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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF STATE CHAMPION JACOBY THOMAS

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015

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Hounds' Thomas wins gold, silver

By James McAfee
 The Knox County News-Courier

AUSTIN — Down to his last jump, Knox City High School sophomore Jacoby Thomas answered the challenge, getting off a 44-9 1/4 triple jump to earn a gold medal in the Class 1A state track meet here at Mike Myers Track Complex at the University of Texas last Friday.

Thomas had jumps of 42-8 3/4, 44-2 1/4, 41-3 1/2, 44-2 and 43-6 1/4

and trailed Asher Rogers of Water Valley, who had a 44-8 3/4 effort before skipping his last attempt.

Earlier, Thomas also saved his best jump for last, leaping 20-10 1/4 to claim a silver in the long jump. Mount Enterprise's Justin Johnson took the gold with a 21-2 3/4 jump.

"I just like the atmosphere," Thomas told the Wichita Falls Record-News. "If you've got anger, you can let it out in the jump, just grunt and

get out there and try to jump out of the pit."

"The triple jump I just came out and gave it my all, got first on my last jump," Thomas added. "The long jump I couldn't pull it out, but I'm taking home a medal."

With two years left of eligibility remaining, Thomas has hopes of getting a chance to claim even more medals.

Greyhounds teammate Kryss Campos picked up a fourth in the discus with a throw of 159-5 and a fifth in the shot

put with a heave of 46-7 3/4 to add six points, allowing the Greyhounds to finish seventh in the team race with 24 points. Water Valley led with 61 points, 16 ahead of runnerup Munday.

Ross Allison of Strawn kept Lance Burseson of Rocksprings from winning both throwing events, winning the discus by two feet at 167-6. Burseson came back to win the shot put at 56-4, four feet longer than Hayden Farquhar of Throckmorton.



Courtesy Photo
Knox City's Jacoby Thomas claims gold medal in triple jump and silver medal in long jump

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, May 21

MHS Band Concert, 6:30 p.m., MHS Auditorium

Friday, May 22

MHS Senior trip

Saturday, May 23

MHS Prom

Daniel Ramirez Memorial Tournament, Lake Creek C.C.

Sunday, May 24

Daniel Ramirez Memorial Tournament, Lake Creek C.C.

MHS Baccalaureate, 7 p.m., MHS Auditorium

KCHS Baccalaureate, 6 p.m., W.R. Baker Auditorium

Monday, May 25

Knox City C.C. Memorial Day Scramble,

State Band Solo Ensemble contest, Pflugerville

State Academic, University of Texas, Austin

Tuesday, May 26

State Academics, University of Texas, Austin

Wednesday, May 27

State Academics, University of Texas, Austin

Thursday, May 28

MHS school awards, 10 a.m., MHS Auditorium

Friday, May 29

MHS graduation, 7 p.m., MHS Auditorium

KC/O'Brien Junior High graduation, 7 p.m., W.R. Baker Auditorium

Saturday, May 30

KCHS graduation, 7 p.m., W.R. Baker Auditorium

KC News-Courier
 Grad Edition
 NEXT WEEK!

Corrections

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

News on the go



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Dropped baton proves costly for Mogulettes

By James McAfee
 The Knox County News-Courier

AUSTIN — On the verge of a possible Class 1A state track title here last Friday at Mike Myers Track Complex at the University of Texas, the Munday Mogulettes couldn't make the final exchange of the baton in the final 4x400 relay that could have resulted in high enough finish to make it possible.

See **MOGULETTES** Page 5

State bound



Munday High's Kamille Redder will be competing in twirling at the State Band Solo Ensemble competition in Pflugerville Monday.

Cox, Dillard, Ericson compete in state academics

AUSTIN — Three Knox County students will be competing in the State UIL Academics contest at the University of Texas in Austin starting Tuesday.

Raci Dillard of Munday High School will be making a return trip to compete in poetry interpretation while classmate M'Kayla Ericson will compete in prose interpretation.

Hailee Cox of Knox City High School will compete in extemporaneous speaking.



Raci Dillard, M'Kayla Ericson Hailee Cox



Temerick Reagins clears 6-0 in state high jump and anchors three relay units to medals

Moguls finish second at state

By James McAfee
 The Knox County News-Courier

AUSTIN — The Munday Moguls earned medals in all three of the relays here last Friday night at Mike Myers Track Complex at the University of Texas to finish in second place in Class 1A with 45 points, 16 behind winner Water Valley.

Temerick Reagins anchored all three units,

'Shattered Dreams' scheduled Friday

KNOX CITY — Chief of Police Richard Candelaria reminds residents that an emergency training drill is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. Friday at Knox City High School.

"Shattered Deams" is an educational experience that reminds us all of the dangers associated with drinking and driving. It reminds us that too many young lives have already been lost and countless others severely impaired because of the tragic consequences of underage drinking and

Knox Notes

Ramirez event this weekend

MUNDAY-The Daniel Ramirez Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled here Saturday and Sunday at the Lake Creek Golf Club.

KCCC hosts Memorial Day scramble

KNOX CITY-The Knox City Country Club will host its Memorial Day Scramble here on Monday. A blind draw will be held to determine the teams for the scheduled 1:30 p.m. shotgun start.

Clay shoot set June 6

GOREE-The second annual Big Country Clay Shoot, in memory of Kole Gay, is scheduled June 6 one mile east of here on Highway 277. Registration will start at 8 a.m. and continue until 2 p.m. Shooting begins at 8:30 a.m. on a seven station

helping the Moguls earn silver medals in the 4x100 and bronze medals in the 4x200 and 4x400 races.

"He was able to get us in medal contention in all three with strong legs," said Coach Cory McCombs.

Reagins told the Abilene Reporter-News after the first race that he was a headhunter who loved

See **MOGULS** Page 5

drinking combined with driving.

The program involves the dramatization of an alcohol-related crash on or near a high school campus, complete with police and EMS response, emergency room treatment, family notifications and the arrest and booking of the driver.

It will involve the school administration and faculty, students, parents, the community, law enforcement, emergency medical services, the clergy and the hospital.

course. The main event will be 50 birds with an entry fee of \$55 that includes a meal. The 30-bird shot will cost \$15 with cash prizes running all day. The flush will feature three-man teams shooting 30 birds in 60 seconds. The highest overall shooter will win a shotgun. For more information, contact Terry Gray at 940 203-1071 or Nathan Urbanczyk at 940 203-0822.

Park group will meet Tuesday

MUNDAY-There's good news for the kids in Munday. All signs point toward the swimming pool to be open this summer.

The Munday Park Project plans a meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall to discuss the pool and the city park.

Hali Kuehler indicated that a clean up of the park is scheduled May 30 starting at 8 a.m. Volunteers are needed, especially ones who can help with tree trimming.

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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

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

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Deaths

Jerry Joe Kittley

Jerry Joe Kittley, resident of Rochester, passed away Tuesday May 12, 2015 at Knox County Hospital in Knox City at the age of 58. A memorial service was held Saturday at O'Brien First Baptist Church. Services were under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes.

Jerry was born Nov. 3, 1956, to James Wesley Kittley and Jo Ann (Hodges) Searcy in Haskell. He was a cowboy and a horse shorer. His passion were horses, rodeo and cowboying.

He was preceded in



JERRY JOE KITTLEY

death by his dad, James Wesley Kittley and four grandparents, Ben and Peggy Kittley and Buster and Clara Hodges.

Jerry is survived by his

mother Jo Ann (Hodges) Searcy; one daughter Jessica Kittley; two sons Justin Kittley and Joshua Stevens; one brother Billy Randle Jones; one sister Karla Jan Reid; several half brothers and sisters; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Memorials can be given in Jerry's name to First Baptist Church, 904 Grand Central Ave, O'Brien, TX 940 658-3553.

Online condolences can be shared with the Kittley family at www.smithfamilyh.com.

Relay for Life



The rain-delayed Relay for Life was held at the Haskell Country Club Saturday. Top; survivors and caregivers are shown at the dinner. Above; Johnny Fuentes, J.D. Garcia and Kyle Markey won the golf tournament with a 64 while Fonda Newton, below, took 5K honors.

Smith elected president of cemetery trust

MUNDAY—James Smith was elected as the new president of the Johnson Memorial Cemetery Endowment Trust at the group's annual meeting last week.

Smith replaces Shawn Cude, who will remain on the board. The board expressed appreciation for Cude's leadership.

Robert Hosea was elected as vice president and Shirley Smith as secretary.

Secretary Smith reported a good response for her recent request for donations, but stressed the need for continued giving, especially major gifts to the endowment fund, to maintain the current level of maintenance.

"Since the cemetery is not a perpetual care entity, voluntary financial support is vital," she said.

Contributions can be sent to Johnson Memorial Cemetery in care of Shirley Smith, PO Box 475, Munday, TX 76371. Donations can be designated in memory of friends or family, and acknowledgments will be sent to survivors.

Other board members present at the meeting were Allene Brown, Shirley Amerson, Brenda Floyd and Leona Elliott. Joining them were Winston Stephens, city administrator, and Bianca Harriman, city secretary.

Golf schedules

Knox City C.C.

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—Bill Baker Memorial Tournament, 2-person scramble, \$100, 8:30 a.m.

July 5—July 4th Scramble, blind draw, \$15, 1:30 p.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

Lake Creek

May 23-24--Daniel Ramirez Memorial 3-person scramble

June 27--3 lady scramble

July 11-12--3 person scramble

Aug. 9--Guys & Dolls

Aug. 23--1 person scramble

Sept. 12-13--3 person scramble

Menus

Menus for week of May 25-29

Monday: Closed Happy Memorial Day

Tuesday: Chicken spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, chocolate pudding.

Wednesday: Ham slices, mashed potatoes, corn, dessert.

Thursday: Chicken tenders, gravy, green beans, wheat rolls, dessert

Friday: Hamburgers, potato wedges, salad, fruit.

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We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of love and compassion showered upon us during this time of loss. Every call, visit, hug, all the many prayers that have been lifted up, all the food that was brought, all the flowers that were given, and the wonderful service that honored Joy so beautifully are things that we will never forget. Each and every gesture of love bestowed upon our family during this difficult time was so deeply appreciated. We were overwhelmed by the amount of love and support shown to our family. We can never say THANKS enough for loving our Joy and all of her family. May God richly bless each of you.

The Family of Jennifer Joy Michelle Butler Terry, Zakery, Brandon, & Marcell Danny & Sherry Julie, Aaron, Sloan, Lainy & Becca Shawn, Christina, Elijah & Caleb

FBC First Baptist Church

Munday, Texas

220 South 5th Ave.

Munday, TX 76731

P: 940-422-4559

Pastor Shane Kendrix

Service Times:

Sunday

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

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

Wednesday

Awanas, Pre-K to 6th grade:

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Youth: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

The unsettled weather continues as more thunderstorms, possible tornadoes and heavy rains are predicted for most of this week. No one is complaining yet about the rain, and it sure is good to see the lakes and tanks filling up, but we do like a break once in a while so we can get the yards and ditches mowed. The mosquitoes are beginning to bother, and that is not very pleasant company. However, the cities are spraying, which helps with the infestation greatly.

Regarding our ill

Earlene Meinzer spent four days in the Knox County Hospital last week. She had a bad kidney infection, but after a round of medicine and some bed rest, she's feeling a lot better. She came home on Friday.

Janice Tolson called on Sunday and gave an update on Buddy's and her health. He is doing much better. He is taking blood thinning shots every day to help dissolve the clots in his lungs. She said he will see his doctor in six weeks to see what progress has been made. She recently saw a PA in Lubbock because her regular cardiologist was ill and out of the office. She did have a stress test, and she hasn't heard from it, so really she's not sure just what is in store for her. She's feeling pretty well, though.

She also asked me to remind folks that they need to call her cell phone if they want to rent the Memorial Building for any reason. That number is 940 256-1119. Also, the Association is trying to save money and asks that if anyone would like to donate their time (and energy) to mow the grounds around the building, it would certainly be appreciated. Our money-making events have been pretty scarce, so the income has not been too great.

Carol and Dick Dickson were in Houston last week for her to see her oncologist. She got an encouraging report but will have some more chemo and radiation therapy beginning sometime in the future. Not sure when, but there will be several treatments, and that should take care of a lot of her problem. She's feeling fine and much more "upbeat" after seeing and talking to her doctors. Just keep on praying for her (and Dick). She's living proof that prayer is working, and she is very, very thankful to everyone.

I talked to Martha and Tom Whitford in Knox City. She's been undergoing chemo for a rare type of stomach cancer, and her last scan showed up clear, as well as some other troublesome places that were clear as well. She still has some more tests and scans to go through, but no more chemo unless something else shows up. She says she feels pretty good. Some days, of course, are better than

others, but that's sort of like all of us, isn't it? It was good to hear that she's doing as well as she is. She wanted me to thank everyone for the prayers and asks that we continue to pray for her.

Here 'n there

Great news regarding Emily Brown's trip to the State Track Meet last week. She was competing in the shot put event, and although she didn't medal, she came in 4th. Pretty good for a sophomore. She has two more years to compete, and we feel like she will continue to do well. Also, I congratulate the Munday and Knox City students who also did well in Austin. It takes a lot of hard work, dedication, and determination to accomplish what they have.

Mothers' Day guests of Imagean Young were Jessica Lamb and Eric Glaze of Bowie, Deann Lamb of Munday, and locals Arial, Addison, and Axle Benson, and Philomae Roberson. Debi and Mike Moorhouse were in Little Rock Arkansas the first of last week on business and also just enjoying a couple of days away. They said it was pretty and green over that way. Guess the rain has been good for them too.

Jonathan Rainwater, who attended South Plains College this past year, was here on Friday to visit his parents, Chad and Kathy. They took him to Waurika, Oklahoma, on Saturday, where he will be a summer intern as Park Ranger at Waurika Lake. He plans to be a Park Ranger after college. Kathy said they planned to come home Saturday night but ended up staying the night, as they got in the path of the storms up that way. They had to seek shelter in some people's safe room near the park. There weren't any adverse effects except maybe a few "frayed" nerves. They got home safely on Sunday.

We have new residents in town. Heath Welch and Cara Hirt have purchased the Kemp and Becky Jones' house (formerly Bill and Pearl Ryder's house). They are doing some work on it and getting it furnished while preparing for their early August wedding. Heath is coming "back home," and we hope Cara likes it here as well. We feel like she will.

Devon Jones, daughter of Kemp and Becky Jones, formerly of Benjamin, graduated from Midwestern University on Saturday with a Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene. Those on hand to watch this happy occasion were Kemp, Becky, Blake, Brooke and Kamryn Jones, Brandon Bradley and his parents, Dusty and Julie, Charles and Linda Griffith, Ned and Susan Jones, and Leah and Jessie Vanderpol. Devon's life is changing rapidly. She and Brandon will be married on June 6, and they will be living in Lubbock.

Jump Rope for Heart raises \$3K



The students pictured above from the Munday Elementary School raised \$3,203.78 for the American Heart Association in a Jump Rope for Heart campaign. Jaxon Bowman was the top fund raiser was Jaxon Bowman. Greg Clark was the coordinator.

The Paperboy And the rains came...

During the recent rains, it's been fascinating watching water levels rise.

The drought conditions we've been under for so long have been crushed by the ongoing weather systems bringing abundant moisture to us.

One of the most fun things to watch for me are rising levels of area lakes.

Consider the following:

- Lake Greenbelt is 17.3 percent capacity. That might not sound like much, but it's a 34 percent increase from six months ago.

- Lake Altus is up 15 feet and rising.

- Millers Creek Reservoir, down near Munday, is 79.2 percent full. Incredibly, that is up from just 7 percent a

month ago.

- Lake Kemp, south of Vernon, has doubled the amount of water and grown by over 2,000 acres.

- White River Reservoir, east of Lubbock, is now 28.1 percent full. One year ago, it was empty.

- Lake Allen Henry, southeast of Post, is 100 percent full. It's the first time in five years.

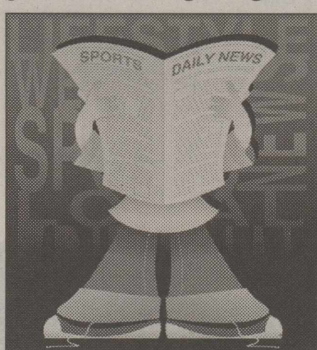
- Mackenzie Reservoir is has gone from 4.8 percent to 10.5 and climbing in the last year.

The vast majority of the increase in these lake levels has occurred in the past month.

Many lakes across Texas and Oklahoma are now spilling over.

Overall, Texas' Monitored Water Supply Reservoirs are 78.3% full. That's a 20 percent increase over 2014.

Now I know some of you have shifted gears and are getting tired of the rain.



It's playing havoc with farmers, baseball schedules and can be an inconvenience.

If you want to feel better about the rain, think back to 2011. In 2011, Childress topped 100 degrees 3 times in April; 9 times in May (including a high of 107); 23 times in June (including 117 on June 26 with 16 days overall at 105 or hotter); 31 days in July; 28 days in August; and 5 days in September.

So in 2011, the hottest year in history, we had 99 days over 100 degrees including 51 days in a row. That's more like the weather you'll find in the desert southwest.

These two years - 2011 and 2015 - may end up on opposite ends of the spectrum. But for that to happen, for 2015 to truly be the opposite of 2011, we'll need about 40 inches of rain, or about triple where we are for the year.

The main observation I've made about the weather is that we cannot control it. If the Pacific stays warm and continues to fuel these weather systems, then it's going to rain here.

Guess what? The longterm forecast, which came out yesterday, is calling for continued wetter than normal weather through winter of 2016.

If that is the case and these lakes continue to grow, it might be time to learn to waterski or perhaps you can dust off that fishing equipment. Because while it may be a bit of a pain at times, I think if we had our choice of weather extremes, we'd choose cool and wet over the hell we went through in 2011 every time.

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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.

Conservation meeting scheduled June 10

KNOX CITY — The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Wichita-Brazos Soil and Water Conservation District have their FY16 Local Working Group (LWG) meeting here June 10 from 1-2 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to set local conservation priorities and bring conservation stakeholders together to discuss conservation topics and issues relevant to helping Knox County farmers and ranchers better conserve on-farm natural resources.

The agenda of the meeting is to update attendees on recent conservation efforts

and to collect public input to help guide future conservation activities. Through regular identification of conservation opportunities, effective Farm Bill investment can continue to benefit Knox County.

Farmers, ranchers, conservationists, and others interested in obtaining Federal technical and financial assistance to improve private land in Knox County are invited to participate.

For more information, please contact Charles Schur, district conservationist, at (940) 658-3526 Ext-3 or visit the NRCS Web site at <http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/>.

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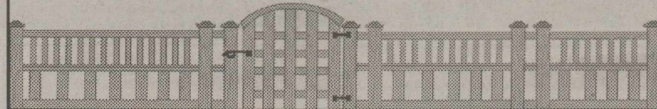
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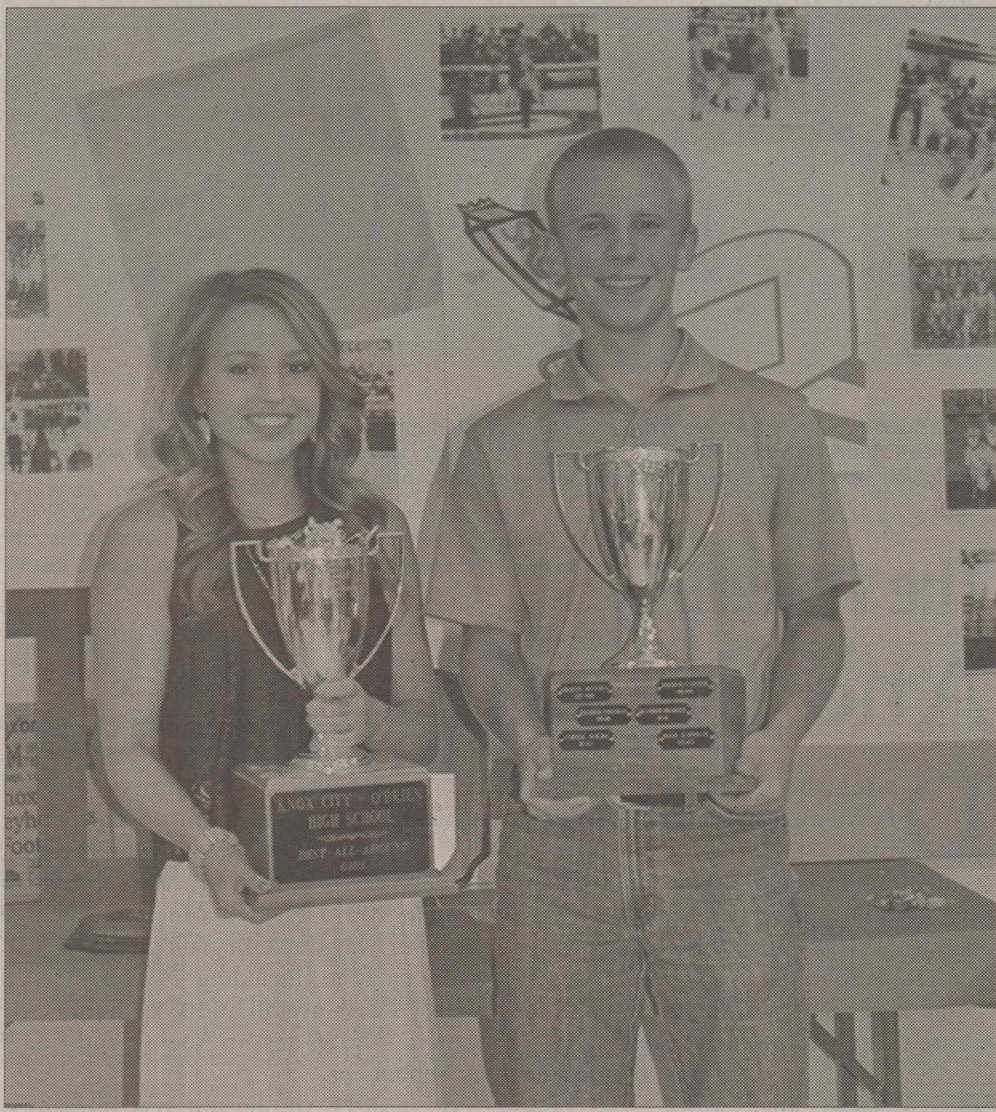
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Baty, Lynn named KC best all around students

Outstanding athletes



Andrea Lynn and Sheldon Baty were named outstanding students at Knox City High School

KNOX CITY—With a “Candy Land” theme of “Greyhounds and Houndettes are Sweet,” Knox City High School recognized its outstanding performers for 2014-2015 in the Knox City High School Cafeteria Monday night.

Sheldon Baty and Andrea Lynn were recognized by Principal Colin Howeth as the best all around students. Kaylie Steele was honored as the female athlete of the year while Zach Rodriguez and Krys Campos shared male honors.

Fighting Heart awards were presented to Jordyn Eaton, Sam Schnable and Baty.

Individual sport awards were given to Rodrigues and Elias Nevarez for football, Leighton Pepper of volleyball, Steele, Ryan Heard and Campos in basketball, Payne Stanfield in baseball, Lexi Jimenez

in softball, Andrea Lynn, Essence Ward, Pepper, Campos and Jacoby Thomas in track.

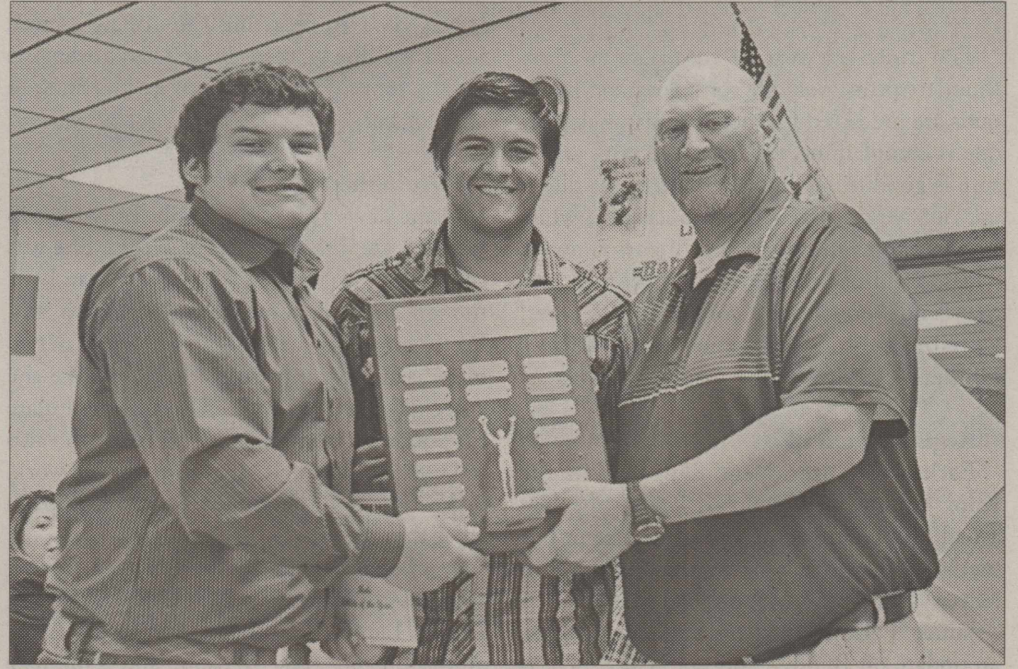
FFA teacher Jason Evans recognized Jordan Ruiz with the Star Green Hand award.

Green Hand degrees were presented to Brady Hawkins, Alexia Jimenez, Brooke Jones, Carson Lewis, Kailyn Martin, Clayton Richardson, Rebecca Rodriguez and Ruiz.

Collecting chapter degree awards were Christian Abila, Debra Alvarado, Hailee Cox, Elissa Hacker, Skylin Ledesma, Zach Overmyer and Bubs Stafford.

Abila also received a star chapter degree.

Brylee White and Richard Rodriguez were the outstanding third and fourth year students.



Zach Rodriguez and Krys Campos share outstanding boys athlete award



Kaylie Steele recognized as top Houndette athlete

FFA award



Jordan Ruiz gets Star Green Hand Award

Congratulations, Greyhounds, & Houndettes

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Lowrance, Dillard win Munday pride awards

MUNDAY—Munday High seniors Mitchell Lowrance and Raci Dillard were recognized as the winners of the Mogul Pride and Mogolutee Pride awards during the school's all-sports banquet here Monday at the MHS Cafeteria.

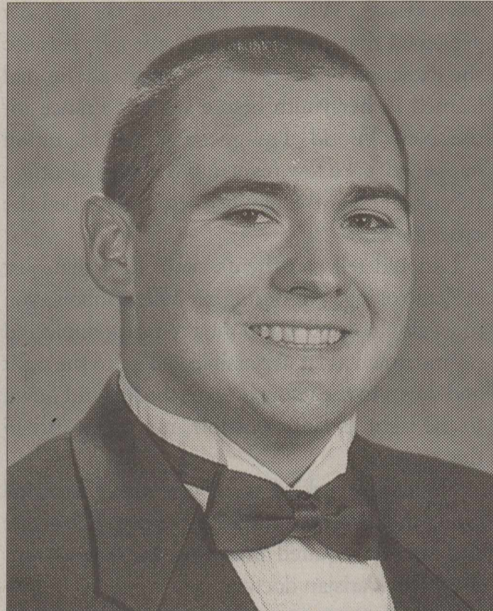
Lowrance was the center on the football team and competed in field events in track.

Dillard participated in volleyball, basketball and field events in track, earning a

bronze medal in the discus. She also set a school record in the discus with a 119-10 effort.

The pair along with senior Janie Salinas, scheduled to attend Butler College in El Dorado, Kan. on a cross country scholarship next fall, were added to the Munday Wall of Honor.

The Athletic Director awards went to Dillard, Salinas and senior Alfonso Nunez



Mitchell Lowrance



Raci Dillard

Dillard earns scholarship from Catholic Life

SAN ANTONIO — Raci Dillard of Munday was selected to receive the 2015 All American Scholar Award sponsored by Catholic Life Insurance, one of the nation's largest fraternal life insurers.

Each year, Catholic Life awards 35 scholarships worth \$1,000 each to graduating high school seniors who have not only demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and academic achievements, but have also gone above and beyond in their civic duties and made a difference in their communities.

The award was designed to offset tuition costs for young Catholic Life members attending an accredited college or university in the fall semester immediately following their senior year of high school.

This award recognizes those special individuals who have dedicated their valuable time and efforts to helping others while remaining devoted to their academic studies, and Catholic Life Insurance strives to reward this high degree of selfless commitment.

Dillard, who plans to attend Vernon College in the fall, is the daughter of Robert and Janet Dillard. She submitted an impressive resume of extracurricular activities and volunteerism that include the Community Life Involvement Committee, Relay for Life, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, cheerleading, band, one act play, UIL, debate, Student Council, and the National Honor Society.

Dillard is also the Salutatorian of the Munday High School graduating class of 2015.

MOGULETES

From Page 1

Entering that last race, Munday had 36 points and trailed Burton at 46, Follet at 40 and Ira at 40. None of these schools had chances for any more points. Cross Plains had 30 and did have a strong mile relay unit, needing to finish two places ahead of Munday.

The Mogulettes were running second just ahead of Cross Plains when Myca Flowers and Karla Taylor missed the exchange, allowing other anchor runners to go ahead. "It was just a fluke thing," said Coach Cory Stephenson, who admitted it definitely "sucked the air" out of him and the Munday fans.

Taylor did recover and finished in sixth place, but an official saw the baton on the cinders and disqualified the Mogulettes. Stephenson said a video replay showed that the baton might have been bumped out of Taylor's hand.

MOGULS

From Page 1

to run. "So whoever is front of me, I'm going to try to catch them." He did catch enough to allow the Moguls to earn medals.

Reagins beat the Lenorah anchor to the finish line by .15 of a second as the Moguls posted 43.70 in the 400 meters, trailing only Water Valley (43.13). Rayshaun Dockins, Day'veon Dockins and Zachary Huffman ran the earlier legs.

In the 4x200 relay, the Moguls foursome of Day'veon Dockins, Huffman, Alfonso Nunez and Reagins posted a 1:32.22 for third place. Water

Valley won with a 1:30.86, using the same foursome of Tyler Simmons, Jeremy Jackson, Kade York and Cody Zuniga that had won the 400.

Heath Bivens took the place of Nunez to join Day'veon Dockins, Nunez and Reagins as the Moguls were third in the 4x400 relay with a 3:31.20. Wink claimed first with a 3:28.64.

Coach McCombs, who is leaving Munday to return to San Saba, was pleased with the Moguls' efforts in the running events, but noted they didn't fare as well in the field events where rain kept most performers from reaching their season bests.

Reagins just missed a medal in the triple jump, settling

"That was definitely the highlight of the meet for us," Stephenson added.

Raci Dillard picked up a bronze medal in the discus with an effort of 110 feet and finished fifth in the shot put with a 35-0 effort in the rain. Mollie Mounsey of Follet swept the throwing events with 39-11 1/2 and 126-91/2 efforts.

Distance runner Janie Salinas claimed a fourth in the 3,200 meters with a 12:40 clocking, but was eighth in the 1,600 meters with a 5:51.52. Katline Bell swept the longer races with 5:22.08 and 11:55.76 clockings.

Hunter's 15-1 leap in the long jump placed eighth while Flowers failed to clear the opening height in the high jump.

Summing up the season, Stephenson noted, "That one moment doesn't define our successful season. We won eight of ten titles and the outlook is positive going forward as we had only two seniors."

for fourth place with a jump of 43-1. Jacoby Thomas of Knox City took the gold with a 44-9 effort on his last jump. Reagins couldn't come close to match earlier 6-2 and 6-4 efforts in the high jump and had to settle for eighth place at 6-0.

"He couldn't get his steps down," McCombs added.

Day'veon Dockins picked up a sixth in the long jump with a 20-6 1/2 leap to get a point while Holt Bivens turned in a season best of 12-0 in the pole vault, but had to settle for seventh place.

In the sprints, Oscar Mathis of Paducah edged JaD-Carious Spikes of Burkeville in the 100, but the roles were reversed in the 200

The Class of 2015 graduation edition... Next week in the KC News-Courier!

MHS Class of 2015



Graduating Munday High seniors who attended dinner hosted by the St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rhineland earlier this month

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“Click It or Ticket” campaign under way

AUSTIN—The Texas Department of Transportation reminds drivers that law enforcement officers across the state will be out in full force issuing tickets to drivers and passengers who are not wearing seat belts leading up to Memorial Day and the end of May.

Widely known as TxDOT’s annual “Click It or Ticket” campaign, the two-week enforcement period reminds all vehicle occupants that non-compliance with statewide seat belt and child safety seat laws can result in fines up to \$250.

“We greatly appreciate the stepped-up efforts of our law enforcement partners during ‘Click It or Ticket,’ because we know seat belts save lives,” said John Barton, TxDOT deputy executive director. “I can’t imagine why anyone would risk getting pulled over and ticketed, let alone killed or injured. It only takes a few seconds to make

sure everyone in your vehicle is buckled up. Do it for yourself and your loved ones, or else risk being fined or even losing a loved one.”

Texas law requires drivers and all passengers, including those in the back seat. Children younger than 8 years old must be in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they are taller than 4 feet 9 inches.

Wearing a seat belt helps keep occupants from being ejected in a crash and increases the chances of surviving by 45 percent. In pickup trucks, that number jumps to 60 percent, as those vehicles are twice as likely as cars to roll over in a crash.

Last year, 2,587 vehicle crashes occurred in Texas in which unrestrained vehicle occupants sustained fatal or serious injuries. Of the more than 3,500 motorists killed in traffic crashes in Texas last year, 44 percent were not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash.

Governor signs no-ban bill

Special to News-Courier

AUSTIN—Gov. Greg Abbott signed a bill to stop municipalities from enforcing laws to hinder “commercially reasonable” operations by a “prudent operator,” while still allowing for regulation of surface operations.

It is effective immediately amid concerns of earthquakes and the balance of state and municipal power.

“This bill is so incredibly important,” Abbot said. “One, it does a profound job at helping to protect private property rights here in the state of Texas, ensuring those

that own their own property are not going to have the heavyhand of local regulation deprive them of their private property rights. Second thing it does is it ensures that Texas prevents and avoids a patchwork quilt of regulations that differ from region to region, differ from county to county, or city to city. Texas is known as a place that believes in less regulation.”

The bill came about after Denton officials enacted a ban on hydraulic fracturing, where chemicals and water are shot into formations underground at high pressure to fracture the rock and release oil and gas.

Brown claims 4th

AUSTIN—Benjamin High sophomore Emily Brown surprised a few people when she placed fourth in the girls shot put in the Class 1A state track meet here at Mike Myers Track Complex at the University of Texas with a throw of 35-1/2.

She missed a medal as favorite Mollie Mounsey of Follet lived up the pre-event hype by winning the gold with a throw of

39-11 1/2 while Taylor Posey of Rotan and Audrey Lozano of Balmorhea took the silver and bronze with 38+ efforts.

Entering the competition as the No. 8 seed and a wildcard entry based on her best third place finish in the four regions, Brown also accomplished another first, beating District 8-1A rival Raci Dillard of Munday by a half inch.

The 501 Have you rolled your eyes today?

It took a while. Marketing gurus have figured out that Baby Boomers don’t have 20/20 vision.

Surprisingly, as admen focus on us visually challenged stereotypical consumers born in the post-World War II era, they’re not taking the approach you might expect.

Instead of increasing the font sizes used for advertising texts, they’re pitching ways for those of us with declining vision to improve our eyesight through eye muscle exercises!

I’ve been trying it.

After all, what’s easier? Going to the gym to get in at least 20 minutes of heart-healthy aerobic exercise or taking two minutes to roll your eyes?

You’re rolling your eyes. Eye rolling, indeed, has suddenly taken on extra meaning. What used to be a mocking expression of disbelief has turned into a way to get youthful eyesight back.

Tip: If you inadvertently get caught rolling your eyes at something someone (like me) says, you can just explain you were simply doing your daily eye exercises.

By the way, believe it or not, the current ado about improving eyesight through exercise isn’t news to me. I’m just surprised suddenly to be hearing about it from all corners. I myself heard it first from Regina Dubois, my landlady in New Orleans.

Originally from Paris, France, Mlle Dubois was a white-haired octogenarian who lived in a fine house on St. Charles Avenue and rented a string of charming modest shotgun houses a few blocks away, each for just \$75 a month, each with six little rooms. We renters loved the rate. My neighbor Yvette (coincidentally, also from France) claimed that Mlle Dubois enjoyed good health because all her renters prayed so faithfully for her, not wishing her to die, fearing their rent would increase. Maybe Yvette was correct. What I remember is that Mlle Dubois didn’t wear glasses. When we first met, she proudly explained that she had perfect eyesight because she exercised her eyes daily – exercises she had learned in her youth before she left France for the New World. I’m guessing her migration happened just a few years into the 20th Century. I think she said the family doctor prescribed the eye regimen.

I should tell you there’s more to it than just eyeball rolling. According to Mlle Dubois, you must also look left and right as far as possible and up and down as far as possible and up to the right and down to the left and up to the left and down to the right as far as possible, not necessarily in that order.

Whatever works, I say. I just wish I’d started doing the daily eye routine back when it was free and simply required following the instructions from that Parisian doctor.

Now, if you want to get serious about improving faltering eyesight, reach for your credit card. Case in point, a book from a doctor who has somehow discovered the secret of maintaining and improving eyesight through ocular exercises is \$27. Shipping is no doubt extra.

Bills fail House debate

AUSTIN — Since last Thursday was the last chance for Texas House bills to win full-chamber approval, many top-priority bills are likely to not gain approval.

Proposals can be tacked onto other measures as no bill is officially dead until June 1.

“The reality is, when you file many thousands of bills, the funnel is only so large,” Rep. Tan Parker, chair of the House Republican Caucus told the media.

Among the most watched bills that didn’t survive floor debate was one prohibiting government officials from issuing marriage licenses to gay couples.

A poll revealed that 93 of the 98 House Republicans signed a letter stating their commitment to Texas’ legal definition of marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

However, Democrats kept the bill from coming up for debate by slowing House activity to a crawl, even at the sacrifice of some of their own legislation.

A Democratic-backed bill to enable all minors — even gays and lesbians — to avoid charges of indecency with a child if they are in a consensual relationship also failed to pass.

As Democrats bled out the clock, Republicans abruptly scrapped an ambitious \$3 billion plan to overhaul the way the state pays for public schools.

Not raising the age puts Texas county jails at risk of not complying with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act, which requires facilities to separate minor-age inmates from those over 18.

Facing strong opposition from care dealers, a measure to permit electric vehicle

Among other bills that didn’t make the first round of cuts was one to permit electric vehicle manufacturer Tesla Motors to sell cars in Texas. Identical measures by a House Democrat and a Senate Republican both got stuck in committee after facing strong opposition by car dealers.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear editor:
A big thank you goes out to the EMTs that responded the first time Edmund fell. Your kindness and consideration was greatly appreciated.
Another big thank you goes to the three kind people who came the second time when Edmund fell. I'm sorry I did not ask for your names, but you know who I am talking about. Your help and consideration

for him was appreciated.
I'd also like to thank the EMTs who came out the second time and took Edmund to the hospital.
We are blessed to have such dedicated people.
God bless you,
Geraldine Tomanek

Quail Appreciation Day June 2 in Knox County

Special to the News-Courier

TRUSCOTT — A Quail Appreciation Day will be offered here June 2 at the Circle Bar Ranch by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Knox County.

The program will begin with registration and refreshments at 8:30 am at the Truscott Community Center. Lunch will be provided and those planning to attend should RSVP by May 29 by calling 940 459-2651. Three general Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be awarded.

"With the increase in recreational land uses when compared with traditional livestock production, wildlife management has become an essential component of ranch planning" said Jerry Coplen, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent for Knox County.

"We know historically that quail experience "boom and bust" population swings and obtaining reliable research data can be quite challenging. Quail management is an ongoing process and there is always something new to learn about this bird that has captivated generations of wildlife enthusiasts. I encourage anyone with an interest in the outdoors to make an effort to be there.

Property owners, wildlife managers, ranchers, hunters, naturalists, or just the generally curious will be able to take away some useful information from this program."

Coplen also said the Circle Bar Ranch has had an active quail management strategy for several years and timely rains the past two years have certainly benefitted the quail population in terms of nesting habitat and food sources. It provides an ideal location for participants to explore what the future holds in terms of quail management strategies.

The day will begin with a morning classroom session that will cover the following food sources and supplemental feeding, cows and quail, predator management, restocking quail and research updates.

The group will travel after lunch to nearby sites to discuss management goals of the ranch, range plant identification and habitat evaluation. Another stop will be made to look at preset "dummy" nests to evaluate nest success relative to nesting cover and predator species.

For more information, contact Jerry Coplen at 940 459-2651 or jerry.coplen@ag.tamu.edu

TxDOT moves up spring mowing to June 1

Special to the News-Courier

CHILDRESS — With the increased rain, the Texas Department of Transportation's Childress District has moved up the spring mowing to June 1 for Knox County. Square G, Inc. will be the contractor.

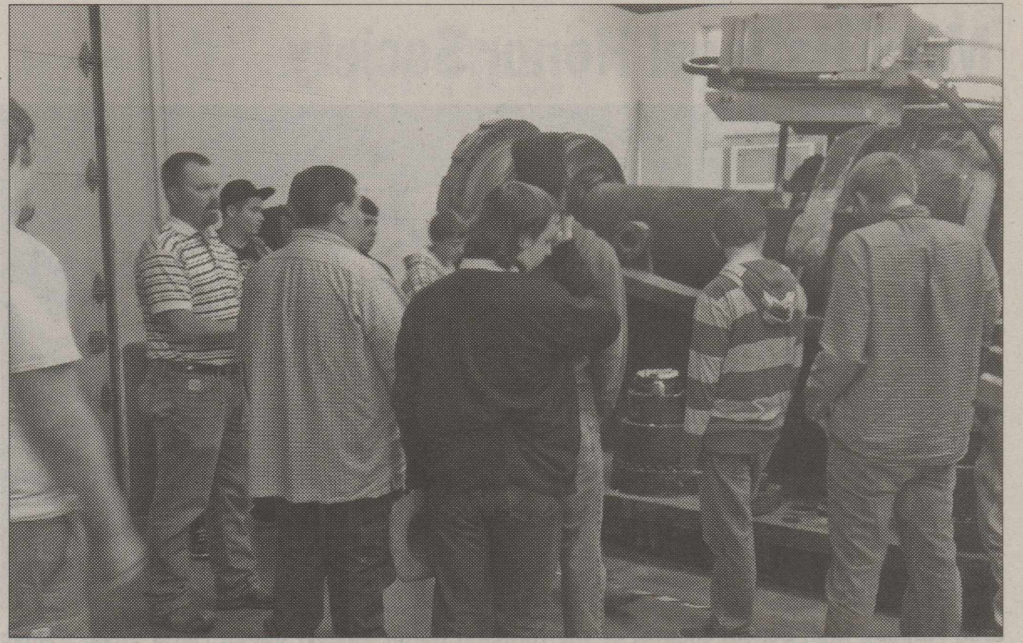
Maintaining 7,956 miles of highway in the Childress District is an enormous task that involves more than roadways, but 23,635 acres of right of way. TxDOT's mowing policy limits the number of times rural highways receive a full width modified mow to two; spring and fall. A full width modified mow is two 15 foot passes, making the strip 30 feet from the edge of the roadway.

In between mowing cycles, TxDOT's herbicide and wildflower programs help our highways look good but also reduces the

cost of maintenance and labor by encouraging the growth of native species.

TxDOT uses specific herbicides that target undesirable species while maintaining desired species, such as blue grama, buffalo grass, sideoats grama, and bluestems. Herbicides also aid in regulating vegetation growth, enabling TxDOT to limit the number of mowing cycles. "Our maintenance sections are implementing aggressive herbicide programs in their respective counties to reduce the amount of undesired vegetation along the right of way, especially at intersections and median turn-arounds," said Darwin Lankford, Director of Operations.

In addition to the herbicide program, TxDOT will continue to mow at a seven inch height cut to maintain the health of the grass, allowing it to choke out undesired vegetation.



Courtesy photo

Roland Martin of Bailey Toliver Chevrolet explains talks with Haskell CISD VTC students about the Hunter wheel-alignment system.

VTC students learn about car dealership

ROCHESTER — Vocational Technical Center students visited the Texas State Technical College Sweetwater campus and Bailey Toliver Chevrolet in Haskell earlier this month.

The students were able to visit with TSTC counselors and instructors in the following programs: pipe welding, diesel and automotive technology, wind energy and electromechanical engineering.

Students viewed classes and labs during the instructional time and heard about the

school's programs, financial aide and campus life.

Then they heard Roland Martin tell of the technological advances in the day-to-day process of an automobile dealership. Martin and others demonstrated the use of diagnostic equipment and told about the importance of work quality, ethics and team philosophy.

Director Monty Moeller thanked both entities for sharing job opportunities with the students.

Weather Whys

Tornadoes don't always move in same direction

Q: Is it true that tornadoes always move in the same direction?

A: That's not true, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "Tornadoes can move in any direction," he explains. "Most of them move from the southwest to the northeast, but not all do. It used to be thought that all tornadoes moved to the northeast, but now we know that they can move in any direction. Tornadoes develop out of thunderstorms, and they generally move in whatever direction the thunderstorm is moving.

Q: Do they make sudden changes in direction?

A: They can, but sharp turns are not common, he says. "Most tornadoes keep going along the same general path and any change of direction is slight," McRoberts adds. "When a tornado does make a change in direction, it is usually due to changes in the structure of the thunderstorm from which it was spawned. Perhaps the greatest example of a tornado staying on

path was the famous Tri-State tornado of March, 1925. It stayed on roughly the same path for an amazing 219 miles, moving from southeast Missouri, crossing Illinois and heading on to southwest Indiana — the usual path of moving from the south to the northeast that most tornadoes make. It moved at 73 miles per hour, killed 695 people, destroyed 15,000 homes and damaged 164 square miles and was at times one mile in width."

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Additionally, during the month of May, we'll be holding a drawing for existing customers (whose accounts have been in service and are current as of the drawing date) at each of our office locations. Each winner will receive 4 tickets to the Schlitterbahn Waterpark for splashing summer fun! Existing customers are automatically entered in the drawing for waterpark tickets and no further action is required.

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MHS National Honor Society



The Munday High School chapter of the National Honor Society added Maria Vega, Denise Araujo, Heath Bivens, Holt Bivens, Joseph Ramirez, Cole Redwine, Kendall Thompson and Bergen Waters earlier. The entire group shown here (l-r) are Taylor Thompson, Maria Vega, Ramirez, Rebecca Serrato, Janie Salinas, Kathryn Cude, Araujo, Ana Vega and Kamille Redder in the front row. Raci Dillard, M'Kayla Ericson, Skylar Gomez, Kimberly Shahan, Chandler McCombs, Heath Bivens, Brenley Waters, Mitchell Lowrance, Redwine, Waters, Thompson, Grace Tidwell and Alexis Nunez are shown in the back row. Holt Bivens is missing.

KCHS National Honor Society



The Knox City High School National Honor Society inducted seven new members: Kirsten Tuckness, Hailee Cox, Sam Schnable, Kate Baker, Kayla Hunter, Christina Alexander and Amy Harrington. The entire group shown here (l-r) in the front are Andrea Lynn, Alexander, Kinslee Cox, Kaylie Deville, Cheyenne Camp, Cox, Hunter, Tuckness and Baker. In the back row are Sheldon Baty, Ryan Heard, Kaylie Steele, Harrington, Adrian Silva, Marlie Steele and Schnable. The NHS sponsor is Mr. Kent Deville.

Producers should report lost planting acres

KNOX CITY — Nancy Birkenfeld, executive director of Knox County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), reminds producers to report prevented planting and failed acres in order to establish or retain FSA program eligibility.

Producers must report crop acreage they intended to plant, but due to natural disaster, they were prevented from planting. Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days

after the final planting date as established by FSA and Risk Management Agency (RMA).

According to Birkenfeld, the final planting dates that are applicable to Knox County are May 31 for Virginia peanuts, June 10 for runner peanuts, June 20 for cotton, June 25 for sunflowers, June 30 for guar, grand sorghum, Spanish peanuts, sesame and July 15 for sorghum forage.

If a producer is unable to report the prevented planting acreage within the 15 calendar

days following the final planting date, a late-filed report can be submitted. This report will only be accepted if FSA conducts a farm visit to assess the eligible disaster condition that prevented the crop from being planted. A measurement service fee will be charged.

Additionally, producers with failed acres should also use form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, to report failed acres.

For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, producers must file a notice of loss within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers must also timely file for failed acres on all crops including grasses.

Please contact the Knox County FSA Office at 940-658-3537 Ext 2 to schedule an appointment.

Beef short course set

COLLEGE STATION — Historic high prices in the cattle market and future trends will be one of many important topics discussed in-depth at the 2015 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course scheduled Aug. 3-5 at Texas A&M University in College Station.

Dr. Darrell Peel, Oklahoma State University livestock economist, will be one of the featured speakers during the general session Aug. 3, discussing the cattle market outlook and current supply/demand factors that beef producers will want to consider in maintaining their own operations.

"High prices certainly have been welcomed among cattle producers here in Texas and abroad," said Dr. Jason Cleere, conference coordinator and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service beef cattle specialist in College Station. "Many are wondering how long this trend will continue and are evaluating the economics of restocking and/or increasing their herd size. We have several topics throughout this year's short course that will address these issues and more."

The short course is the premier beef educational event in Texas, attracting more than 1,400 attendees annually, Cleere said. The short course features 20 sessions covering basic practices, new technologies and other important industry topics. These sessions provide participants with an opportunity to choose workshops based on their level of production experience and the needs of their ranch.

"These concurrent workshops will feature information on introductory cattle production, for-

age management practices, range management, nutrition and reproduction, record keeping, genetics, purebred cattle, landowner issues and much more," he said.

In addition to classroom instruction, participants can attend one of the popular demonstrations on the morning of Aug. 5, Cleere said.

"There will be demonstrations on fence building, chute-side calf working, cattle behavior, penning and Brush Busters, program on brush management," Cleere said. "These provide an opportunity for ranchers to see beef cattle production practices put to use."

"The goal of the short course each year is to provide the most cutting-edge information that is needed by beef cattle producers. We think we have information for everyone to take home and apply to their operations."

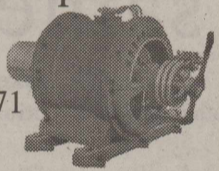
Participants can earn at least 10 Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide continuing education units if they are already licensed, Cleere added.

An industry trade show will be held during the event, featuring more than 120 agricultural businesses and service exhibits. Cleere said the famous Texas Aggie Prime Rib Dinner is always a highlight of the short course.

Registration is \$180 per person before July 30 or \$220 afterwards, and includes educational materials, a copy of the 600-page Beef Cattle Short Course proceedings, trade show admittance, admission to the prime rib dinner, lunches, breakfasts and daily refreshments.

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Call Rachel at 940-422-4541 or come by 421 West F., Munday, Tx. Munday Nursing Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Knox County Hospital District accepting applications for full-time RN, 7pm-7am. Benefits, 2 days on - 4 days off. Contact Sheila Kuehler at 940-657-3535.

Knox County Hospital District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (5715)

Rolling Plains Management Corporation

is seeking applicants for the position of part-time Teacher Aide at Munday Child Development Center, 941 Bowie, in Munday. All applicants must be at least 18 years old and possess a high school diploma or its equivalent. Interested persons may pick up an application at the Munday Child Development Center or you may go online and print out an application at www.rollingplains.org. Applications may be turned in to the center. All application must be received by May 29, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

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Rolling Plains Management Corporation

is seeking applicants for the position of a Head Start Teacher at the Munday Child Development Center in Munday, Texas. Applicants must possess one of the following:

- A minimum of an associate degree in early childhood or child development; or
- An associate degree in a field related to early childhood education and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education with experience teaching preschool age children; or
- A baccalaureate or advanced degree in any field and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education with experience teaching preschool-age children; or
- A baccalaureate degree in any field and has been admitted into the Teach for America program, has passed a rigorous early childhood content exam such as the Praxis II, has participated in a Teach for America summer training institute that includes teaching preschool children, and is receiving ongoing professional development and support from Teach for America's professional staff.

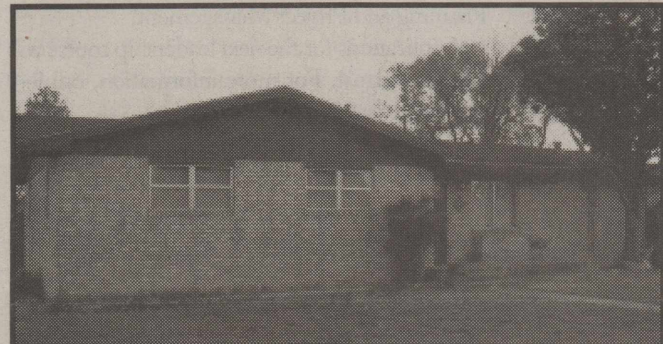
Coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education includes, but is not limited to, courses that focus on child development, early childhood education, early childhood curriculum (as a whole or by domain such as math, science, or literacy), early childhood teaching instruction, child assessment, psychology, family development, health and physical development, mathematics, science, and children's literature. Such courses may be offered in various departments, such as education, home economics, music, art, library sciences, physical education and recreation, psychology, family studies, and others. Interested persons may go by 941 Bowie in Munday for an application or go online to www.rollingplains.org to download and print an application. Please attach a resume and college transcripts to your application and mail to: Rolling Plains Management Corporation, PO Box 490, Crowell, TX 79227 Applications must be received on or before May 29, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.. Rolling Plains Management Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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- 160 +/- Acres NW Corner of Haskell Co. (\$1,000) A/c **NEW**
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LEGAL NOTICE

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or appraised value of your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board (ARB) that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review

To schedule an informal meeting call the following:
940-459-3891

Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You will receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any written material intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-

examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office or from the Comptroller of Public Accounts at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/tax/forms/50-132.pdf.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal. Appeals to district court, binding arbitration, or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

Tax Payment

You must pay either the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at

Knox County Appraisal District
P.O. Box 47, 100 West Cedar
Benjamin, Texas 79505, 940-459-3891

You can get a additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller's publication, *Property Tax Basics*, available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/pdf/96-1425.pdf.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

On or before April 30 for residence homesteads and May 31 for all other property (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later). The filing deadline is postponed until the next business day if the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal state or national holiday.

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the ARB approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

*The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

Deadline is Thirty (30) days from the Date on your Tax Notice.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

Mac's Views Teens need to be aware of dangers

Looking back with my wife about my brother's graduation from Vernon High School in 1961, she recalled how some of his classmates died in a car wreck right afterwards. I've read about this happening after other high school graduations. Ronald died in an accident a year later, but drinking was not involved as far as I know.



JAMES MCAFEE

While drinking by teenagers is not always the cause of such accidents, it is sometimes the reason along with unsafe driving habits.

So count me among the number who support the "Shattered Dreams" program that will be brought to life here Friday at Knox City High School.

The tragic loss of life and potential productivity resulting from teen drinking and driving is staggering. Did you realize that motor vehicle crashes are

the leading cause of deaths for those 15 to 20 years old?

Or that three out of ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related auto crash at some time during their lives?

Of course, mixing driving and drinking is not just a problem with our kids. It happens far too many times by adults.

While it may have involved drugs instead of liquor, I got slammed into at a red light in Garland last summer. I was lucky, no injury. However, the policeman said that this might not have been the case if I had been the first car at the light instead of having a big pickup in front of me. He said the force would have pushed me into the intersection where 5 o'clock traffic was going through rapidly and could have resulted with me being t-boned on the driver's side.

Through role-playing like in the "Shattered Dreams" program, teens and parents plus others who show up Friday to participate will certainly go away realizing the dangers and let others know.

Recycling 2015

By Bunny Norville

You said you needed volunteer help at the center, what kind of work would a volunteer do?

Thanks for asking. We wouldn't ask a volunteer to do anything that one of us wouldn't do. In fact Exa Lee Smith and I are volunteers. Volunteers can work out their own schedule and set their own work hours. For

continuity we would hope they could work the same schedule on a daily or weekly basis. Any time volunteered is appreciated. We volunteer because we are passionate about recycling, hopefully this will happen to everyone who volunteers with us.

Following is a list of chores all of us at the center do regularly.

Greet the people who come to the center and assist them any

way you can. Try to make their visit a pleasant one.

Cardboard: Pickup boxes from several locations around town every week day, breakdown/cut up boxes to fit in shipping containers, cull greasy or overly dirty boxes, cut out greasy spots, separate corrugated boxes from poster or paper board boxes (like cereal boxes) and remove excess tape and shipping labels.

Paper: Learn what is acceptable for recycling and what is not (not the easiest of chores), separate stapled magazines from glued magazines, remove sticky labels from newspapers and magazines and include the paper board materials with all other "mixed" papers.

Plastic: Learn what is acceptable and separate different types. Remove bottle caps from what is acceptable, separate the bottles and jugs that need more rinsing, flatten all bottles and jugs before placing in shipping container.

Tin cans: Inspect cans for food particles as they must be rinsed before shipping.

Aluminum cans: Flatten before placing in shipping container.

Pallets and gaylords: Gaylords are the large boxes we use for shipping. We put them on pallets for loading purposes. Pallets and gaylords are heavy and putting them together can be difficult. We might ask a volunteer to help.

Volunteers would be expected to help keep the center clean and a safe place to work. With all the rain we are having, we try to keep cardboard and paper off the floor and tied down so it won't blow away.

All who are interested in volunteering, please come by the center or call me, Bunny Norville at 203-0221.



The Knox-Haskell Texas Rural Leadership Program (TRLP) graduates and speakers are shown (l-r) in front row are Ronnie McDonald, Lynn White, Joy Lynn Pool, Mitzi Welch, Scott Bearden, Carl Milburn, Parris Pittman, Laura Bowers, Lorrie Coop and Teresa Martinez. In the bottom row are Tatiana Nchotu, Tammy Cunningham, Erin Dunnam, Jimi Coplen, Sheena Crosson, Mary Drury.

Leadership graduates plan community projects

Special to the News-Courier

The Knox-Haskell Texas Rural Leadership Program (TRLP) has completed its 2015 pilot program to encourage individuals to become better educated about resources and community leadership roles in rural communities.

A total of 14 completed the eight-month program to study leadership curriculum as well as hear from local civic and business leaders regarding resources.

During the graduation ceremony in Knox City earlier this month, program participants and guests heard from Ronnie McDonald, Executive Director of TRLP as well as Dr. Lynn White, President of TRLP who traveled from College Station to acknowledge the series, its accomplishments and future project plans that program graduates plan to implement in their communities.

The Haskell County class community project plans included a Haskell city park clean-up and beautification effort as well as spearheading a long term vision and fundraising plan for city park improvements.

Graduates of the Haskell county class who will implement the plan include Scott Bearden, DaLinda Black, Laura Bowers, Sheena Crosson, Erin Dunnam, Mary Drury, Tammy Cunningham, Teresa Martinez, Carl Milburn and Parris Pittman.

The Knox County class community project

plans included pursuing state grants and funding for additional sidewalks and decorative lighting around the Knox County courthouse area as well as helping with other projects around the City of Benjamin.

Graduates of the Knox County class who will implement the plan include Lorrie Coop, Jimi Coplen, Tatiana Nchotu, Joy Lynn Pool and Mitzi Welch.

Initial organizers for the TRLP included the City of Haskell, Development Corporation of Haskell, Haskell County Extension Service, Knox County Visioning Group, Knox County Extension Service as well as Texas Rural Leadership Program leaders based out of College Station.

Businesses who sponsored an employee to attend included Davis Kinard of Haskell CISD, Richardson's True Value, Haskell Feeds, Knox County Appraisal District and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

At this time, the series is expected to be repeated for the 2015 - 2016 calendar year. The eight part series will most likely again include the following topics and themes: Introduction to Community Development, Together Leadership in a Nutshell, Communication Skills, Organizing and Group Dynamics, Leading as well as Planning and Project Management.

Applications for the next leadership course will start in August. For more information, call 940 459-4121 or 940 864-3424.

Casey hired as interim superintendent

MUNDAY — After more than an hour in executive session during last week's regular meeting of the Munday Consolidated Independent School District, the Board of Trustees approved the hiring of Skip Casey as an interim superintendent.

Casey will report June 1, receiving \$500 per

day plus travel mileage.

Darren Francis of Region 9 had given the trustees a timeline in their search for a new superintendent to replace Robert Dillard, suggesting a June 8 deadline for applications and a screening meeting the week of June 22. The target date for hiring a superintendent is July 13.

Good Luck at the State Twirling Contest, Kamille!

We love you and we are so proud of you!

Your Family

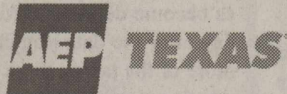
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Consumers served by AEP Texas now have the option to be notified by text message or e-mail when their home or business is affected by a power outage.

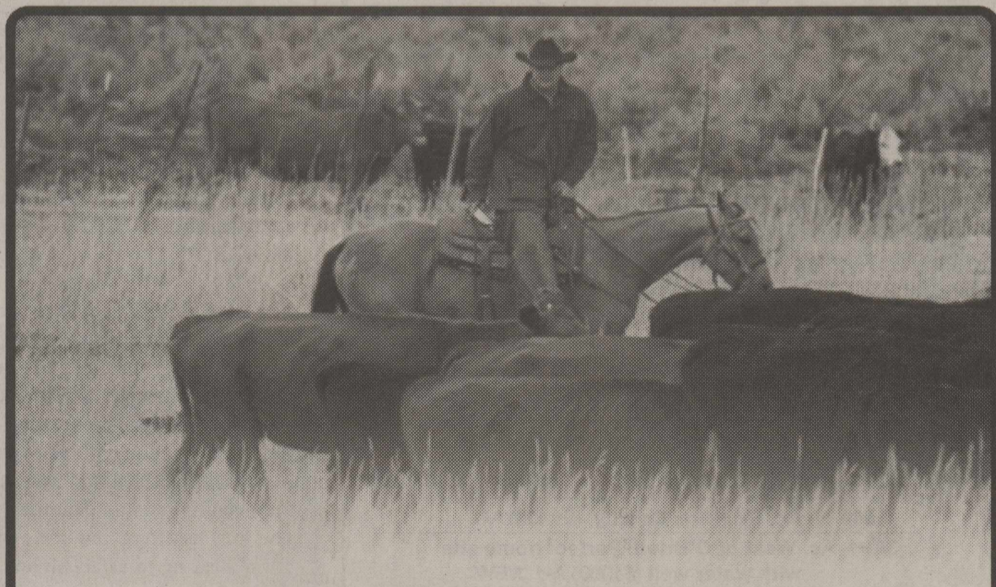
Consumers who enroll in AEP Texas Mobile Alerts will receive a notification when an outage has been reported in their area and will get updates as AEP Texas crews determine the outage cause and can estimate when power is expected to be restored.

Call AEP Texas at 866-223-8508 to register your home or business account.



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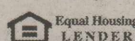
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