

# THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF DONNIE AND SHANNON WATERS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

75 CENTS

## School board fails to renew supt.'s contract

By Wayne Hodgins  
The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — After a three-hour discussion behind closed doors during a recent meeting, members of the Munday CISD board of trustees emerged seemingly split in their confidence of Superintendent Robert Dillard's leadership at the helm of the district.



Robert Dillard

During the regular meeting Jan. 16, attended by an unusual amount of parents and other community members, several

people spoke out during the public comments portion of the meeting about what they view as inconsistencies in punishments among certain students — particularly athletes — requiring disciplinary action.

Those grievances happened to come during the meeting at which the board annually considers and reviews the superintendent's employment status and performance evaluation.

Under state law, tax-supported entities with elected officials, such as the school board, are not required to respond directly to issues brought up by constituents during public comments because discussion items must be held only to those which appear on the board's agenda for that particular meeting.

In keeping with the agenda, the board continued dispensing with other meeting items before moving into a closed-door session at 7:55 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, specifically Superintendent Dillard's performance review, as allowed by state law.

Board President Bob Moore reconvened the board into open session at 10:56 p.m. after a near three-hour performance evaluation with Mr. Dillard behind closed doors.

In a motion by Bill Longan and seconded by Jason Redwine, a vote was called to extend Dillard's contract by one year. The new contract would begin July 1, 2014, and extend through June 30, 2017.

See SUPT Page 7

## 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.

### Candidate forum

The Knox County Republican Party will present their candidates for local offices at a public meeting at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 30 in the auditorium at Knox City Elementary School. Candidates will be introduced and given an opportunity to give their platforms. Refreshments will be served afterward and allow time for members of the public to visit with prospective candidates.

### Relay for Life

Organizers for the Knox-Haskell County Relay for Life will have a planning and pre-fundraising meeting at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 3 in Fellowship Hall at Munday Church of Christ. Many volunteer positions still need to be filled. Those in the community who are interested in being a part of a team or being a team captain also are encouraged to attend. This year's event will be May 3 at the Munday High School track. For information, contact this year's chairwoman, Leann Harlan, at memawharlan@yahoo.com.

### Brown Bag It Suppoer

Knox City Elementary PTO "Brown Bag It" Hamburger Supper will be held Tuesday, February 4 from 5:00 to 6:30 at the Knox City School Cafeteria. Dine-in or Take-Out - Brown Bag includes: "Angus Beef" hamburger, chips, lettuce, pickle, tomato, and home baked dessert. Tickets are available at door or in advance from any Knox City Elementary Student. We will be selling "Brown Bags" at the basketball game between KC and Crowell. Contact Marsha Quade at 940-657-3147 for more information.

### Museum Fundy

The Knox County Historical Commission's annual fundraising dinner and silent auction for the Wichita-Brazos Museum and Cultural Center will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 2 at the Memorial Building in Benjamin. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger. Take-outs available. Menu includes brisket turkey, sausage, beans, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs and pie. Door prizes will be given, and any remaining food will be sold. Call 940-459-2229 for information.

### KCAC Raffle

Knox County Aging Center members are selling \$1 tickets for a \$250 gift card to Walmart as a fundraising project. The drawing will be held during the center's Mother's Day luncheon on Mary 11. Call the Center at 940-657-3618 for information.

## Correction

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

## News on the go



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## Rochester woman dead, toddler critical after Friday accident

By Wayne Hodgins  
The Knox County News-Courier

RULE — A 29-year-old Rochester woman is dead and her 3-year-old son was in critical condition after a one-car accident on a rural stretch of highway last Friday between the Twin Cities.

Trooper Frederick Biddle, spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation regional headquarters in Abilene, said Monica Nicole Guerrero was killed when her northbound 2006 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited left the roadway, crossed into the east barrow ditch and struck a tree. The accident was reported about 1:45 p.m. on Texas Highway 6 about 2.7 miles north of Rule.

"The vehicle then rolled several times, and both occupants were ejected," Biddle said.

The 3-year-old boy was taken to Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Biddle said neither occupant was wearing a safety belt.

See ACCIDENT, Page 7

## Military News

## Dena graduates Air Force basic

SAN ANTONIO — Air Force Airman David N. Dena recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio at Lackland.

Dena completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

Dena, a 2009 graduate of Munday High School, is the son of Diana and Jessie Dena of Goree.



Dena

The Knox County News-Courier

## Museum barbecue fundraiser takes shape

By Mary Jane Young  
The Knox County News-Courier

BENJAMIN — Plans are about complete for the annual Knox County Museum Barbeque at the Benjamin Memorial Building from 11 to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Take-out plates will be available. Barbecued beef, sausage, and baked turkey; potato salad and coleslaw; special pinto beans; deviled eggs; and homemade pies will make up the menu.

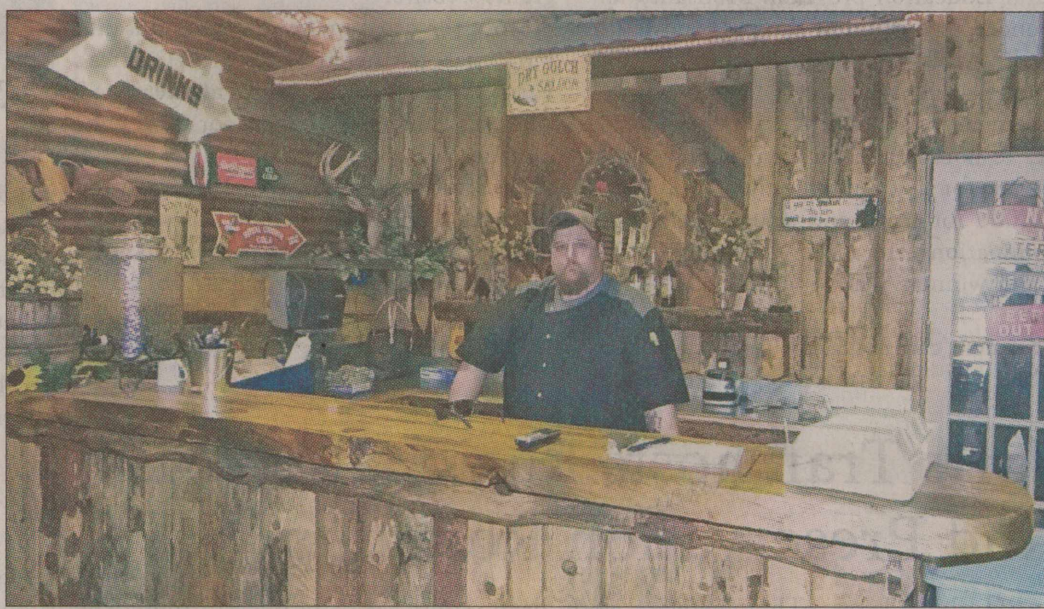
Dozens (over 100 last year) of silent auction items donated by businesses can be bid on during a silent action and individuals interested in supporting the Wichita Brazos Museum.

Starting at 11 a.m., door prizes will be announced every 30 minutes.

As the day draws to an end, if you need some delicious food to feed your Super Bowl football guests, check out the serving tables after the meal. Prices will be posted and containers provided to help you take some home.

See FUNDRAISER, Page 7

## Open for business



Donnie Waters stands behind the bar of his new restaurant The Turnrow Grill. The eatery moved into the site of the old Wooden Nickel location in downtown Knoxville City.



Reagan Waters standing outside of the Turnrow Grill's new location, the site of the old Wooden Nickel in Knoxville City. The old Wooden Nickel sign has come down, and a new Turnrow Grill sign has replaced it. The old sign remains on display on the walls within the restaurant.

# The Turnrow Grill comes to Knoxville City

By Geoffrey Baumgartner  
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The Turn Row grill has moved from Weinert to Knoxville City within this past week. The grill is owned by brothers Shannon and Donnie Waters, who are partners. Waters is a trained chef and his brother Shannon is the pastor at Believers Chapel, which is the double-octagon shaped church just west of Munday on Hwy 222.

The grill operated in Weinert for about a year before the owners decided to move to Knoxville City and according to owner Donnie Waters, business is doing quite well.

"Business has been really good so far here in Knoxville City, and is continuing to grow," said Waters.

Although they just recently moved their business to Knoxville City, he is no stranger to the restraint business.

"I cut my teeth at the Beehive in Albany and have traveled and picked up several techniques since then," said Waters.

One thing the owners would like everyone to know is that everything is fresh and prepared from scratch at the Turn Row Grill. They cut their own steaks, slice their own

chicken breasts and when they have the time, even manufacture their own fresh pasta for Clam Linguini. They even tenderize their own meat and offer a very special Rib-Eye Chicken-Fry, which has been incredibly popular.

In addition to their usual fare, the grill will also be featuring nightly specials. On Thursday nights they will be offering all you can eat boiled shrimp. On Friday nights, it's all you can eat catfish. And on Saturday nights it's the Chef's Special- which can feature anything from duck to prime rib.

While the menu and food are diverse and rumored to be delicious, the restaurant itself is very aesthetic. From its rustic design, to the antique popcorn machine, old Americana gasoline signs, and tall wooden Indian in the corner (usually reserved for cigar shops) the Turn Row Grill has everything you would expect for a classy country dining experience.

The grill will be open Tuesday through Friday from 11-2 for lunch and from 5:30-10. On Saturday's they will be operating from 5:30-10 and on Sunday for lunch from 11-2. They will be closed from Sunday night and all day Monday.

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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  
Editorial: Noon Mondays

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

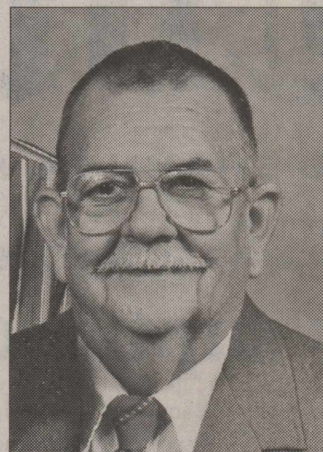
\$30 a year in the county  
\$35 a year outside the county



**Deaths**

**Billy L. Lambeth**

Billy L. Lambeth, 80, passed away at the Seymour Rehab Nursing Home on Saturday, January 25, 2014. He was born on May 6, 1933 to Homer and Gladys Lambeth in Goree, Texas. He has been a resident of Seymour since 1997. He also lived in Lubbock for 26 years and worked at the Lubbock airport before retiring in 1993. Billy served in the Air Force for over 13 years before becoming medically discharged. In 1957, he married his love, Mary Nell and was married 56 years. They had three children. He is preceded in death



**BILLY LAMBETH**

by his parents and one daughter Diane Bevill in 2012.

Billy is survived by his wife, Mary of Seymour, two

Children; Anna Winn of Lubbock and Joe Lambeth of Seymour. Four grandchildren; Marcus Bevill of New Braunfels, Mason Bevill of Austin, Shelby Winn and Haley Winn of Lubbock, one sister, Geri Hardin of Wichita Falls and one brother Keith Lambeth of Ft. Worth. Also, Three great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Graveside services will be held Monday, January 27, 2014 at 2PM in the Goree Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home of Munday.

**Donation**



Courtesy photo/For the News-Courier  
**Shane Kendrix, right, pastor of First Baptist Church accepts a \$500 donation from Richard Albus, representative of Knights of Columbus Council 1766 in Rhineland. The donation is for the Ministerial Alliance Food Bank and His Kids Back Pack Program in Munday. The Knights use proceeds from their annual Sausage and Chicken Dinner to support local ministers.**

**Monsanto announces third annual school grant program**

The Monsanto Fund is kicking off the third year of the America's Farmers Grow Rural Education program. Monsanto announced recently that the program is expanding this year and are now in 1,289 counties in 39 states.

Farmers again will have the opportunity to nominate their local public school district for a grant of either \$10,000 or \$25,000 for math and science education. Nominations are accepted through April 6, and winners will be announced in August.

Farmers can nominate three easy ways: online at growruraleducation.com; by

calling 877-267-3332; or via fax or mail through paper forms available at the program's website.

Since the program began, the Monsanto Fund has partnered with the America's Farmers Grow effort to provide nearly \$5 million in financial support for rural public school districts.

Past winners from the Plain Cotton Growers service area include Dawson ISD, Dalhart ISD, Kress ISD, Levelland ISD, Shallowater ISD and Southland ISD.

The News-Courier

**4-H News**

**Youth learn photo basics before statewide contest**

4-H members met for their monthly meeting on January 13. Our guest speaker, Ms. Sheri Baty, discussed what makes a good photograph and also showed some examples of her own photographs she has taken. The annual 4-H photography contest is coming up and Ms. Baty explained what the judges would be looking for in the competition. Knox County 4-H Club is thankful she spent the time to teach us about photography.

On January 17th and 18th, 4-Hers worked the concession stand at the Knox County livestock show in Munday. The stand had good business and everyone had lots of fun.

If you have any questions about Knox County 4-H Club please contact the Knox County extension agents, Lorrie Coop or Jerry Coplen at (940) 459-2651.

Corrie Earthman

**Forts Trail hosts Regional Tourism And Preservation Roundup**

ABILENE, Texas -The Texas Forts Trail will host its annual "Tourism and Preservation Roundup" on Thursday, February 6, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Coggin Avenue Baptist Church in Brownwood. This year's RoundUp features guest speaker Chet Garner, "the Daytripper," and celebrates the Texas Forts Trail's 15th anniversary. RoundUp participants have the opportunity to

network with peers from across the region, learn time-saving tricks and tools, and be among the first to be "in the know" about the region's new sites and events. Chamber, museum and tourism directors, cook-off, festival and special event managers, county historical commission members and individuals interested in promoting tourism within the region are invited to attend this one-day workshop. Registration includes lunch and is \$45 per person if registered on or before Tuesday, February 4 or \$60 for late or at-the-door

registration. For those who can only attend lunch, reservations are required and due on or before Tuesday, February 4; cost is \$25 per person. The Roundup is sponsored by the Abilene Convention & Visitors Bureau, the San Angelo Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Brownwood Area Chamber of Commerce, the Sweetwater Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Midwest Community Network, and Frontier Texas! For more information or to register, please contact the Texas Forts Trail Region at 325/795-1762



Courtesy photo/For the News-Courier

**Notice Of Sale Of Surplus Property  
Knox County, Texas**

By order of the Knox County Commissioners Court, the following property is available for bid. Sealed bids must be received in the office of the County Judge, P.O. Box 77, Benjamin, Texas 79505, before 12:00 p.m., January 31, 2014. Bids will be opened at the regular meeting of Commissioner's Court on february 10, 2014.

Surplus Property Available

**2004 Gmc pick up  
190k+ miles**

Vehicle may be viewed at the precinct barn in munday  
For more information, please contact the judge's office at (940) 459-2191.

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**FBC**  
**First Baptist Church**  
Munday, Texas

220 South 5th Ave.  
Munday, TX 76731  
P: 940-422-4559  
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.  
Youth: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

*Thanks for Reading the News-Courier!*

## Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Another "norther" has invaded our area, and it is cold! This 70 degree weather one day and freezing the next is not good for anything or anyone. And still not a drop of moisture. Some say they saw a few snow flurries Thursday (during the last "spell"). I missed them but am sure of one thing, they didn't last long. We'll see what this brings.

### Regarding Our Ill

Mike Young continues to improve and still says he may be home in another week or 10 days. Guess it will depend on what his doctors say, but I know he's ready for a change of scenery. However, he knows, in his condition, the hospital is the best place for him.

Philomae Roberson spent a few days in the Knox County Hospital last week with this congestion and flu-like "stuff" that is pretty rampant now. She's fine (or much better) from that, but while in the hospital, the doctors discovered a heart problem, so she has an appointment with a cardiologist in Wichita Falls on Wednesday. She does feel a lot better but knows she needs to get this checked, so is anxious to have that done and get medication (or whatever it takes) to fix the problem.

Linda Griffith had a Morton's neuroma removed from her foot last Tuesday.

This was a thickening of a nerve, causing discomfort when walking. The neu-

roma was removed and the nerve clipped, and after a period of healing, it should be almost good as new. She's back in Abilene today for a post-op checkup.

### New Arrival

Camilo Andres Gonzales was born on January 4, 2014, in an Austin hospital. He weighed 9 lb. 2 oz. And is the son of Leo and Sara Robinson Gonzales of Austin. His maternal great grandparents are Betty and the late Lewis Lyles of Benjamin. At last report, the entire family is doing well.

### Here 'N There

Barbara Ryder spent a few days in Lubbock last week with her sister, Elaine, and her husband, Mitch.

Reba and Charlie Morrill spent a long weekend in the Houston area visiting their daughter, Leslie.

Mary Jane Young and Butch and Letha Young of Saginaw visited with Billie Faye Cummings in Henderson during the weekend. Mary said they attended some gospel concerts while in that area. On Thursday night they saw the Hoppers in concert in Henderson and on Friday night attended one by the Bill Gaither Vocal Group in Longview. She said they heard a lot of good gospel singing. She also said it snowed on them going to Henderson on Thursday and after they got there. It didn't stay on the ground, however.

Shelby Russell of Lubbock was home

for the weekend to help her nephew, DJ, celebrate his 2nd birthday. A family party was held Saturday afternoon, and everyone enjoyed birthday cake with him. It was also fun to see him so happy over his gifts. Like always, the excitement didn't last long (at the moment), but he will enjoy his "surprises" for a long time.

The area was saddened Friday when the news of the accident near Rule was received. A young mother from Rochester was killed in that one-car mishap. Monica Guerrero was traveling with her young son when the accident occurred. I knew Monica from our association at Bud's Cafe, and I learned to like her a lot. She was always pleasant and congenial, and I express sympathy to her loved ones. I have not had any late word on the condition of her son. Both were ejected from the vehicle.

Irene Reed and her daughter, Laura McCanlies, were in Abilene Wednesday attending to some errands and just enjoying a mother-daughter day out.

A belated expression of sympathy to Melba Pharr and Ila Kay Gross, both of Knox City. Their brother, Weldon Hutchinson, passed away last Saturday night at his home in Eastland. His funeral was in Eastland Thursday with burial in Knox City Thursday afternoon.

I talked to Gloria West Sunday night. She said she has some days pretty good, then others not so good. Still has "dizzy spells", and when she does she has to just sit down until it passes. I think someone stays with her when her daughter, Cathy,

is working so she won't have to be alone. Gloria said she still doesn't have any prospects on selling her house, and she sure would like to be free of that obligation. I think several have expressed interest, but that is as far as it has gone. She told me her daughter-in-law, Debbie Clower, is doing well. She and her children were in Denton for Christmas, as was Gloria's daughter, Betty, (and her husband, Tom Bowman) of Dickens and her family.

Jan Carver spent a few days in Abilene last week at the home of her brother, Dennis Anderson, and his wife, Evelyn. Their brother, Jerry Don, and his wife (they live near Waco) were also there, and they had a belated Christmas get together. Jan said they played lots of games and just had lots of fun.

Debi Moorhouse attended the funeral of a friend, Teresa Otts, in Throckmorton today (Monday). She went on to Abilene and spent the night with daughter, Jessica Hutchinson, and family and will spend Tuesday with grandson, Noah.

Kim Moore and Samijo Russell attended the funeral of Sue Olivarez in Spur on Monday.

And last, but certainly not least, don't forget the noon meal on Sunday to benefit the museum. Wonderful food prepared by willing volunteers will be served at the Ex-Student Building here, beginning about 11:30 and continuing until around 1 or 1:30. That's Sunday, February 2. I'll see you there. (An ad giving more details appears at the bottom of this page.)

## The Paperboy

# Don't feel sorry for us, Washington!

We are hearing more and more about income inequality. Before delving into this subject, let me say up front it is a superficial issue being used to take the focus off of other fires currently raging throughout the federal government.

Since this column was written before President Obama's State of the Union on Tuesday night, I haven't a clue what he'll say on the topic, but I suspect he'll point out the obvious. He may even want to raise the minimum wage. Regardless, this is a topic I'm glad has surfaced because maybe it can be put to rest for good. That is, if people have common sense...

I suppose in a utopian society where we all wear robes and live off the land that income equality would be great. No rich, no middle, no poor — just a beautiful society where we drink clean water from the crystal clear river, feed each other grapes and enjoy each 72-degree day.

Unfortunately, we are far from that as a society. However, we are the richest country on Earth. Even our poor would be considered wealthy in most of the countries on Earth.

Income inequality, or class warfare, is a silly argument and everyone should know that

a society without wealth — where everyone gets the same — is a very poor society.

When politicians speak this way it says to me, "Hey, I'm real smart, and you're real dumb, so I'm going to tell everybody what to do and how to live. You over here are too good so we're going to handicap you. You over here are not good enough so we're going to give you stuff for free."

Where's the pride in this thought pattern? Where's the motivation to say, "I did it!"

Shouldn't I value my friend for the friendship they provide me? I have never thought of any of my friends better than the other. What their net worth is does not figure into the equation.

Such superficial observations should be far from your mind. For instance, I have good friends who work on our highways. I have good friends who work at our prison. I have good friends who work in law enforcement. I have good friends who teach. Do any of us think for a second the vast majority of these individuals is going to become wealthy doing their jobs?

No. Do they bust their tails and provide a good life for their families?

Absolutely. Are they essential in our day-to-day lives? Of course.

Here in the sticks we know each other. There aren't many secrets. We know who is rich, and we know who is poor. We help those in need, and most of the time we get

along.

I always find it ironic when millionaires tell us how wrong it is that the superwealthy are somehow hurting us by being rich.

Our millionaire president, his billionaire buddies, and all of the millionaire movie stars and celebrities he hangs out with, like to point out how bad they feel for being rich because us poor folk are so oppressed.

Guess what? That's not oppression. It's depression.

The Americans I hang out with want to be left alone. They want to be able to use more of their hard-earned money. They want to feel free to make their own decisions without some bureaucratic red tape standing in their way.

As Americans, we are free to pursue our dreams. We are free to achieve our goals. Many times we fail. So what? As Americans, we are free to get up off the mat and try again.

We have Americans who chase dreams. Thank God! Because when people like Henry Ford, Steve Jobs and Bill Gates achieve their dreams, they create incredible products that advance our world. More importantly, they create millions of jobs, which create wealth.

I do not begrudge anyone for becoming what they can. If that's an awesome third-grade teacher, fantastic. If that's a doctor, great. Last I checked, we need both.

Frankly, I can think of dozens of issues far more important than a fabricated issue based

on the manipulation of data.

You want to close the gap between the rich and poor in this country? How about encouraging couples to marry before they have children so those children are raised in a stable household? How about giving tax breaks to encourage financial support for youth facilities and programs around the country?

There are many ways to energize a workforce leading to a better life for U.S. residents. Why aren't we discussing lifting one another up in those terms?

Mr. President, don't judge me. Get out of the way and allow me to live in this country as it was designed. I appreciate the sentiment, but I place my trust in the residents of this country and not the government.

Look no further than the wallet, Mr. President. We're all rich compared to you guys. In a few months, you and your colleagues in Washington will have your beloved government in a negative \$17 trillion debt. To my knowledge, that's by far the most debt that exists anywhere on this planet.

I don't want an organization like that telling me what to do or how to live. That's not a job you or anyone else in Washington is very good at.

Chris Blackburn is CEO of Blackburn Media Group and publisher 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](mailto:chris@blackburnmediagroup.com) and you can follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.



CHRIS BLACKBURN



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Travis C. Floyd  
County Judge

OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE

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### KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT AGENDA FOR COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

The Commissioners Court of Knox County, Texas, hereby gives notice of a Public Meeting, to be held on the 3rd day of February, 2014, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., in the Assembly Room, Knox County Courthouse, Benjamin, Texas to take up for consideration the following topics:

1. Discussion and potential action regarding the creation of one or more County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zone (CETRZ), as authorized by law, to promote one or more infrastructure projects to be located within the County to be funded by the CERTZ including the potential boundaries and requirements of a County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zone (CETRZ), as authorized §222.1071 of the Texas Transportation Code.

2. Discussion and potential action regarding the SB 1747 Prioritized Project List for the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program.

3. Discussion and consideration of accepting county road report(s) for filing in the minutes of the Commissioners Court.

*Travis C. Floyd*  
County Judge  
Knox County, Texas

THIS COPY OF POSTING  
WAS POSTED ON  
THE 27 DAY OF January 14  
2014  
BY *Heanne Smith* DEPUTY

## KNOX COUNTY MUSEUM

### Annual Fund Raising Dinner

BRISKET, TURKEY, SAUSAGE, BEANS, COLESLAW, POTATO SALAD, DEVILED EGGS AND DESSERT

ADULTS-----\$10.00 ~ CHILDREN 12 & UNDER-----\$5.00

SUNDAY, FEB. 2, 2014

11:00—1:30

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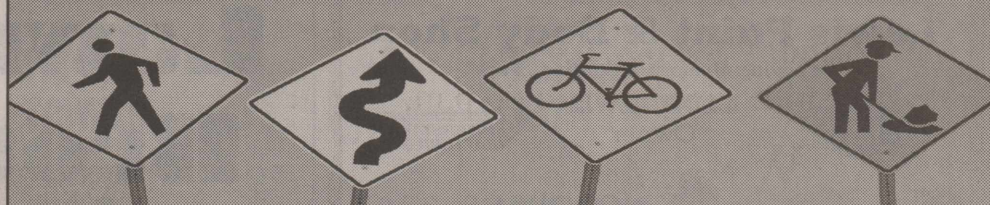
MUSEUM WILL BE OPEN 10:00 - 3:00

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# The 501

## Give Granny '3' for keeping quiet

Grandson Cutter, age 7, is playing basketball. What to do to be sure he turns into a star on the hardwood? Should a grandmother offer pointers? Probably not.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

Cutter, decent ball handler, seems content with his skills. Eventually he'll score. Meanwhile, his team has been winning. After the last game, he was smiling big.

"I won!" he said. Maybe he'll end up in politics. Taking credit for all positive outcomes is the way that game is played. Right?

Me, I remember my own first basketball game — a Saturday night contest at the school. I was a sixth-grader.

Like a movie, the whole game replayed itself in my mind the next morning during the preacher's sermon. I lived again through every mistake. They were legion. I remembered absolutely nothing good about my performance on the court. It's a wonder I didn't walk the aisle to confess what

a sorry player I'd turned out to be — a disappointment to myself and others. Remorse filled my heart.

Things eventually improved, but what a rough start to my years on the court.

Cutter, au contraire, is blissfully unaware of any shortcomings in his abilities. Would it be OK for me to help him improve his game? Can I tell him, for instance, to stay between his man and the goal on defense?

I've already asked the coach if that's still the rule of thumb, not wanting to contradict some new-fangled approach to the game. The coach, a nice young man, said that's what they tell the boys at every practice.

I asked Cutter if the coach had told him to stay between his man and the goal.

"No," he said.

"What do they tell you?"

"Just guard 'em," he said.

Cutter thinks he knows all about guarding.

It's probably best he remain confident. After all, his guardees have yet to figure out they can drop back to get away from his unwelcome presence right in front of them.

So I'm keeping my grandmotherly mouth shut. It's part of my new skill set.

Yet I couldn't help but check out a basketball at the Y to shoot some goals. I've gotta be ready if Cutter wants to play ball on our minuscule backyard court.

I'm losing it. My aim was true, but I can't sink anything from the three-point line. The goal is just a little too far away. Did somebody move it? I knew I'd lost my ability to jump and touch the ceiling, but where'd my arm and wrist strength go?

I finally made a few shots by putting my weight into the effort. My only observer was the old silver-haired guy jogging around the court on an elevated track. No doubt he was cheering me on in his own aging heart.

I shouldn't fret. In our back yard, we've barely got room for free throws. For now, it's the right-sized court for Cutter and me.

It's getting too late to make him learn more nursery rhymes. Maybe we can at least play some basketball.

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

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**Knox City 60, Northside 28**

**Knox City 54, Rule 22**

# Greyhounds net dual victories

**By Geoffrey Baumgartner**  
The Knox County News-Courier

VERNON – Knox City's Greyhound boy's varsity basketball squad managed to net dual victories this past week. The first victory came against Rule 54-22 while the second against Vernon North-side, 60-28.

For the Rule game, the boys managed to put up 16 points during the first quarter, 19 during the second quarter, 15 during the third, and four points during the fourth quarter. While the Greyhounds did put a high number of points on the board, they let up on their full-court press by the fourth quarter, demonstrating sportsmanship and allowing the Rule boys to maintain some dignity.

During the Vernon North-side game the boys put up 16 during the fourth quarter, 18 during the second quarter, 16 again during the third, and 10 points during the fourth quarter.

The point scorers for the Rule game were Zach Carter with 13, Ryan Heard with 11, Chris Lewis with 9, Krys Campos with 7, Skylar Neil with 8, Ibn Lagway with 2, Silva with two, and Wiggins with 2.

The major contributors for the North-side game were Carter with 17 points, one assist, seven rebounds, two blocks, and two steals and Heard with 15 points, two assists, and 15 rebounds. Other individual standouts for

the Greyhounds were Campos with 14 points two rebounds, three blocks, and three steals and Eaton with 9 points, three assists, four rebounds, one block, and two steals.

For the Rule game Head Coach Josh Webb thought his players played well but struggled slightly from the free throw line.

"We started out really strong. Ran our press well and ran the floor looking for easy buckets. We still struggled from the FT line but executed our offense to get easy baskets. We did get complacent in the 4th qtr and that was frustrating as a coach and you could tell it frustrated some of my players," said Coach Webb.

Coach Webb thought his players also did well in the Vernon game, despite not having a lot of practice and managed to get his team a good spot in district standings.

"Was an odd week where we didn't get much practice. Best part was we were pretty fresh but we didn't shoot particularly well. We did finish better than the rule game but still struggled from the FT line. We have a chance to accomplish one of our goals on Tuesday if we can pull of the win vs Chillicothe. It will help us clinch a playoff spot. If we win both games this week we clinch 2nd.

Knox City will be going up against Harrold on Jan. 31 and Crowell on Feb. 4. Knox City's regular season schedule is now 16-6 while their district record climbs to 6-1.



Senior Cassandra Ledesma (#21), junior Leighten Pepper (#3), senior Kelsey Vasquez (#32), and sophomore Kelsey Vasquez (#32) take a breather as they anxiously await the free-throw rebound shot by the Rule guard.



Sophomore Shailee Manning (#2) tosses up a free throw as the Rule defenders get ready to intercept the rebound. The Houndettes made 7 out of the 16 free throws they attempted that night. Photo by Geoff Baumgartner

**Knox City 53, Rule 4**

**Vernon 54, Knox City 43**

## Houndettes split games with Rule, Northside

**By Geoffrey Baumgartner**  
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY – Knox City Houndettes managed to net one win and one loss against Rule and Northside during their past couple games. While the Rule game was a blow-out, 53-4 in favor of the Houndettes, the girls eventually came up short against Vernon Northside, 54-43.

The point scorers for the Houndettes during the Rule game were Shailee Manning with seven points, Leighten Pepper with 5 points, Samantha Lewis with four points, Jordyn Eaton with 11 points, Cassandra Ledesma had 11 points, while Makaylie Steele managed nine points, and Kelsey Vasquez put up four points. Point contributors during the Northside

game were Manning with six points, Pepper with three points, Eaton with eight points, Lewis with two points, Ledesma managed three points, while Steele managed to put up 14 points.

The team went 7 of 16 from the free throw line.

While Head Coach Jason Josselet was happy with the Rule victory, he saw areas where the girl's could improve during the Northside game.

"We had good fundamental skills and played well against Rule, but it's always difficult to play tougher teams like Northside on their home turf," said Coach Josselet.

Knox City's varsity boys will again be going up against Harrold on Jan. 31 and Crowell on Feb. 4.

*Best of luck to the Hounds and Houndettes!*

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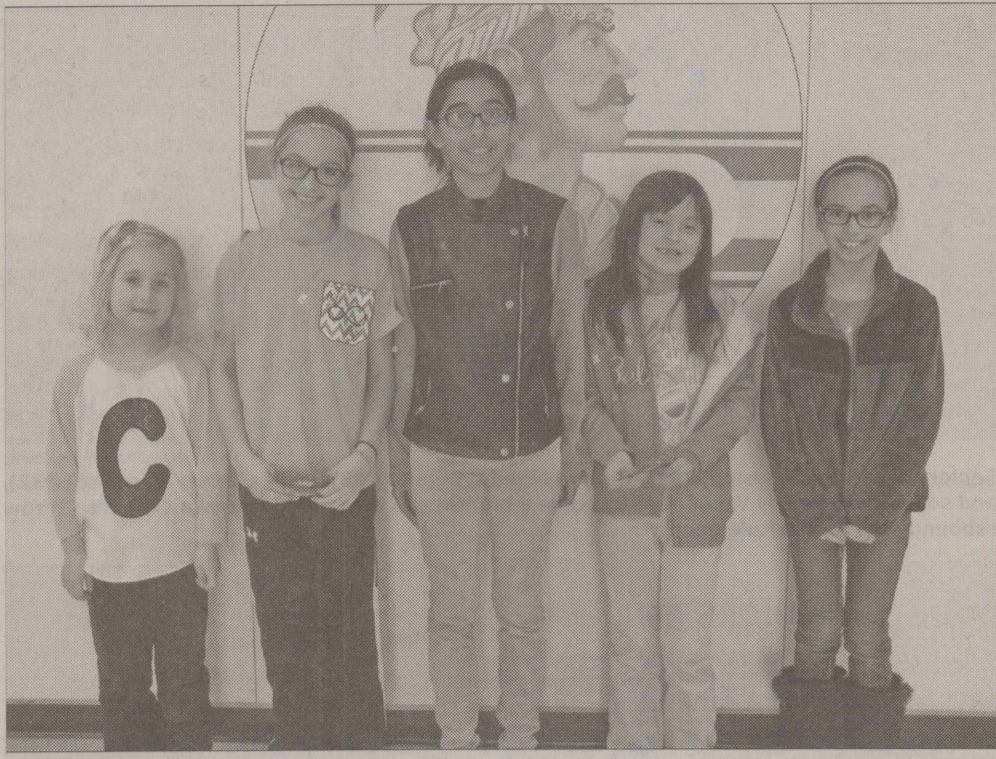
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## 3rd Six Weeks Winners



Courtesy photo  
Left to right-Campbell Corcoran, Carlie Willison, Alexa Vega, Melissa Carmona, and Karley Myers



3rd six weeks perfect attendance winners: back left to right-Darcy Leija, Monse Cedillo, Trinity Rodriguez, Jase Beauchamp Front: Jacklyn Diaz, Abri Diaz Not pictured: Tomas Castorena, Raleigh Molina

## Haskell 39, Munday 28 Maiden defense bests Mogulettes

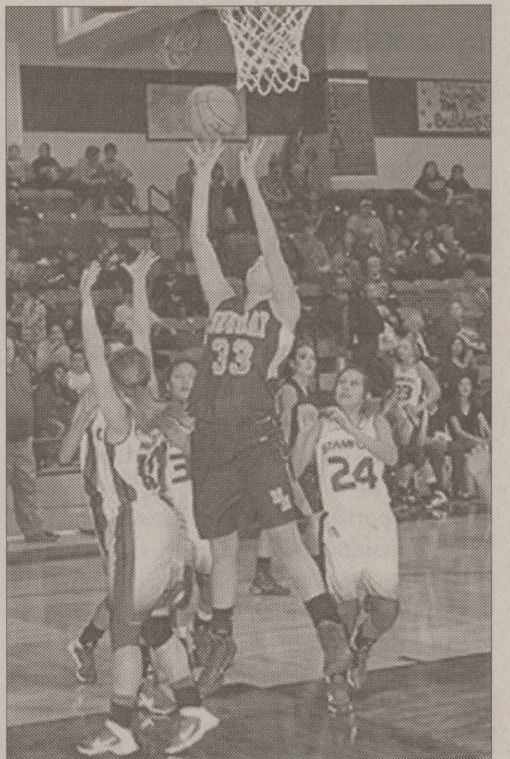
MUNDAY – Munday's Mogulettes hosted the Haskell Maidens this past week, and while the Munday played hard from start to finish, Haskell took the lead early and would not relent. The Maidens pressed early and ended up taking the game 39-28, in what became a defensive struggle for the Mogulettes.

Although it was a low scoring game, the Mogulettes still managed to put up five points during the first quarter, six points during the second quarter, 10 points during the third, and seven points during the fourth quarter.

The major contributor for the Mogulettes was Kaylan Urbanczyk, who scored 16 points and managed to net three rebounds and one steal. The other individual standouts for the Mogulettes were Raci Dillard, with four points, two assists, and three rebounds and Maria Vega with three points, five rebounds, and one steal.

All of Munday's teams will be traveling to take on the Anson Tigers on Feb. 4, while the junior varsity and varsity boys will be going up against Stamford on Feb. 7.

Geoffrey Baumgartner



Terry Messer/For the News-Courier  
Junior Raci Dillard (#33) springs up for the two handed layup high above the Haskell defenders. Although Dillard and other put forth the effort, the Maidens took the game with a full court-press 39-28.

# Best of luck, Moguls & Mogulettes!

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# AgriLife Extension News

## New rangeland expert available to Knox residents

By Steve Byrns  
Special to the News-Courier

SAN ANGELO — Morgan Russell has joined the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service as the new range specialist.

Although headquartered at San Angelo, Russell will be responsible for the leadership and coordination of the AgriLife Extension's range education component in 28 West Texas counties, including those in the West Central, Rolling Plains and South Plains districts.

Among those counties included are Crosby, Borden, Garza, Haskell, Knox and Stonewall counties; also Dickens and King counties.

Robert Lyons, assistant chairman with the Texas A&M University Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, said the Extension faculty is pleased to welcome Russell to West Texas.

"Dr. Russell has the background, knowledge, enthusiasm and drive needed to successfully assist our county staffs in meeting the needs of their residents," Lyons said.

Lyons said the scope of her responsibilities will include providing technical expertise, training and teaching materials for AgriLife Extension agents, specialists, residents and organizations for effective management of the rangeland resource.

"Native range makes up the bulk of the agricultural endeavors in most of the counties within this region in terms of total acreage," Lyons said. "Proper range management in this area of the state is very vital, because a healthy range resource is paramount to successful livestock and wildlife management. It also helps maintaining viable aquifers and improve recharge zones to maintain those aquifers not only for agricultural purposes, but also for our state's growing population."

A native of Ruidoso, N.M., Russell earned doctorate and master's degrees in range science from North Dakota State University and New Mexico State University, respectively. She also holds a bachelor's degree in animal science and agricultural communications from Utah State University.

She has a strong background in prescribed burning of native rangelands and working with



Morgan Russell

livestock grazing, including behavioral studies, diet quality and selection, stocking rates, post-fire and drought grazing strategies and breed differences of desert-adapted cattle.

Russell's professional activities include memberships in the Society for Range Management, International Association of Wildland Fire, Ecological Society of America, American Society of Animal Science and the American Quarter Horse Association.

The counties Russell has primary responsibilities in are:

- Far West District: Howard.
- Rolling Plains District: Dickens, King, Knox, Kent, Stonewall and Haskell.
- South Plains District: Crosby, Garza, Borden, Scurry and Mitchell.
- West Central District: Tom Green, Irion, Concho, McCulloch, San Saba, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Nolan, Taylor, Callahan, Fisher, Jones and Shackelford.

Russell fills the position formerly held by Allan McGinty, who retired in 2010.

### SUPT From Page 1

Members voting for the measure were Longan, Redwine and Sam Hunter. Members voting against were Nancy Birkenfeld, Rebecca Araujo, Todd Thompson and Bob Moore.

The measure failed, and Dillard's current contract remains in effect through June

30, 2016.

Then, on a motion by Hunter, and seconded by Thompson, to leave the superintendent's annual salary at the current amount of \$107,000, the measure was approved 6-1 with Longan the sole dissenter.

There being no further business before the board that night, Mr. Moore adjourned the meeting at 11 p.m.

Board members contacted for this report would not speak

on the record, citing the "personnel matters" clause of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

However, as has been addressed by the Texas Attorney General in similar matters, stipulations under the Act that may require a government entity to recess into closed-door discussions pertain to the board as a whole — not its members, who aren't bound to abide by the Act as individuals.

### ACCIDENT From Page 1

Ms. Gurrero's body was pronounced at 2:52 p.m. by

Dr. Bill McSmith and then taken to Smith Family Funeral Home in Haskell.

The posted speed limit is 75 mph on the road. At the time of the accident, the

roadway was dry and the weather clear and cloudy.

The accident is being investigated by Trooper Brandon Tidmore of Aspermont.

### FUNDRAISER From Page 1

Cookbooks and potholders with the name of a Knox County community embroidered on it will be for sale at the meal and also at the Museum. The Museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for visitors.

The main attraction is the Knox County Wildlife exhibit. Other exhibits, include Military; Farming; Ranching, with different style saddles, and pictures of our Knox County Marlboro Cowboys, and the longhorn hide with the first cattle brand recorded in that county, branded on it; Indian artifacts; and a replica of the house that Ernest

Tubb lived in while living in Benjamin. Veteran's albums and obituary albums are also available for viewing at the Museum.

This annual event is a wonderful time to have a delicious meal, pickup a good bargain at the silent auction, visit the Museum, and enjoy visiting with friends. For more information, call 940-459-2229.

## USDA survey to focus on irrigation

AUSTIN — Water is a source of life and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is giving Texas farmers and ranchers a chance to report on their stewardship of this precious resource. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will conduct the Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey to gauge on-farm water use and irrigation practices.

"This survey provides the only comprehensive information on irrigation activities and water use in agriculture. Texas producers understand the benefit from this survey," said Doug Rundle, director of the NASS Southern Plains Regional Office. "By providing comprehensive information on irrigation activities and water use on their farms, producers will help in the development of improved technology, better equipment and more efficient water use practices."

The survey will also include an additional focus on nursery and horticultural operations.

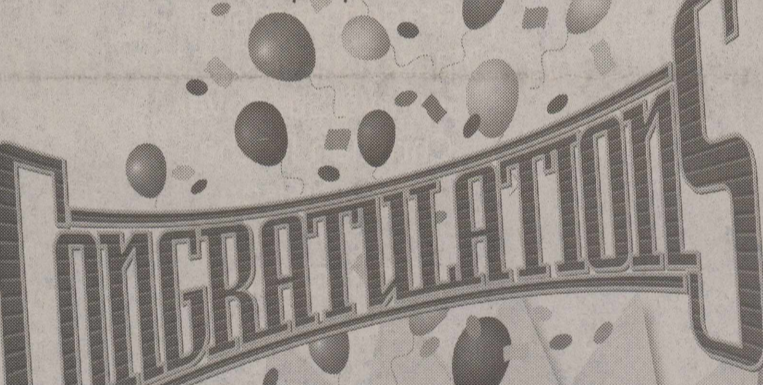
NASS will collect information about irrigation water use during 2013, including application methods, equipment, facilities, expenditures, crop acreage and yield.

On Jan. 6, 2014, NASS mailed the irrigation survey to approximately 1,400 producers in Texas, with the responses due back by Feb. 10, 2014. As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is protected by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

Only those producers, who indicated irrigation in the 2012 Census of Agriculture, will receive the survey. As part of the Census program, the irrigation survey participation is mandatory with accordance to U.S. law.

For more information about the Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey, call (888) 424-7828 or visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov).

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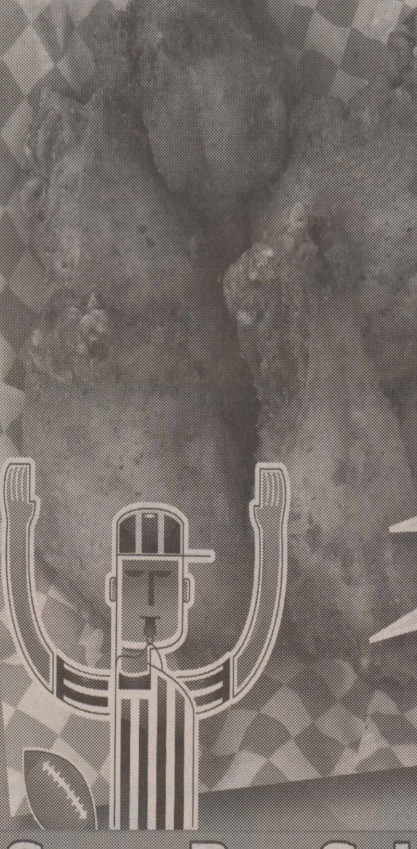
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**Where: Knox County Courthouse**  
1 Main Plaza, Benjamin

For more information about construction-related jobs, please contact the project Local Services Coordinator - Michael Kreuzman -- at 812-264-3592 or [mkreuzman@iea.net](mailto:mkreuzman@iea.net). To apply, please send your resume to Michael Kreuzman at the email address above.

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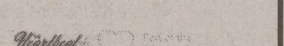
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## Wilder's Nature Journal



By S.J. Dahlstrom

Pronghorns are the fastest mammals in North America. They live in open prairies where they can see predators and run from them. They can run 55 miles per hour, which is kind of hard to imagine, but it's true.

They are called pronghorns because they have long, sharp horns that curve backwards and have a small prong in the middle of the horn. They have the body of a deer with longer legs, a shorter tail and a longer nose. They also have white stripes of fur on their face, neck, stomach and rump.

Pronghorns are very curious animals.

Sometimes they will walk right up to you in a feed pickup or even just out walking. They stare at you as if to say, "What are you doing out here?" I suppose they know that if you tried to grab them, they can outrun you pretty easy.

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

## Youth Leadership Development Focuses On Natural Resources & The Environment

SAN ANTONIO—The Texas Brigades program is looking for a few good leaders. Actually, they are looking for 170 leaders. The Texas Brigades' mission is to educate and empower youths with the leadership skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries, and land stewardship to become conservation ambassadors for a sustained natural resource legacy. This will be the 22nd year of the Brigades.

The application deadline is March 15, 2014 and may be found at <http://www.texasbrigades.org/Applications/applications.html>.

Participants are selected through a competitive application process. Helen Holdsworth, Executive Director, says they are looking for youth ages 13-17 years of age. No experience is necessary, but applicants should have a strong interest in learning about wildlife, natural resources, livestock,

and/or the environment. "We are looking for those with an interest in learning and then sharing what they have learned with their communities," reports Holdsworth.

The 4.5 days camps are held on private ranches across the state. "These landowners open their gates to us for five days, allowing us to utilize the land as a living laboratory. Natural resource professionals give of their time to mentor the youth. This is a valuable networking opportunity," she said.

The cost of the camp is \$400 but scholarships and financial assistance are available. "We do not want the fee to be a barrier to anyone. We have donors who are willing to support the youths' educational experience," says Holdsworth.

For more information, call 855-TX-BRIGS or 210-556-1391 or email [hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org).

## Piano Concert Benefits Students and Community

Solo pianist George Winston will perform a benefit solo piano concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4 in Texas Tech University's Hemmle Recital Hall.

The concert features selections from Winston's melodic piano recording, R&B piano and Vince Guaraldi's Peanuts pieces. He also will perform on the Hawaiian Slack Key guitar.

Winston's first solo piano album was "Ballads and Blues," recorded in 1972. Since 1980, Winston has released nine additional solo piano albums including "Linus & Lucy - The Music of Vince Guaraldi" (1996). His latest solo piano album is "Love Will Come - The Music of Vince Guaraldi Vol. 2" and currently is nominated for a Grammy award.

The event will benefit Friends of Music and all proceeds go toward a scholarship endowment for music majors. There will be a food drive at the concert in support of South Plains Food Bank. Donating a non-perishable item is encouraged.

Tickets are available on Select-a-Seat for \$20. To purchase tickets call (806)-770-



2000 or order online at [www.selectaseat-lubbock.com](http://www.selectaseat-lubbock.com).

Additional information on Winston is available online at [www.georgewinston.com](http://www.georgewinston.com).

## Smartt named new state AgriLife Extension sheep and goat assistant

SAN ANGELO—Joshua Smartt became the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service state sheep and goat assistant effective Jan. 21.

Smartt is headquartered at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center at San Angelo. He will work primarily with 4-H sheep and goat youth programs across the state, said Dr. Frank Craddock, AgriLife Extension state sheep and goat specialist at San Angelo and Smartt's supervisor.

"I'm pleased Josh will be assisting me in conducting AgriLife Extension's youth educational programming involving sheep and goats across Texas," Craddock said. "He exhibits just the right balance of people skills, sheep and goat husbandry knowledge and energy to be very successful in his new

position. Texas youth sheep and goat projects typically involve some 20,000 animals annually, so it's a daunting task, but I feel Josh is up to the challenge."

Smartt attended Howard College at Big Spring prior to earning a bachelor's degree in animal science from Angelo State University in San Angelo where he is currently completing master's studies.

Smartt was involved in both 4-H and FFA while growing up. He was involved in both programs' livestock judging programs and also showed lambs, goats, steers and pigs over a 10 year period.

Smartt fills the position formerly held by Aaron Renfro who recently accepted the AgriLife Extension agent position for agriculture and natural resources in Crockett County.

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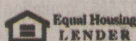
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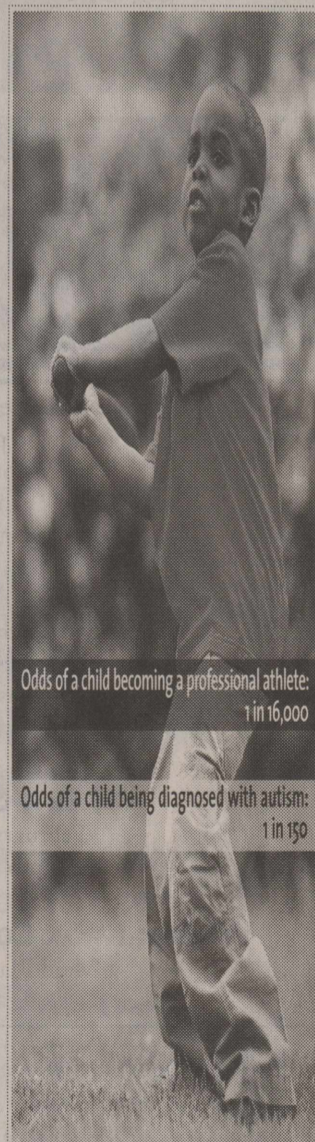
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