

THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF ALLENE BROWN, LINDSEY WILDE

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

\$1.00

Wilde volunteers on Mercy Ship

By James McAfee
Knox-News Courier

Munday native Lindsey Wilde made the decision to be a nurse after seeing how her grandfather was treated by nurses.

"I knew from junior high that I wanted to be a nurse and make people's day just as they did for my E. Pa," she explained.

The 2004 graduate of Munday High School earned an associate degree in nursing at Vernon College and now is working on a bachelor's degree at the University of Texas at Arlington.

She's currently serving as a visiting nurse at Hendricks Hospital in Abilene after an earlier experience this year serving as a volunteer nurse on the Africa Mercy, a modern hospital ship operated by Texas-based Mercy Ships.

Mercy Ships uses hospital ships to deliver free, world-class health care services, capacity building and sustainable development to those without access in the developing world, mainly Africa. Founded in 1978 by Don and

Deyon Stephens, Mercy Ships has worked in more than 70 countries providing services valued at more than \$1 billion, treating more than 2.5 million direct beneficiaries. Each year Mercy Ships has more than 1,600 volunteers from more than 40 nations. Professionals including surgeons, dentists, nurses, health care trainers, teachers, cooks, seamen, engineers, and agriculturalists donate their time and skills to the effort.

"It was an incredible experience," said Wilde, the daughter of Nancy and Jerry Wilde.

"I was really impressed with the heart of all the volunteers," she added, noting that there were 450 other volunteers from many different countries providing health services.

The ship was stationed in a port on the island of Madagascar instead of one of the other African ports during Wilde's five-week experience.

"I was really impressed with the Malagasy people," Wilde said. "Even after major surgery, they were making quick recoveries."



Lindsey Wilde poses in front of the Africa Mercy

Courtesy photo

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 26

5th, 6th, 7th Munday Band at Cisco Musical Festival

Munday CISD School Board, Board Room, 6 p.m.

Friday, March 27

Knox City and Munday track at Rolling Plains Relays, Jayton

Saturday, March 28

Coach Lowrance 5K Fun Run

KCHS at District One Act Play

Knox City Chamber of Commerce Banquet, Knox City Community Center, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 31

MHS boys, girls golf at Tommy Terrell Invitational

Munday Junior High Track Meet

Knox City baseball at Wichita Falls Notre Dame

Knox City softball at Olney

O' Brien track at Aspermont

Thursday, April 2

MHS at District One Act Play

Friday, April 3

Munday track at Mogul Relays

Knox City track at Aspermont

Monday April 6

Munday golf at District 8-1A tournament, River Creek, Burkumett

Knox City golf at District 7-1A tournament, Roaring Springs

Munday Church of Christ Senior Supper

Tuesday, April 7

Knox City tennis at District 7-1A tennis, Vernon

Rural healthcare update provided

Special to News-Courier

MUNDAY--Knox County community leaders from Knox City and Munday hosted a regional network luncheon, focusing on "Healthcare in Rural Texas: Successes, Challenges and the Future" here last Thursday at the Perry Patton Community Center.

Community leaders from the neighboring communities of Haskell and Seymour were also in attendance at the luncheon sponsored by Texas Midwest Community Network (TMCN) with Caroline Garcia providing a delicious enchilada dinner.

Discussions were led by Stephen Kuehler, CEO at Knox County Hospital District, and Kelly Cheek, Center Director at the West Texas Area Health Education Center -- Big Country Region. Both provided insight into their respective healthcare stories, services offered and their perspective of the future of rural healthcare, which in Knox County looks extremely bright!

Special thanks go out to Jimi Coplen, Director of the Knox County Visioning Group, for hosting and organizing the events and Judge Travis Floyd for providing a warm

See UPDATE Page 3

KC Chamber banquet Saturday

KNOX CITY--The E. Hob Smith Memorial Most Appreciated Citizen will be recognized when the Knox City Chamber of Commerce Banquet is held here Saturday starting at 6 p.m. in the Knox City Community Center.

Tracy Carter, co-owner of Pumpers Supply & Equipment, was honored in 2014.

David (Davy) Counts III, a federal judge in Midland, will be the featured speaker. Counts graduated from Knox City High School and earned degrees at Texas Tech University and St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio. He formerly was an assistant district attorney for Travis County. He is the son of David and Mary Counts of Knox City.

Tickets for for the banquet cost \$18 and will be available today until 3 p.m. at the Chamber office or may be purchased at the door.

Truscott road will remain open

By James McAfee
The Knox County News-Courier

BENJAMIN--The Knox County Commissioners Court denied a petition from Jerry Bob Daniel to vacate a county road in Truscott during a special meeting here Thursday morning.

The commissioners did give approval for Jerry Bob Daniel, who owns land on both sides, to add cattle guards.

Jerry Bob Daniel had added a gate and was keeping cattle on his property prior to the decision, but promised it would be taken down.

Don Malone, attorney for Jerry Bob Daniel, noted in his comments to the commissioners that the notice to ask that the road be vacated was posted for 20 days as required by law, a requirement neces-

See ROAD Page 3

Brown celebrates 90th birthday



Friends and family of Allene Brown celebrated her 90th birthday at the First United Methodist Church last Saturday. Brown has lived in Munday for 65 years. She is shown here with daughter Sandy.

Munday Council approves budget

MUNDAY--The Munday City Council adopted its budget for the year 2015-2061 during a special session here Monday night following an open public hearing on the budget.

In a meeting earlier in the month, the Council approved the contract for new administrator Winston Stephens at a salary of \$37,000.

The city limit boundaries were discussed and more research will be necessary to confirm the exact boundaries. The question arose in talk about allowing farm animals in the city.

The Council accepted a property bid by Angelica and Simon Lucas and approved a continuation of a partnership with the Knox County Visioning Group.

No action was taken on a possible increase in water rates.

Knox gets half inch of rain

While certain areas of Texas got as much as six inches of rain last weekend, the Knox County area had to be satisfied with about half an inch.

Brandon Carr, soil conservatoinist at the James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center reported .55 inch of rainfall.

The forecast doesn't promise much chance of rain the rest of this weekend, warming to 80 by Sunday.

Knox Notes

Relay for Life planning meeting

HASKELL--Relay for Life of Knox/Haskell County has announced it will conduct a fundraising golf tournament May 9 at the Haskell Country Club. A planning meeting is scheduled at 6 p.m. today here at DixieBz Bakery. Anyone wanting to get involved and help is invited to attend.

KCHS one act play benefit set

KNOX CITY--A baked potato super to benefit the Knox City High School one-act play is scheduled from 5:30-7:30 p.m. today in the high school cafeteria. The students will then perform their competition show, "The Wizard of Oz," at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and are available from any OAP member, at KCHS or at the door.

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Corrections

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

News on the go



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

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BMG BURNETT MEDIA GROUP

Office
121 E. B St., Munday
P.O. Box 151, Munday, Texas 76371

Phone (888) 400-1083
Email kcnewscourier@gmail.com

PUBLISHER
William C. Blackburn

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
James McAfee

OFFICE STAFF
Vonda Carter
Cheryl Daniel

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

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

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

Deaths

Leora Pauline Stiewert Guess

Leora Pauline Stiewert Guess passed away Tuesday night, March 17, 2015, in her Haskell home with her daughters and granddaughter, Aubrey, at her bedside. The memorial service was held Saturday, March 21 at Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church and burial followed at Willow cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Home. Reverends Brian Burgess and Morris Johnson officiated. Visitation was held Friday evening at Smith Family Funeral Home.

Leora was born July 17, 1925 in Haskell County to John Stiewert and Pauline Eschberger Stiewert. Every time we drove by the old Irby school location, she told of how, long before she was old enough, she would climb out her bedroom window and run across the field because she wanted to go to school. She grew up on the farm with her two brothers and did attend the Irby and Mattson schools.

She married Rebus Guess in the home of Baptist Preacher, Brother Whatley, on Dec. 31, 1942. The couple set up housekeeping in Mattson,



LEORA GUESS

Tex. and after Rebus returned from WWII, the couple lived in Weinert, Sunset, Goree and Munday before spending the last 31 years back in Haskell.

Leora and Rebus were married 13 years before being blessed with children and there were never any more wanted little girls than Jennifer and Kimberlee. The couple spent the rest of their lives showing their girls how very much they were loved. Leora expected nothing in return for her selfless devotion to her family. She was an excellent seamstress, making beautiful clothes for her daughters and granddaughters, quilts, and perfectly stitched

samplers. She also enjoyed working in her yard, cooking, time with her extended family, visiting friends, and any activities of her grandchildren. She loved the Lord and depended on Him daily.

Leora was preceded to Heaven by her parents, Rebus, her husband of over 70 years, and her brother, Raymond Stiewert. She will be missed by her daughters, Jennifer Burgess and husband Brian of Haskell, Kimberlee Bassett and husband Tom of Haskell; six grandchildren, Casey Burgess and wife Haley, Bree Shaw and husband Tyler, Ryan Burgess, Aubrey Bassett, Crissy Bassett and Cash Bassett; one great grandson, Luke Shaw; one brother, Leo Stiewert and Fran of Duncan, OK; and a great number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorials can be made to Cornerstone Baptist Church in Haskell or Lueders Baptist Encampment. Preparations can, must, be made to see her again in the presence of our Lord.

Online condolences can be shared with Leora's family at www.smithfamilyfh.com.

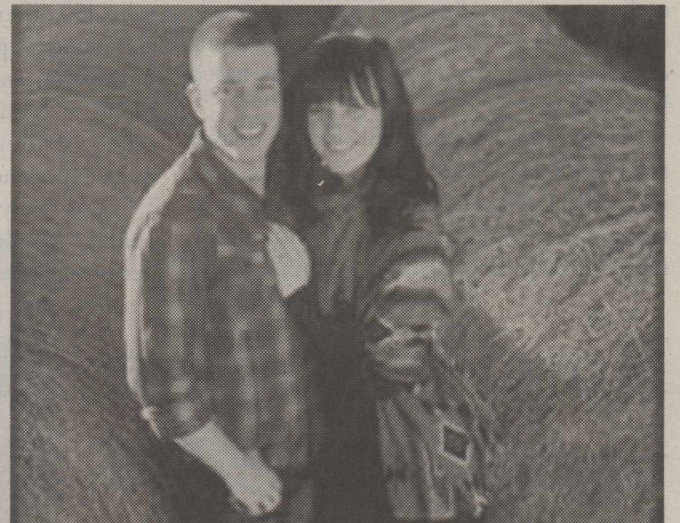
65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Alvin and Glenna Jungman observed their 65th wedding anniversary on March 6, 2015. Although Glenna was near death after a long battle with cancer, she was determined to live until their anniversary date, and she did! Glenna passed away later that day, but not before she and Alvin marked 65 happy years of marriage. Their enduring union was blessed with six daughters, 15 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.



41c

McVea-Cude marriage planned April 3



Mr. and Mrs. Ian McVea of Arlington announcement the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Rachel McVea, to Calder Cude, son of Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Cude of Munday. A simple family ceremony is planned for April 3 in Austin.

The bride-to-be is a student at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth and will graduate in May.

The prospective groom is a member of the United States Army 1st Calvary Division in Fort Hood. He has served one tour in Afghanistan with another deployment expected in June.

Selections have been made at Buds for You and Munday Tire & Appliance.

VTC students get scholarships



Nathaniel Reid of Haskell and Luis Diaz of Rule won scholarships to attend the TSTC welding school in Brownwood. Pictured (l-r) are VTC instructor Monty Moeller VTC Instructor, welding instructor Jay Burks, Reid, Diaz and welding instructor Michael Reddin.

Monsanto makes donation



The Knox County Child Welfare Board received a \$2,500 donation from farmer Jerry Sanders and America's Farmers Grow Communities, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund. The donation will help the organization continue to provide clothing and Christmas gifts to more than 150 children throughout Knox County. Pictured (l-r) are: Cathye Williams, Tammy Pienaar, Joyce Sanders, Sanders and Donnie Roberts of Monsanto.

Knox County Aging Center

Menus for week of March 29 to April 3

- Monday: Baked ham, lima beans, corn, rolls, fruit.
- Tuesday: Chicken spaghetti, salad, green beans, bread, cookies.
- Wednesday: Chicken stew, cornbread, salad and cake.
- Thursday: Taco salad, Spanish rice, corn and cake.
- Friday: Closed Good Friday

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REGISTRATION: 8 AM - 11 AM
AT THE GAZEBO ON THE SQUARE
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Body discovered near Knox City

KNOX CITY — The body of a missing man, identified as Harrel Gail Ballou, 66, of Mounain View, OK, was discovered March 15 in a car in a ravine near the Brazos River Bridge on Highway 222.

The autopsy done at South Plains in Lubbock confirmed that Ballou had died as the result of a single gunshot to the torso, not from injuries in the apparent one vehicle accident.

A state-wide alert had gone out March 2 after Ballou was reported missing and his cell phone had pinged from a tower in Guthrie.

Ballou's vehicle was hard to see from the highway, but was eventually spotted by a passing motorist and reported to the sheriff.

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VOTE FOR BILL BURTRAM FOR MUNDAY CITY COUNCIL
My name is William (Bill) Burtram, also known as "Alaska Bill" and I would appreciate your vote for Munday City Council.
Here are the issues I'd like to see the city work on:
*continuing to have abandoned buildings taken down and the lots cleaned
*Speeding on residential streets, even around the nursing home
I would welcome hearing your concerns and ideas for the BILL BURTRAM betterment of Munday. -Bill Burtram
Paid for by Bill Burtram



Shown (l-r) in back row are Ryan Earthman, Corrie Earthman, Grace Tidwell, McKayla Coplen, Kinsey Benson, Josiah Coplen, Morgan Earthman, Belle Earthman and Nate Earthman. In the front row are Shawn Earthman, Conner Moore, Will Pierce, Daniel Duke and Jonah Duke

Knox 4-H wins first in Duds to Dazzle

The Knox County 4-H team of Corrie, Shawn, Morgan and Nate Earthman earned first place in the wearable category the first ever District 3 Duds to Dazzle contest in Graham earlier this month.

Duds to Dazzle is similar to the food challenge where 4-Hers receive a sack of mystery ingredients and have 40 minutes to prepare a presentation for the judges. Instead for this contest, they receive fabric items and must create a garment, accessory or other item in a certain category.

The Knox team's mystery bag contained an orange T-shirt and a grey sock and they created an orange fashion vest.

In other March activities, the 4-Hers finish ar-

chery practice under the direction of head coach Eric Carthman and junior coach Ryan Earthman in preparation for upcoming competitions.

"Thanks go to our coaches and the Benjamin ISD for allowing us to use the gym for practice," said reporter Corrie Earthman.

Practices, held at 3 p.m. on Sundays, have started for the 4-H pistol program under the direction of Dr. Zeke Duke.

4-H members also heard a presentation by Amanda Duke about a mission trip to Panama in another meeting. Her mission group provided medical care to those unable to access it in rural Panama and will return again this year.

Corrie Earthman contributed to this report

Munday Nursing Center to get five new beds

KNOX CITY--The Pink Lady Hospital Auxiliary approved a request from Knox County Hospital administrator Stephen Kuehler, deciding to go ahead and purchase five new beds at cost of \$3,090 for the Munday Nursing Center during a meeting here at its thrift store with 12 of 17 members present.

An additional nine other beds, part of the Kuehler request, will also be purchased from donations and purchases made to the Pink Ladies, bringing the total to 40.

Kuehler felt that ordering five beds at time worked better because it takes time to assemble the new beds and get rid of the old ones.

The Pink Ladies had previously furnished 40 over-the-bed tables for the residents.

At the present time, there are 38 residents in the hospital-owned nursing home licensed for 61 residents.

Billie Walker says the Pink Ladies appreciate all donations and purchases at its thrift stores.

UPDATE From Page 1

welcome to the attendees.

Texas Midwest Community Network is a regional organization for community and economic development, regional promotion, education, and legislative awareness. It is an organization of "communities working together to

accomplish what one community cannot do alone."TMCN sponsors networking events during the year and projects to market the region for business and tourism development.

TMCN member cities are: Abilene, Albany, Anson, Aspermont, Baird, Ballinger, Brady, Breckenridge, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Cisco, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Cross

Plains, De Leon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Eden, Goldthwaite, Gorman, Graham, Hamilton, Hamlin, Haskell, Hico, Jacksboro, Knox City, Menard, Merkel, Miles, Munday, Ranger, Robert Lee, Rising Star, Roscoe, Rotan, San Angelo, San Saba, Santa Anna, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Cisco, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Cross

signatures of Truscott residents asking the court to keep the road open. Several other Truscott residents also attended the meeting.

County attorney Lina Trevino presented a legal opinion that showed any decision on vacating a county road had to be by a unanimous

vote. Prior to the vote, Judge Travis Floyd said, "We don't like to close any county roads."

The commissioners also gave County Clerk Lisa Cypert approval to open an account with the Citizens Bank in Knox City for excess funds.

Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show



Vonda Carter/The Knox County News-Courier

A sampling of the more than 100 quilts displayed at the Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show held earlier this month at the Knox Prairie Events Center in Goree

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April 4 ~ 10 a.m.
Centennial Park

If you would like to donate eggs for this event please take to City-Hall.

Munday Volunteer Fire Department
Annual Easter Egg Hunt

**CLOSE YOUR EYES...
TAP YOUR BOOTS TOGETHER...**

and know
There's no place like HOME!

Knox City Chamber of Commerce Banquet

Tickets are \$18.00 and may be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce Office or from any Chamber Board Member.

Saturday, March 28, 2015
at 6:00 PM
Knox City Community Center

Speaker: Judge David Counts III

Thomas wins three golds as Hounds finish 2nd



Jacoby Thomas captured the triple jump with a leap of 41-3 Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier



Sheldon Baty crosses finish line as winner of 400 meters Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — Jacoby Thomas claimed three gold medals in leading the Knox City Greyhounds to a second place finish in the Knox City Sixman Invitational here last week. The Grehounds had 94 points, trailing only Munday's 225.

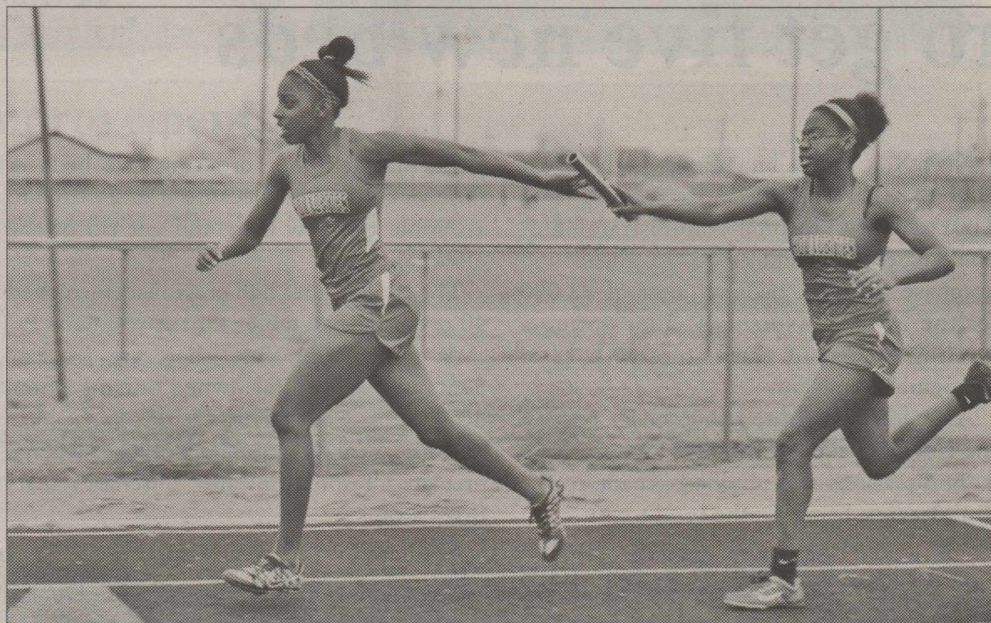
Thomas clocked a 24.28 to win the 200 meters and then won both the long jump and triple jump with leaps of 21-8 1/4 and 41-3.

Krys Campos and teammate Zach Ro-

driquez finished 1-2 in the discus with throws of 137-5 1/4 and 15-5 1/4, respectively. Campos was fourth in the shot put, two places behind teammate Alfredo Martinez (40-2). Rodriguez was fifth in the shot put and sixth in the 1,600 meters.

Sheldon Baty won the 400 meters in 53:37 and picked up points with a fifth in the triple jump behind Israel Rodriguez, who also got a sixth in the 100 meters. Zack Overmyer finished sixth in the 800 meters.

Houndettes finish third, winning 800 relay



Zinziley McCrary passes the baton to Essence Ward in the 4x200 meter relays Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY--The Knox City Houndettes had to settle for third place in the Knox City Sixman Invitational here last week as their 117 points trailed Aspermont (130) and Munday (173).

Debra Alvarado picked up the only gold in the running events with a 51:82 in the 300 meter hurdles. She got a silver in the shorter hurdles with an 18:70 time and a sixth in the long jump.

Jordyn Eaton captured a gold in the discus with a throw of 100-4. She also picked points with a sixth in the 200 meters (29.82).

The Knox City foursome of Zinziley McCrary, Caitlyn Baxter, Eaton and Essence

Ward clocked 2:02.81 to win the 800-meter relay.

Ward and Baxter earned seconds in the 100 meters (13:92) and 200 meters (28.23), respectively.

The Houndettes picked up silvers in the other two relays. Andrea Lyn, McCrary, Brooke Jones and Ward clocked 55.48 in the 400 while Brittany Hawkins, Jones, Alvarado and Kirstin Tuckness ran a 4:51.77 in the 1,600.

Kaylie Steele claimed a silver medal in the shot put with a throw of 32-2 while Tuckness was fourth in the triple jump and Lynn, Hawkins and Leighton Pepper were fifth in the 100, 400 and the shorter hurdles race.

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Moguls easily claim Knox City track crown

KNOX CITY--The Munday track team dominated the Knox City Sixman Invitational here last week, rolling up 225 points to outdistance the host Knox City crew with 94 points.

Temerick Reagins led the way, winning the 100 meters in 11:28 and the high jump with a leap of 5-10 and finishing second in the triple ump at 39-3. He also anchored the 400 meter relay foursome to a gold with a clocking of 44.63

Joining Reagins on the winning relay team were Day'veon Dockins, Rayshaun Dockins and Zac Huffman.

Rayshaun Dockins, Trever Swearengin, Hemphill and Holt Bivens ran a 1:40.42 to capture the 800-meter relay.

Swearengin and Rayshaun Dockins finished 2-3 in the 200 meters with 24.65 and 24.78 times while Day'veon Dockins and Alfonso Nunez duplicated the finishes in the 400 meters

with 55:94 and 56:91 times. Heath Bivens placed sixth in the 400.

Christian Arauo claimed the gold in the 1,600 meters (5:06.83), but had to settle for a silver in the 3,200 meters (11:37)

Holt Bivins cleared 8-6 to take the pole vault and Mitchell Lowrance threw the shot 4-8 for another gold medal.

Kellen Redder claimed silver medals in the long jump (18-4 1/2) and the 800 meters (2:17.59) plus a fourth in the 1,600 meters while Devan Massey and Brady Weaver got silvers in the 110 meter hurdles (21.62) and the 300 meter hurdles (50:38). Weaver was also third in the long jump (16-10) and Massey fourth in the longer hurdles race.

Manny Carranza earned bronze medals in the two longer races and ulio Vitolas got a bronze in the discus to also earn points.



Janet Dillard/The Knox County News-Courier
Temerick Reagins wins long jump, second in triple jump



Janet Dillard/The Knox County News-Courier
Members of the winning Munday 4x400 meters relay team shown (l-r) are Kayla Taylor, Charity Hunter, Myca Fowers and Karla Taylor

Dillard named to Red River 22

WICHITA FALLS--Munday High senior Raci Dillard was named to the Red River 22 small school girls basketball team selected by the Wichita Falls Record-News and announced last Sunday.

Dillard, who was earlier named the District 8-1A MVP, averaged 15.2 points and 10 rebounds a game for the Mogulettes, who earned the 8-1 title in a playoff over Crowell and were the area's top defensive

team, allowing only 28 points a game.

Dillard was joined on the team by Windthorst fresman Tatum Vietenheimer, the area's leader in scoring with 21.2 points a game, in steals with 7.5 and assists with 6.1; Bowie senior Jordan Brightwell, who averaged 8.6 rebounds; Bowie junior Courtney Brady, who averaged 18.7 points; and Electra sophomore Charity James, who averaged 19.5

Mogulettes capture title at Knox City

KNOX CITY--The Munday Mogulettes claimed the team title in the Knox City Sixman Invitational here last week, compiling 173 points to finish ahead of Aspermont (130) and Knox City (117).

Charity Hunter and Janie Salinas led the Mogulettes with a pair of golds each. Hunter claimed the 100 meters with a 13:46 clocking and won the long jump with a leap of 15-8 1/4 while Salinas swept the longer races, winning the 1,600 meters in 6:05.42 and the 3,200 meters in 12:04.

Kayla and Karla Taylor claimed the 200 and 400 meter dashes with 27.70 and 1:02.21

times, respectively and ran legs on the winning 400 meter and 1,600 meter relay units, which clocked 53:53 and 4:22.50. Hunter and Maria Vega joined the Tayors in the shorter race while Myca Flowers and Kristen Kuehler ran the opening legs on the longer race.

Raci Dillard captured a gold in the shot put with a 36-2 effort and a silver in the discus with a 92-0 throw.

Flowers picked up second in the triple jump and a fourth in the high jump.

Also scoring points for Munday were Kimberley Shahan, Ana Vega, Jenna Wertz, Reagan Sanderonnand Kasey Lowrance.

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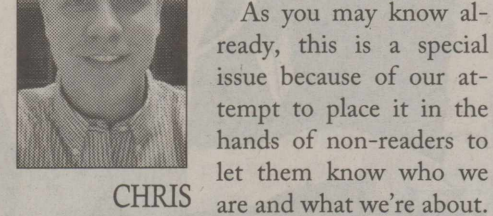
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The Paperboy

Open letter to readers

Dear Reader,

If you are a current subscriber, thank you for your faithful readership. If you are taking a look for the first time or the first time in a while, thank you for checking it out.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

As you may know already, this is a special issue because of our attempt to place it in the hands of non-readers to let them know who we are and what we're about. As someone who likes knowledge, I hope you will discover that this newspaper offers you things you cannot get anywhere else.

Every week, my employees work diligently to capture a snapshot of your town. Beyond that, we have contributors who also take pride in what they do. In these pages you will see their work.

For you non-readers, I'm asking you to subscribe. I know you'll get bang for your buck.

The street price for this newspaper is \$1 for a single issue. When you subscribe and live locally, you save 30 percent off the cover price. Currently, you also get a free subscription to

our online edition. That's a pretty good deal.

Consider this: How much was a cup of coffee 30 years ago? How much was a newspaper? Compare the prices of those two things today.

Among the items and events we consistently cover in these pages are:

- Friends
- Family
- Births
- Deaths
- Schools
- City government
- County government
- Farm and ranch
- Community events
- Weddings
- Engagements
- Crime

Other things you will find are humor, opinion and community pride.

Again, thank you for reading. You can subscribe by calling us at 888-400-1083 or by filling out the form located on another page.

Should you decide not to subscribe, give us another chance next week. We'll be here, cranking out the news for you.

Regards,
Chris Blackburn
Publisher

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

The rain came on Saturday and sure did look good as it fell. We got about half an inch over this way, but the wind was blowing Monday, and the moisture will probably all be gone very soon. What we got sure gave the grass (and weeds) a growing "spurt." The lawn mowers and weed eaters have all been taken out of storage, checked over real closely and are ready to go. I dread it because it seems that mowing comes pretty often.

No news regarding our ill. Guess maybe things are going pretty well right now. My great grandson, Dillon, was scheduled to have his surgery yesterday in Wichita Falls if nothing happens. He should be in the hospital about five or six days.

Latest word on Deann Lamb is that she's planning to remain at the Munday Nursing Center. It just seems like that would be in her best interest to do that, as she is uncomfortable being at home alone due to the fact that she does have a balance problem and falls easily. If you are in Munday, drop by to see her and others over there. They all love company.

Here N There

I learned last week of the death of Ruth Skidmore, a former Benjamin resident. She and her husband Ray and their family lived here several years ago. He was the school superintendent here. Ruth was the former Ruth Littlepage and was living in Temple at the time of her death.

Mary Young spent a few days last week with Butch and Letha Young at Saginaw and Billie Faye Cummings at Henderson. She said

en route home she stopped in Wichita Falls to eat and "ran into" former Knox City residents, Ramona Helms Home and Lois Richardson, so she joined them and all had a nice visit. She said Lois told her that her son-in-law, Darrel Marion, would be having some heart surgery this week. I'm not sure just what the problem is, but hopefully this will correct it. Darrell and Cathy live in Burkburnett, I believe.

Jonathan Rainwater left Sunday after spending spring break with his parents and brother, Chad and Kathy, and Justin. Jonathan is going to South Plains College in Levelland.

The Easter Sunrise Service will be held again this year east of the Methodist Church—weather permitting. If not, we will move inside. The service begins about 7 a.m. and breakfast (pot luck) will follow. The Baptist Church is in charge of the service this year. However, due to a work conflict, Jim Wright, pastor of the Methodist Church in Benjamin, will be bringing the sermon. Everyone is welcome to come and join us for this very special time.

Debbie Stephenson of Lake Coleman visited her aunt and uncle, Roger and Betty Bohannon one day last week.

Latest word on Valerie Mendoza is that she is getting out and around a good bit now. She is still in a wheelchair, but I'm told handles it pretty well. She and her mom are living in Seymour. Remember, Valerie was in an a pretty serious car accident two or three months ago and spent several weeks in Cooks Hospital in Fort Worth. She's made progress much faster than it was thought she would, considering her injuries. We just hope that progress continues.

RECYCLE 2015

Hair can be recycled, but not here

By Bunny Norville

Is human hair really recyclable? Yes, human and pet hair can be recycled. In fact, in certain circles, it is a very profitable business. It has to be long and just right for those who buy it. And you need a lot of it.

No, we do not accept human hair, but you can dump it on your compost pile. If anyone has unwanted pallets or other usable wood, think about donating to the Center. We need pallets for many uses, we actually build things we use in our work.

We just learned that Waxworm larvae can actually eat polyethylene, the plastic commonly used for food packaging. However, there is a lot more to learn before we invest in Waxworms.

If you have questions, suggestions, or complaints, call Bunny, at either 421-3334 or 203-0221. My email address is: youwoodtwo@yahoo.com.

If you have a recycling testimony please send it to the editor, James McAfee, at kcnwscourier@gmail.com.

The 501

Concrete – Does it fit you?

Concrete is the latest trend in home décor. I've got mixed feelings.

Imagine a totally concrete house. Concrete floors, concrete tables, concrete chairs. You could clean house with a water hose instead of a vacuum cleaner. Sounds like fun. First you'd have to stow all the water-sensitive stuff. What a great incentive to toss stacks of old magazines.

Concrete is the perfect fit for families attuned to electronic reading devices. You just have to remove the smartphones and Kindles and iPads before you hose down the main living area. You'd move or cover the TV. All upholstery material and curtains would have to be the impervious stuff used for shower curtains or for nursing home dayroom décor. You could keep a water-spraying apparatus on the wall like the high-pressure wand at a carwash. Goodbye dust allergies.

Worried about mildew? Just figure out a way to add bleach for the last stage of the wash-down. Voila! A really clean space.

Not ready to make the total transition to concrete, easy housekeeping aside? Not to worry. There's wallpaper that looks like concrete.

Just between us, faux concrete sounds to me like wallpaper best suited for basement walls to cover up the real thing.

In any case, I'm not quite ready for concrete everywhere, faux or real, but one trend in the industry intrigues me. Concrete lends itself to

mosaic treatments. What a great way to use broken glass. I've got the glass.

The cover of a recent issue of the trade journal "Concrete Décor" shows a mosaic in concrete. (My architect husband gets the journal. We get many journals. We have stacks. Someone should figure out how to build and decorate with old trade journals.) The cover art mosaic features a Pima basket motif. It's part of the Corn Creek Desert National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center in Nevada, where it's most likely the floor. Looks like a floor.

It's enough to inspire me to add a concrete mosaic edge to our farmhouse patio. Like I said, I've got the glass. I've been saving it for years. I keep it hidden.

Why hide broken glass? If your spouse thinks something should be discarded and you disagree, whatever it is, you hide it.

I've got several stashes. The fragments are pieces of glass and pottery found on the farm – bits of history, if you please. I've also saved other objets trouvés – brass shells, rusty buckles, old marbles and, naturally, mule shoes and horseshoes.

How hard can it be to pour a little concrete and top it with pieces of broken glass and those other treasures?

Idea: Concrete mosaics have the potential to replace garage sales, especially for people like me who find it hard to let go of stuff at any price. By embedding everything in concrete instead, we can create fanciful legacies for posterity.

Stuff-wise, I've got the makings of a whole new patio.

Somehow it seems easier than having a garage sale. And what better chance to make the cover of a magazine?

State's housing market still thriving

COLLEGE STATION—There's no doubt lower oil prices have a negative impact on the overall Texas economy, but an economist at the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University says history shows the state's housing market has thrived under a wide range of oil prices, some lower than those seen recently.

"Everyone remembers the Texas energy bust of the 1980s," notes Real Estate Center Research Economist James Gaines, "but there are numerous reasons to believe the current price downtown is different."

Gaines credits economic diversification over the past three decades, including growing health care, technology, trade, professional services and other segments of the economy.

"Perhaps even more importantly, the past few years have not led to excessive overbuilding or overspending as was the case in the 1980s," Gaines pointed out. "Oil price expectations this time were not based on maintaining the \$100-per-barrel-or-higher level, thus reducing the potential negative impact on the economy."

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Knox City Sixman Invitational results

Girls

Team--Munday 173, Aspermont 130, Knox City 117, Spur 76 Woodson 31 Rule 10, Guthrie 9

100 meters--Charity Hunter, Munday, 13:46; Essence Ward, Knox City, 13:92; Madison Frazier, Woodson, 13:95; Danni Uriegas Spur, 14:00; Andrea Lynn, Knox City, 14:44; Kimberley Shahan, Munday, 15:02

200 meters--Kayla Taylor, Munday, 27:70; Caitlyn Baxter, Knox City, 28:23; Juleigh Waker, Spur, 28:79; Madison Frazier, Woodson, 29:15; Danni Uriegas, Spur, 29:45; Jordyn Eaton, Knox City, 20:82

400 meters--Karla Taylor, Munday, 1:02.21; Madison Frazier, Woodson, 1:06.41; Shae Berry, Aspermont, 1:08.77; Ana Vega Munday 1:11.37; Brittany Hawkins, Knox City, 1:12.14; Reagan Maxwell, Guthrie, 1:12.85

800 meters--Belle Smith, Spur 2:44.41; Myca Flowers Munday, 2:47.31; Brooke Shobert, Spur 2:57.15; Idalis Murgula, Aspermont, 3:05.22; Alysia Hollabaugh, Rule, 3:11.99; Hannah Polk, Aspermont, 3:12.59

1,600 meters--Janie Salinas Munday, 6:05.42; Reagan Maxwell, Guthrie, 6:31.84; Jenna Wertz, Munday, 7:04.86; Idalia Murgula, Aspermont, 7:13.40; Destiny Garcia Aspermont, 7:29.46; Cinda Rosales Woodson, 7:33.51

3,200 meters--Janie Salinas, Munday, 12:04; Belle Smith, Spur, 12:51; Idalis Murgula, Aspermont, 14:59; Jenna Wertz, Munday, 16:00; Cindy Rosales Woodson, 16:08; Destiny Garcia, Aspermont, 16:12

100 meter hurdles--Jacy Sparks, Aspermont, 17:80; Debra Alvarado, Knox City, 18:70; Sarah Franklin, Woodson, 19:77; Camrey Sanchez, Spur, 21:00; Leighton Pepper, Knox City, 23:19

300 meter hurdles--Debra Alvarado, Knox City, 51:82; Jacy Sparks, Aspermont, 55:27; Camrey Sanchez, Spur, 58.13; Sarah Franklin, 1:01.57

400 meter relay--Munday (Taylor, Taylor Hunter, Maria Vega) 53.53; Knox City (Lynn, Zinziley McCrary, Brooke Jones, Ward) 55:48; Aspermont 800 meter relay--Knox City (McCrary, Caitlyn Baxter, Eaton, Ward) 2:02.81; Aspermont 2:09.42

1,600 meter relay--Munday (Flowers, Kristen Kuehler, Taylor Taylor) 4:22.50; Knox City (Hawkins, Jones, Alvarado, Kirstin Tuckness); Aspermont Long jump--Charity Hunter, Munday, 15-8 1/4; Shayla Hays, Aspermont, 14-6 1/4; Jacy Sparks, Aspermont, 14-3; Dannai Uriegas, Spur 13-10; Kayla Taylor, 13-9 3/4; Debra Alvarado, Knox City 13-6

Triple jump--Shayla Hays, Aspermont, 32-1; Myca Flowers Munday, 30-1; Camrey Sanchez Spur 29-7; Kirstin Tuckness, Knox City, 29-5; Anna Vega, Munday, 27-10; Brooke Jones, Knox City, 27-2

High Jump--Brooke Shobert Spur, 4-4; Jacy Sparks, Knox City 4-2; Kimberley Shahan, Munday 4-2; Myca Flowers, Munday, 4-2

Pole Vault--Kaitlian Price, Spur, 7-6; Jessica Gutierrez, Rule 7-0

Shot Put--Raci Dillard, Munday, 36-2; Kaylie Steele, Knox City, 32-2; Kasey Lowrance, Munday, 29-4 1/4; Amber Eason, Aspermont, 29-2 3/4; Sara English, Aspermont, 25-1 1/2; Elise Dutchover, Aspermont, 24-6 1/2

Discus--Jordyn Eaton, Knox City, 100-4; Raci Dillard, Munday, 92-0; Elise Dutchover, Aspermont, 85-7; Reagan Sanderson, Munday, 76-2; Amber Eason, Aspermont, 75-0; Sara English, Aspermont, 71-4

Boys Team--Munday 225, Knox City 94, Spur 71, Aspermont 54, Woodson 31, Rule 20

100 meters--Tamerick Reagins, Munday, 11:28; Zac Huffman, Munday 11:92; Colton Rogers, Rule, 12:02; Eric Sanchez, Spur, 12:12; Dee Hemphill, Munday, 12:31; Israel Rodriguez, Knox City, 12:37

200 meters--Jacob Thomas, Knox City 24:28; Trever Swearingin, Munday, 24:65; Rayshaun Dockins, Munday, 24:78; Colton Rogers, Rule, 25:42; Kamren Shelton, Spur, 25:64; Eric Sanchez, Spur, 25:95

400 meters--Sheldon Baty Knox City 53:37; Dayveon Dockins, Munday 55:94; Alfonso Nunez, Munday, 56:91; Mario Segura, Spur, 58:01; Kamren Shelton, Spur, 58:42; Heath Bivens, Munday, 59:91

800 meters--Kamren Shelton, Spur, 2:14.43; Kellen Redder, Munday, 2:17.59; Mario Segura, Spur, 2:18.51; Brian Gibson Aspermont, 2:31.41; Tevin Moon, Aspermont, 2:32.77; Zack Overmyer, Knox City, 2:33.06

1,600 meters--Christian Araujo, Munday, 5:06.83; Dustin Dominey, Spur, 5:17.74; Manny Carranza, Munday, 5:46.28; Kellen Redder, Munday 5:49.68; Luke Carter, Aspermont, 6:28.70; Zach Rodriguez, Knox City, 7:05.86

3,200 meters--Dustin Dominey, Spur, 11:15; Christian Araujo, Munday, 11:37; Manny Carranza, Munday, 11:56; Luke Carter, Aspermont, 11:57; Brian Gibson, Aspermont, 13:39

110 meter hurdles--Derrick Robles, Woodson, 18:18; Devan Massey, Munday, 21:62; Brady Weaver, Munday, 22:76; Chasin Deaton, Woodson, 23:23

300 meter hurdles--Derrick Robles, Woodson, 44:87; Brady Weaver, Munday, 50:36; Chasin Deaton, Woodson, 54:03; Devan Massey, Munday, 55:79

400 meter relay--Munday (Dockins, Dockins, Huffman, Reagins) 44:63; Knox City 47:10; Spur, 50:55

800 meter relay--Munday (R. Dockins, Swearingin, Hemphill, Holt Bivins) 1:40.42; Aspermont 1:45.16; Spur, 1:51.61

Long Jump--Jacob Thomas, Knox City, 21-8 1/4; Kellen Redder, Munday, 18-4 1/2; Brady Weaver, Munday, 16-10; Anthony Castanada, Aspermont, 16-9 1/4; Nick Godfrey, Aspermont 16-3 1/4; Cory Myers, Aspermont, 16-3 1/4

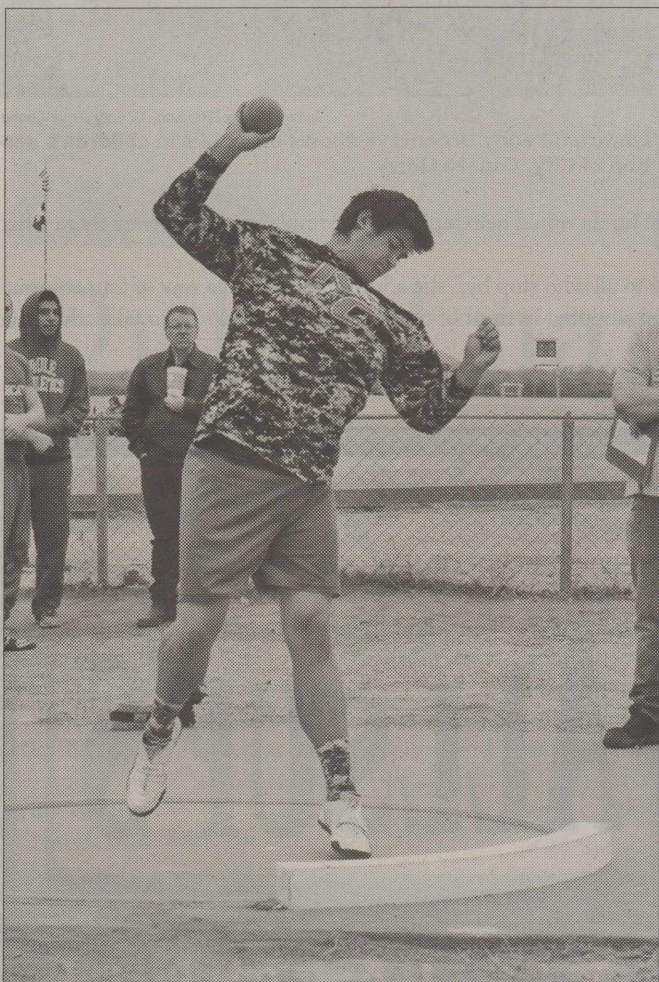
Triple Jump--Jacob Thomas, Knox City, 41-3; Tamerick Reagins, Munday, 39-3; Brian Gibson, Aspermont, 37-11; Dee Hemphill, Munday, 37-9; Israel Rodriguez, Knox City, 36-9; Sheldon Baty, Knox City 35-10

High Jump--Tamerick Reagins, Munday, 5-10; Cory Myers, Aspermont, 5-2; Rayshaun Dockins, 5-0

Pole Vault--Holt Bivins, Munday, 8-6

Shot Put--Mitchell Lowrance, Munday, 42-8; Alfredo Martinez, Knox City, 40-2; Colton Rogers, Rule, 39-6; Krys Campos, Knox City, 39-4; Zach Rodriguez, Knox City, 38-9; Chase Odom, Aspermont, 38-1/2

Discus--Krys Campos, Knox City, 137-5 1/4; Zach Rodriguez, Knox City, 115-5 1/4; Julio Vitolas, Munday, 110-5 1/2; Colton Rogers, Rule, 105-9 3/4; Chase Odom, Aspermont 91-11 3/4; Will Roberts, Woodson, 82-11 3/4



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier
Krys Campos claims gold in discus with throw of 137-5



Janet Dillard/The Knox County News-Courier
Julio Vitolas earns bronze in the discus



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier
Brooke Jones connects for a hit as the Knox County Houndettes scored a 12-0 win over the Seymour JV Saturday to improve to 3-1 for the season

Grehounds off to 0-2 start in baseball

KNOX CITY--The Knox City Greyhounds baseball team suffered a 14-1 setback at the hands of Gorman last Saturday to fall 0-2 for the season. Earlier, the Hounds were shutout by Wichita Falls Notre Dame's Dillam Smith in a 10-0 loss.

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Holy Week Schedule of Services

St. Joseph's Catholic Church/Rhineland
Santa Rosa Catholic Church/Knox City

April 2 - Holy Thursday
THE EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
6:00 PM at Saint Joseph's/Rhineland - 7:30 PM at Santa Rosa/Knox City
(The washing of the feet, the presentation of Holy Oils, the procession of The Blessed Sacrament to the special altar and keeping vigil in the Church until Midnight)

April 3 - Good Friday
6:00 PM Stations of the Cross
6:30 PM Seven Last Words of Christ
6:45 PM The Celebration of the Lord's Passion
(Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion) 7:30 PM at Santa Rosa/Knox City

April 4 - Holy Saturday
8:30 PM Easter Vigil/ St. Joseph's
(Blessing of the Fire, Procession with the Paschal Candle, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Baptism, Renewal of the Baptismal vows, Confirmation and Liturgy of the Eucharist)

April 5 - Easter Sunday-(Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord)
9:00 AM Mass- St. Joseph's/Rhineland
11:00 AM Mass - Santa Rosa/Knox City

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Mac's Views It's Spring and Masters near

Spring is officially here and we will be able to enjoy more warm weather as we did Monday, making me want to go out and test my golf game when I find the time, maybe Sunday when temperatures are in the 80s. It's only two weeks to the Masters, the first major of the year for professional golfers, and you can be assured I will be spending a lot of time in front of the TV that week.



JAMES MCAFEE

It's been 43 years since I played Augusta National, getting the opportunity after covering the 1972 Masters--the year following Abilene's Charles Coody's win--when I worked for the Tulsa Tribune. I actually never finished the round. After hitting my approach to the 18th, actually missing the green, my ride to the airport was there to pick me up. I do remember the highlights of that round, birdies on the par-5 13th and 15th holes after electing to lay up and hitting wedges close enough to make the putts. I did get back to Augusta twice during my days at Golf Digest, but only for practice rounds as the big bosses wanted to be there for the actual tournament.

Billy Casper, the 1970 Masters champion, died earlier in the year at age 83, but I do remember his favorite Bible passage and it's worth passing along. "Wherefore by their fruits, ye shall know them." He definitely did that although overshadowed by the Big 3 at the time he was competing--Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus. His 51 career wins ranks him as the seventh best.

Just for the record, I didn't fare too well with my NCAA basketball bracket selections. Only nine of my teams made it to

the Sweet 16. My choice to win it all is still Arizona. Don't put down any money, but here are my final four picks--Wichita State, Arizona, Michigan State and Duke. Yes, Wichita returns the favor of ending Kentucky's unbeaten streak just as the Wildcats ended the Shockers' streak the previous year.

Jumping on the political soapbox again, I am behind a move to add an amendment to the United States Constitution, calling for Congress to not make any laws that do not apply equally to them as well as to all citizens. Members of Congress have exempted themselves from the most recent healthcare measures. I also found out from a friend that children of Congress members and even their staff members do not have to pay back their college loans. Elected officials shouldn't put themselves above the law.

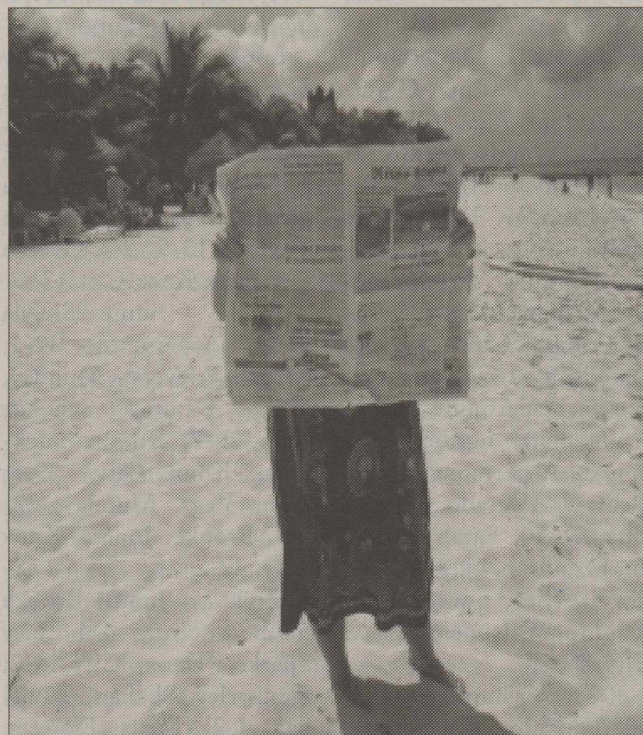
Our lawmakers in Austin are busy and I'm hoping that they find more money to provide to our school districts for high quality pre-K programs as I'm all for getting children into education sooner, rather than later.

It's time here for Knox County residents to prepare to make their voices heard in the May 9 election for school boards and city councils. If candidates would supply me with their bios and photos, we'll start a series on the upcoming contested elections in April. Remember, if you do not vote, do not complain.

Good news for Munday residents. A new place to eat will open in April. Work is being finished on the Lil' Red Hen. Then I heard at coffee this week that someone else has plans to open another place soon.

In closing, we distributed more copies of this issue of the News-Courier in a special circulation effort and hope that more of you will consider joining our regular readers in the future.

Who's reading the News-Courier?



Marsha Quade, Principal at the Knox City Elementary School, catches up on local news during Spring Break on a Mexico beach

Fundraiser announced for library

MUNDAY—Friends of the City & County Library here in Munday have announced a fundraiser for the month of April in an effort to purchase new computers and books.

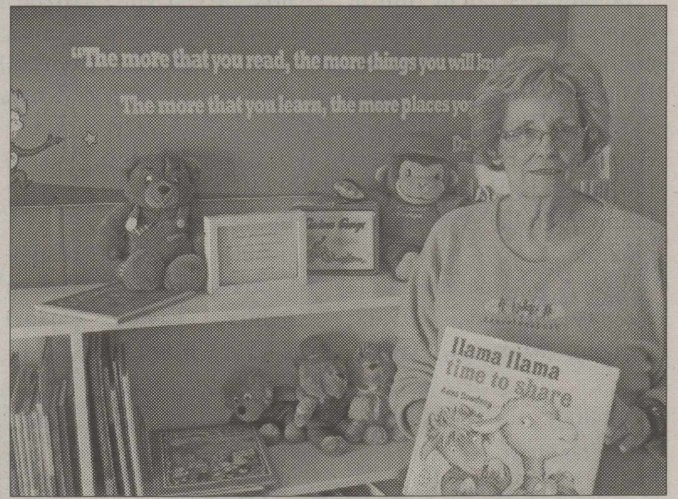
There will be a banner and a book on the front window where names of those who make donations will be displayed.

"We've had bake sales in the past, but wanted to do something different," said board member Carla Key, recognizing Becky Offutt as the one coming up with the idea for 2015.

Peggy Urbanczyk, who has served as the librarian for the past seven years after retiring as a school teacher, explained that the funds would help replace two computers, which were there when she started.

"We offer free use of computers to all who stop by," she added, pointing to a row of four computers. It appears other have been seen stopping in front of the library when it is closed to take advantage of the wi-fi.

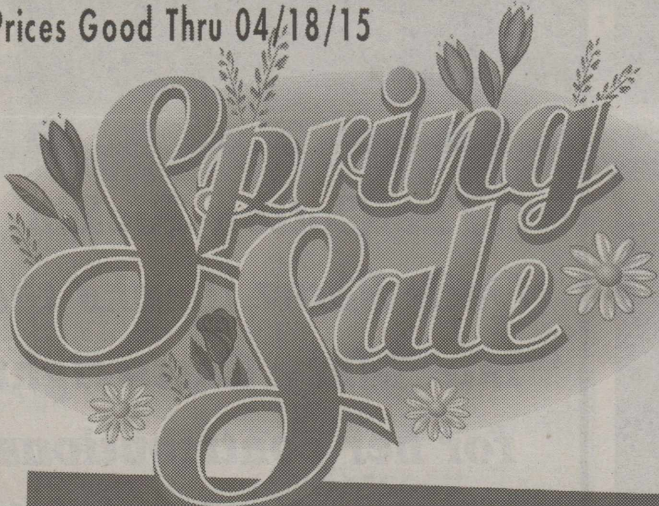
The library is open from 8 a.m. until 12:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays and from 12 to 5:30 p.m.



James McAfee/The Knox County News-Courier
Librarian Peggy Urbanczyk shows off books in children's section of City, County Library

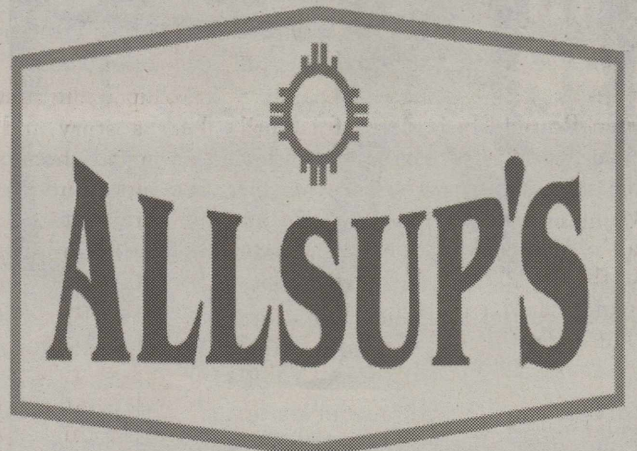
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KC native continues to inspire generations

By Ginger Wilson
For The News-Courier

CHILDRESS — In the summer of 1984, Philip Rhodes was painting a house when he received a phone call that would not only change his life, but the lives of countless kids in Childress.

A graduate of Knox City High School, Rhodes ran track for four years at McMurry before graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1983. As the summer of '84 lingered on, Rhodes wasn't sure he would be teaching and coaching in the fall until he received a call from Charlie Johnston, former Bobcat head coach/athletic director.

"I asked to speak to Philip Rhodes and his mom told me he was down the street painting a house," stated Johnston. "I asked her if she would mind going and getting him while I waited on the phone. In a few minutes, Coach Rhodes picked up the phone and I asked him if he had another job. When he said he didn't, I asked him, 'How would you like to be a Childress Bobcat?'...and the rest is history."

Rhodes began his career as a teacher and seventh grade boys' coach. As a history teacher, he made learning exciting and immediately developed a connection with his students and athletes.

After three years at CJHS, Rhodes moved to the high school and began helping with the CHS track program under the late Jackie Smith. "In 1988, I was coaching the girls' 4x100 relay team and they made it to state. Those

girls could run," Rhodes laughed. "It was pretty exciting because this was the first time a girls' team had ever made it to state."

In 1998, Rhodes took over the boys' track program and ended the season in Austin with his first ever state champion, Keith Pierce. Pierce brought home the gold in the 800 M run with a school record 1:52.27 and still remembers his first ever encounter with Coach Rhodes.

"I was a seventh grader and had just finished running the mile at our track meet," Pierce said. "Coach Rhodes came over and encouraged me by telling me how I looked like I could keep on running. He won me over in that moment. I owe so much to Coach Rhodes. I was not only able to win a state championship, but obtain a college scholarship and pursue a coaching career of my own. All because he believed in a little scrawny kid running in Bobcat blue."

Over the years, Rhodes has made the trip to Austin many times with athletes in tow. In all, he's coached six state champions; Pierce, Anthony Flemons in the triple and long jump and co-coached the girls' 4x200 relay team of Hollie Cornish, Savanna Keys, Bre'Ann Cano and Vicky Flemons.

"Every time I've taken an athlete to Austin, I've always asked them what it feels like to be there," Rhodes said.

Running track in his hometown, Rhodes never made it to the state meet, but getting there with his athletes makes up for that. "I see the look on their

faces and I know it must be a great feeling to walk into that stadium and hear the roar of the crowd. I like to know what the experience is like for them, because they are the ones competing...I'm just their coach. I can say it's a thrill and joy to get to watch them compete at that level."

His passion for coaching is evident on Friday nights as he walks up and down the sidelines encouraging the Bobcats, but on the track is where Rhodes feels most at home. "For me, I like coaching track because it gets you ready for all the other sports," Rhodes said. "It makes you a better athlete in everything."

Former Lady Cat and West Texas A&M standout Natasha Taylor talked to Rhodes years ago about how tough his workouts were. "Natasha told me during her time at WT, she never felt as much pressure as when she was running track for me," Rhodes said with a grin.

"Coach Rhodes has a way of getting you excited about running track that few other track coaches can do," Pierce recalled. "I can still see him marching around the infield with stopwatch in hand shouting things like, 'Get the curve!' and 'Drive your arms!'"

Rhodes has made a name for himself in the Panhandle and across the state, so it's no surprise he's had many coaching offers the past 30 years. When asked what kept him in Childress all this time, his response was humbling. "There are a lot of kids who come from single parent homes," Rhodes said. "I felt like I could help some of those kids. As

coaches, it is our job to help these kids become good citizens. To help them succeed outside of athletics."

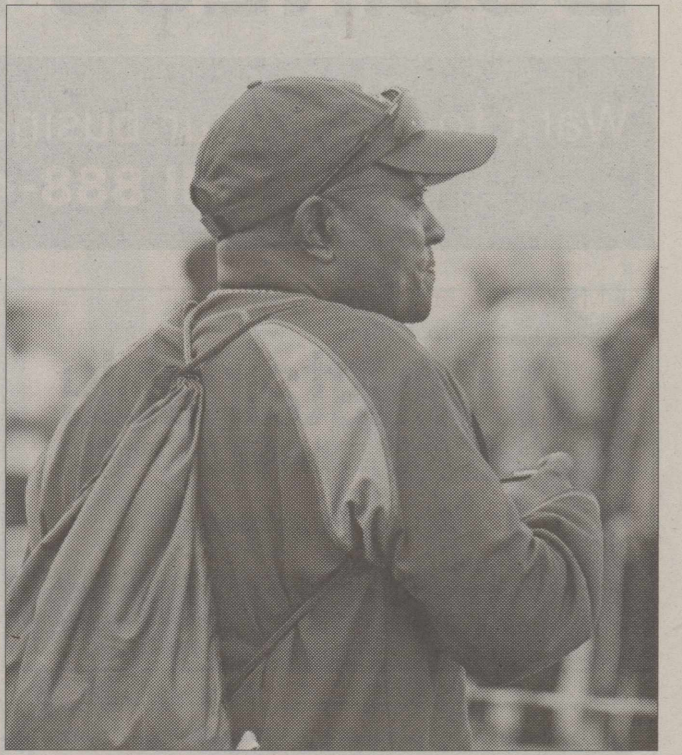
While athletics often gets a bad rap, Rhodes firmly believes it builds character. "Athletics saves a lot of kids," Rhodes continued. "What else is there to do in a small town besides get into trouble? This building (referring to the field house) has saved a lot of kid's lives."

Amanda Kirkpatrick, former Lady Cat and coach, said Rhodes has no idea the impact he's made on generations of Bobcats and Lady Cats. "He's just such a legend," she said. "He's not a legend because he thinks he is, because he doesn't think that at all about himself. Coach Rhodes can inspire anybody to do 10 times more than they are capable of doing. It was an honor to get to coach with him. It was humbling and also nerve-racking at times. As a coach, I always tried to figure out ways to bottle that inspiration up and use it."

Kirkpatrick's daughter Kristen, a sophomore at CHS, recently said of Rhodes, "We were doing our track workout and Coach Rhodes walked out there. I was exhausted, but as soon as I saw him, I began working as hard as I could."

Motivating others comes natural to Rhodes and he finds his motivation in the kids.

"This year, seeing the Bobcats make it to the state tournament really motivated me," Rhodes said. "I've always wanted to see another Bobcat program make it to state. It's good for the kids and it made



Ginger Wilson/The Red River Sun
With stopwatch in hand, Childress Bobcat track coach Philip Rhodes keeps a close eye on his team during last Thursday's track meet at Quanah. Rhodes, a native of Knox City and graduate of McMurray University has been with CISD since 1984 and is an icon in the community.

me ready to go to Austin again," he expressed.

As for some of his most memorable moments in the past 30 years, he shook his head and said with a bit of a laugh, "Disqualifications." The '98 Bobcat 4x400 relay team held the fastest time in the state. Rhodes said, "Those guys could get up and go, but were disqualified in the Regional meet that year. They still hold the school record, but I will always remember that. It's tough to work so hard and lose out like that."

Reaching 30 years in any career is a milestone, but Rhodes doesn't have any plans of retiring just yet. "I like where I am right now," Rhodes said. "This group I have is a good bunch of kids. I cannot keep at it forever, but I think I'll hang

around a while longer." Pierce is thankful Rhodes received that phone call in 1984 saying, "I cannot think of Childress athletics without thinking of Coach Rhodes. In my 11 years as a coach, I have worked at four different schools. I appreciate all the more how Coach Rhodes has built his career in Childress wearing only Bobcat blue."

With each year, comes a new group of athletes who get to experience the "Rhodes era" and will always think of him as a motivator, inspiration and the man behind the catchphrase, "It's a great day to be a Bobcat." Johnston said one sentence sums up Rhodes, "He's the best hire I ever made in my career as a coach."

Knox City Pre-K Round Up April 8-9

KNOX CITY--The Pre-Kindergarten Round-Up is slated for April 8-9 at Knox City Elementary. Jen Utley, Pre-Kindergarten teacher, is inviting all students who will be four years old on or before Sept 1, 2015 to visit the Pre-K classroom on Wednesday or Thursday morning.

The children may come to school at 9:15 A. M. where they will join this year's Pre-K class for the its regular schedule. The children will

participate in music and movement, hear a story and complete a project to take home. They will play on the playground before going to the lunchroom to eat. Cost of the meal is \$2.30. Children will be dismissed from the Pre-K room at noon.

Knox City Elementary is requesting that parents pre-register their children for the 2015-16 school year. In order to do this, they will need to bring the child's original Social Security Card (not a copy), a current Immunization Record and a Birth Certificate to the office after dropping off their child. Copies will then be made of the enrollment documents and parents will be given an enrollment packet to fill out for the 2015-2016 school year.

Please come by the Knox City Elementary office or call 657-3147 to make a reservation for your child to visit on either day.

EQIP program deadline April 17

KNOX CITY--NRCS in Texas has received its EQIP funding for fiscal year 2015 and will begin ranking and obligating contracts after April 17. All agriculture producers interested in submitting a contract application for 2015 should do so before this ranking deadline.

EQIP, one of the largest programs in the Farm Bill, is a voluntary conservation program that promotes environmental quality and assists producers to meet local, state and federal regulations.

"EQIP is a valuable tool to help Knox County's agricultural producers implement conservation practices that provide environmental benefits to help sustain agricultural operations," said Charles Schur, a USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist.

EQIP is a continuous sign-up program. Contracts are offered periodically depending on budgetary allocations. Applications made after the deadline will be considered in the next funding cycle. Higher priority will be given to those applications that address national, state and local priorities and provide higher cost efficiency.

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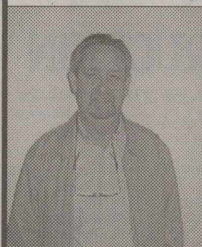
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Don Thompson

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North Central Texas
Municipal Water Authority

March 19, 2015

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL for total trihalomethanes at 0.080 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on locational running annual average (LRAA), and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for total trihalomethanes indicates a compliance value in quarter one of 2015 of 0.140 mg/L for DBP2-01.

Trihalomethanes are a group of volatile organic compounds that are formed when chlorine, added to the water during the treatment process for disinfection, reacts with naturally-occurring organic matter in the water.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidney, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

We are taking the following steps to address the issue: Lowering tank levels to increase water turnover rate and reduce water age in the distribution system.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have questions about this matter, you may contact David Kuehler at (940) 422-4051.

Posted / Delivered on: March 19, 2015

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Section 1: Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Corp of Army Engineers, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Department of Agriculture, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Benjamin has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, to determine the potential affect that its activity in the floodplain will have on the human environment for Benjamin's Water Improvements under TxCDBG STEP Grant #713036. This notice is to inform interested parties that the original layout of the project has been changed. The new waterline route within City limits will install 3,500 linear feet of new 8-inch water line along:

On Goree St from Elevated Storage Tank to N. Bedford St
On N Bedford St from Goree St to Hays/US 82
On S. Cooper St from Elevated Storage Tank to alley North of Hays/US 82
On Alley north of Hays/US 82 from S. Cooper St to S. Stewart St.

The remaining water line route will remain unchanged. Approximately 290 linear feet, or .013 acres, of the new transmission line along the Alley north of Hays/US 82 is located in Floodplain Zone A.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplain can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplain, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Benjamin at the following address on or before April 14, 2015: City of Benjamin, PO Box 286, 303 S Hinton, Benjamin, Texas 79505 and (940) 459-3131, Attention: Tami Gaddis, City Secretary during regular business hours. Comments may also be submitted via email at Benjamin_texas@yahoo.com.

Date: March 26, 2015

THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

Meet the Staff



Sharon and Chris Blackburn

Sharon and Chris are the owners of BMG and Sharon serves as CFO of the company while Chris is the CEO. Chris also serves as publisher of this newspaper. They have been married for 12 years and have two sons, Jackson, 11, and Sutton Hawk, 9.



James McAfee

James and wife Betty live in Munday. He has over 15 years of experience as a sports writer and editor for newspapers, including the Wichita Falls Record-News and the Abilene Reporter-News. He also has experience as a golf administrator (27 years) and a writer for golf publications, including Golf Digest. He is a life member of the Golf Writers of America.



Vonda Carter

Vonda has two daughters, Julie 10, a fifth grader at Munday Elementary and Rachel, 21, who lives in Midlothian. Vonda has lived in Munday since 2012. Previously, she lived in Alvarado and did office work, including accounting for several businesses.



Cheryl Daniel

Cheryl grew up in Benjamin and graduated from Benjamin High School. She married Ed Daniel in 1962 and they moved to the Waco area and lived for 16 years, moving back to Knox City in 1979. Ed passed away in 2004. They have 3 grown children and 5 grandchildren. Cheryl retired in May of 2013 after serving as Director of the Knox County Aging Center for 8 years and started working part time this past September at the Knox County News Courier.



Donna Payne

Donna is the BMG webmaster and also works in composition. She has been with BMG since 2011. She works out of her home office in Port Lavaca.



Jennifer Eubank

Jennifer works in billing and has been with BMG since 2014. She and her husband, Rick have a son, Richard, who is a sixth grader at Childress Jr. High and a daughter, Jillian who is a fourth grader at Childress Elementary.



Sharla Miller

Sharla works in composition and has been with BMG since 2014. She and her husband, Shade have a son, Jacob who is a student at Texas State University and a daughter, Audrey who is a seventh grade at Childress Jr. High.



Shelby Bocanegra

Shelby works in composition and has been with BMG since 2015. She and her husband, Sawyer have a daughter Brittan, 3 and son, Weston, 1.

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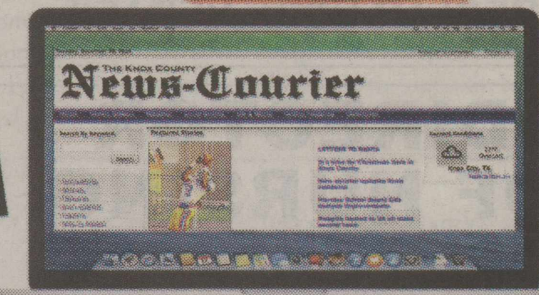
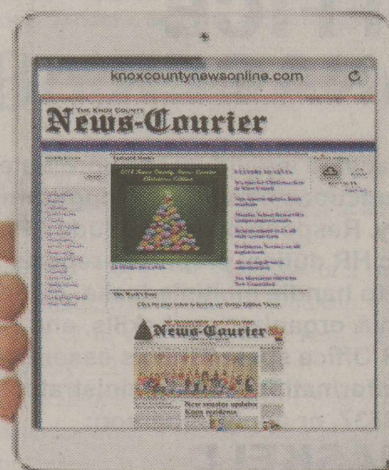
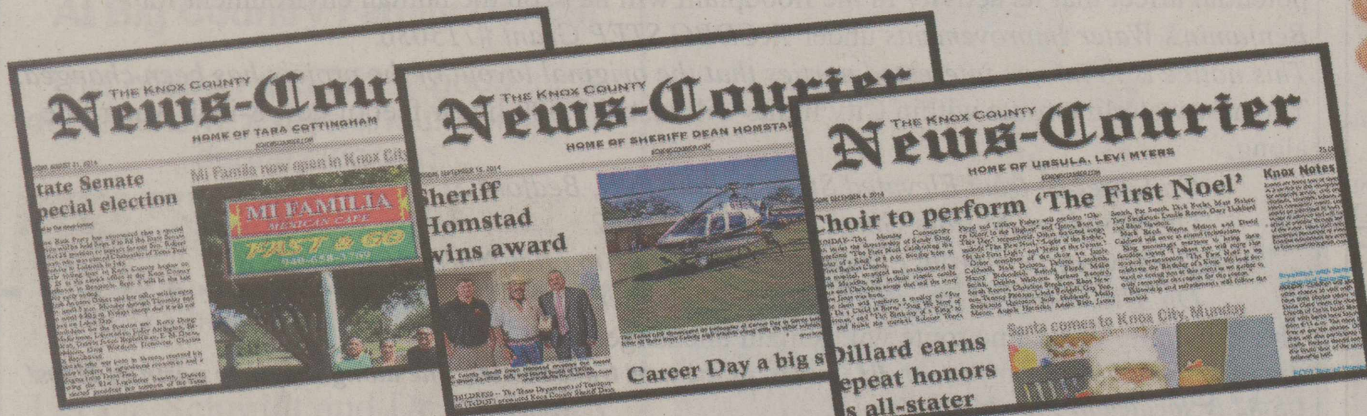
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