APUS-County County County Countrier

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2014

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

75 CENTS

County mulls tax zones to upkeep roads

By Wayne Hodgin

The Knox County News-Courier

Knox County commissioners are considering the possible creation of a number of taxing zones that, while establishing the framework that would allow the county to receive thousands of dollars in state grant money to build or repair roads, also could mean higher taxes for property owners with land inside that zone.

Through the Texas Department of Transportation's County Energy Transportation Reinvest- special session at 10 a.m. Monday in the County

Calves graze Tuesday on wheat in northern Knox

County. Cattle prices are up, making winter wheat

pasture — that not susceptible to dry conditions or the

extreme cold as of recently - especially valuable as a

Drought takes toll

Despite reports that drought conditions in Texas

continue to recede, dry conditions are threatening

dryland winter wheat in portions of the Rolling

Rick Aukerman, AgriLife Extension agent for

Deaf Smith County, said: "No moisture in the area

for a considerable amount of time is making the

not get help soon. The irrigated wheat is in fair to

good shape with some stocker cattle out, but there

While parts of the state received beneficial rains,

the combination of drought and extremely cold

temperatures may have done some damage to win-

ter wheat throughout the Texas High Plains, ac-

cording to said Clark Neely, AgriLife Extension

Film shot near

Post will make

A feature film shot on location in Garza County will

make its world premiere next week in Lubbock and

stars a bevy of actors most all of whom have some sort

"The Arroyo," an action-packed drama written and

world debut

By Wayne Hodgin

of ties to Post City.

directed by Slaton na-

tive Jeremy Boreing,

features an all-star

cast of Lubbock area

The Post Dispatch

See **DROUGHT**, Page 8

small grains specialist in College Station.

are no appreciable amounts of cattle anywhere."

on area's winter

way to put weight on stockers.

wheat crop

Plains, South Plains and Panhandle.

dryland wheat crop a distant memory

By Robert Burns

Special to the News-Courier

ment Zone program, Knox County could receive Judge's Chambers at the courthouse in Benjanearly \$200,000 in state grant money to be used to maintain and repair roads damaged by the truck and tanker traffic as a result of the new oil boom West Texas is experiencing.

As are most counties also considering the measure, Knox County officials have retained the services of Austin-based Allison, Bass & Associates to assist them in identifying and creating the zones in which roads repairs are needed.

Knox County Commissioners Court will be in

min to conduct a final public hearing and receive any public comments and input and discuss the potential boundaries and requirements of the CERTZ.

Once these areas of concern are identified and established as a CERTZ, the county would be eligible to receive state grant money in the form of a reimbursement, but first would be required to match the entire allotment by 20 percent.

See TAX, 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.

Noah Project

The Noah Project-North Advisory Committee will meet at noon Friday, Jan. 17, in the jury room at the Haskell County Courthouse. Contact Donna Sue Anders at 940-864-2551 for information.

Fundraiser

A \$250 gift card to Walmart will be raffled to benefit the Knox County Aging Center. Tickets cost \$1, and the drawing will be May 11 during the center's annual Mother's Day luncheon. Call Cassandra Sheedy, director of the KCAC, at 940-657-3618 for information.

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.

Military exhibit

The Garza County Historical Museum, 119 N. Ave. N. Post, has a new exhibit of more than 100 cast-dyed military warplane models on display as part of the 72nd anniversary of the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor. The planes were donated by U.S. Marine Corps veteran Patrick Reilly and will be part of the museum's permanent collection. This county museum is housed in an old sanitarium built in 1912 by C.W. Post. Exhibits feature artifacts significant to the county and of general interest to visitors. For information, call 806-495-2207.

Wichita-Brazos Museum

The Wichita-Brazos Museum and Cultural Center, 200 E. Hays, Benjamin, houses much of Knox County's colorful history. The museum, open 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, exhibits feature a barbed-wire collection and other relics of early settlers. Current exhibits feature a wildlife exhibit, courtesy of Ronnie Urbanczyk of Munday. For information, call 940-459-2229.

Alzheimer's Support

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. Call Ronda Thompson at 940-422-

Corrections

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

News on the go



smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to

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Knox County News-Courier







The Knox City High School 4-H officers in attendance at the Knox City High School Project Livestock Show. (From left to right) Makayla Bailey, Shailee Manning, Jessica Wilburn, Andrea Lynn, Chris Richardson, Tyler Clark, Tylan Eaton, Tanna Moeller, and Kelsey Vasquez.



McKayla Copeland, Jayden Lambert, Kelsie Vasquez, and Cara Lambert consult with their pigs after placing in their respective divisions.



Maeley Evans escorts her Cross during exhibition. Evans earned fourth place for her Cross during the



Skylen Ledesma poses with her Class 1 Spot reserve Senior Cassandra Ledesma poses with her first division winner directly after receiving her ribbon. place class 1 Cross pig. Reylee Ledesma and The second and third place winners were Kelsey Jayden Lambert received second and third place Vasquez and Dustin Ledesma respectively.



KCHS stock show preludes county event

The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY - The Project Livestock Show was this past Sunday. Several Knox City High School Students participated in the event, along with parents, school faculty, and city municipal workers.

The show concluded Sunday evening after all of the awards and ribbons had been handed out. The Knox City show was a city and school event and took place a week before the planned Knox County Junior Livestock Show, which will be this weekend in Munday.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

RESULTS Goats

Class 1 3 Brody White 2 Brogan White

1 Tanna Moeller Brylee White Grand Tanna Moeller

See SHOW, Page 8

talent including singer-songwriter legend Kenny Maines, Ragtown's Glenn Polk and David Armendariz Kenny Maines and Junior Vasquez. Production took

place in 2011 in and around Post, Slaton and Southland. The world premiere of the film will be at the Pre-

miere Cinema 16 in Lubbock and will feature red carpet arrivals by the cast and a screening of the movie, followed by a question-and-answer session with the cast and director. An after-party is planned at The Scene Restaurant and Balcony Bar at the theater.

The film is expected to be shown through Jan. 26 at the theater. Tickets to the remaining screenings are available by contacting the box office.

"The Arroyo" is a ripped-from-the-headlines, shootem-up movie about a desperate kind of lawlessness between members of a ruthless drug cartel and an independent ranch owners near the U.S.-Mexico border

See FILM, Page 8

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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

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Letter to the editor

A great reason to shop local We have all experienced it; getting things done sometimes requires leaving work ear-

ly in order to get there before they close. The technicians at P&W Service Center in Munday took the worry out of all of that. We were in need of an oil change for our pickup and had put it off to fit our schedule. However, with just a phone call to P&W, while the truck was parked at

my business in downtown Munday, it was

picked up and returned within just a few

cannot be experienced in a big city. We want to encourage others that it pays

to shop local.

Thank you to the team at P&W for saving us some time and for the outstanding, above-and-beyond customer service.

RICK and MICHELE FETSCH Rhineland

Hospital to conduct child-safety seat classes

Knox County Hospital District will host Child Safety Seat Distributions and Education Classes each month of 2014 for lowincome families who travel on Texas high-

The event will be held at the Knox City Clinic, 712 S. Fifth St. in Knox City the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. and the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. Classes will be offered in both English and Spanish. Requirements include:

Someone in household must have a ve-

hicle with working safety belts.

Attendance of a one-hour class to learn how to use the safety seat correctly.

Expectant mothers should be in the last

Pre-register by contacting Linda Hearn at 940.657.3906

Safety seats will be provided at no cost for children 5 pounds to 40 pounds and booster seats for children over 40 pounds.

Knox County News-Courier

Farm briefs FSA County Committee voting ends Friday

Special to the News-Courier

USDA Texas Farm Service Agency Executive Director Judith A. Canales is reminding farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers that they have until this Friday, to return completed ballots to FSA.

Eligible voters who have not received a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center. The last day for voters to submit completed ballots in person to local USDA Service Centers is Jan. 17. Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked no later than Jan. 17.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs

for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote. Agricultural producers in each county submitted candidate nominations during the nomination period, which ended on Aug. 1.

Close to 7,700 FSA county committee members serve in the 2,124 FSA offices nationwide. Each committee consists of three to 11 members who serve three-year terms. Approximately one-third of county committee seats are up for election each year. More information on county committees, such as the 2013 fact sheet and brochures, can be found on the FSA website at www. fsa.usda.gov/elections or at a local USDA Service Center.

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The Paperboy

CHRIS

BLACKBURN

Nothing funny about hours, ready to go. This type of service rampant ignorance

ou've known about our government's use of drones for some time. By now, it's become commonplace.

Here in rural America I doubt we have to worry about them for a while. However, several cities have purchased drones, and I imagine they will soon be patrolling the skies to keep order.

Now I don't want to go all "Terminator" on you but the U.S. Border Patrol is now using robot technology to catch illegal immigrants in tunnels in Arizona.

> Agents in the Tucson sector have demonstrated how "tunnel robots" will be used to detect any tunnels that could be used to transport people, drugs, weapons and other illegal materials.

More than 75 underground passages have been found along the border since 2008, concentrated largely in California and Arizona.

Now none of us knows what the future holds, but we do live in a time of drones and robots. We also live in a time of smart weapons and where a growing number of people have a com-

puter in their hands — all of the time. Our government has been spying on us and, in many cases, picking sides.

Technological advances are our way. The United States was built economically on technology, whether we're talking the automobile, airplane or computer. Let us all hope that we continue to run the technology and not the other way around.

There is a prankster by the name of Mark Dice who likes to illustrate just how ignorant Americans are. And, boy, are there ever some dumb ones.

Dice recently had several Americans sign a fake petition asking for the repeal of the Third Amendment.

According to Infowars.com, Dice does this type of thing often to show that Americans know very little of the Bill of Rights or will sign their name to just about anything. I'm not sure which, but it looks like ignorance

The Third Amendment, which states, "No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law."

Basically, it says your home cannot be taken from you and used to house soldiers.

"It was introduced by James Madison as part of the Bill of Rights in 1789, was a direct response to Quartering Acts passed by the British government during the Revolutionary War," according to Infowars.com. "The British legislation would have allowed British troops to live in the private residences of Americans. The Amendment was adopted on March 1, 1792."

Dice has now successfully managed to get Americans to agree to repeal the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Amendments, as well as the entire Bill of Rights.

My fellow Americans, we truly live in strange times. Times where people will sign away their freedoms because they don't know any better.

Is it any wonder so many act like sheep and follow blindly?

Check out the Bill of Rights and you tell me I'm wrong. Or maybe our freedom of speech, assembly, religion and right to bear arms are just silly notions that have passed their time.

It's a sad reality how far down the rabbit hole we've fallen as a society.

Chris Blackburn is publisher of this newspaper and CEO of Blackburn Media Group, 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.





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Pastor Shane Kendrix **Service Times:**

Sunday Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Worship: 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Awanas, Pre-K to 6th grade: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

After a windy day on Sunday, today (Monday) has started out to be very pleasant. We saw dust in the air yesterday, and one can only think that if it doesn't rain, the chance of some pretty bad dust storms in the spring is likely to become a reality. Let's keep praying for that muchneeded rain.

We're glad to report that our ill friends are improving. Janice Tolson had surgery on Thursday, and if all goes well, she is to be released today from the hospital. Friends and family who have been with her and talked to her on the phone say she's feeling, much, much better and in a good "frame" of mind, which will certainly help in the healing process. Of course, it will be awhile before she's out and about much, but she should be ok after some time. That's good to report.

Mike Young is holding his own. Recovering, but slowly, from the surgery to clean out the infected incision he got after his heart surgery. He will have to be in the hospital about a month, barring any further complications—then have several months of recuperation after he is released. But for right now, every day is a little better than the day before. That, too, is good news.

And there are several around town with

this "flu-like" stuff that sure makes one feel miserable for a few days. Some of it is mostly respiratory, and some have a combination of both—the respiratory and the stomach kind. But thankfully, it doesn't last too long. However, those that have had it say it's been horrible while it does last. So far, I've missed it, and I sure hope I continue to do so.

Here 'N There

Steve Conner of Big Spring visited on Sunday with home folks. He made the trip this time to come and personally wish his grandmother, Hazel Stockton, a happy birthday. Hazel is 96 today.

Word was received here Friday of the death of former resident and teacher in the school here, Edward Lee Kirk. He was 90 years of age. Well known and respected by the people who knew him, many complimentary remarks have been made about him this weekend, and lots of memories shared. I only met him once. That was Homecoming several year ago when he came back to speak at the Sunday morning worship service. Graveside rites will be today at 2 pm at the Benjamin Cemetery.

Deann Lamb fell at her home early Saturday morning. She was taken to the ER and checked out thoroughly. Thankfully, she suffered no broken bones, so was released later in the morning. The only after effects are lots of soreness in her back and legs, but she feels very fortunate that that is the only thing wrong.

Carol Dickson will be in Abilene today and, I understand, begin her treatments. I have not talked to Carol, but Jan Carver has kept me informed on her condition. (I hesitated to call because I'm afraid she might be resting, and I would hate to disturb her.) Jan said she believes she will take one treatment a week, so that won't be too bad. We all know that chemo and radiation put great demands on a body, but to get rid of bad cells, the discomfort will be well worth it. We continue to wish Carol well and ask everyone to keep praying for her.

Linda Griffith was in Clovis, NM last Thursday to visit with granddaughters Kate and Abby Tyson before they returned to college and with Vince and Amy Tyson as well. She also visited with Lori and Rickey LaShomb in Lubbock before returning to Benjamin.

Mary Young was in Abilene Saturday to visit Mike Young in the hospital. She was encouraged by the way he was doing, and Charles and Linda Griffith and Donnie and Barbara Ryder also visited Mike Young and Janice Tolson on Sunday afternoon.

I have learned of the death of Maggie B. Harper. She was the mother of former Benjamin residents, Dickie Propps and Judy Bland. Her funeral is tomorrow (Tuesday) in Seymour at 2 pm with burial following in the Benjamin Cemetery. I send sympathy to Dickie and Judy and their families as well as the rest of Maggie B's family and friends.

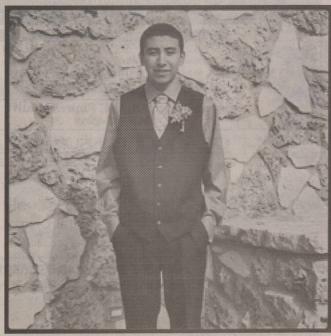
I talked to Hannah White on Saturday, and she told me that she and Joseph Rowland will be getting married on March 15. I'm sure a formal announcement will be made later, but I thought I'd slip that bit of news in as well. Hannah is Ronnie and Susan's youngest child. I congratulate her and Joseph on their upcoming plans of a life together.

Alma Jean Boone called on Thursday just to check on friends here and say she missed seeing everyone. She's doing well. She was especially interested in Earlene Meinzer, as she had been trying to call her and couldn't get her. I assured her that Earlene was ok—probably just away from the phone when she called. It was good to talk to her.

On a personal note, I so enjoyed Jennifer Burgess' guest column last week about her past Christmases. Her story paralleled my own in so many ways. It stirred many memories and brought back lots of good thoughts of my childhood. Thanks, Jennifer, so much!

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

Guthrie news



Jose Sandoval



Caitlyn McWhirter

Students of the Month

Jose Sandoval is the son of Isabel and Juana Sandoval. He also goes by the nickname of Chino. Jose participates in cross country, basketball, track, FFA and OAP. He has many favorite hobbies. When asked to describe himself in three words he came up with skinny, nice, and determined! Something he couldn't live without would be his family, and his favorite

quote is, "The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be." -Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Caitlyn McWhirter is the daughter of Nancy and Mike McWhirter. Caitlyn participates in cross country, cheerleading, basketball, UIL, and one act play. In her spare time Caitlyn's favorite thing to do is draw. She also goes by the nickname of Cait, and

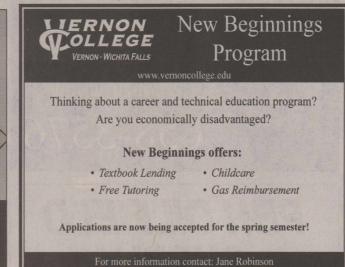
when asked to describe herself in three words she came up with loud, artistic, and caring. Something she couldn't live without would be her phone and red diamond sweet tea, and her favorite quote is "Some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers."

Carli Maxwell and Kaylee Adams

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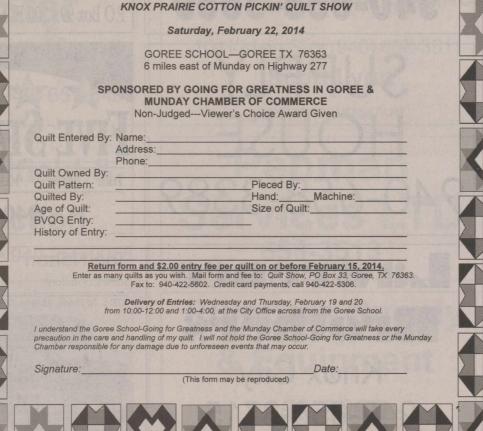
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BOARD ELECTION

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The window for filing for a place on the May 10, 2014, ballot for election to the Munday CISD Board of Trustees will officially open January 29, 2013. There are a total of three places to be filled. There are two three-year terms and one two-year term. Expiring terms are currently held by Nancy Birkenfeld, Sam Hunter, and Bob Moore. District residents interested in filing for candidacy may do so at the Administration Building located at 811 West D Street, in Munday, Texas. Filing candidacy may be accomplished by personal appearance at the MCISD Administration Building from Wednesday, January 29, 2014 through Friday, February 28, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Requests for ballots for early voting by mail will be accepted from March 11, 2014, through April 30, 2014. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted weekdays April 28, 2014, through May 6, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the MCISD Administration Building.



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The 501

Hail to the chief tablet

emember when a tablet was a Big Chief? Now a tablet is a handy



our grandchildren, ages 7 and 11, got tablets from an out-of-town aunt

HANABA and uncle. Nice. MUNN Their dad had also WELCH bought them tablets. Poor kids. Too many tablets.

Not to worry. They'll exchange their extras for electronic devices of equal value.

Are they spoiled? Not exactly.

Their mother makes them give some of their old toys to less fortunate children. In a couple of years, when they get new tablets, this year's presents could wind up bringing second-hand joy to a child in a homeless shelter.

Yep, in this age of affluence for all, the definition of an underprivileged child may soon refer to one without any sort of tablet, new or used - and we're still not talking Big Chief.

I'd like a tablet too. I just can't justify the expense for one more leading-edge device when I already have a laptop and a smart phone.

Back to the grandkids. For Christmas, they didn't get the latest in electronic gadgetry

from my husband and me. Nope. Gift-wise, we're stuck in the '50s. Except we did buy grandson Cutter a shooting gallery with a gun that shoots the parade of ducks with a laser instead of pellets. I hope he doesn't shoot his sister's eye out.

Granddaughter Rylee got a drawing kit from us, complete with one of those little jointed mannequins to help her draw the human figure in various positions. A different aunt and uncle gave her an artist's tablet. Big Chief tablets may be extinct, but you still can buy paper tablets with pages suited for pencil and other media - tablets that should perhaps be put on some sort of endangered list. Somehow it

seems only fair that Rylee should first learn to draw with pencil and charcoal and then master watercolors, pastels and India ink before she spends all her time awash in jillions of pixels and millions of color choices offered by her shiny new tablet. I want her to deal with graphite smudges, eraser crumbs, ink spatters and brushes that have to be properly washed. I want her eventually to graduate to oil on canvas. I want her to smell turpentine and like it.

Before we go too far into her future, let's see if Big Chiefs really are extinct.

BIG CHIEF RESEARCH PAUSE.

Yea! After a few years off

the market, Big Chief tablets are back! A company in Texas acquired the rights or patent or whatever. The big red 48-page tablets are again for sale with nine different cover designs. Who knew there was more than one?

Today's price for a Big Chief is \$4.95. They've figured out what nostalgic grandparents will pay to introduce a child to an icon of the past.

Grandchildren today hold the future in their hands, literally. If we could do Christmas 2013 over again, our two just might also be holding Big Chief tablets.

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

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Knox City 59, Chillicothe 44

Early lead puts Hounds over Eagles

By Geoffrey Baumgartner The Knox County News-Courier

CHILLICOTHE - Knox City's Greyhound boys varsity squad traveled to Chillicothe this past week to take on the Eagles. Knox City took the lead early in the first quarter and did not give it up throughout the duration of the game. The Greyhounds managed to defeat the Eagles

the first, 14 during the second, 18 points during the third and 11 points during the fourth quarter. In contrast, the Eagles were able to put up eight points during the first quarter, 10 points during the second quarter, 11 points during the third, and 15 points during the fourth quarter.

While every player made a valuable contribution, the major contributors for the Greyhounds were Zach Carter, with 20 points, seven assists, seven rebounds

and four steals and Ryan Heard with nine points, one assist, and seven rebounds. Other individual standouts include Krys Campos, who had eight points, four rebounds, three blocks, and seven steals and Chris Lewis with four points, three assists, four rebounds, and one steal.

Head Coach Josh Webb thought his team started a bit slow, but gradually picked up the intensity.

"We started off pretty slow, which seems Knox City managed to put up 16 during to happen to us at Chillicothe, but through well executed press and some good hustle we managed to grab the lead and expand it. Didn't play extremely well but a win is always important at this point in the season," said Coach Webb.

> The Greyhounds are now 13-5 for the regular season and 3-0 in district.

Knox City will be going up against Chillicothe again on Jan. 28, but will be facing Rule before that on Jan. 21 and Vernon Northside on Jan. 24.

Vienus Week of Jan 20-24

Knox City/O'Brien CISD **Breakfast**

Monday: Biscuits with sausage and gravy or cereal bowl, toast, peaches, juice, milk

Tuesday: Cinnamon toast with sausage or cereal bowl with sausage, pears, juice, milk Wednesday: Mini corndogs or cereal

bowl, toast mixed fruit, juice, milk Thursday: Pancakes with syrup or cereal

bowl with sausage, applesauce, juice, milk Friday: Cinnamon roll with sausage or cereal bowl, toast, pineapple, juice, milk

Monday: Beefy macaroni or antipasto salad or bologna and cheese, glazed carrots, corn, grapes, slushy, milk

Tuesday: Chicken nuggets or fajita chicken salad or turkey and cheese, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, slushy, milk

Wednesday: Soft beef tacos or garden pasta salad or ham and cheese, Mexican style

beans, lettuce, orange, slushy, milk Thursday: Hot dogs or zesty tuna salad or tuna salad, mashed potatoes, applesauce, peaches, slushy, milk

Friday: Pizza or chef salad or po-boy sandwich, tator tots, pork n' beans, grapes, slushy, milk

Munday CISD

Breakfast Monday: School Holiday

Tuesday: Cereal bowl with sausage, mixed fruit, slushy, juice, milk

Wednesday: Mini corndogs, honey graham, cinnamon apple slices, slushy, juice,

Thursday: Cereal bowl with sausage, pineapple, slushy, juice, milk

Friday: Pancakes with syrup, honey graham, peaches, slushy, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday: School Holiday

Tuesday: Chicken nuggets or turkey and cheese, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, slushy, milk

Wednesday: Soft beef tacos or ham and cheese, Mexican style beans, lettuce, orange,

Thursday: Hot dog or tuna salad, mashed potatoes, applesauce, peaches, slushy, milk

Friday: Pizza or po-boy, tator tots, pork n' beans, grapes, slushy, milk

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Extension touts safe driving for Super Bowl

Special to the News-Courier

The Super Bowl is one of America's most highly anticipated sports events, when friends and family gather in homes, bars, and restaurants to celebrate. As Super Bowl Sunday approaches and football fans across the country prepare for the game, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Watch UR BAC program is spreading the message to the public about designating a sober driver on Super Bowl Sunday, because Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk.

"Before drinking begins, choose your MVP — a sober designated driver. Avoid the unsportsmanlike conduct of driving drunk by handing off your keys so that the Super Bowl watching party stays safe," said Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agent Lorrie Coop. "Drunk driving is always preventable, and driving drunk could result in injuring or killing yourself or someone else. Motorists can expect Knox County law enforcement agencies to have a visible presence and to stop anyone who makes the dangerous decision to drink and drive."

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, 1,099 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2012, accounting for 32.3 percent of the total motor vehicle traffic fatalities in Texas. Super Bowl Sunday is a risky day for drunk-driving

The Watch UR BAC program advises that if you're attending a Super Bowl party or watching the game at a sports bar or

•Designate your sober driver, or plan another way to get home safely before the

·If you don't have a designated driver, then ask a sober friend for a ride home; call a cab, friend, or family member to come and get you; or just stay for the night.

•Never let friends drive if they have had too much to drink.

If you're hosting a Super Bowl party:

·Make sure all your guests designate a sober driver in advance, or arrange for alternate transportation to ensure they get home safely.

•Serve plenty of food and non-alcoholic beverages at the party.

·Host your party just like they do at the stadium. Stop serving alcohol at the end of the third quarter of the game, and begin serving coffee and dessert.

•Keep the phone numbers of local cab companies handy, and take the keys away from anyone who has had too much to

·Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you served ends up

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Aspermont 57, Munday 49 Mogulettes edged out in OT loss

Hornets and Munday's Mogulettes met over the break in a tight-knit, high-scoring battle that would go into overtime. The Hornets eventually defeated the Mogulettes, 57-49.

For the box score, the Hornets put up 11 points during the first, eight points during the second, nine points for the third, 17 points during the fourth, and 10 points during overtime.

Munday managed to put up 12 points during the first quarter, nine during the second, 14 points during the third, 12 during the fourth quarter, and just two points during the overtime period.

The individual scoring standouts for the Lady Hornets were Swink with two points, Polk with two points, and Hale with three points. Also, Dutchover managed eight points; Hernandez had two points, English

ASPERMONT - Aspermont's Lady had 29 points, Hays had two points, and Pittcock managed five points.

The major contributors for the Mogulettes were Kaylan Urbanczyk with 16 points, four assists, four rebounds, and six steals and Tiffany Serrato with 10 points, three assists, 14 rebounds, and four steals. Also, Charity Hunter managed 10 points, one assist, 10 rebounds, and one point.

Even though the Mogulette's lost, Coach Stephenson was pleased with his team's performance.

"The Munday game was no district but it was good to get us back going after the break. The girls are playing harder and it is starting to show," said Coach Stephenson.

The Mogulettes will be hosted by Hamlin on Jan. 14, while Aspermont will be hosting their tournament from Jan. 16-18.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

for the Knox County News-Courier Senior Tatum Bufkin (#13) throws an elbow and dribbles down the lane past an Albany defender. Bufkin managed to score 10 points during the game and the Mogulettes regular season record no sits at

Munday 37, Albany 36 Mogulettes eke by with win over Lions MUNDAY - Munday's Mogulette's are put up eight points. Albany Lady Lions this past week. A tight battle all the way down to the wire, the

reeling after a very close win against the Mogulettes managed to overcome the Lady Lions, 37-36.

It was a give and take with each team winning every other quarter. During the first quarter Munday put up 14 points against the Lion's six, and during the second quarter Munday put up six points to Albany's 12. The second half was just as close, with Munday putting up nine points during the third quarter to the Lady Lions 14, while the Lady Lions put up four points in the fourth while the Mogulettes managed to

The individual standouts for the Mogulettes were Raci Dillard with 13 points, six rebounds, and two steals and Kaylan Urbanczyk with 10points, one assist, four rebounds, and four steals. Other major contributors were Tatum Bufkin with 10 points, one assist, one rebound, and one steal and Rylie Decker with four points, two assists, and one steal.

Munday's record now stands at 10-9 for the regular season and 2-1 in district. The Mogulettes will be going up against Anson on Jan. 17 and Stamford on Jan. 20.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

GOOD LUCK IN DISTRICT!



Raci Dillard takes a big leap over several Albany defenders for a jump shot as the ball rolls off her fingertips. Dillard was able to score 13 points during the game and the Mogulettes district record now sits at

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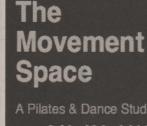
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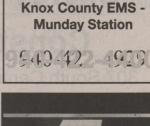
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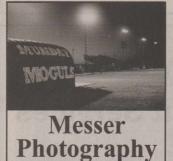
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The Knox County Appraisal District/ County Tax Assessor office is accepting applications for the position of a Deputy Clerk which will become available in January. Qualifications require high school graduation or

Please apply in person at equivalent. This job consist Traveling is required to obof working with title registration and tag renewal registration, helping with voter registration, tax collection, delinquent tax collection and any other job functions that arise in the office. Applicant must possess the following: Computer skills, organization skills, communicate effectively orally and in writing, work efficiently both independently and with others and must be committed to provide exceptional public service. Applicants must have a RPC or be willing to register with the Texas Department of Licensing & Regulations and obtain

tain certification of a RPC, which is usually three to four days away from home. Salary is contingent upon experience and qualifications. Applications may be picked up in the Knox County Tax Assessor/ Appraisal District office at Knox County Courthouse in Benjamin, Texas. 011614c

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TAX From Page 1

The \$168,572 that would Swine be allotted to Knox County is a minimum figure. If there are counties around the state that are eligible for the grant and don't except it for whatever reason, that money will go back into the pool to be equally distributed among other eligible counties.

In all, the state is making Reserve nearly \$225 million available to all Texas counties impacted from energy sector activity.

According to the TxDOT website, a CERTZ is a tool created by 2007 legislation for developing and financing transportation projects. A local governing body designates a zone in which it will promote a transportation project. Once the zone is created, a base year Tanna Moeller 1st Chamis established and the incremental increase in property tax revenue collected inside Poland the zone is used to finance a project in the zone.

A new CETRZ requires Spot a commissioners court to make the determination, Class 1 for the creation of the zone, Dustin Ledesma 3rd that the area is affected by Skylin Ledesma 1st Reoil and gas exploration/pro- serve duction and would benefit Kelsey Vasquez 2nd from the grants.

Nearly seven years after Class 2 it was legislated, the pro- Melanie Ruiz 1st Chamgram is being widely considered because officials Bailey Hodges 2nd with the cash-strapped state transportation depart- York ment, struggling to cover a billions-dollar deficit, were considering returning control of hundreds of miles of highways back to the counties including some rural Class 2 and farm-to-market roads.

Municipal and county officials say the measure unnecessarily shifts the financial burden from the state's traditionally held responsi- Cross bility to local taxpayers.

The Texas Municipal Class 1 League has accused Tx- Reylee Ledesma 2nd DOT of trying to pass the Jayden Lambert 3rd

"Shifting \$165 million of state costs onto cities would Class 2 be a massive unfunded mandate that would require higher property taxes on Emma Lambert 2nd homeowners and businesses," said Bennett Sandlin, Class 3 TML's executive director.

SHOW From Page 1

Grayson Utley 1st Cham-Josiah Coplin 2nd Reserve

Chester Emilee Mayhard 1st Champion

Matthew Jiminez 2nd Duroc

Emilee Mayhard 4th

Christian Abila 2nd Re-Jaylon Roberson 3rd Jordan Ruiz 1st Champion MILLOG TSE Hamp John Cross 5th

Ella Hunter 4th Melanie Ruiz 2nd Reserve Christian Abila 3rd

John Cross 1st Champion

Chase Ledesma 2nd Lexi Jiminez 1st

Kenlee Lambert 1st Cha-

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McKayla Coplin 3rd Cara Lambert 1st

Caycee Camp 5th Maeley Evans 4th Lexi Jimenez 2nd

Tanna Moeller 3rd Matthew Jimenez 1st Champion, Grand Cham-

Class 4 Krystabel Vasquez 3rd Jordan Ruiz 2nd John Cross 1st Reserve, Reserve Grand Champion

Steers Skylen Ledesma

DROUGHT From Page 1

"Unfortunately, the High Plains received little of these beneficial rains, and wheat producers struggled to get their crop up and out of the ground this fall," Neely said. "Drought-stressed wheat also had to endure frigid temperatures during the past jor rain event. month, which have some concerned about the possibility of winterkill on small wheat."

Drought conditions continued to recede in Texas, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor and reports from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service personnel.

According to the monitor, a large chunk of the state, comprised mostly of East Texas counties, had normal or better soil-moisture levels. About another 28 percent of the state was merely abnormally dry, which means though soil moisture was low, the areas were either not yet in drought or were recovering from drought.

These numbers represent a large improvement from last January, when about 71 percent of the state was in one stage of drought or another, from moderate to extreme. FILM However, many parts of the From Page 1 state still did not show improvement.

The East Texas, Southeast, Coastal Bend and parts of the South regions reported good soil-moisture conditions, which benefited winter wheat, oats and winter pastures. But for much of the rest of the state, dry, cold, windy weather continued to dry out soils and challenge winter forage production, according to agent reports.

"Winter wheat benefited from previous week's rains," reported AgriLife Extension in Martin County AgriLife Extension. "Sorghum harvesting is still going, with about 85 percent harvested.

Producers are gearing fields up for upcoming cotton season. Weather has been really warm the last couple weeks especially for this time of year in West Texas, with a few nights getting below freezing but by midday jumping up to 60ffs.

In East Texas, moisture levels were good, but extremely cold temperatures set forage growth back, according to Aaron Low, AgriLife Extension agent for Cherokee County.

After a very dry December, the Coastal Bend region received some rain, which should generate new winter pasture growth, said Scott Willey, AgriLife Extension agent for Fayette County. However, many livestock ponds were still low and will continue to be so until a ma-

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force website at agrilife. tamu.edu/drought.

Rolling Plains weekly report

Dry, windy conditions continued. The cotton harvest was nearly completed, and farmers were plowing fields and cutting stalks. Livestock pine, but I've never seen it. producers were providing heavy supplemental feeding to cattle. Most early planted wheat had emerged but needed rain. Cattle already grazing wheat were doing well. Rangeland and pastures were in fair to good condition. The need for runoff water to replenish tanks and ponds was ongoing.

whose land is used to move drugs and illegal immigrants.

Violence, rape and murder mar America's southern border as migrants, desperate to find a better life, are made pawns of the cartels and forced to transport their illicit cargo. While the government turns a blind eye to the chaos, one man, Jim Weatherford, makes a stand for his family, his property and his

Already garnering attention for the role, Maines, who plays Garza County. In his younger trek to Post to entertain the throngs of crowds in the 1950s who would drive from miles around from the "dry" Lubbock County to buy beer legally and dance the night away.

Lifelong Post native Curtis Hudman said he remembers that time well.

"It was a real site to see just hundreds of cars making their way from Lubbock, down the Cap and into town of the evenings on the weekends," Hudman said. "Their headlights, two at a time, meandering their way down the highway and a line of cars that you know had to be just miles and miles and miles long. They were coming to buy their beer here since they couldn't get it in Lubbock."

Local talent Glenn Polk will be instantly recognizable to those who've been to any of his productions at Ragtown Gospel Theater outside Post City. Polk is the director and principal actor in most of the Ragtown productions.

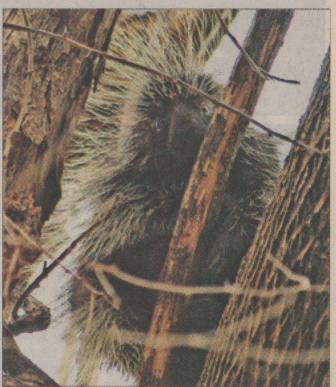
Scott Harris of Garza Theatre fame and other local talent including Christy Morris and Jay Young. Also look for appearances by Nicole Sadler, Elijah Montez, Jane Prince Jones and Tim Ybarra.

Sneak previews of the movie already have been scheduled in Los Angeles, Houston and Dallas.

ON THE WEB

MEMBER FDIC

trailer, visit thearroyomovie.



The North American porcupine often climbs trees to find food. In some parts of the world, the rodent is a very popular delicacy, which has led to its decline in Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam.

Wilder's Nature Journal

By Wilder Good

Porcupines are about as unusual an animal as I know. They are rodents that are covered in sharp quills. A rodent is a rat, which makes it even stranger — a rat that lives in trees and has fur like cactus thorns. I have heard that a bobcat or fisher can kill a porcu-

They are mostly nocturnal but sometimes they forage for food in the day. They eat almost everything, like grass, small plants and bark. Whenever I see them they are always high in trees eating bark. I have seen them eat the bark of cottonwood, plum, elm and bois-d'arc trees.

I have helped my Dad pull porcupine quills out of our dogs many times. The quills stick out of their face like long whiskers. My dog Huck had 56 quills in him one time. You have to hold the dog's head down and pull the quills out with pliers. The dog whimpers pretty good, but they take it because they know you are helping them.

Most people think porcupines shoot their quills out. Trust me - they don't.

"Wilder Good" is written by S.J. Dahlstrom, a Garza County resident and author of the young adult fiction book series "The Adventures of Wilder Good," based on a 12-year-old who lives in southeastern Colorado where the plains meet the mountains. Wilder goes on outdoor adventures that include hunting, fishing, cowboying and just about everything else you can do outdoors.

Nancy's Notions Animal projects encourage youth

4-H ani-

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hat is an animal project? Dad buys an animal. You feed it Weatherford, is no stranger to for a few months then show it. Sounds easy? 4-H animal projdays, the legendary musician ects are much more in depth and and his band of brothers would research based than just buying, feeding, cleaning and showing.

NANCY MCDONALD

In the 4-H sheep project for example, individuals learn decision-making, record keeping, responsibility, sportsmanship and leadership.

The beef project teaches the fundamentals of the beef cattle industry by allowing youth to explore the areas of animal husbandry, livestock selection, health and care.

No matter the species, the objectives are clearly outlined on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development website as follows:

· Attain a broad knowledge of the 4-H project and related Also rounding out the cast is activities as to the way they improve family and community · Acquire life skills through

project participation essential for becoming an active, skilled, productive and responsible citi-Adopt and apply the latest

practices and research findings in the project area to everyday project experiences and work. · Develop an understanding

from 4-H project training and experiences which can assist you To view the film's official in the future for choosing and preparing for a job.

Develop leadership skills that promote positive youth development.

H.C. Gribble, a local goat producer, helped guide and encourage my boys in their goat project. We would send Trent and Dakota to select their show goats. They would walk in the pasture with H.C. while looking through his kids. With H.C.'s advice, and sometimes heavy persuasion, the boys bought the goats they thought would have the best end result. They took ownership in the project from the very beginning. I know Ray and Celia did the same with their boys, Wes and Ben. The best memory of all was for each goat the boys purchased, H.C. would give them a silver dollar. Those coins are cherished to this

Their goat project required a daily exercise routine. Remember, Dennis let the boys manage this project totally. We were in it for the learning experience. They built a team-roping shoot in the goat pen and would head and heel, on foot, their show goats for exercise. They had hours of fun, but their adviser, Greg Jones, wasn't quite as humored. He mentioned something about possibly breaking a leg but the boys assured me they "weren't pulling the ropes tight." We were probably lucky, but at the end of the year, we had healthy goats. We may not have won Grand Champion but what the boys learned from their animal projects will take them much further in life than a buckle or banner. The 2014 Garza County

Stock Show will start at 9 a.m. Saturday with swine followed by beef, rabbits, pee-wee rabbits then a lunch break. The afternoon shows include sheep, goats and pee-wee goats. Admission is free. The weather will be perfect so come support the youth of Garza County. See you there!

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



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