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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

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THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015

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Candidates file for May 9 election

By James McAfee
 The Knox County News-Courier

Filings for places on the respective city councils and school boards here in Knox County for the May 9 election ended last Friday.

Mayor Bob Bowen did not get an opponent in Munday. Two places currently held by Traci Lyn Blair and Keith Kuehler were open. Blair will run again and be joined on the ballot by William Allen Burtram, William Ray Carden and Richard Don

Thompson.

The two candidates for two places currently held by Brenda Burns and Caroline Garcia in Goree are Gaylon Michael Hord and Isabell Reagins-Cobb.

In Knox City, Zeke Duke and Greg Oliver both refiled for their Council positions. City manager Sam Watson said no one filed for mayor and he was checking with legal on an appointment for mayor. Kent Deville currently is the mayor.

Incumbents Jim Cowan, Dick

Dickerson and Jerry Parker were the only ones filing in Benjamin.

Elsewhere, in school board filings:

Current trustees Stephen Kuehler, Lauren Dawn Vanderpol and Joy Lynn Pool were the only ones to file with the Benjamin Independent School District.

Incumbents Rebecca Araujo and Bill Longan of the Munday Consolidated Independent School District filed for new three-year terms, but chairman Todd Thompson didn't. Kevin Myers, Roger Nunez, Laurie

Urbanczyk and Shannon Waters also entered the race with three spots open.

For the Knox City/O'Brien Consolidated Independent School District, current board members Amanda Duke and Jeremy Eaton will be joined in the race for two spots by Jeffery Hernandez.

Requests for ballots for early voting will be accepted starting next Tuesday and continue until April 30. Then voters can cast early votes from April 27 until May 5.

Knox Calendar

Please notify the News-Courier to add or update your events and meeting times. Emailed submissions to kcnewscourier@gmail.com are preferred, but will also be accepted by phone at 940 422-5350. The deadline for inclusion in the next week's issue will be 5 p.m. on Fridays.

Thursday, March 5

Knox City baseball at Eula Tournament

Knox City softball at Wichita Falls Tournament

Friday, March 6

Munday track at Wind Energy Relays, Hermeleigh

Knox City softball at Wichita Falls Tournament

Saturday, March 7

Cotton Pickin' Quilt and Cookin' Show, Knox Prairie Events Center, Goree, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Knox City baseball at Eula Tournament

Knox City softball at Wichita Falls Tournament

Monday, March 9

Knox County Commissioners Court, Benjamin, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 10

Munday Lions Club, Perry Payton Community Center, noon

City of Munday council meeting, City Hall, 6 p.m.

Benjamin CISD school board, 7 p.m.

North Central Texas Water Authority, 7 p.m.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact kcnewscourier@gmail.com.

Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show set Saturday

Special to the News-Courier

GOREE—One of the things that had to be cancelled because of the icy road conditions last Saturday was the Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show and Cookin' Show.

It has been rescheduled here at the Knox Prairie Events from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday. Admission will be \$5. Gift bags will go to the first 250.

There will be a cookie-baking contest with following categories—drop cookies, bar cookies and sandwich cookies. Divisions are planned for youths 8-17 and adults.

Lorrie Coop and Jerry Coplen with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a cooking demonstration with details about using herbs at 10:30 a.m.

The lunch menu will feature the traditional chicken spaghetti for \$7 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Greyhounds celebrate bi-district win



Sheri Baty for The Knox County News-Courier

The Knox City Greyhounds show off their Class 1A bi-district trophy, but then fell in the area round to Ropes on Monday to finish the season with a 15-12 record

Head start accepting applications

MUNDAY—The 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 program serves three and four year old children and 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.

The program works closely with other community agencies to provide services to meet the special needs of all children enrolled. Children with disabilities are welcome in the program and are offered the full range of services. The guidelines for participation 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 2014 1040 tax return. TANF recipients are categorically eligible for the program, but 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 will host its "Round Up Day" next Wednesday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. To complete an application, go to the Munday Child Development Center. If you need further information, please contact Sheri Urbanczyk, director, at 422-5363.

Ice, snow cause traffic problems

Last week's snow, an estimated two inches, didn't add a lot of precipitation for Knox County.

Brandon Carr, Soil conservationist at the James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials in Knox City, reported only .26 of inch of precipitation.

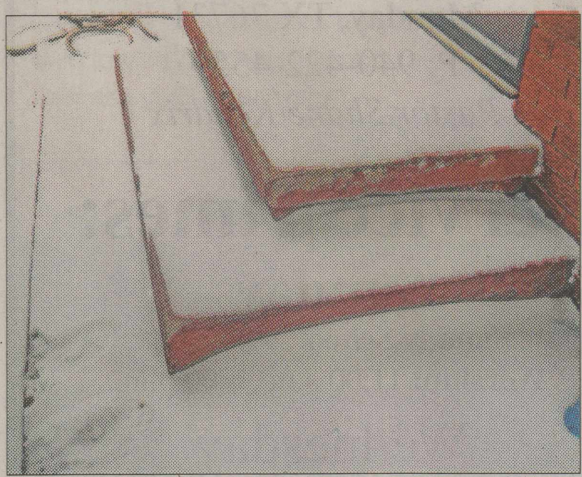
The icy conditions did almost bring the county to a halt between last Friday and Sunday as road conditions make travelling difficult, causing

many cancellations including at some churches on Sunday morning.

Most of the snow and ice was gone Tuesday as temperatures climbed into the 60s, but forecasters called for another cold front to bring the temperatures below freezing again with the possibility of ice and snow. Knox just received rain early Wednesday morning before the temperatures were scheduled to drop.



Old Man Winter



James McAfee/The Knox County News-Courier

The recent snow made for hazardous walking conditions as evident from the steps on this house.

Knox Notes

Spring Break schedules

Knox City students will be out of school next week for Spring Break while Munday and Benjamin students will wait until the following week, March 16-20.

St. Joseph's plans dinner

RHINELAND—The annual St. Joseph's Catholic Church parish sausage and fried chicken dinner is scheduled from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on March 15. The cost will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. Take-out orders will be available. To order bulk sausage, call 940 256-2973

or 940 256-3113. The County Store will be selling homemade goods and arts and craft items.

Painting classes planned

MUNDAY—The Art Lab has planned painting classes starting Saturday and continuing to the following Saturday. Call 940 422-5742 to register.

Volleyball tournament Saturday

KNOX CITY—The Santa Rosa Catholic Church Coed Volleyball Tournament is scheduled here Saturday. Entry fee is \$120 per team.

News on the go



Use your smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

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The Knox County News-Courier

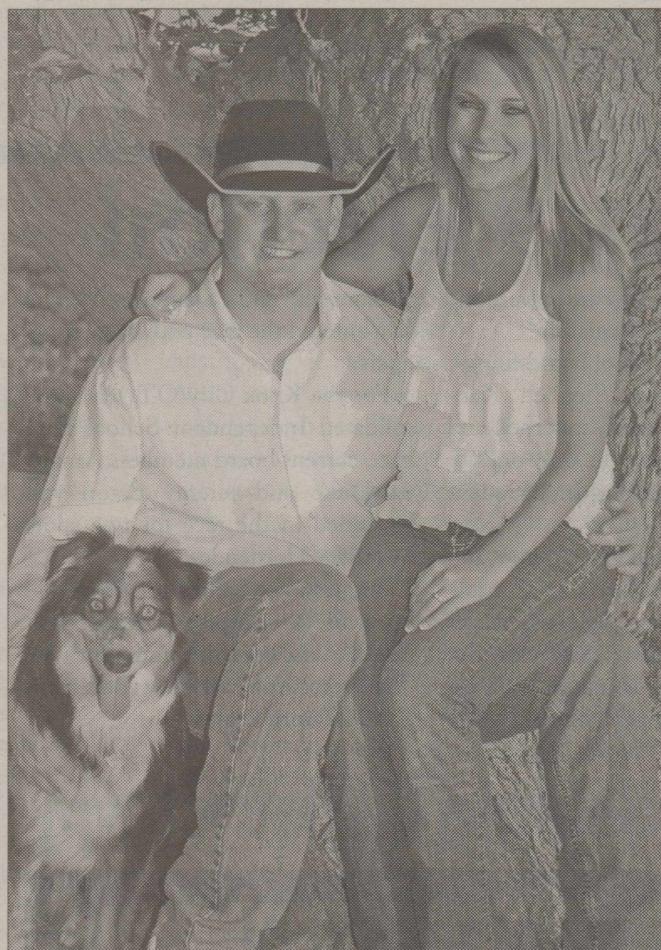
It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and the ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$36 a year in the county
\$42 a year outside the county



Rowan-Turner marriage planned for June



Keith and Jane Rowan of O'Brien announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kate Rowan, to Landon Turner of Levelland. A June 2015 wedding is planned.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of June Locknane and the late Eugene Locknane of Clovis NM, and the late Ivan and Cleo Rowan of O'Brien. She is a 2010 graduate of Rule High School, and will be a May 2015 graduate of Texas Tech University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education.

The prospective groom is the son of Preston and Lydia Turner of Levelland. He is the grandson of Muriel Turner and the late J.D. Turner of Levelland. He is a 2010 graduate of Sundown High School, and a 2011 graduate of WyoTech with a degree in diesel technology and applied service management. Landon is currently employed by Warren Cat in Lubbock and farms in Hockley County.

Deadline to renew CSP contracts March 31

KNOX CITY— Farmers and ranchers who signed Conservation Stewardship Program contracts in 2011 with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service have until March 31 to renew those expiring contracts for another five years.

Knox County District Conservationist Charles Schur said existing 2011 CSP contracts in Texas will expire on Dec. 31 if not renewed. Schur said landowners may renew their existing contracts

on a non-competitive basis if they are willing to adopt additional conservation activities aimed at helping them achieve higher levels of conservation on their farms, forests and ranches.

Farmers and ranchers without CSP contracts can apply for the voluntary program until March 13, an extension of the previous deadline.

"CSP offers landowners the opportunity to be rewarded for the good resource conservation efforts they are currently undertaking," Schur said. "This program provides additional incentives for them to continue their enhancements on a voluntary basis."

The bill includes an expanded conservation activity list that offers farmers more options to address natural resource challenges, including testing the effects of cover crops on soil quality, incorporating wildlife-beneficial management and using innovative irrigation efforts to reduce water use.

Deaths

Margaret Virginia (nee) Lee Stovall

The common thread that bound our family from WWI, through the roaring 20's, the great depression, WWII and into the 21st century is gone. Margaret Stovall passed away on February 12, 2015 in San Antonio after suffering from complications from a fall and generally deteriorating health.

Margaret was born April 18, 1916 in Childress, the oldest of 7 children born to William Andrew Lee and Grace Virginia Ballard. Her childhood years were spent in Childress and after moves to Electra, El Paso, Plainview and Lubbock the family settled in the Poly area of Fort Worth. After graduating from Polytechnic High in 1935 she began working for SH Kress & Company in downtown Fort Worth. To Margaret, downtown Fort Worth was the most exciting place in the world. In May 1940, she was hired by the Fort Worth & Denver Railroad as a hostess on the Burlington Zephyr where she served until the outbreak of WWII after which time she was moved into the ticket office.

Margaret had so many in-



MARGARET STOVALL

teresting stories to tell about her days growing up during the depression and her service as a hostess traveling between Houston and Denver, stopping at all points between. She learned to make every penny count and lived by the motto "use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without."

After marrying Claude Stovall in Weatherford, shortly after the war ended, the couple moved with their 3 young children to Lubbock in 1952. Claude was called into the ministry in 1955 and the family moved to New Mexico where Claude pastored 8 churches and missions until 1985. Margaret

made the perfect companion to her husband's ministries with her beautiful voice and always ready piano skills.

She worked for many years as a secretary at the Baptist Convention of New Mexico. After living in Albuquerque for a number of years in retirement the Stovalls went back to their Texas roots and settled in Ker-ville.

Margaret enriched the lives of everyone around her and was a wonderful daughter, sister, wife, mother, friend and Christian. Her life was so well-lived no words here can give credit to this splendid woman.

She was preceded in death by her husband and daughter, Donna. She is survived by one brother, James Lee of Grandview and his wife. She is also survived by her daughter, June Stovall of Santa Fe and her son Mike Stovall of San Antonio and their spouses and her son-in-law John Spruill of Maxwell NM, 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Burial will be at a future date, next to her husband, Claude, in Knox City.

The Paperboy

Your most precious gift is time

Are you thankful for this day?

I heard a minister speak the other day and he had a good point. If you were given \$86,400 a day knowing that you either had to spend it all, or lose the remainder, you'd likely spend, invest or give away every cent of it.

Each day we have 86,400 seconds to spend. My question for you is are you getting the most out of your time?

The difference between time and money is that you can make more money, but you can't make more time.

So is time as important as money to you?

In our society, we cram our schedules full of activity. We also like to be distracted.

How many of us spend an hour online away from work? How many of us spend almost all of our free time online?

In our communities - small town U.S.A. - we have many residents that spend hours a day on Facebook. Would you say that is healthy? Would you say that it is a waste of time?

I wonder how many of us regret the fact that we haven't spent an abundance of quality time with our children? I bet if we were really being honest, it would be a majority of us.

Before TV, computers and smart phones, families spent much more time together. Somewhere along the line, we replaced family time

with our own self interests.

As I grow older and look back on my life, I see wasted time along the way. I see time filled with my own selfishness. While I spend a lot of time with my children, am I being fair to my wife? Have I spent quality time with other family members and friends?

While I think its great to have a hobby and I understand that technology certainly has its place, I know there are scores of Americans that can do a better job of time management, especially as it pertains to family and friends.

I believe that in order to have a fulfilling life, we must manage our time. We must have balance in our lives.

I was thinking of a typical day and reflecting on all of the wasted time and I've decided to concentrate on making a stronger impact on things that matter.

I will be the Christian, husband, father, friend and worker that God intends me to be. I'm going to keep the noise and distraction to a minimum and focus on making sure I tend to these most important things.

Time is indeed precious. How we spend those 86,400 seconds in a day matter.

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Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of The Red River Sun, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, The Knox County News-Courier and The Post Dispatch. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.



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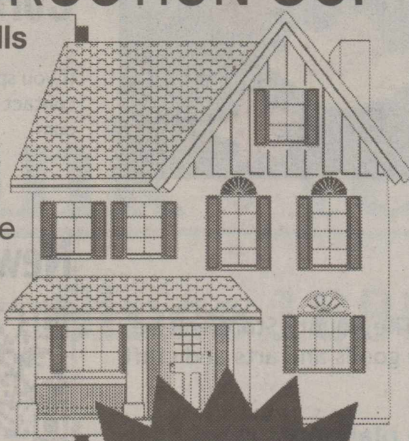
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Some restrictions apply.

Bridal Registry

Denise Hibbitts & Chase Thompson
Stephanie & Cody (Chase) Cockerell
Kate Rowan & Landon Turner

Baby Shower Registry

Deshea & Doug Sorrells
Hannah & Hunter Jordan
Nadia & Nathan Rowland
Kayla & Tommy Rodriguez

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Menus for week of March 8-14

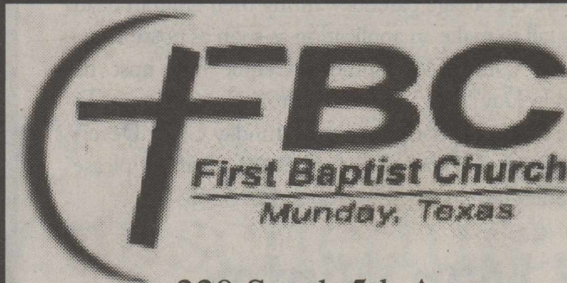
Monday: Pork chops, black eyed peas, spinach, pudding.

Tuesday: Chicken tenders, gravy, peas & carrots, rolls, cookies.

Wednesday: Salisbury steak, English peas, mashed potatoes, fruit.

Thursday: Herb roasted chicken, green beans, cake.

Friday: Ham sandwiches, salad, tater tots, dessert.



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.

The 501 If in doubt, say "Duh"

My friend Sandy just bought a house near Little Rock. The name of her street is Deauville, like the city in France.

OK, non-Francophones. Try pronouncing Deauville.



HANABA
MUNN
WELCH

Clue: Think of the word "bureau."

"Deauville" is pronounced "Duh," as in "Sedan de Ville."

So, as the new kid on the block, Sandy plans to say "Duh" to fit in from the start. Knowing the right way to say something wrong is worth a lot when you're trying to make the right impression.

Duh. It had to be said.

Moi, I wouldn't give in. I'd launch a campaign. I'd design T-Shirts saying "I don't live on

DUH-ville." They might catch on.

On the other hand, I automatically say "Lamesa" the Texas way, high school Spanish notwithstanding. And "Brazos."

"Palestine" is a challenge. I have to think how they say it on television so I can say it the other way for the East Texas town.

I feel a little smug when mispronouncing Texas towns and rivers the right way. It's a trick we Texans use to spot outsiders and newcomers. Poor souls.

Oklahomans have their ways too — probably more than Texans relative to the size of the state. Even "McAlester," my father's hometown, is "Muh-calaster" when it comes from the lips of natives, pronounced so as not to single out any one syllable any more than necessary. If you smile when you say "McAlester," you might be giving the "Mc" and the "Al" too much emphasis. Try saying it. Did you smile?

Or maybe you're just happy you're not serving time there. Or anywhere.

If you are serving time somewhere, I'm glad to have you as a reader. Really.

Back to Oklahoma towns.

Wikipedia's alphabetical list starts with "Achille," population

492. If you think "Achille" is singular for "Achilles," as in the guy with the heel, it's not. "Achille" comes from the Cherokee word for fire, spelled "atsila" by most current accounts, a spelling choice presumably based on the Cherokee syllabary. I wonder if Washington gave the town name the Greek twist when the town applied for a post office. Just my guess. It's always easy to blame mistakes on the government and often correct. Quote me. As for the right way to pronounce Achille, don't ask me.

And then there's the surreal pronunciation of Cyril, Oklahoma, pun much intended. Would you believe Wikipedia says Cyril was most likely named for Louise Lookingglass, presumably called "Cyril," the infant daughter of Bayard (Monapahrah) and Laura (Titah-ter-way) Lookingglass? Works for me.

If you didn't get the pun, it's clear you're from nowhere near Cyril. If you didn't know the origin of the name, join the club. You fit right in with most of us.

Here's to fitting in.

Except on Deauville Street.

I'm holding out for saying it the right way. So far, so good.

When you're 500 miles away, it's easy to hold out for what's right.

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

As you may have guessed, there's very little news this week. As has been the case for a good while, the main topic of conversation has been the weather and how tired most people are of it. Some like it, and we all are proud of the moisture, but the cold, snow and messy conditions that follow leave a lot to be desired. Don't know how much snow we had—probably three inches at least, and it is wet, so that moisture is really appreciated. And, according to those who are "supposed to know," there's more ahead this week. Some rain, some snow and even a thunderstorm or two. We'll see.

Everyone has stayed pretty close to home because of the weather. Church services were cancelled here on Sunday because of the slippery roads and other hazards that could have posed a problem. And we think it's bad here, but we would be in a mess if we lived in the Boston area. They are really having a time of it.

New arrival

John and Sara White of Munday are proud to announce the arrival of a baby son. Noah Samuel was born at 4:30 a.m. last Wednesday at the Seymour Hospital. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 22 inches long. His grandparents are Ronnie and Susan White of Benjamin and Lee and Stephanie Skelton of Seymour. He also has lots of aunts, uncles, and cousins who are all very proud of him. According to Susan, Sara and Noah are doing well, and

they think John will be all right when he gets his head out of the clouds!

Here 'N There

Imagean Young took a short trip to the hospital Sunday night. She thought she might be having some heart problems, but after doctors checked her out good, they determined it was arthritis aggravated by this cold, damp weather, so she got a shot and some medication and came home. She's feeling better today.

Donnie and Barbara Ryder attended the funeral of Vicki Bell Barker in Seymour on Thursday. Vicki was reared in Munday, the daughter of Riley D. and Vera Bell.

I talked to Tammy Lyles today. She was telling me that their daughter, Cassie Wainscott, will be moving to North Carolina within the next few months. Cody has re-enlisted in the military and will be stationed there. Of course, Tammy and Mike hate to see them move from Texas, but she said she will just "hop a plane" and go visit! Sounds like a good idea to me.

Deann Lamb thinks she will be home pretty soon. After several months' stay in the Munday Nursing Center, she's a bit apprehensive about being alone. However, after a few days, I think she will be OK. She's ready to come home.

We were disappointed that the Knox City Greyhounds didn't win Monday night. Win or lose, you have done well.

Little Dribblers will play at Benjamin on Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. and will go on until all the teams have finished.

Perry files bills to ensure access to courses

LUBBOCK—Senator Charles Perry filed SB 13 this week to improve access to college courses in high school and encourage career and college exploration in middle school.

"Last session, I was proud to help pass House Bill 5, the most sweeping education reform in recent memory," said Perry. "SB 13 acts in tandem with HB 5 to improve outcomes and workforce readiness in our public schools."

SB 13 is made of four components. The bill lifts the current cap on the number of dual enrollment courses a student may enroll in each semester. It requires community colleges to either approve or deny applicants desiring to teach dual enrollment within 60 days. It additionally helps rural Texas by extending the Skills Development Fund to allow rural schools to apply for funds and establish an MOU with a community college to ensure the course standards are met.

Other recent bills filed by Perry include:

SB 795 would implement an interstate crosscheck program to ensure individuals voting in Texas are not registered to vote in multiple states.

SB 796 would improve our ability to investigate voter fraud by removing restrictions in place for using noncitizen lists compiled in the jury selection process.

SB 722 prohibits individuals from receiving unemployment benefits if they fail or refuse to take a drug test from a potential employer during the interview process.

SB 723 closes a loophole in the TANF employment and training program, making non-receipt parents have the same requirements as adults, including working at least 30 hours a week or participating for at least 20 hours in training.

SB 724 cleans up a pre-existing sales tax exemption for school buses and other motor vehicles used by public schools or government agencies to clarify language and ensure the comptroller's office recognizes the exemption.

SB 673 protects traditional marriage and reaffirm Texas sovereignty under the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

SB 673 centralizes the process of obtaining marriage licenses to a single Texas entity, the Secretary of State. This will ensure uniformity and prevent noncompliant individuals within a county from issuing marriage licenses that do not conform to state law."

BENJAMIN YOUTH SUPPORTERS

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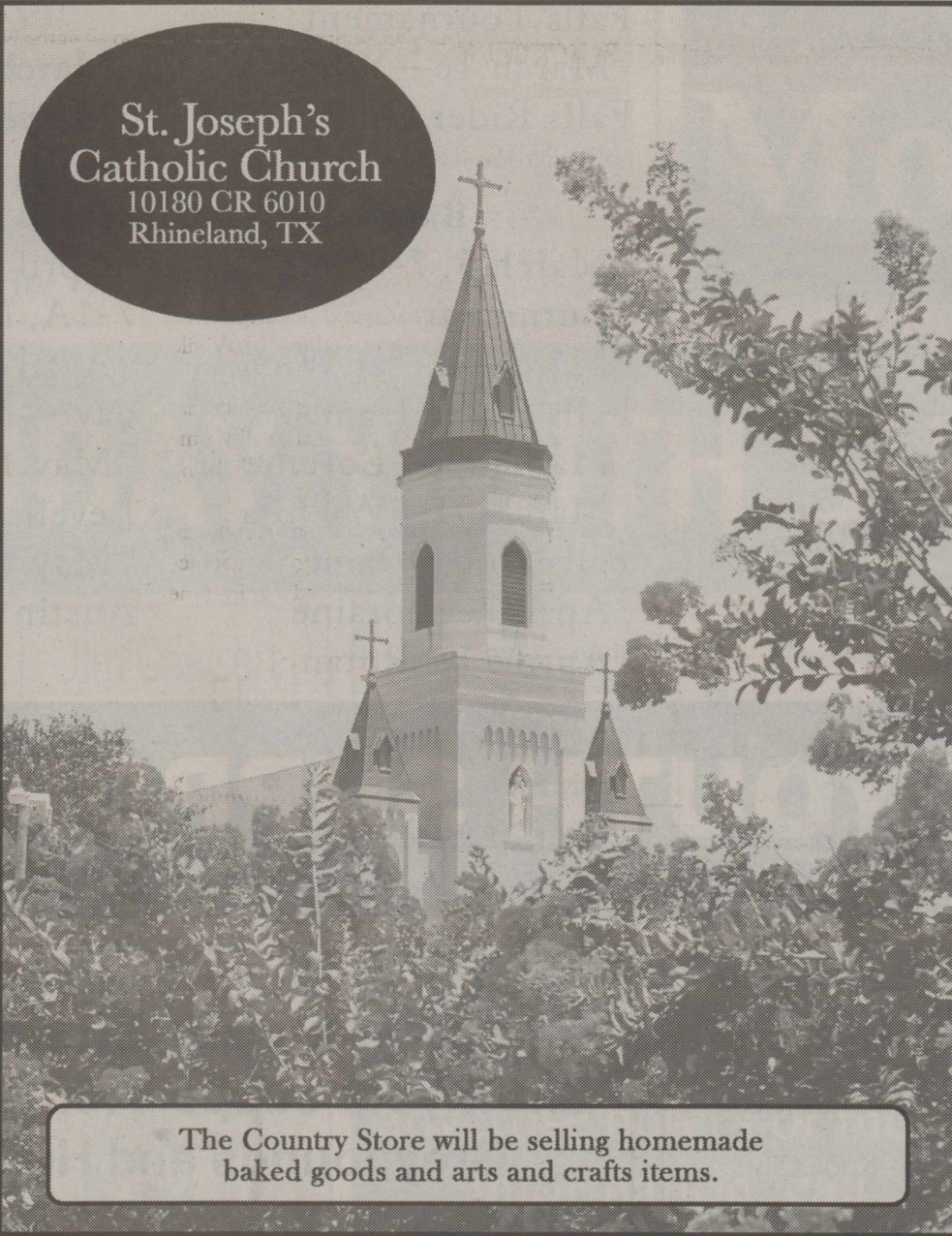
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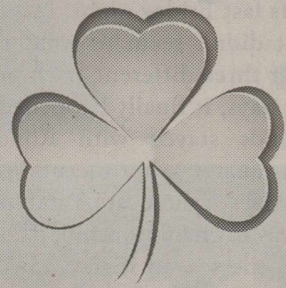
The Country Store will be selling homemade baked goods and arts and crafts items.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Annual Parish Sausage & Fried Chicken Dinner

Sunday, March 15, 2015
11:00 AM-1:30 PM

Cost
Adults & Take-Out \$12
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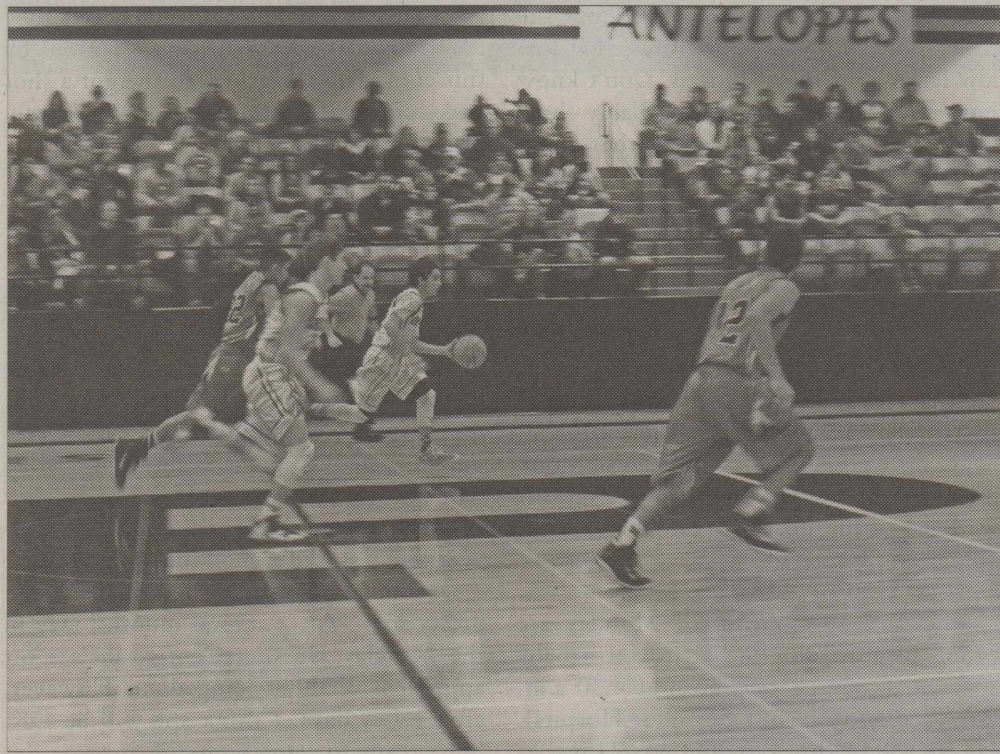
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Greyhounds fall to Ropes, 66-49 Laying up a win



The Knox City Greyhounds race down the court in their 66-49 setback to Ropes Monday night in the area round of the 1A playoffs.

By Kent Mahoney
Special to the News-Courier

POST — The Knox City Greyhounds were chomping at the bit to take on the Ropes Eagles in the area round of the Class 1A playoffs last Friday night. It was a match up that didn't seem to want to happen. But after three different attempts on two different days, it finally happened.

The Greyhounds stayed with Ropes through two-plus quarters, but succumbed Monday night, 66-49, here at Antelope Arena in the area championship. The Hounds finished the season with a 15-12 record with a bi-district championship trophy.

"We didn't want goals this season," said Coach Josh Webb. "We wanted results. This was not the result we were looking for."

The Greyhounds led after the first period, 16-15, and it looked as if the two teams would simply trade shots for the rest of the evening.

However, Ropes started balancing their attack with quick guard play down the

lane and dishing off to either low post player for easy buckets. When the lane was clogged with Knox County players, Ropes simply hit the outside trey, which they did six times on the evening.

"We talked all week about their guards and how quick they were in the lane," Webb said. "We knew they could shoot the ball and give it off."

The Greyhounds trailed by only eight points at intermission and cut that lead to just five when Anthony Estrada hit a trey to open the second half. And while they hung with Ropes in the third quarter with 14 points to the Eagles' 15, Ropes cut loose for 13 points in the final stanza, while holding Knox City to just five points.

Knox City was led in scoring by Estrada and Ryan Heard, each with 11 points, followed by Skylar Neill with 10 points.

Ropes (24-3) then advanced to the regional semifinals on Tuesday with a 76-73 win over District 8-1A champion Crowell. District 7-1A champion Paducah lost Tuesday night to Crosbyton, 55-53.



Anthony Estrada had a big all-around game, scoring 20 points and adding five assists and six steals in the Greyhounds' 80-51 bi-district win over Harrold.

O'Brien Jr. High: Track

- March 19—Spur
- March 25—Jayton
- March 31—Aspermont
- April 8—District, Spur

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Knox City: Spring Sports

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Softball | April 13—Stamford JV |
| March 5-7—Wichita Falls Tournament | |
| March 16—Wichita Falls Rider Gold | |
| Baseball | |
| March 5, 7—Eula Tournament | |
| March 17—at Wichita Falls Notre Dame | |
| March 21—Loraine (2) | |
| March 31—Wichita Falls Notre Dame | |
| April 7—Loraine | |
| April 11—Rotan | |
| Track | |
| March 20—Knox City | |
| March 27—Jayton | |
| April 3—Aspermont | |
| April 10—Spur | |
| April 16—District 7-1A, Munday | |
| April 23—Area, Munday | |
| May 1-2—Regional, Levelland | |
| May 15-16—State, Austin | |

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Mogul Cheerleaders 2015-2016



The new Munday High cheerleaders are shown (l to r): Taylor Thompson, Brenley Waters, Skylar Gomez, Kendall Thompson, Kathryn Cude, Mica Flowers and Bergen Waters

Six earn First Division

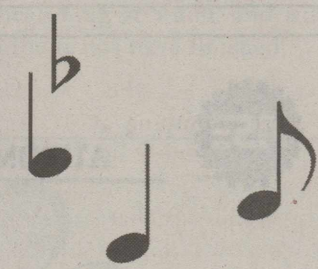


Six members of the Munday High Purple Cloud band were awarded medals for earning First Division on their solos at the UIL Region 2 Solo and Ensemble contest in Wichita Falls last month. Shown (l-r) are: Ariana Arellano (saxophone), Kayla Taylor (clarinet), Bailey Speck (flute), Kamille Redder (piano), Ayleen Arellano (saxophone) and Karla Taylor (clarinet). Redder also earned a repeat trip to the state twirling contest, scheduled May 25 in Pflugerville

First Chair



Bryanne Cude, a seventh grader at Munday Junior High, was selected first chair Bass Clarinet for the TMEA Region 2 Junior High Band. She performed in a concert with other students selected at Wichita Falls High School



MHS Track Schedule

- March 6— Wind Energy Relays, Hermleigh
 - March 14— Pied Piper Relays, Hamlin
 - March 20— Roby Relays, Roby
 - March 27— Rolling Plains Relay, Jayton
 - April 3— Moguls Relays, Munday
 - April 16— District 8-1A Meet, Munday
 - April 23— Area Meet, Munday
 - May 1-2— Regional Meet, South Plains College, Levelland
 - May 15-16— State Meet, Austin
- Junior High
- Feb. 23— Haskell
 - March 2— Olney
 - March 19— Knox City
 - March 23— Stamford
 - March 31— Munday
 - April 9— District 8-1A, Munday

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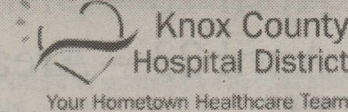
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Mac's Views

While I have not in the past had too many views on what's going on in Washington, that has changed now that I am an editor here and try to keep up with more politics.

It's a shame that President Barack Obama lived up to his promise to veto the Keystone XL pipeline bill. As Republican leaders have said—and others have agreed in editorials that I've read—I believe blocking the pipeline is really "a national embarrassment."

Agencies of the federal government have spent seven years studying the project and have not really given Obama a reason to kill the project that environmental extremists have worked hard to keep from happening. The decision was purely political, as far too many are, since groups opposing it are big supporters of the Democrats.

The pipelines are the safest, most direct and most emissions-containing method of delivering all that oil from Canada to our Gulf Coast refineries. That was made more evident recently with news about another train derailment in West Virginia. We're likely to see more accidents like this in the future as oil continues to be transported on the rails as well as trucks.

Furthermore, the pipelines would be good for the economy, creating almost 4,000 construction jobs. Opponents like to point out that most would be temporary, but it's estimated about a third of the jobs would be permanent.

If just a few more Democrats would quit being loyal to the party and their president and work with the Republicans in Congress, they could override Obama's veto. Only a few are needed in the House and the Senate for the required two-thirds necessary to do it.

Do I see this happening? Not until voters rise up and continue to replace some of their

representatives in Washington. Based on polls I've seen, Congress has an even lower approval rating than Obama's 47 per cent. If you had that kind of numbers, wouldn't you think you needed to make some changes in how you are performing?

Catching up after missing last week when I just didn't have enough editorial space to get everything I wanted into the issue, here are a few more things I want to pass along.

The price of gasoline continues to go up as it usually does this time of the year. The cost to wholesalers has increased as much as 27 cents per gallon, according to GasBuddy. It was \$2.39 here, but only a \$1.99 when Vonda drove through Haskell last week. With supply outstripping demand, look for lower prices to return once summer arrives.

As you can see from the attached photo, the News-Courier is being read even on cruise trips like the one my daughter Lorri took last week. Take the newspaper on your next trip and send me a photo with where you were after you share it with a fellow traveler as she did. If space permits, I'll include it in the paper.

I'm surprised that I do not see others here following my example and wearing a cozy knit hat over my ears, too, when the weather turns cold. Remember, you lose a large portion of body heat through your head.

Overlooked earlier when talking about Coach Larry Welch, Joe Nelson, a former ag teacher at Knox City High School who now has an ad in our business directory as a salesman at Arrow Ford in Abilene, also was a member of the 1981 Oklahoma Panhandle State University football team inducted into the Aggie Hall of Fame earlier this year.

We're planning a special edition for March 26 that will be mailed to every household in Knox County. Plans are to include photos of all the spring sports team at the high schools. Advertisers might want to think about getting out their messages in that issue for sure. Just give me a call at 940 422-5350 or 214 724-1261.



JAMES MCAFEE

Buerkle wins Texas Tech Award



Mary Jane Buerkle, the daughter of Larry and Linda Short of Rochester, received the 2015 Outstanding Alumna Award at Texas Tech University last month. Buerkle, who graduated from Rochester High School in 1991, is currently the director of communications for the Plains Cotton Growers. She graduated from Texas Tech in 2003 and earned a master's degree the following year. She is the granddaughter of Jane and the late Warren Short of Rochester and of the late E.L. and Bernice Hilliard of Haskell.

On the Tee with McAfee

It's time to start thinking about the golf season with the Masters just a month away and here are some of my thoughts about pro golf for those who might follow it.

What's up with Tiger Woods? He's definitely not up to his usual standards—his body is breaking down, his nerves are shot, he has the yips chipping, his putting stroke is shaky and he can't find the fairways often enough with his tee shots.

In his most recent appearance, Woods pulled out of Farmers last month, citing "deactivating glutes" for his back tightening up. No one else withdrew after the weather delay. So it sounds like an excuse to me. He missed the cut in his other appearance, something he never used to do.

Woods has got to find a solution himself, and not ignore reality, before he can get his game back where he can be competitive. I still believe he will turn it around. He's too dedicated and has the natural talent. He just needs to put some positive thoughts into his head and not worry as much about mechanics.

While he hasn't been able to reclaim his aura of invincibility that he previously enjoyed, don't be surprised if he contends or even wins a major this year. Remember, Jack Nicklaus won the Masters at age 46. Tiger turns 40 this year. However, I still don't think he will break Nicklaus' record of 18 majors. Can you believe it's been over six years since his last major?

He's definitely not hurting financially as Golf Digest reported he made \$54.5 million in off course income last year.

Phil Mickelson, who is 46, doesn't fare too bad in that department either, raking in \$48 million last season to go with \$2.38 million in actual prize money. However, his game isn't on track either, but again he still has the game to

put it all together and win another major provided he can regain his putting touch.

Jim Furyk can't seem to finish, failing to win after having a 54-hole lead for the ninth time at Pebble Beach earlier this month.

Who's going to be the "second banana" to Rory McIlroy like Tom Watson was to Jack Nicklaus? The most likely choices from the pros in their 20s, in my opinion, are Jason Day, Jordan Spieth, Rickie Fowler or Patrick Reed.

There's little doubt that McIlroy is No. 1. If he could win the Masters and U.S. Opens this year, he could duplicate Tiger's feat of owning all four majors at the same time. I would be surprised if he could do it because of so many talented players out there now capable of beating him on a given week. He missed the cut in his first start this season in the U.S.

The U.S. Ryder Cup Task Force selected Davis Love as our captain for 2016. He previously handled the assignment in a losing effort at Merion Golf Club in 2012. He's a good choice, but really our system was not broke, The Europeans have just played better golf. One good change is that Love will have a fourth choice as captain, picking him after the Tour Championship. Billy Horschel would likely have been that man in 2014.

It's nice to see Dustin Johnson return to form after taking a six-month break under curious circumstances, likely failing a drug test, although never confirmed by the PGA Tour. I thought he had Riveria wrapped up with a wedge to the 17th, but he bunkered that shot and made bogey, losing in a playoff to James Hahn. He's driving the ball long and straight and will contend with another long driver, Bubba Watson, at Augusta. He missed the cut last week.

Going back to look at Golf Digest's list of top money makers, you see a major difference between the men and the women. There were 40 men ahead of Stacy Lewis and Michelle Wie, who both earned in excess of \$6 million in prize money and off-course income in 2014.



Lorri Young reading News-Courier on Carnival Cruise

Photo by Danny Thompson



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Knox City C.C. sets tournament schedule

Special to the News-Courier

KNOX CITY—The Knox City County Club will kick off its Thursday play days at 5:30 p.m. next Thursday. The entry fee is \$5. Then three days later on March 15, the club starts its Sunday play days with an entry fee of \$10 for a 1:30 p.m. start.

The club also announced its 2015 tournament schedule:

- May 2—Knox City Fire Department Scramble, 3-person scramble, \$75, 1:30 p.m.
- May 25—Memorial Day Scramble, blind draw, \$15, 1:30 p.m.
- June 6—21st annual Wild Hog Classic, 3-lady scramble, \$180, 8:30 a.m.
- June 20—Guys & Dolls Scramble, 2-person scramble, \$75, 1:30 p.m.
- July 4—July 4th Scramble, blind draw, \$15, 1:30 p.m.
- July 5—Bill Baker Memorial Tournament, 2-person scramble, \$100, 8:30 a.m.
- July 25—Knox City Festival, 3-person scramble, \$75, 8 a.m.
- Aug. 8—Knox City CC Ag-Oil, 4-man, \$240, 8 a.m., 2 p.m.
- Aug. 22—Glow Ball Scramble, 4-person, \$25, 5 p.m.
- Sept. 7—Labor Day Scramble, blind draw, \$15, 1:30 p.m.
- Sept. 12—Knox City Fall Classic, 3-person, \$75, 1:30 p.m.
- Sept. 19—Knox City Chamber of Commerce Scramble, 3-person, \$120, 1:30 p.m.
- Oct. 3—Glow Ball Scramble, 4-person, \$25 (includes meal), 5 p.m.
- Oct. 10—Guys & Dolls Scramble, 2-person scramble, \$75, 1:30 p.m.

To enter tournaments, call 940.658-3911 after 6 p.m. or send to PO Box 734, Knox City, TX 79529.