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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

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THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

75 CENTS

Miller Creek operating at 13 percent

By Geoff Baumgartner
 The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The municipal water source for most of Knox County residents is operating at 13 percent capacity, said a state official speaking during a town hall forum hosted by local Republicans at the Bill Baker Auditorium on Tuesday evening.

"Miller Creek is at the lowest it has ever been," said Rep. James Frank, R-Wichita Falls, who represents constituents in Knox County, as well as those in Archer, Baylor, Clay, Foard and Wichita counties. "Three consecutive years of excessive drought, which is now considered a 'drought of record.'"

Most of the municipal entities that draw water from Miller Creek, which is owned and operated by the Munday-based North Central Texas Municipal Water District, has been operating under at least stage 3 of their

respective drought contingency plans. The area has been declared a federal disaster zone, which opens up the cities and counties to apply for and receive emergency aid.

Each of the four Knox County municipalities — Benjamin, Goree, Knox City and Munday — have applied to the state and have received a portion of that aid in the form of \$350,000 grants, which are being administered in tandem with the North Central MWD to identify and drill new water wells to serve as alternative sources of water for residents.

David Kuehler, executive director of the North Central MWD, said he board of directors is in the process of identifying up to 10 new underground water wells. He stressed, however, this was only a temporary solution that would at best provide a few years of relief.



Geoff Baumgartner/The Knox County News-Courier
 State Rep. James Frank addresses the audience after being introduced to the crowd by Judge Travis Floyd. Frank discussed conservation methods such as saving the water a shower uses during the time it takes to heat up (five gallons on average). From left to right, Mike McGuire, Ricky Ake, Rep. Frank, David Kuehler, Sam Watson.

See CREEK, Page 10

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.

Ranch rodeo

The seventh annual Knox Prairie Ranch Rodeo benefitting the Munday Volunteer Fire Department will be at 7 p.m. nightly Friday and Saturday at the Munday rodeo arena.

Spring Fling

The Noah Project Spring Fling will be at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Haskell Memorial Civic Center, 200 W. South Second St., Haskell. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$12.50 each and \$5 for children 10 and younger, available from any committee member or at the office on the third floor of the Haskell County Courthouse. Live and silent auctions. Mike Fouts will serve as master of ceremonies. All money will benefit victims of domestic violence in Haskell, Knox and Stonewall counties. For information, call Donna Sue Anders at 940-864-2551 or email donnasuea@noahproject.org.

Benjamin cleanup

The annual Benjamin Clean-Up Day will be May 3. Participants are encouraged to meet at City Hall at 8 a.m. for work orders. Residents with large items to dispose of should call 459-3131 or 256-3962. Bring-you-own lunch will be at noon at the park.

Pet clinic

The annual reduced-cost pet vaccination clinic will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. May 3 at City Hall.

TOPS Program

Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets at 5:30 p.m. Mondays in the break room at the Knox County Hospital. Contact Pam or Greg Oliver at 940-658-5120 for information.

Rifle raffle

The Orient 905 Mason Lodge A.F. & A.M. is holding a raffle for a Smith & Wesson M&P 15 Sport "black rifle." Tickets are \$5 each, 12 for \$50 or 25 for \$100. All proceeds benefit local scholarships and charities. Contact Steve Pepper 940-256-0028, or Greg Oliver at 361-877-6165 for more information. The drawing date is to be determined. The winner does not have to be present to win but MUST be legal age to possess a firearm in the state of Texas.

Water rate hike planned in Munday

By Geoff Baumgartner
 The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — City Council members have approved a plan to increase the base water rate for customers served by municipal water lines by \$5 a month.

That base rate is based on a 2,000-gallon minimum for the 585 meters serviced by the city.

In addition, the council has voted to not open the municipal swimming pool this year due to the extreme drought and water regulations.

In other business at the recent meeting, city officials are planning their budget for the next fiscal year and considering a proposition to contractually join the Knox County Visioning Group.

The council voted to adopt the proposed city budget for the next fiscal year, which was unanimously passed. Munday finished this last year with a \$71,000 surplus, part of which will be utilized for road repair and development and was left over after the council had elected to pay city bills and utilities.

The meeting also featured a presentation by Jimi Coplen of the Knox County Visioning Group, who laid out systematic community and youth development programs and was also there to offer the city a contract to join the Visioning Group in their proposal.

The City Council seemed to be on board with Coplen's presentation and was open about entering into the contract with the Visioning Group in the future.

"If it is good for Knox County, it is good for Munday," said Mayor Bob Bowen.

After the presentation, County Judge Travis Floyd addressed the council about the spirit of community in an attempt to mend the relations between Knox City and Munday so these programs can truly succeed with the county acting as a whole.

Easter Egg Hunt



Photos by Annie Blair/ Special to The News-Courier
 The Munday Volunteer Fire Department smiles with all of the children who participated in the Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Centennial Park across from the Munday Elementary School. The MVFD also held a drive-through hamburger meal that took place after the hunt at the Fire Department itself behind Munday City Hall.



One Munday youngster bends down to pick up an egg, while the rest frantically search for more next to an older Munday fire engine.

KC teams bound for regional track meet

By Geoff Baumgartner
 The Knox County News-Courier

ASPERMONT — With a sixth- and ninth-place finish, respectively, the Knox City High School varsity boys and girls track teams secured a spot at this weekend's regional track meet.

Coach Colin Howeth was proud of the spots his team earned and suspects they may advance to the upcoming state meet.

"Our boys fell just a few points short of being area champions. We took 12 kids and ended up in second place overall," Howeth said. "All of our boys that advanced to regionals stand a great chance of advancing to the state track meet, if they perform well this weekend at San Angelo."

The meet will be Friday and Saturday at Elmer Gray Stadium of Abilene Christian Uni-

versity.

Girl's Results:

3200 Meter Run: Shailee Manning, fourth place.
 Shot Put: Makaylie Steele, fourth place.
 Discus: Jordyn Eaton, second place.

Boy's Results:

400 Meter Dash: Zach Carter-third place, Elias Nevarez-sixth place.
 4x100 Relay: Sheldon Baty, Carter, Israel Rodriguez, Jacoby Thomas-third place.
 4x400 Relay: Baty, Anthony Estrada, Nevarez, Carter- ninth place.
 Shot Put: Kryns Campos, second place.
 Discus: Tylynne Eaton-second place, Kryns Campos-third place.



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier
 Israel Rodriguez hands off to Jacoby Thomas during their performance in the 4x100 Meter Relay event. Knox City ended up earning third place in the relay.

Corrections

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

News on the go



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Relay for Life 'Survivors Meal' unites champions prior to race

By Geoff Baumgartner
The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — A unique event that heralds in the annual Knox-Haskell Relay for Life event is the Survivors Meal, held the day before the race, that celebrates those in the community who have succeeded in their brave battle with cancer.

This year's meal will be May 2 and is open to all local cancer survivors.

With Cinco de Mayo festivities in tow, this year's Relay for Life theme is "Loco for a Cure," and all events surrounding the race and fundraiser are geared along those lines.

Residents from Knox and Haskell counties have come together for Relay for Life events since 2008. Last year, more than \$36,000 was raised locally for the American Cancer Society, and about 200 residents from both counties came together in that effort. Much of this money has come back to Knox and Haskell counties.

Leann Harlan, this year's event chairwoman, said much of the money raised is returned to the communities to assist cancer patients with transportation to and from treatment centers, lodging expenses associated with overnight doctor's visits and services that provide accessories such as wigs and scarves for women negatively affected by chemotherapy treatment.

"This year, we're hoping to recognize and celebrate the lives of even more survivors in our community during our special

Survivor Dinner, Survivor Lap and Luminaria ceremonies," said Harlan, who is being assisted by 17 other volunteers.

This year's Relay For Life will be organized differently than in year's past. Instead of an eight-hour event, the committee has extended fundraising to a 12-hour event. Harlan said Relay for Life events can range from eight to even 24 hours long.

"We will once again join with our friends and neighbors whose lives have been affected by cancer to take turns walking a track for 12 continuous hours," Harlan said. "The transition from day to night and walker to walker represents the arduous journey through cancer treatment, reminding us that while cancer never sleeps, we are always there with our loved ones to walk beside them in the darkest moments."

Local cancer survivors who have not already received an invitation to attend the Survivors Meal are encouraged to call Becky Offutt, Kacy Sanders or Linda Adams at 940-864-3050.

Registration also is accepted online at relayforlife.org and enter the Haskell or Knox ZIP code and click on the Haskell/Knox event to sign up as a survivor. It is important for survivors to be registered, so their T-Shirt may be ordered in advance.

Relay for Life event will be from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. May 2-3 at the Munday High School track.

The public is invited to attend.

DPS Offers Safety Tips for Wildflower Fans This Spring

AUSTIN — Springtime in Texas is known for the beautiful wildflowers that blanket the fields and roadsides across our state, including the state flower, the Bluebonnet. Here are a few tips to help everyone enjoy the wildflower season safely and lawfully.

While there is no law against picking the state flower, laws do exist against damaging or destroying rights-of-way and government property. So even though picking a few flowers may be okay, individuals should not dig up clumps of flowers or drive their vehicle into a field of flowers.

Flower fans must also consider laws against criminal trespassing and make sure they are not on private property when stopping to enjoy or take photos of the wildflowers. Individuals should also be cautious of snakes, fire ants and other potential dangers while observing wildflowers.

DPS encourages motorists to be mindful of laws against impeding traffic and exercise caution when slowing down to enjoy the view; and if you decide to stop, choose areas with light traffic conditions.

For the safety of yourself and others, consider the following tips:

Signal before leaving or entering the roadway.

Park off the roadway (off of improved shoulders), parallel to the road in the direction of traffic.

Don't cross lanes of traffic on foot to get to the flowers.

Obey signs that prohibit parking on a particular stretch of roadway.

Remember that failure to follow the rules of the road any time of the year could earn you a ticket. So be careful, be practical and be sure to abide by our laws while enjoying the Texas wildflowers this and every year.



**DRIVE NOW
TEXT LATER**

The Paperboy We got rain! Really!

The storm hit just as we were beginning to think it would stay north of town. Instead, we got to witness a couple of strong thunderstorms which resulted in 2.5 inches of rain at the house and hail. A lot of hail.

You know what? It's hard to argue against the high winds and hail when it brings that much rain that fast.

It's been such a long time since we got to witness such a display. Easter Sunday 2014 will be remembered for answered prayers around here and in other places in the area.

For those of you that missed the rains, let's hope the stormy night is a harbinger of things to come. How wonderful it would be to write about even more rain next week.

I had forgotten about the feeling you get after such heavy rains. I don't know what's stranger. Watching the storms, or forgetting the feeling. Either way, the collective mood around here changed in about three hours Sunday. I really wish I would have been at the coffee shop or down at the Coop to hear the farmers and ranchers Monday morning...

One other observation regarding the weather: Don't trust weather people or forecasts. Despite all of the technology and computer models, the weather is very hard to nail down. In fact, I'd say it's impossible. We went from a slight chance of showers to 2.5 inches of rain in 24-hours.

The weather folk have gotten much better through the years of letting us know what is happening in real time, but as far as forecasting from days out, they have a poor batting average.

It's the year 2014 and it amazes me that of all the wrecks that occur, nearly all the fatalities are because the person was not wearing a seatbelt.

Ultimately, that one choice ... that one habit ... will probably be the difference in life or death if you're in a bad wreck.

If you're driving, make your passengers buckle up. Why should you, as the driver, have to live with the guilt of a loss of life?

Tell your passengers that the car doesn't move until everyone is in their seatbelt. If all drivers would do this, there would be a lot fewer fatalities on our roads.

We got our boys a puppy this last weekend. What was I thinking?

This pup - a cross between a Golden Labrador Retriever and a Newfoundland - looks like a promising dog. Lord knows it's going to be pretty big. It might even be very big.

However, at a month old, she's a little crazy. Less than a week in the house and she's already the boss.

Hopefully, before her next round of shots, we settle on a name. Right now we're looking at Betty Davis, Katniss Everdeen, Mrs. Nesbitt and a couple of the usual suspects.

There is something about a dog that seems to complete a household. Even if that dog injects chaos into the situation.

Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud 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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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.
Easter Sunrise Service 7:30 a.m.

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

We woke up on Sunday to a cloudy sky, then the sun came out, and it looked like a normal spring-like day was ahead. Then around noon, the clouds gathered, and a light rain began to fall, and everyone was concerned about the annual fire department sponsored egg hunt at 3.

Well, the rain stopped, the sun came out, and the "hunt" went as scheduled with lots of youngsters on hand to fill their baskets. Adults were there as well, and lots of visiting took place, and the kids who found the prize eggs lined up to get their gold dollars.

When it was over, everyone left happy and continued their visiting elsewhere. Then the rain came about midnight, and although we only got about .42 of an inch, it was nice and appreciated. Maybe we'll get more. We don't want the severe weather, but it may take a little wind and hail to get the rain we so desperately need. Let's hope and pray nothing real bad happens.

Sunrise Service

The Sunrise Service was well attended Sunday morning. That is according to those who were there. I missed it — overslept! I hated it because I always enjoy it but just didn't make it this year. Jim Wright, Methodist pastor, brought the message. Breakfast followed in the Fellowship Hall, and again, those who were there said there was an abundance of good breakfast goodies. A wonderful way to begin a beautiful Easter Sunday.

Here 'n' there

There was quite a lot of visiting in the area this past weekend. There's no way to get it all in, but I will get some of it reported. Jan and Fred Carver had a pretty good crowd show up to help Dorothy Carver celebrate her 90th birthday. And lots more friends and loved ones met at the Munday Nursing Center for this very special event.

Jan and Fred's immediate family who were there were: John and Patti Carver of Taft, Laura Ann Carver of Austin, Jenny Sneed and Isabel of Canton, Mike and Tammy Lyles, and Kip and Joy Lynn Pool of Benjamin, Gary and Stasia Antilley of Wingate, Jacy, Jara, Talon, and Lexie Collins of Munday, Tyler Collins and Keely Johnson of Lubbock, Ryan Antilley of Trent, Cody and Cassie Wainscott of Liberty Hill, and Callie Laird and Ryder, and Ricky Joe Carver, Bella and Ashburn all of Knox City.

On Sunday, they all had lunch with Callie and Ryder in Knox City. All except Fred—he's battling this upper respiratory stuff, and just felt like he needed to stay at home and rest.

Visiting Hazel Stockton, Kim Moore, and Bud Conner during the weekend were Keith and

Pam Conner and grandson, Carson Conner, all of Midland, Clay, Melina, Adaleah, and Ilah Kay Conner of Lubbock, Janet Reed of Benjamin and Big Spring, Samijo Russell and D.J. And Shelby Russell of Spur.

Wendy and Bubba Benson, Chastity and Lily of Royston were here on Sunday to visit relatives and attend the egg hunt. They and Dillon Benson had lunch with Imagean Young and Deann Lamb. It was good to see Bubba and his family, as I had not seen him and the girls since they moved. We see Wendy often, as she still works at the post office a couple of days each week.

I saw the Siemens girls and their families here on Sunday. They were visiting their parents, Tina and Kim Sealey and "taking in" the egg hunt. Visiting were Tina Silva and baby girl, Mary Ham and children, and Margaret Silva and daughters, all of Knox City, and Nathan and Nancy Beavers of Wichita Falls.

Cody Propps of Tarleton State University was here for the weekend with home folks.

Mary Young said she did not have any company nor go out of town during the weekend. Said she spent Saturday (all day) working in her yard. Her work pays off as she does always have a beautiful yard, despite dry weather, wind, and all the other obstacles that come our way.

Betty Bohannon is in Perryton today visiting with relatives. A nephew plans to return home with her for a few days' visit.

My Easter Sunday company included the following: Diane and Ashlee Evans of Childress, Beckie Smith and Randi, Dillon Keys, Liz, Nathan, Taylor, and Westin and Ruth Gladden, all of Munday, Cody and Kayla Taylor and Ryder of Seymour, Will Moorhouse of Snyder, Megan Kimbrough of Haskell and Texas Tech, and Mike and Debi Moorhouse of Benjamin.

Irene Reed said her son, Donny, and two of his sons spent Sunday with her. Donny lives in the Wichita Falls area, and the boys live at Seymour.

Donnie and Barbara Ryder had Easter supper with her daughter, Rhonda Molina and family in Munday. Barbara said all her family was there, so they all had a great time.

Judy and Randolph Barnett's Easter weekend company were her son, Jim Bob, and Jenny Beth Conner and children, Charlie, Madilyn, Jaylee, and Calli Conner of Wofforth. They also visited Philomae Roberson and Corrine Parrish.

Visiting Kathy and Chad Rainwater and sons during the weekend were Toby Rainwater and children of Wichita Falls and Kyrin Shawn of Decatur.

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

The 501 Smart cats eschew oxymoronic food labels

If you want to know if something is OK to eat, it's good to have a test cat. Or a test dog. If your pet eats it and doesn't keel over, chances are the food hasn't been poisoned.

It's a handy trick I learned as a child, circa 1952, when my mother was reading the funny papers to me. In one of the not-so-funny strips, a blue-haired queen of some ancient country wouldn't eat what she was being served until it had been offered first to the palace dogs. I filed away the strategy for future use.

About 40 years later, I decided to see if my cat Isabella would lap up non-dairy creamer. I served it in a saucer to make it look like real milk. She sniffed it and walked away, tail vertical in disdain.

Fake creamer may not be harmful to humans or cats, but I'm taking my cues from Isabella anyway, spurning all synthetic choices and insisting on real half-and-half for my coffee.

In fact, if ever I get a tattoo, it's going to say "strong coffee, no sugar, half-and-half." Then, when senility sets in, the staff of the care facility will know exactly how I like my coffee even if I don't.

I'm not sure where I want that tattoo. But in the nursing home, placement doesn't matter. The staff sees all your tattoos when they give you a bath.

Just in case some don't read English and because I like illustrations, a bag of sugar with an "X" through it will enhance the message.

Come to think of it, I'll need a secondary tattoo to let them know I do want sugar on my oatmeal—brown sugar plus fruit and milk. It gets complicated.

It's all reason enough not to get frivolous tattoos. You could end up without enough skin space for the key infographics and important texts you want to get across to the people who someday will matter most to you—the ones in charge of your coffee and your oatmeal.

Back to half-and-half. Should it be hyphenated? Tattoo artists probably think so. They no doubt get paid per every jot and tittle.

But the more important issue is the exact meaning. It's sort of a made-up term anyway. Half what? To me it means half whole milk and half cream, more or less—like heavy cream but a little lighter, nothing against heavy cream.

So guess what I just bought by mistake. GUESS PAUSE.

A little carton of non-fat half and half. When it comes to food, beware all oxymorons.

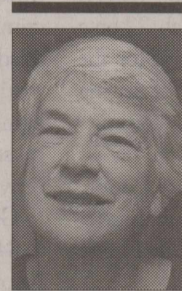
Meanwhile, guess what they substituted for fat. GUESS PAUSE.

Corn syrup! Does that make sense? They've added insult to injury. It's as if they assume that someone who likes the taste of cream would accept a not-so-healthy sweet substitute in its place. It's the sort of marketing strategy and trickery that leaves me speechless. I feel like saying just one thing:

READ MY TATTOO!

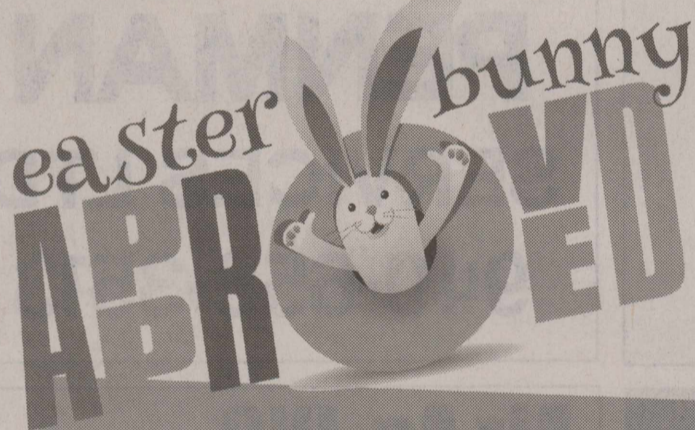
Maybe I'll get it sooner rather than later.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a columnist and contributor for the Blackburn Media Group family of newspapers.



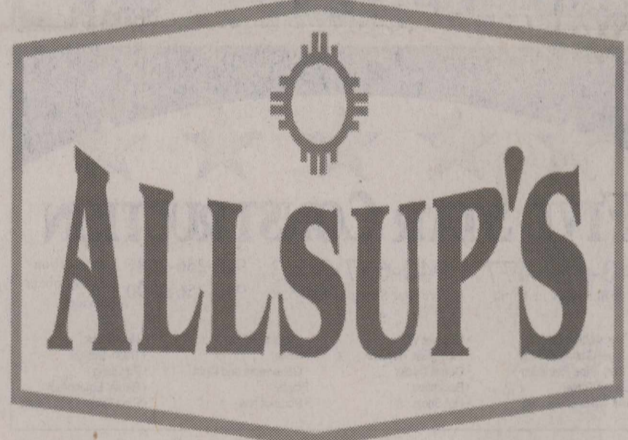
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Knox County Arrest and Jail Report from Feb. – April of 2014

By Geoff Baumgartner
The Knox County News-Courier

BENJAMIN – Pursuant to The Knox County Courier's Open Records Request, the below is a List of Those Arrested within the Indicated Time and Processed through the Knox County Jail:

February 10th 2014 -- April 1st, 2014

Snyder, Billy Eugene (DOB 1985). Arrested Feb. 11 on a Taylor County warrant on the class B misdemeanor of theft by check.

McGuire, Lorrie Lynn (DOB 1967). Arrested February 11 on a Wilbarger County warrant for the third degree felony of forgery against elderly.

Moya, Felix (DOB 1979). Arrested Feb. 16 on a Knox County warrant for the class A misdemeanor of driving while intoxicated second offense.

Lynch, James Earl (DOB 1983). Arrested Feb. 17 on a Knox County motion to revoke for the class B misdemeanor of criminal trespassing.

McGuire, Lorrie Lynn (DOB 1967). Arrested Feb. 18 on a Foard County warrant for the class B misdemeanor of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.

Fitts, Justin Craig (DOB 1991). Arrested Feb. 19 on a Baylor County motion to revoke warrant for the class A misdemeanor first offense of driving while intoxicated.

Luis, Robert Jr. (DOB 1973). Arrested on Feb. 22 on a Scurry County warrant for the class B misdemeanor of driving while license invalid commitment. Also taken in on Capias Pro-Fine Lubbock County warrant for the class B misdemeanor of driving while license invalid commitment.

Phillips, Joseph Alan (DOB 1990). Arrested Feb. 22 on a Knox County warrant for a class C misdemeanor of public intoxication reckless driving.

Campbell, Misty (DOB 1973). Arrested Feb. 22 on a Knox County warrant for the state jail felony of theft.

Birkenfeld, David (DOB

1972). Arrested Feb. 25 on a Knox County warrant for the first degree felony of aggravated sexual assault of a child and the third degree felony parole violation of driving while intoxicated.

Coody, Eric Lynn (DOB 1987). Arrested Feb. 26 in Johnson County on Knox County warrants for the class A misdemeanor of making a terroristic threat, the class B misdemeanor criminal trespass, the class B misdemeanor of possession of marijuana, and the class B misdemeanor or driving while license invalid with two previous convictions.

Gutierrez, Savannah (DOB 1984). Arrested Feb. 27 on a Knox County motion to revoke warrant for the class B misdemeanor of making a terroristic threat.

Lara, Detarus (DOB 1989). Arrested Feb. 28 Credit/Debit Card Abuse, (Sjf) Knox County

Rubio, Armando W. (DOB 1981). Arrested Mar. 1 in Knox County on a Jones County war-

rant for the state jail felony of assault and family violence with a previous conviction.

Morelos, Gilbert Reyes (DOB 1984). Arrested Mar. 3 on a Knox County warrant for the second degree felony of intoxication manslaughter with a vehicle.

Hodge, Ray Anthony (DOB 1979). Arrested Mar. 6 on a Knox County motion to revoke warrant for the third degree felony of possession of a controlled substance.

Tran, Thien Monh (DOB 1981). Arrested Mar. 11 in Knox County on an Erath County motion to revoke warrant for the class B misdemeanor of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.

Reading, Joshua (DOB 1989). Arrested Mar. 12 on Knox County warrants for the third degree felony of theft over \$20,000 and the state jail felony of the unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Johnson, Robert Earl (DOB 1946). Arrested Mar. 13 on a Knox County warrant for the

class B misdemeanor of driving while intoxicated.

Tole, Jeffery Nolan (DOB 1971). Arrested Mar. 13 on Foard County warrants for the class B misdemeanor of possession of marijuana, third degree felony of hindering apprehension of known felon, and the third degree felony of tampering with evidence.

Wilhelm, Sarah (DOB 1980). Arrested Mar. 14 on Wichita Falls warrants stemming from Foard County charges of third degree felony tampering with evidence, class A misdemeanor evading arrest, class B misdemeanor possession of marijuana, and state jail felony possession of a controlled substance.

Rathburn, Zachary D. (DOB 1990). Arrested Mar. 15 on a Baylor County warrant for the class A misdemeanor of driving while intoxicated second offense.

Sullivan, Chelsie Dawn (DOB 1991). Arrested Mar. 20 on a Knox County warrant for the class B misdemeanor theft

by check.

Bishop, Michael Dean (DOB 1989). Arrested Mar. 24 in Winkler County on a Knox County warrant for the class B misdemeanor of possession of dangerous drugs.

Macias, Michael Ray (DOB 1980). Arrested Mar. 26 on a Knox County warrant for the class B misdemeanor of criminal trespassing.

Anderson, Deon Richie (DOB 1970). Arrested Mar. 26 in Knox County for Lubbock County warrants of state jail felony bond surrender/theft.

Martin, Steven R. (DOB 1960). Arrested Mar. 29 on a Knox County warrant for the third degree felony of driving while intoxicated with 2 previous convictions.

Herbert, Ulyse (DOB 1955). Arrested Mar. 30 on a Knox County warrant for class A misdemeanor driving while intoxicated with previous conviction.

Dean W. Homstad, Sheriff Knox County

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Photo by Sammy Jo Baumgartner/Special to the News-Courier
Seniors Courtney Castorne, Cassandra Ledesma, Tanna Moeller, Kelsey Vasquez, and Micaela Peters pose in their fancy dresses on the night of the event. Themes were set to glow in the dark.

Knox City holds prom for juniors and seniors

By Geoff Baumgartner
 The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY - Knox City High School hosted its annual junior and senior prom last Saturday. While the recently constructed community center would have been ideal for the dance, the center was not available on the

night, so the students elected to have the prom inside the Knox City gym. The sponsors were Coach Colin and Christy Howeth, Becky Jones, and Coach Jordan Carter. While no students arrived in limousines, several seniors did arrive in a pontoon-like float.

The theme of the prom was enchantment under the sea and each table was outfitted with a bowl and swimming

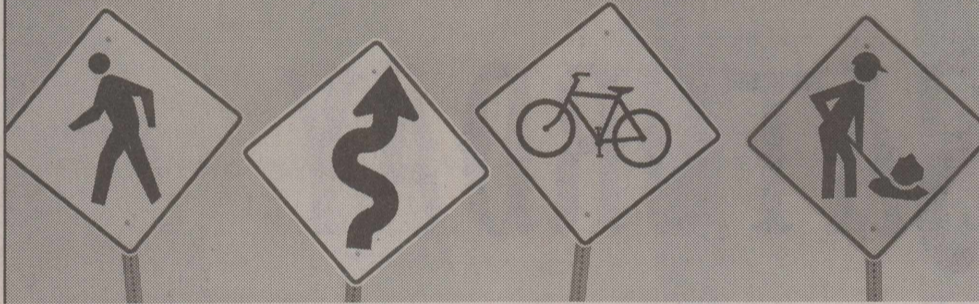
beta fish. There was BBQ being served and that was accompanied by a candy and cheesecake bar.

While no prom king or queen were chosen, the kids still had a delightful evening full of electric slides, cambia, and the two-step.

The prom concluded at midnight, with various juniors remaining to help clean up.

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4-H News



The Earthman sisters, Corrie (right), Morgan and Shawn, each placed in the regional 4-H Fashion Show recently held in Newcastle.

Submitted photo

Local youth shine at fashion show

Saturday, April 12, was the date of the 4-H Fashion Show in Newcastle. Local 4-Hers had the choice of exhibiting their fashion creations in the Fashion Exhibit or buying or constructing an outfit to be judged in the show.

Knox County had five members participating: Kathryn Cude – Fashion Exhibit; Bryanne Cude – Fashion Exhibit; Corrie Earthman – second place in buying Intermediate Fantastic Fashions under \$25 and Fashion Exhibit; Shawn Earthman – fifth place in buying Intermediate Everyday Living and Fashion Exhibit; and Morgan

Earthman – fifth place in buying Junior Everyday Living.

Corrie, Shawn, and Morgan all received the Cotton Award in their category for their garments containing at least 60 percent cotton. After being judged, contestants modeled their outfit on stage with a red carpet and upbeat music. All girls had lots of fun!

Knox County youth interested in joining 4-H are urged to call the Knox County Extension office at 940-459-2651.

Corrie Earthman

Youth participate in state indoor archery

Knox County 4-Hers traveled to Graham for the state indoor archery match march 21-22. Archers from counties all across Texas gathered to compete and have fun together at the Young County Arena. Knox County 4-H club had 11 members participating: Josiah Coplen, Ryan Earthman, Corrie Earthman, Sierra Boyd, Hailie Macias, Joseph Macias, Shawn Earthman, Morgan Earthman, Nate Earthman, Abraham Nevarez, and Grant Jackson.

For their first archery match, all did very well.

Grace Estrada competed in the Bosque County archery match on March 15. She had a great time and won second place in her age group.

If you have any questions about 4-H, contact the Knox County Extension Office at 940-459-2651.

Corrie Earthman



Courtesy photo

Members of the Knox County 4-H archery team participated in the state indoor tournament in Graham recently.

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Head Start readies for new applicants

The Knox County News-Courier

Munday Child Development Center, located at 941 Bowie in Munday, will be taking applications for the enrollment of children for the Head Start program that will begin in the fall.

The Head Start program serves 3- and 4-year-old children. It is designed to meet the needs of children by providing an environment which will help them develop socially, physically, intellectually, and emotionally in a manner appropriate to their age and stage of development toward the overall goal of school readiness and social competence. Children with disabilities are welcome in Head Start and are offered the full range of developmental services that children without disabilities receive.

The program works closely with other community agencies to provide services to meet the special needs of all children enrolled. The guidelines for participation in Head Start are established by the U.S. Department of Health

and Human Services.

To make application for the program, parents must bring the following documents: child's birth certificate, immunization record, and proof of income for the past 12 months, or 2013 1040 tax return. TANF recipients are categorically eligible for the program; however documentation of current benefits such as a letter from caseworker, case numbers, etc. must be provided. All information is considered confidential and will be used only for the purpose of establishing eligibility and defining the needs of the family and child.

While applications can be taken any time throughout the year, we encourage parents wanting their child in Head Start this fall to make an application as soon as possible.

Munday Child Development Center is hosting its Round-Up Day from 9 to 3 p.m. May 1. To complete an application, go to the Munday Child Development Center.

Call director Sheri Urbanczyk at 422-5363 for information.

High school coach, elementary openings to be weighed

The Knox County News-Courier

Members of the Munday CISD board of trustees are expected to meet in regular session at 6 p.m. today in the board conference room at the school administration building.

Among items on the agenda, available from the superintendent's office, includes personnel matters and recommendations regarding contracts for teachers and staff. Board members will need to fill at least one high school teaching and coaching position and a teaching spot at the elementary school.

Superintendent Robert Dillard also is expected to make recommendations regarding compensation of non-faculty employees.

In other business, the board is expected to consider budget amendments, certify instruction materials, hear a report on the district's financial standing and review investments.

In addition, the board also will consider approving a water-line easement for the North Central Texas Municipal Water District.

Wayne Hodgins

Munday Elementary to register pre-k students

Pre-kindergarten roundup for the 2014-2015 school year will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 2 Munday Elementary School.

Students who will be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 are eligible to attend pre-kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year.

Parents are invited to bring their child to school to register them.

Parents need to provide their child's birth certificate, Social Security card, immunization record and proof of residency.

For information, call Principal Kristi Bufkin at 940-422-4321.

The Knox County News-Courier

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Arrests

Following is a list of arrests made by Knox County sheriff's officials between Dec. 11 and Feb. 10. The information here is public record and made available to the newspaper by Sheriff Dean Homstad under the Texas Open Records Act.

Lockhart, Jordan (DOB 1990). Arrested Dec. 5 in Plano on a Knox County motion to revoke warrant with an original charge of a class B misdemeanor of possession of marijuana.

Masias, Mary Alice (DOB 1964). Arrested Dec. 11 in Knox County for a parole violation with an original charge of possession of a controlled substance, which is a state fail felony.

Jimenez, Brittany (DOB 1990). Arrested Dec. 12 on a state jail felony charge of endangering a child and a class C misdemeanor charge of no proof of insurance.

Barrioz, Ronnie (DOB 1980). Arrested Dec. 13 in Lamesa on a Knox County warrant for failure to appear on six charges of failure to pay child support, a state jail felony.

Reese, Jordon Chase (DOB 1985). Arrested Dec. 14 in Lubbock on a Knox County motion to revoke warrant with original charge of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger, a state jail felony.

Rubio, Armando Wayne (DOB 1981). Arrested Dec. 15 in Knox County for public intoxica-

tion, failure to signal turn and no driver license, all class C misdemeanors.

Ford, Richard (DOB 1965). Arrested in Foard County for a class B misdemeanor charge of falsifying a drug test.

Rubio, Armando Wayne (DOB 1981). Arrested Dec. 20 on a class B misdemeanor charge of theft by check. Also wanted for a warrant out of Baylor County.

Gonzales, Marco, (DOB 1996). Arrested Dec. 20 on a class A misdemeanor charge of assault under the Family Violence Act.

Gutierrez, Misty Dawn (DOB 1979). Arrested Dec. 21 for a Foard County motion to revoke warrant with original charges of possession of drugs with intent to manufacture and transport, second-degree felony.

Dockins, Jermain, (DOB 1990). Arrested Dec. 27 in Knox County on charges of assault under the Family Violence Act.

Hamor, Mindy R. (DOB 1981). Arrested Dec. 28 on a Foard County charge of possession of a dangerous drug, a class A misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class C misdemeanor.

Plume, Cleborn (DOB 1994). Arrested Dec. 31 on three charges of disorderly conduct, a charge of tobacco possession by a minor and for "dog running at large," all class C misdemeanors.

Esquivel, Michelle (DOB

1970). Arrested Jan. 2 on third-degree felony charge of theft out of Knox County.

Moreno, Jose (DOB 1981). Arrested Jan. 3 on a third-degree felony charge of driving while intoxicated with three or more prior convictions.

Dockins, Demarcus (DOB 1987). Arrested Jan. 7 on a Knox County probation violation charge for engaging in organized criminal activity.

McGinis, Eric Gerard (DOB 1975). Arrested Jan. 7 on a Knox County warrant for failure to appear with an original state jail felony charge of nonpayment of child support.

Hodge, Ray Anthon (DOB 1979). Arrested on bench warrant for possession of a controlled substance out of Knox County.

Lingar, Mindy Richelle (DOB 1981). Arrested on a Foard County charge of driving while intoxicated with three or more prior convictions.

Arriola, Jeffery (DOB 1976). Arrested Jan. 12 on a class C charge of public intoxication in Knox County.

Sherrard, Bobby (DOB 1965). Arrested Jan. 13 on Haskell County warrants for assault against a disabled person and interference with an emergency call, both class A misdemeanors.

Fitts, Justin (DOB 1991). Arrested Jan. 13 on a probation violation (class A misdemeanor) out

of Baylor County.

Price, Stevie Jr. (DOB 1972). Arrested Jan. 14 in Knox County on a motion to revoke bond associated with an original charge of assault with bodily injury. Also had warrants out of Ector County.

Sipe, Freddie (DOB 1983). Arrested on a motion to revoke bond associated with an original charge of cruelty to non-livestock animals, a third-degree felony, out of Baylor County.

Gonzales, Jose (DOB 1987). Arrested Jan. 13 on a Knox County charge of driving while intoxicated with three or more prior convictions.

Gates, Lesley L. (DOB 1986). Arrested on Baylor County charges of evading arrest and interference with an emergency call, both class A misdemeanors, and a third-degree felony charge of assault against a public officer.

Gutierrez, Savannah (DOB 1984). Arrested Jan. 20 on a Knox County charge of driving on an invalid license with at least one previous conviction, a class B misdemeanor.

Sullivan, Chelsea Dawn (DOB 1991). Arrested Jan. 22 on Knox County charges of evading arrest (class A misdemeanor) and resisting arrest (class B misdemeanor); and on two motion to revoke bond warrants out of Haskell and Taylor counties, which are class B misdemeanors.

Hernandez, Joe Lee (DOB 1984). Arrested Jan. 25 on a Knox County charge of driving while intoxicated, first offense (class B misdemeanor) and on a warrant out of Foard County.

Collins, Christopher Lee (DOB 1977). Arrested Jan. 26 on a second-degree felony charge of burglary of a habitation out of Knox County.

Holmes, Adam Wesley (DOB 1992). Arrested Jan. 30 on a charge of manufacturing and delivery of a controlled substance (second-degree felony) out of Knox County.

Macias, Michael Ray (DOB 1988). Arrested Feb. 1 on a class C misdemeanor charge of public intoxication out of Knox County.

Vaughn, Michael Paul (DOB 1977). Arrested Feb. 3 on a class A misdemeanor charge of making a terroristic threat out of Foard County.

Jimenez, Gloria Jean (DOB 1962). Arrested Feb. 2 on a Foard County charge of driving while license invalid, a class B misdemeanor.

Estrada, April (DOB 1991). Arrested Feb. 9 on a Knox County charge of making a terroristic threat, a class B misdemeanor.

Moore, Lee Andrew Jr. (DOB 1967). Arrested Feb. 10 on a Baylor County charge of criminal mischief, a class A misdemeanor.

Wayne Hodgins

KCVFD to host upcoming golf tourney to benefit department

By Geoff Baumgartner
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a golf tournament that will benefit their department.

The tournament will be held on May 3 with a 1 p.m. tee time. It will be held at the Knox City Country Club and will be a three person scramble. A scramble, in golfing terms, describes a team vs. team effort where the player with the best ball position

(out of three) is the one the team eventually plays for each stroke. Entry Fee is \$60 a team.

Extra shots on hole number two will be for two dollars with a maximum of three extra shots per player. Every team may advance to hole three for fifteen dollars a team.

To sign up for the event, or to get more information about it, contact Knox City Fire Chief Domingo Garcia at 940-203-0815. Food and drinks will also be available on the course for all players.

Hoops tourney to benefit KCVG

KNOX CITY — Members of the Knox County Visioning Group will host a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament fundraiser May 3 at the high school gym.

The tourney will begin at 9 a.m. and will be a three-game elimination with teams of four. There will be men and women's categories and a \$60 early registration fee.

Other businesses sponsoring the event

are First Bank Texas in Munday, The Knox County Hospital District, The Circle Bar Ranch in Truscott, and Knox County Abstract Company Inc.

Call 940-459-4121 to register or email kcvg@srcaccess.net.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

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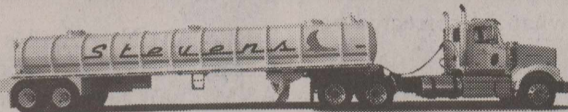
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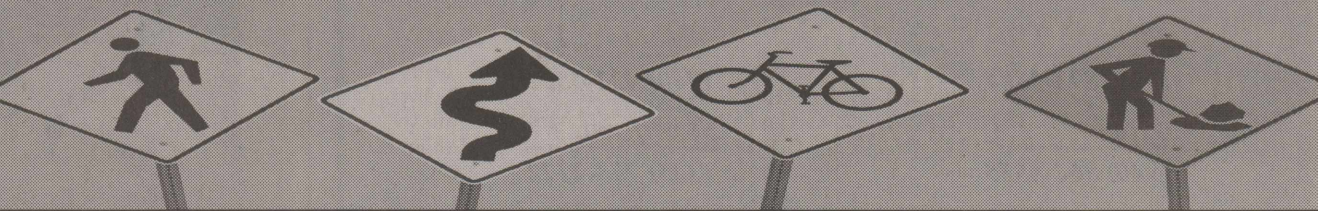
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Dixie Divas

A Southern staple: Common courtesy can be contagious

There are many things I love about the South. We're fiercely patriotic. We're neighborly. We're storytellers without equal. We're unabashedly and unapologetically faithful. We're proudly hospitable.

But here's what I love just a little bit better than all the rest: We believe mightily in courtesy and manners.

Now, this isn't to say that only Southerners are well raised or that all Yankees and other non-Southerners are rude. That would be untruthful because I have met some extremely discourteous Southerners while I know some beautifully well-mannered Yankees.



RONDA RICH

My husband and his father are two of the most courtly gentlemen I have ever met, and they are entrenched in Yankee-ness going all the way back to the Mayflower. You can't be Yankee-ier than they are. And you can't find anyone more gentlemanly than they.

My husband rises from his seat whenever a woman enters the room. He helps her with her seat, her jacket or opens the door. My father-in-law will speak always with gentility when I am in his presence. I hope that people outside of the South are still being raised like these two fine men. But here's one thing I know for certain: Where I come from, children are still being taught courtesy especially when it comes to their elders.

The other day Louise brought home the preacher and his wife for our usual Sunday dinner. The two of them and Tink and I were at the table when Jon, our family's 13-year-old, arrived. Jon is a normally bashful child. That comes from his father's family for his mother's family — we — have never been shy to speak.

With presence and without encouragement, he walked into the dining room and said, "Hello, Preacher Joe." He walked straight to the table, offered his hand in a steady grip, shook the preacher's hand firmly and looked him in the eye. "Good to see you," he said then

turned to the preacher's wife and said, "Hello, Miss Phyllis." He smiled, shook her hand firmly and looked her in the eye. We all smiled broadly with approval.

He isn't the exception. Every teenager or child of each friend of mine calls me "Miss Ronda." They all say "Yes ma'am," "No sir," "please" and "thank you." This is the case across the South from the Carolina coast to the plains of West Texas.

Of all the things I adore about the manners of the South, what I admire most is that we respect our elders by calling them "Miss" or "Mr." combined with their first names. This, of course, is for the ones to whom we are close. Otherwise, we use their last name.

One of the pre-schooler twins dropped by the dinner table and Miss Phyllis asked her a question. Bree tilted her head and said, "What?"

"Bree, don't say 'what'," I corrected her. "Say, 'Ma'am?'"

She smiled shyly then repeated as she had been instructed. We also use "pardon me?" in such incidences.

My niece once said, "There's one thing about it — my children are going to be courteous and treat others respectfully." So they do. It is a worthy parental pursuit.

Sela Ward, the award winning television actress from Mississippi, wrote in her lovely memoir "Homesick" that it has been hard on her to raise her children in California where children are raised to be casual and even call their teachers by their first name with no "Miss" or "Mr." attached. She, like many Southerners, love the respectful, gentle manners of the South.

Good manners, like rudeness, can rub off and even the well-trained can be improved. Despite age, you can learn and change.

One day last summer, Tink, referring to a nearby neighbor, said, "Miss Brenda's grass needs cutting. Her mower's broken so we need to cut it for her."

And, just like that, my Yankee husband slipped into a patented Southern sensibility. Bless his sweet heart.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author.



Special to the News-Courier

Several Knox County officials and other courthouse employees "Purple Up!" on Tuesday by sporting various shades of the color purple in their shirts, blouses, sweaters, scarves, ties and caps. The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Knox County helped organize the local "Purple Up!" campaign in coordination with groups around the nation to bring awareness to the needs of children throughout the United States who have one or more active-duty parents serving in the military.

Knox promotes purpley program

By Wayne Hodgins
The Knox County News-Courier

BENJAMIN — April is the month to honor military children, and officials with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Knox County are promoting a cause to raise awareness of the needs of military children and their families.

Through the Military Families Learning Network, a web-based professional development site for U.S. military service men and women, the "eXtension" network of land-grant universities throughout the country has many resources available to help raise awareness of the needs of military children and their families.

The "eXtension" site is a repository of information and resources from many experts throughout the Extension network as well as other experts from academia and various professional disciplines, said Lorrie Coop, coordinator for the local Extension office in Benjamin.

"The Military Families Learning Network has a variety of free print materials, webinars and videos of benefit to military families and their children, as well as those who care for service members who are disabled or wounded," Coop said.

To help draw attention to the needs of military families and those who care for them, the Military Caregiving portion of the eXtension website

is providing social media messages with links to available resources for use in helping raise awareness, Coop said.

Several Twitter and Facebook social media-based messages were developed to appeal to younger people and introduce them to the variety of issues unique to military families and the families of wounded, ill or injured service members.

"Also, we want to encourage people to participate in 'Purple Up!' activities," said Coop, who helped spearhead such an event Tuesday, when many Knox County officials and other county employees were encouraged to wear purple to pay honor to the current and former members of the U.S. armed forces and to help bring attention to the needs of military families.

Coop said the idea of people "purpling up" is based on the fact that when all colors representing each of the U.S. military service branches are combined, the resulting color is purple.

To further support this effort, AgriLife Extension has developed a website for the public to find out what Purple Up! activities are going on throughout the state.

"The idea was let people see the variety and extent of programs observing the April 15 Purple Up! initiative and to recognize and honor military children, plus show Texas 4-H as a leader in Purple Up! efforts," Coop said.

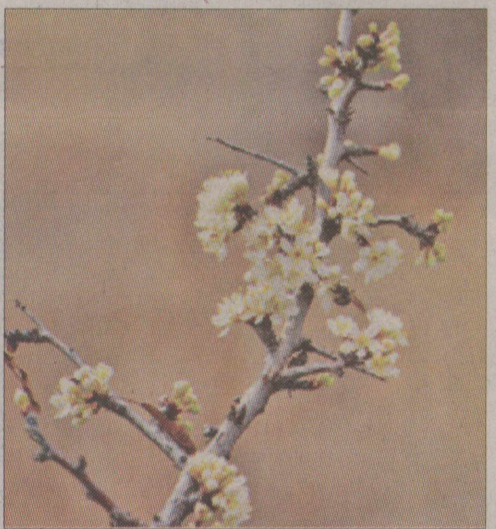
Wilder's Nature Adventures

By S.J. Dahlstrom

These are the spring blooms of the sandhill plum. This tree is small and bears little red plums in early summer that are sour-sweetish. In the spring, these small, white flowers bloom and then become the plums.

Do you see the bee on one of the blooms? That bee is helping the plant to produce fruit. As it works to gather the sweet nectar to eat, it spreads pollen from flower to flower. This pollinates the buds so the tree can make fruit.

Sandhill plum jelly is my favorite jelly that my mom makes. One time she burned the plums though, and the entire jelly batch was bitter. We ate it anyways, and it was still pretty good.



Wilder at wildergood.com.

S.J. Dahlstrom/The Knox County News-Courier
A honey bee works to gather nectar from the flowering blooms on this sandhill plum. As the bee moves from bloom to bloom, it spreads pollen from one flower to the next. This fertilizes the bud, which will soon grow into the fruit — a plum.

S.J. Dahlstrom is a Garza County resident and author of the young adult fiction book series "The Adventures of Wilder Good," based on a 12-year-old boy who enjoys hunting, fishing, cowboying and just about everything there is to do outdoors. Discover more about

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