and found that those in the "Millennial" generation and health-conscious shoppers are shifting the consumer palate on the macro scale, portending some major trends in the coming year. Among those trends is solidifying health and sustainability as critical consumer concerns for the foreseeable future.

Lempert highlighted 10 trends as part of his work for ConAgra, noting that 60 percent of all snack foods are now positioned as healthier options, relatively speaking, based on data from Innova Market Insights. Supermarkets will likely capitalize on consumers' desire to "eat better" by replacing traditional higher-sugar, higher-fat snacks with more healthful options such as seeds, flavored nuts and other similar "grab-and-go" types of products.

Likewise, consumers are poised to renew their commitment to eating the most important meal of the day. According to a ConAgra consumer survey, 74 percent of consumers said they eat breakfast at home regularly. Furthermore, Mintel research suggests consumers are interested in adding more protein to their morning meal via eggs, meats and Greek yogurt.

Consumers increasingly view the grocery-buying process itself as a social experience, with Millennials increasingly bringing social media into the equation.

According to comparison-shopping site PriceGrabber, 57 percent of content on photo-sharing site Pinterest is food-related, and 33 percent of users said they have purchased foods or cooking items after seeing them on Pinterest.

Retailers are taking advantage of the trend, with stores creating infographics for use to promote various foods or products, sharing recipes

that promote specific purchases and encouraging impulse purchases. Similarly, consumers are looking for packaging to evolve to include technology as a way of obtaining even more information about the foods they are buying, including information about ingredients and sourcing.

Using an app, as one example, Lempert said consumers soon will be able to learn more about an ingredient or health claim by simply scanning the product's label using their smartphone. The technology might be used to tell where a particular ingredient is from, who prepared the food, the company's history or other consumer reviews and ratings.

A recent study by marketing firm Sullivan Higdon & Sink (SHS) found that 56 percent of Americans own a mobile phone, and 44 percent of shoppers said they are using them as an aid during the grocery shopping process. Nearly a quarter of consumers use their phone to look up recipes, while nearly one-fifth access coupons. Smaller yet growing percentages use a shopping-related app and scan quick-response (QR) codes to learn more about a given brand or product.

Both SHS and Lempert agree that a new type of grocery shopper is emerging, highlighting the importance of these tech-related macro trends. Lempert identifies a younger (27 years and older), single, career-oriented woman with no children at home; these shoppers number at least 31 million and are strong potential food influencers. SHS similarly highlighted young, single moms as an increasingly important shopper and found that 68 percent of mobile phone shoppers are younger than 45; 67 percent are female; and 68 percent earn more than \$50,000 per year.

These socially savvy, younger shoppers are willing to give up some measure of privacy through store loyalty cards, but only in return for an expectation of better deals on the foods and products they buy. Fifty-five percent of younger shoppers are willing to forgo privacy through these store data-mining efforts, compared with only 46 percent of those older than 45, and mobile phone-using shoppers are 20 percent more likely to give up their data for better bargains.

For shoppers of all stripes, cooking at home is coming back en vogue, with Lempert referring to grocery stores as "the new culinary schools." Grocery stores are increasingly offering in-store educational opportunities that allow socially oriented customers to learn about new foods and cooking techniques in a fun, collaborative environment.

SHS found that catering to these would-be gourmands is smart business for retailers, as those shoppers who said they like to cook were more likely to describe grocery shopping as an enjoyable experience: 49 percent of consumers said shopping is enjoyable, but that rose to 55 percent for self-described "good cooks."

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer science agent for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County.



NANCY MCDONALD

## Knox City Greyhounds defeat Petrolia Pirates

The Knox County News Courier

KNOX CITY – Knox City's varsity basketball squad was hosted by Petrolia last week. Even though the score was tied at 29 going into the half, a slow third quarter offensive performance led to the Greyhounds falling short to the Pirates 56-49.

Head Coach Josh Webb was pleased with his team's effort while appreciating the competition and observing areas where they could get better. Most notably, Coach Webb thought his Greyhounds needed a defensive improvement while maintaining possession of the ball and preventing turnovers. The Greyhounds managed nearly 20 turn-overs

during the game against Petrolia.

"Petrolia was a good game for us. We were able to see someone we weren't accustomed to seeing and they provided some solid competition for us. We struggled turning the ball over and it was what led to our loss. We also had spurts of some pretty terrible defense. We have to improve both of those areas to be successful this year," said Coach Webb.

Knox City will be hosting the Munday Moguls on Dec. 20, but must travel to take on the Haskell Indians before that.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

|           |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Knox City | 13 | 16 | 6  | 14 | 49 |
| Petrolia  | 15 | 14 | 10 | 17 | 56 |

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# Mogulettes crush Olney Cubs

The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY – Munday's Mogulettes hosted the Olney Lady Cubs this last week in a regular season pre-district match-up. After bringing the intensity out early, the Mogulettes were able to take control early with an unrelenting offensive push. It would eventually be the Mogulettes of Munday over the Lady Lions of Olney, 48-22.

While a good offensive design gave the Mogulettes a large first half lead, it was the full game press during the second half that allowed them to maintain it, including a 12 point fourth quarter.

The individual stand-outs were Tatum Bufkin with 17 points, one assist, 3 re-

bounds and five steals and Maria Vega with eight points, one rebound and two steals. Other major contributors were Kaylan Urbanczyk with six points, five assists, five rebounds and three steals and Raci Dillard with six points, six rebounds and two steals. Also, Rylie Decker managed six points, one assist and one rebound while Tiffany Serato put up five points, two assists, nine rebounds and three steals.

The Mogulettes are participating in the Vernon Tournament from Dec. 12-14 and go up against both Windthorst and Knox City before the Christmas break.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

|            |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Olney Cubs | 4  | 8  | 8  | 2  | 22 |
| Mogulettes | 15 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 48 |

# The Idle American Who was that kid?

He was, almost certainly, a young man whose name we'll never know. Perhaps age 10, he was nondescript, like a background figure in a Charlie Brown comic strip. He sought not to make a name for himself, but rather to help out — not "paying it forward," but "paying it up and down."

My wife and I, among the 3,100 guests disembarking from the weeklong maiden voyage of Carnival Cruise Lines' Carnival Sunshine, were back in New Orleans. It was time to face the "real world" after a few days of "good old summertime" in the Caribbean.



DON NEWBURY

On the elevator down, we noticed the youngster stationed nearest the button panel, assuming he "belonged" to one of the three other couples on the car. After all adults exited, he remained on the elevator, and we realized our error of assumption. This well-scrubbed, happy "button-pusher," his voice raised slightly, announced, "Going up." He seemed resolute to help luggage-laden guests end on a high note. We scratched our heads like folks in Lone Ranger episodes, pondering the identity of the "masked man."

Transfixed, we watched the process twice more before the announcement of our disembarking number beckoned us to the gangway.

Each shoreward step brought with it lowered temperatures and heightened memories of a grand week that underscored good intentions — rendered both corporately and by individuals.

These good deeds were capped off by a nameless youngster seemingly determined to help out.

Upon boarding, we "oohed and aahed" over the \$155 million makeover of the Carnival Destiny — the largest cruise ship on the high seas when it debuted in 1996. We soon overheard several conversations about Filipino crew members who make up some 15 percent of Carnival's 39,000 employees.

Many of them, of course, were affected by the typhoon that wiped out so much of their homeland. It was gratifying to learn that Carnival's parent company, Carnival Corp. — along with the Miami Heat — already had written a \$1 million check to help the stricken area.

Further, the corporation pledged another \$100,000 as matching funds for employee gifts.

Additionally, the cruise line underwrote free transportation back to the Philippines for employees whose lives were hardest hit. Other crew members "doubled up" to cover duties of their grieving comrades, readily adding to already challenging responsibilities. They were cheerful givers, realizing that if their Filipino companions had remained at their work stations, they would have been smiling by day but crying by night.

This backdrop brought with it thoughts of how crew members work relentlessly, certain that their jobs represent "tickets out" from far less attractive employment opportunities back home.

Again, they are "Everyman" — and, of course, "Everywoman" — mostly nameless. Some impress so greatly, however, that one feels compelled to learn their names and details of their pilgrimage.

One such person is Marzhan Batyrshayeva. At age 22, she is manager of the ship's Ji Ji Restaurant, which features Asian cuisine. In our view, it provides the most memorable dining experience on the vessel. A native of Kazakhstan, at age 20 she saved money for a plane ticket to Lithuania, where her future rested on a positive interview with the cruise line. With charm, beauty and a glacier-melting personality, she was hired. Now, she directs the work of an entire staff — all of whom are her elders.

Much is different about the Sunshine, which, in 75 days, was transformed by thousands of contractors working around the clock on a massive project unprecedented in maritime history.

The result is a masterpiece, details of which are too many to describe.

Foretelling cruise delights was the ship's naming ceremony, highlighted by enthusiasm churned by band members and cheerleaders of New Orleans' Destrehan High School. They won performing rights after competing with 20-plus other schools.

The program was stunning. Lin Arison, whose late husband Ted founded CCL in 1972, pressed the button to electronically break a champagne bottle against the bow. (Mardi Gras, Carnival's first vessel, went aground on its maiden voyage.)

Officials spoke; a priest offered a prayer of blessing.

Program-planning professionals pushed "all the right buttons." Remembered equally as much, though, is the unscripted role of an unnamed youngster. He, too, pressed buttons to help out.

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

# BEST OF LUCK IN BASKETBALL MOGULS AND MOGULETTES!

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# FFA Succeeds

**Submitted by:**  
**Carli Maxwell and Kaylee Adams**

Last Monday the Guthrie FFA crew went to Valley High School to compete in FFA LDEs. The teams had worked hard all semester on quiz, chapter conducting, and the FFA creed. The Greenhand Chapter

conducting team took home first place and a trip to Area in Canyon, Texas on November 23rd. The Senior Chapter Conducting Team also earned a trip to Area by placing second. The Greenhand quiz team placed third and made the trip a success. Congratulations to the Guthrie FFA on all of your accomplishments.



**Greenhand Chapter Conducting 1st Place**  
 Morgan Atkinson  
 Gina Cheyne  
 Sarah Ballard  
 Cheyenne Killabrew  
 Tristin Lewis  
 Riggins Johnson  
 Bailey Springer  
 Landon Roberts



**Greenhand Quiz 3rd Place**  
 Riggins Johnson  
 Tristin Lewis  
 Gina Cheyne  
 Morgan Atkinson



**Sr. Quiz**  
 Laythen Adams  
 Candace Tarver  
 Jose Sandoval  
 Noe Sandoval



**Sr. Chapter Conducting 2nd Place**  
 Kaylee Adams  
 Carli Maxwell  
 Kara Hurt  
 Kenzie McGaha  
 Christian Rocha  
 Zac O'Neal  
 Laythen Adams  
 (not pictured)



**Sr. Creed**  
 Brady Roberts

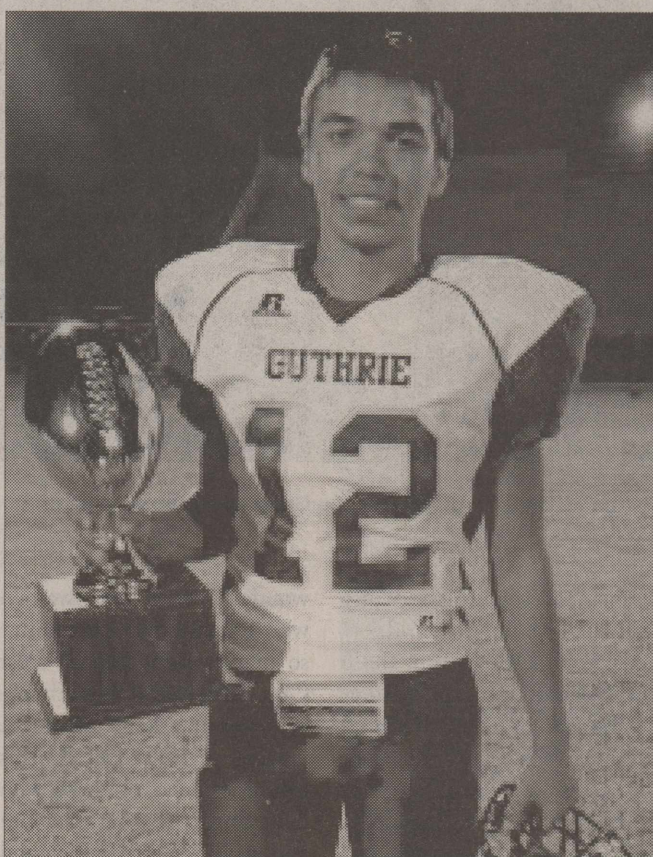
**Congrats to the Guthrie FFA!**

# Guthrie Students of the Month



Kara Hurt

Kara Hurt is the daughter of Jay and Shirley Hurt. Kara participates in cross country, cheer leading, basketball, UIL, and one act play. In her spare time Kara's favorite thing to do is rodeo. She also goes by the nickname of Karebear, and when asked to describe herself in three words she came up with funny, crazy, and outgoing. Something she couldn't live without would be her family, friends, and faith, and her favorite quote is "With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts." Eleanor Roosevelt.



Christian Rocha

Christian Rocha is the son of Richard and Anne Rocha. Christian participates in Football, Basketball, Track, FFA, UIL, One Act Play and NHS. In his spare time, Christian's favorite thing is to spend time with family and friends, and play sports. When asked to describe himself in three words he came up with athletic, intelligent, and nice! Something he couldn't live without would be his family, and his favorite quote is, "I know who I am, I know who I serve, and I know where I'm going." -Author Unknown.

Carli Maxwell

## NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
 COUNTY OF KNOX

By virtue of Orders of Sale issued out of the Honorable 50TH DISTRICT COURT of KNOX County in the following cases on the 29th day of October, 2013, and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 10:00 AM on the 7th DAY OF January, 2014, which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the Official door of the Courthouse of said KNOX County, in the City of BENJAMIN, Texas, the following described property, to wit:

- Cause No:** 9115 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT vs. DANIEL RAMIREZ ET AL  
 Lot 8 & W 10' of 9, Block 4, Original town of Knox City, Texas, as the same appears on a map or Plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;
- Cause No:** 9311 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. LUIS BEJAR ET AL  
 All of Block 29, Original Townsite of the Town of Goree, Save & Except that part conveyed to the State of Texas for Highway purposes, Knox County Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;
- Cause No:** 9311 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. LUIS BEJAR ET AL  
 The East 75' of Lot 6, Block 1, Gahagan Addition, City of Munday, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;
- Cause No:** 9421 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT vs. TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES  
 Lot 14, Block B, of the Reeder Addition to the Town of Knox City, Knox County, Texas, as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;
- Cause No:** 9505 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT vs. MARK BOYD CRUMPTON  
 Lot E Block 4, 75' OF W 91' OF 1 West, Original Town of Munday, Knox County, Texas, as the same appears in the map or plat thereof filed in the office of the county clerk of Knox County;
- Cause No:** 9510 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT vs. MICHAEL ALLEN MOORE  
 W/2 of N/2 R P of Block 42 City of Munday, Knox County, Texas, as the same appears on a map or Platt thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;

Levied on the 4 day of December, 2013, as the property of said Defendants to satisfy the judgments rendered in the above styled and numbered causes, plus all taxes, penalties, interest, and attorney fees accrued to the date of sale and all costs recoverable by law in favor of each jurisdiction.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 4 day of December, 2013.

*Dean W. Hornsted*  
 SHERIFF, KNOX County, Texas

By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deputy

The minimum bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgment(s) against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or the tax collector.

A sealed bid was received on the following property:  
**Parcel number #6774 Account 00800-00160-00310-000000**, further described as being, **Blk 22, Lot w50' x n 100'** of sec R P Munday, Knox County, Texas., The Knox County Appraisal District, acting as trustee for the taxing units is offering this property for sealed bid to all interested parties. Sealed bids may be sent to Knox County Appraisal District, P.O. Box 47, Benjamin, Texas 79505, along with a cashiers check or money order for the amount of the sealed bid. Please put the **parcel number** on the outside of the envelope of the sealed bid. The taxing units, owners of the property, reserve the right to reject all bids. If your bid is rejected, your cashiers check or money order will be returned. Sealed bids will be opened and considered at least quarterly. For further information please contact the Knox County Appraisal District at the above address or phone: (940)459-3891.

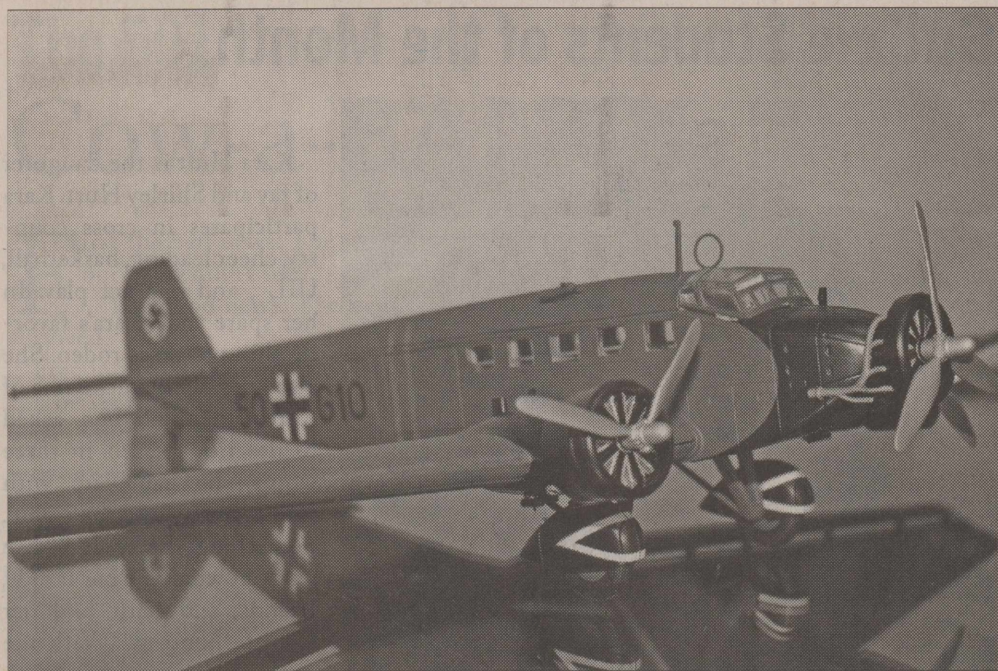
**AUCTION DECEMBER 14TH**

Living Estate of GLORIA WEST  
 306 N Bedford, Benjamin, TX  
 Saturday, December 14th starting @ 9:30 a.m.  
 Preview—one hour prior to auction (8:30 a.m.)

**•LOCATION #1:** Home w/2 shops will be offered at auction on behalf of Mrs. West at noon (12:00) on auction day for all interested parties. Contents of home: Nice Antique furniture Glassware, Appliances, Yard Furniture & equipment, Shop tools—bandsaw, radial arm saw, planer, ext ladders, hand tools, Lg shop shelves, and lots more! **•LOCATION #2:** ANN GIBBS ART GALLERY located directly south of Court House. Immediately following the completion of Estate we will move to the south side of the Court House, Benjamin. Contents: Historical Knox County pictures, Early and Contemporary Furniture. Partial listing.

See photos [www.millerauctions.net](http://www.millerauctions.net)

**MILLER** ROYCE W. MILLER, AUCTIONEER TX11840-940.553.1685  
 Announcements made sale day takes precedence. Terms Cash, Check known buyers, Cr-Cards.



A cast-dye model of a JU52 3MG-52 Auxiliary Bomber flown during World War II is one of about a hundred military warplanes on display at the Garza Museum as part of a new exhibit donated by Vietnam veteran Patrick Reilly of the U.S. Marine Corps.



A Boeing NB-52B with X-15 Research Aircraft on display at the Garza Museum as part of a new military warplanes exhibit.

**EXHIBIT**  
From Page 1

"I still have a number of planes I plan to give to the museum there in Post at some point in the future," he said. "Those are just a handful of my collection. "Hopefully, the exhibit will become known as the foremost

display of such high-quality model planes in the world." The models represent those from the dawn of aviation to the present day, with a good deal of those like were used during World War II. Puckett said she hopes the exhibit will be appreciated by the many veterans in and around the South Plains. "We have so many, many

wonderful men and women who have served this country so bravely right here in Post City," she said. "Their numbers become fewer with the passing years. Hopefully this exhibit will honor those who have fought for our freedom and instill a sense of pride and a want to serve in a whole new generation of service men and women."

**RACE**  
From Page 1

Ake was the only candidate on either side who filed to retain her seat as county treasurer. In addition, Republican Augie Rodriguez was the only candidate who filed for Justice of the Peace, a seat currently held by the Honorable Vonnie Ivey, who did not seek re-election.

Barring a grass-roots effort by any particular write-in dark horse, County Treasurer Rosie Ake, a Democrat, and political newcomer Augie Rodriguez, who qualified as a Republican to replace the retiring longtime Justice of the Peace Vonnie Ivey, are sure to be seated by Jan. 1, 2015, as each qualified for re-election with neither party opposition nor opposition by a GOP contender.

For residents who have not done so already, the deadline to register to vote in time for the March primary will be Feb. 3.

Voters casting ballots in the primary election will vote in one of the two political parties, either Democratic or Republican. The chosen candidate (unless a runoff election is necessary) will represent the party in the Nov. 4 general election.

The early voting period ahead of the primary begins Feb. 18 and ends Feb. 28. The times and place for early voting is set by the county's election superintendent or voter registrar.

**CANDIDATE LIST**

Following is a list of candidates whose names will appear on the appropriate political party's ballot in the state primary March 4.

**State Representative District 69**  
James Frank (R)

**County Judge**  
Travis C. Floyd, incumbent (R)  
Steve Shahan (R)  
Jim Dillon (R)  
Jason K. Doran (R)  
Charles Griffith (D)

**County Treasurer**  
Rosie McElroy Ake, incumbent (D)

**County Commissioner Precinct 2**

Craig Wilde (R)  
Daniel Godsey (R)  
Kim Sealy (D)  
Fred Cash (D)

**County Commissioner Precinct 4**  
Nathan Urbanczyk (R)  
Robert Bowen (D)

**Justice of the Peace**  
Augustin (Augie) Rodriguez (R)

**County/District Clerk**  
Annette Offutt, incumbent (D)  
Lisa Cypert (R)

**U.S. Senator**  
Curt Cleaver (R)  
Dwayne Stovall (R)  
John Comyn, incumbent (R)  
Chris Mapp (R)  
Steve Stockman (R)  
Reid Reazor (R)  
Linda Vega (R)  
Ken Cope (R)  
David M. Alameel (R)  
Harry Kim (D)  
Maxey Marie Scherr (D)  
Kesha Rogers (D)  
Michael "Fjet" Fjetland (D)

**U. S. Representative District 13**  
Pam Barlow (R)  
Mac Thornberry, incumbent (R)  
Elaine Hays (R)  
Mike Minter (D)

**Governor**  
SECEDE Kilgore (R)  
Greg Abbott (R)  
Lisa Fritsch (R)  
Miriam Martinez (R)  
Wendy R. Davis (D)  
Reynaldo "Ray" Madrigal (D)

**Lieutenant Governor**  
Todd Staples (R)  
Dan Patrick (R)  
David Dewhurst, incumbent (R)  
Jerry Patterson (R)  
Leticia Van de Putte (D)

**Attorney General**  
Barry Smitherman (R)  
Dan Branch (R)  
Ken Paxton (R)  
Sam Houston (D)

**Comptroller of Public Accounts**  
Glenn Hegar (R)  
Harvey Hilderbran (R)  
Debra Medina (R)  
Raul Torres (R)  
Mike Collier (R)

**Commissioner of the General Land Office**  
David Watts (R)  
George P. Bush (R)  
John Cook (D)

**Commissioner of Agriculture**  
Sid Miller (R)  
Joe Cotten (R)  
J. Allen Carnes (R)  
Tommy Merritt (R)  
Eric Opie (R)  
Jim Hogan (D)  
Hugh Asa Fitzsimons III (D)  
Richard "Kinky" Friedman (D)

**Railroad Commissioner**  
Becky Berger (R)  
Wayne Christian (R)  
Malachi Boyuls (R)  
Ryan Sitton (R)  
Dale Henry (D)  
Steve Brown (D)

**Chief Justice, Supreme Court**  
Nathan Hecht, incumbent (R)  
William Moody (D)

**Justice, Supreme Court, Place 6**  
Jeff Brown, incumbent (R)  
Lawrence Edward Meyers (D)

**Justice, Supreme Court, Place 7**  
Jeff Boyd, incumbent (R)  
Gina Benavides (D)

**Justice, Supreme Court, Place 8**  
Phil Johnson (R)

**Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3**  
Bert Richardson (R)  
John Granberg (D)

**Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 4**  
Jani Jo Wood (R)  
Kevin Patrick Yeary (R)

**Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 9**  
W.C. "Bud" Kirkendall (R)

**Justice, 11th Court of Appeals District, Place 2**  
Mike Willson, Place 2 (R)

**Justice, 11th Court of Appeals District, Place 3**  
Cade W. Browning (R)  
John Bailey (R)

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| Stride or Trident Layers Gum<br>each .....                          | <b>99¢</b>          |   |
| Mtn Dew, Diet Dew, or Code Red<br>24 oz. cans .....                 | <b>2 \$3 FOR</b>    |   |
| Pepsi Products<br>6 pack .....                                      | <b>\$1.99</b>       |   |
| Western Family Bath Tissue<br>4 roll pkg. .... 1 @ regular price or | <b>2 \$2.50 FOR</b> |   |
| Western Family Paper Towels<br>roll .....                           | <b>3 \$2 FOR</b>    |   |

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4135. House for Sale - Benjamin - 10 miles north of Knox City, 3 bedroom, Central a/c, 2 fenced lots, cellar, barn, new metal roof. Call (806) 254-2210 (12/19p)

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mary@rikerealestate.com  
Megan Cox, Agent  
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- 1101 SE 5th St., Knox City**  
3/3, two living areas, finished basement, new windows, well, patio and carport. (\$104,500) **\$99,500 REDUCED**
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- 811 North Munday Avenue, Munday**  
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- 311 N. Fir, Munday**  
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- 608 6th St., Rochester**  
2/2 brick home ready for new occupant. Very Clean. (\$47,900) **NEW**
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A classic rock with 2/1 on two lots and wood floors. (\$25,000)
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# Dixie Divas Miss Betty: Bow maker extraordinaire

The renowned bow maker in my hometown died. Only in the South would this probably be news because we Southern women do admire a package well wrapped.

At 85, Miss Betty was still holding court at the drug store where she took great pride in her masterful skill of producing the most gorgeous packages. They were simply stunning. Well, they were more than that — they were a work of art. Whenever I got a gift she had wrapped, I would smile and say, "I know where this came from."



RONDA RICH

My godmother, Mary Nell, is a good bow maker herself, and even she had to admit that Miss Betty was close to impossible to beat. The bows were enormous and fluffy, covering the box completely. They were so beautiful I would always think and usually say, "Do I have to open it? Could I just keep it to admire?"

Now, you know the wrapping and bows had to be special for people to forsake the department stores and boutiques to go en masse and buy at a drug store. Yes, it is an independent drug store, and, yes, it has a lovely gift department, but usually people want to go more upscale to buy a special gift.

One day I was shopping at a local department store for a wedding gift. I picked out the china, took it to the register and said, as I had always said in the past, "Would you wrap this please?"

"We don't wrap here any longer," she replied, referring to the china department. "If you want it wrapped, you have to take it to the office and all they have is a standard plain wrap."

That meant: Ugly paper with the store's name monogrammed on it.

I smiled and handed the china back to her. "No, thank you. I want a pretty package."

I left, took myself to the drug store and bought a crystal candy dish, which Miss

Betty proceeded to wrap up beautifully.

Though Mama always said, "Pretty is as pretty does" and made an emphatic point of it to her freckle-faced, somewhat plain little girl, she also believed in "appearances." Even when our clothes were homemade and nothing fancy, we fixed up the best we could to look pretty. That's why I think a package should be pretty.

My sister Louise makes gorgeous bows. I've seen her make bows that were two feet wide. When pressed into action, I can make them, too.

It's all in the wrist, you know — at least on one hand. With the other, it comes down to how long you can pinch the ribbon between the forefinger and thumb as you're twirling with the other. And you cannot be stingy with the ribbon if you're to make a truly stellar bow. This is the hard part for me, being a frugal Scotch-Irish. I want to cut corners a bit.

One day, Miss Betty was wrapping a package for me and I said, "You make such gorgeous bows." She beamed. "Is there a secret to it?"

"Why no!" she exclaimed. "It's the easiest thing in the world. Let me show you." She walked to the rolls of paper. "First, you pick the wrap. Then you pick a colorful bow to go with it." She looked at all the spools and decided on a bright Kelly green to complement the blue wrap. "Now, you have to get a lot of ribbon. That's what makes a pretty bow." She yanked off several yards then she proceeded to make a bow in a way I had never seen. She folded the ribbon back and forth — no wrist action required, — making the fold about seven inches long. When she finished, she cut a notch on either side in the middle of the bow. She tied floral wire there then spread out the bow.

"See how easy!"

What an angel. Then and now.

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, where you also can sign up for her weekly newsletter.

## Farm Briefs

### Acreage reporting dates for 2014

Knox County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Nancy Birkenfeld announced that producers now have until Jan. 15 to report crops that have a Nov. 15 or Dec. 15 reporting deadline without paying a late-file fee.

Crops under this waiver include wheat and native and improved grasses intended for grazing or haying. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) did not grant a waiver so producers need to consult their crop insurance agent for deadlines for insured crops.

"In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Knox County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline," said Birkenfeld.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Knox County:

- January 15, 2014: All grasses for grazing or forage, Mixed Forages, fall seeded small grains/Canola
- May 15, 2014: Spring Oats (Planted after December 15, 2013)
- July 15, 2014: Cotton, Corn, Milo, Forage Sorghum, Guar, Sunflowers, CRP, all other spring seeded crops

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the

above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

• If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

• If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of "cover only," "green manure," "left standing," or "seed" then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

According to Birkenfeld, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Additionally, producers can purchase both NAP and RMA coverage for 2014 annual forage crops. NAP coverage will not be available for 2015 annual forage crops.

Late file fees will be assessed for 2013 crops reported after September 15, 2013, and 2014 crops reported after January 15, 2014.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact the Knox County FSA office at 940-658-3537.

## TxDOT WinterSafe Program

By: Marty Smith  
Childress District Engineer,  
Texas Department of Transportation

The winter season will soon be upon us. Last February proved that the Texas Panhandle can receive severe winter weather conditions and the dangers those conditions can be to motorists who are unprepared. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) works 24/7 to ensure roads remain passable and safe year round. Road crews are especially prepared for improving road safety during extreme winter weather conditions.

TxDOT has developed a winter weather awareness program called WinterSafe to help you prepare for the extreme conditions you may encounter when traveling across Texas during the winter months. It's not too late to ensure you're WinterSafe on the road. TxDOT encourages motorists to take precautions and incorporate a few safe driving habits to reduce the risk on the road. This can be as easy as:

- Planning your trip by checking current road conditions on-line or by calling 1-800-452-9292 or [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) Keyword: Winter Driving.
- Staying off the roads if travel is an option.
- Wearing your seatbelt.
- Ensuring your vehicle is properly maintained.
- Observing traffic signs and weather alerts.
- Taking extra precautions when approaching bridges, shaded spots, overpasses and turns.
- Preparing an emergency road kit.
- Not using your cruise control during ice and snow storms.

• Keeping a safe distance between your vehicle and snowplows.

• Not driving through snow clouds and other weather conditions that produce conditions of little or no visibility of the road ahead.

• If stranded, calling the Texas Department of Public Safety's toll-free hotline at (800) 525-5555.

For the latest information on Texas roadways, be sure to check the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) website, <http://www.drivetexas.org>. TxDOT works very closely with local agencies across the state to ensure potentially hazardous roadways are treated quickly during seasons of extreme weather. Using a variety of environmentally safe treatment methods and equipment, TxDOT acts fast to improve road traction, remove accumulated snow and prevent roads from icing up. We work to ensure travel is easier and safer for all motorists.

Stay informed. Be WinterSafe.

### About the Texas Department of Transportation

TxDOT is responsible for maintaining over 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its more than 12,000 employees strive to empower local leaders to solve local transportation problems, and to use new financial tools, including tolling and public-private partnerships, to reduce congestion and pave the way for future economic growth while enhancing safety, improving air quality and increasing the value of the state's transportation assets. Find out more at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov). Follow us at [www.facebook.com/txdot](http://www.facebook.com/txdot), [www.twitter.com/txdot](http://www.twitter.com/txdot).

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