

THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF LEON & LEONA BURKHAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015

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MCISD sets facilities planning meeting

By James McAfee

The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — Possible projects to consider if the Munday CISD decides to go ahead with a plan for a bond proposal will be discussed at a facilities meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16 at the MHS Auditorium.

According to Supt. Terry Parton a few of the ideals being considered include a new gym, a new science lab for the secondary school, new scoreboards and play clocks for football and basketball, stadium renovations to include a turf field, new classrooms at elementary school to

relace portables, new phone system, resurfacing or complete rebuilding of track runways and high jump apron and a safe area or room at the elementary.

DSA, a construction firm with a lot of experience building schools and churches, will prepare some preliminary estimates after it visited the school last month and be at the Wednesday meeting.

"Once we narrow down the the important parts and some more details of what we would like to see done, they will be able to get closer to a real number," Parton said.

In addition, new security measures will be

considered, including a single point of entry for both campuses directy into office, security cameras in the hallways to monitor entrances new fencing around the open areas and a fresctructuring of the drop off and pick up at the elementary.

Parton mentioned that he had a security company doing a site survey to suggest improvements and give some estimates.

He added that an energy saving company was doing an assessment of the current lighting, heating and cooling systems and water use that could provide some savings to the district.

"This would take some pressure off of a bond proposal," Parton added.

Knox Notes

Please notify the News-Courier about your upcoming events. Emailed submissions to kc-newsourier@gmail are preferred. The deadline for inclusion will be the Friday before the following week's issue.

Pastor to be honored

KNOX CITY — The Liberty Church of God will honor pastor Gene Ward and his family for 10 years of service at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 13.

"Living Nativity" planned

MUNDAY — The Munday First United Methodist Church will present "A Living Nativity" from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Guests are asked to report to the fellowship hall for refreshments and then they will receive a hayride to see it.

Hometown Christmas set in Knox City

KNOX CITY — Knox City will celebrate "Hometown Christmas" Saturday with the arrival of Santa Claus.

Businesses downtown will be open from 4-7 p.m. Drawings will be held every 30 minutes beginning at 4:30 p.m. for cash prizes.

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce office will serve refreshments and be open for children to get their photos taken with Santa Claus.

A parade is scheduled to start at 4 p.m. through downtown to kick off the celebration.

'Breath of Heaven'



The Munday Community Choir is shown performing part of its Christmas Cantata, "Breath of Heaven" last Sunday at the First Baptist Church Munday. It marked the 15th year for the tradition, honoring Christmas.

Courtesy photo

Bill would deny visa waivers

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON - U.S. Congressman Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) voted this week in support of a bill that would deny visa waivers to those who have traveled to or are nationals of countries with significant terrorist activity and enhance the screening of all travelers from Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries. The "Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act of 2015," H.R. 158, passed the House by a vote of 407-19.

"Many terrorist recruits and sympathizers who traveled to join ISIS have passports from countries that receive visa waivers and do not currently need a visa to enter the United States," said Thornberry. "This bill would stop terrorists from exploiting this weakness in our border controls by requiring those traveling from countries deemed high-risk, even for business or tourism, to go through more stringent screenings and be approved for a visa. This bill would also improve intelligence sharing, which is key to stopping attacks."

H.R. 158 would require dual nationals and individuals who have traveled to certain nations or state sponsors of terror - including Syria, Iran, and Iraq - since March 1, 2011, to obtain a

See VISA, Page 2

Kuehler selected as all-stater

Special to The News-Courier

MUNDAY — Kristen Kuehler, a sophomore at Munday High, was named to the Class A all-state volleyball team selected by the Texas Girls Coaches Association.

Earlier, she was named to the District 6-2A all-district team.

Munday seniors Denise Araujo, Ana Vega, Kimberly Shahan and Skylar Gomez were named to the Class 1A all-state academic team.

Cheyene Camp of Knox City also earned academic all-state honors.



KRISTEN KUEHLER



Courtesy photo

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Kendal & Company last week.

Santa comes to Munday



Vonda Carter/The Knox County News-Courier

Youngsters got a chance to have their photos taken with Santa Claus last Saturday when Munday celebrated Christmas downtown. Santa arrived in a helicopter and rode a golf cart in the parade.

Thornberry supports EPA rules changes

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON — U.S. Congressman Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) voted last week in support of two resolutions of disapproval for two Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations for new and existing power plants.

S.J. Res 23 and 24 passed the House by votes of 235-188 and 242-180, respectively.

"There is no question that these burdensome regulations will drive up costs for businesses and consumers alike," said Thornberry. "We all want clear air and clean water, but with these rules, the administration is seeking to regulate where it could not legislate. They show that the President and his EPA have prioritized their anti-fossil fuel agenda above the reliability and affordability of electricity

in America."

An October study by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) estimates that Texas retail energy prices could increase by as much as 18 percent by 2030 because of EPA regulations.

The same study also estimates that Texas will have to retire about a quarter of its current coal-fired power plant capacity. ERCOT has reported that the Texas power grid "could see multiple unit retirements within a short time frame" leading to "periods of reduced generating reserves and increase the risk of emergency operations during periods of peak customer demand, such as the hottest days of summer."

Under the Congressional Review Act (CRA), Congress can pass a joint resolution

See MAC, Page 2

Syrian refugees arrive in Texas

Special to The News-Courier

After Texas eased up its legal fight against resettlement agencies and the federal government, 21 Syrian refugees arrived in Dallas and Houston this week.

State officials fought for weeks to stop them, saying they might pose an unaccept-

able security risk after the deadly attack in Paris last month.

The state's lawsuit still is pending and a judge was expected to hear arguments this week.

Governors in about 30 states have said they do not want to accept any more Syrian refugees.

Correction

In last week's issue about the candidates for Knox County Judge, Stan Wojcik's name was misspelled.

News on the go



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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

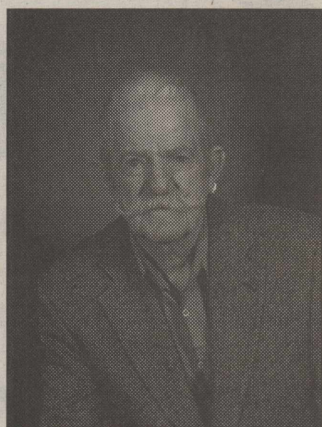
Obituaries

Dalton Hardin

KNOX CITY - Dalton C. Hardin, age 84, went home to be with the Lord Monday, Dec. 7, 2015. A memorial service will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church on FM 2526 between Hwy. 183 and Hwy. 6. Mike Bacon will officiate.

Dalton was born March 26, 1931 in Abilene to the Rev. A.C. Hardin and Florris McCord Hardin. He married the beautiful Julia Ann Bruton Nov. 24, 1954 in Brownwood, TX. Dalton joined the US Navy and served our country until his retirement.

Dalton is survived by his loving wife of 61 years,



DALTON HARDIN

Julia Ann of Knox City; sons Russell Lee and wife Kathy Hardin of Carbon and Dalton C. Jr. and wife Peggy Hardin of Eastland; daughters Deborah Sue and husband Ray Bisbee of Eastland and Florris JoAnn Hardin of Abilene; and sister Maxine Gressett of Midland. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

The family request memorials be made to the American Heart Association. www.heart.org

MAC From Page 1

within 60-days to nullify a specific agency rule. If a CRA joint resolution of disapproval is approved by the House and Senate and signed by the President, or if Congress overrides a presidential veto, the rule(s) at issue cannot go into effect or continue in effect.

In October, EPA published two separate rules addressing carbon emissions from power plants. The first regulation set carbon dioxide standards for new and modified power plants, also known as the new source performance standards (NSPS). The second regulation, known as the Clean Power Plan (CPP), set carbon emission standards for existing power plants.

S.J. Res. 23 nullifies the NSPS regulation, and S.J. Res. 24 nullifies the CPP regulation. Both resolutions passed the Senate by separate votes of 52-46 on Nov. 17, 2015.

Opinion

Yellen's new normal of less than 100,000 new jobs a month

By Robert Romano

"To simply provide jobs for those who are newly entering the labor force probably requires under 100,000 jobs per month."

That was Federal Reserve Chairman Janet Yellen testifying on Dec. 3 in front of Congress' Joint Economic Committee, telling lawmakers why, demographically, nobody should really expect the economy to produce nearly as many jobs as it once did in decades past.

As recently as 2010, the expectation to keep up with the growth of the working age population was much higher, for example, by former U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Robert Reich in an oped for the Wall Street Journal, writing of "the 150,000 [jobs] needed to keep up with the growth of the U.S. population."

It is a familiar story, that of America's aging workforce, but less focused on has been the impact of the slowing rate of growth of the working age population — that is, those aged 16 to

64. In the past year, the population of 16 to 64 year olds has only increased an average 109,750 a month, according to data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Comparatively, the average from 1980 to 1981 had it increasing 198,750.

That is how profound not only the shifting demographics has been, but also declining fertility in the U.S. The fact is, Americans — and the rest of the world for that matter — are having far fewer children than they once did, and now it's turning up in the labor force.

So, Yellen is actually correct. To keep up with population replacement — since the employment-population ratio is always less than 100 percent — will most certainly be under 100,000 jobs per month.

More like 78,000, to be precise, if one assumes 2007's 71.8 percent employment-population ratio for 16 to 64 years.

Going forward, that number will drop even further as the size of the working age

population continues to flat line.

It raises an interesting question, however, about those Baby Boomers headed into retirement, namely, who will replace them when they do finally retire en masse? It stands to reason that those working under them will be promoted, but then, who will replace them?

Recall the 71.8 percent employment-population ratio from 2007 for 16 to 64 year olds. Today it stands at about 68.9 percent, accounting for more than 4 million potential jobs lost from the economy since then.

This suggests a counter-intuitive outcome of simultaneous labor shortages and declining labor participation in the coming years. That is, fewer people seeking jobs at the same time employers cannot fill the spots they have.

At the same time economic growth is slowing down, and consumption, so too will production. If another recession strikes in the near future, on top of those potential jobs already lost will be possibly millions more. Can you say vicious cycle?

Meaning the new normal articulated by Fed head Yellen may not merely be a benign indicator, but a symptom of long-term economic decline. We'll know when the next recession hits just how bad it might be. Is there any way out of this malaise?

Robert Romano is the senior editor of Americans for Limited Government.

MAC From Page 1

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VISA From Page 1

visa before traveling to the U.S. rather than entering through the VWP. The Secretary of Homeland Security would be able to designate additional countries of concern should threats arise and suspend a country from VWP if information-sharing requirements are not sufficiently met.

Knox County Aging Center Menus

Menus for week of Dec. 14-18
Monday: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, fruit cups
Tuesday: Ham & beans, spinach, corn, cornbread, pineapple cup
Wednesday: Chili & beans, cornbread, salad, dessert
Thursday: King Ranch casserole, Spanish rice, pinto beans, tortilla, dessert
Friday: BBQ beef on bun, potato wedges, salad, fruit cocktail



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Leon & Leana 60th Anniversary

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ST. JOSEPH /RHINELAND & SANTA ROSA/KNOX CITY CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve - December 24th
Santa Rosa/Knox City - Mass at 9:00 PM with Carols beginning at 8:30 PM
St. Joseph/Rhineland - Mass at 11:00 PM with Carols beginning at 10:45 PM

Christmas Day- December 25th
St. Joseph/Rhineland - Mass at 8:00 AM

New Year's Day - Jan. 1st
St. Joseph/Rhineland - Mass at 8:00 AM
Santa Rosa/Knox City- Mass at 10:00 AM

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

News is pretty scarce this week. Guess after all the holiday coming and going, everyone stayed pretty close to home this past week. The weather has been pretty nice. Some cool wind has blown a day or so, but the temperatures have been in the 60s most days, so that made any outside activity that needed to be taken care of rather pleasant. This week has been about the same.

The only thing I know of regarding our ailing friends is that Pam Duke had hip replacement surgery on Tuesday at Abilene Regional Hospital. She has been in such discomfort for so long that she was ready to get this done and be the road to feeling better soon. Of course, we wish Pam well.

Folks over this way have begun to

get in the Christmas mood. Lights are going up all over town, both inside and out, and so pretty. Kim and Tina Sealy have lots of outside decorations and a beautiful tree in the window, making their place look extra festive.

The courthouse is also decorated and lights have been strung in the trees behind the Veteran's Memorial. Dennis Duke is the mastermind behind that project, and it just adds so much to the beauty of that magnificent structure. It is all so pretty.

Here 'n there

Several from the Women of Benjamin club met last Wednesday night and made a trip to Munday for supper and then visited friends and acquaintances in the Munday Nursing Center. All the residents were so pleased to have us come by, and it did us all good to know

they enjoyed our visit. Making the outing were Linda Griffith, Barbara Ryder, Pam Duke, Nancy McGreger, Mary Young and myself.

The work continues on the new store site at the corner of Hwy 82 and 6. Not sure just where they are on the construction but am sure of one thing—they are busy all day. For those who live away and may not know, the building that was Red Kilgore's confectionary years ago (and later belonged to several locals) has been demolished and the debris just about all hauled away. It looks odd for it to be gone but also makes it look very neat to be all cleaned up.

Little McKenzie Cartwright of Abilene spent several days last week with her grandparents Tracy and Susan. Her parents are the Matthew Cartwrights.

CRP enrollment ends Feb. 26

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack reminded farmers and ranchers that the next general enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) ends on Feb. 26, 2016.

December 2015 also marks the 30th anniversary of CRP, a federally funded program that assists agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

As of September, 24.2 million acres were enrolled in CRP. CRP also is protecting more than 170,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world 7 times. "Over the past 30 years, farmers,

ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made CRP one of the most successful conservation programs in the history of the country," said Vilsack. "CRP continues to make major environmental improvements to water and air quality.

This is another longstanding example of how agricultural production can work hand in hand with efforts to improve the environment and increase wildlife habitat."

Participants in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands.

In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share as-

sistance.

At times when commodity prices are low, enrolling sensitive lands in CRP can be especially attractive to farmers and ranchers, as it softens the economic hardship for landowners at the same time that it provides ecological benefits.

Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years.

The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish native plant species on marginal agricultural lands for the primary purpose of preventing soil erosion and improving water quality and related benefits of reducing loss of wildlife habitat.

Contracts on 1.64 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2016. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

TxDOT urges drivers plan sober rides

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Transportation's "Plan While You Can" campaign urges party goers to plan for a sober ride this holiday season. The campaign runs through Jan. 1, 2016 and coincides with an increase in DUI patrols and enforcement.

"The holidays are a time of celebration and family, but they also require responsible decisions and planning if alcohol is involved," said TxDOT Executive Director LtGen Joe Weber, USMC (Ret). "Our goal is to save families from the heartbreak of losing a loved one. Finding a sober ride is easy and it can

save you from being arrested, injured or killed. There is no excuse for drinking and driving."

During last year's holiday season (Dec. 1, 2014 - Jan. 1, 2015) there were 2,412 alcohol-related traffic crashes in Texas, resulting in 190 serious injuries and 110 fatalities. This was nearly an 8-percent increase in alcohol-related traffic fatalities over the previous holiday season.

Central to the campaign is a statewide tour featuring an interactive dodgeball game that uses custom gaming technology to replicate the effects of alcohol on a person's reflexes. As participants play, virtual drinks are added

and the players' on-screen avatars become less able to dodge incoming "snowballs." The game demonstrates how even one drink can slow reaction times.

Additionally, TxDOT is hosting a contest on its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social media accounts. Participants who tag up to three friends in a tweet or a post with the hashtag #PlanWhileYouCan will be entered into a giveaway for a donated gift card from a retailer, restaurant or entertainment venue. To enter and learn more, follow TxDOT on its social media accounts.

As always, TxDOT strongly encourages everyone

to plan for a sober ride before going out. Visit SoberRides.org to find alternatives to drinking and driving, such as:

Calling a taxi or using a transportation app on your smartphone.

Using mass transit.

Asking a sober friend or family member for a ride home.

Spend the night.

Mustangs win consolation

Special to The News-Courier

BENJAMIN — The Benjamin Mustangs claimed the consolation title in the Chillcothe tournament, scoring a 42-10 victory over Patton Springs last Saturday after jumping off to a comfortable 34-3 halftime lead.

The Mustangs got balanced scoring as Lin-

coln Strickland had 11, Benjamin Vanderpol 10, Caleb Barreintez 9 and Justin Rainwater 8.

"We're getting better," said Coach Jacob Navarro. "We just have to be a little more aggressive and tough when it comes to defensive rebounding. I'm confident we will get there."

Crowell goes after 3-peat

Special to The News-Courier

CROWELL — A third straight title, unlikely at the start of the season, will be the goal of the Crowell Wildcats when they go up against Abbott at noon Saturday in Shotwell Stadium.

The state champions the past two seasons avenged an earlier season-opening setback with a 68-40 semifinal victory over previously unbeaten Border County last

week while Abbott walloped Zephyr, 53-8.

Richland Springs, the last six-man school to accomplish a three-peat back in 2010-2012, hopes to return to the throne in Class 1A DII as it plays Follett at 3 p.m. the same day at Shotwell.

Richland Springs romped past Guthrie, 58-12, while Follett, losers only to Knox City, edged Buena Vista, 41-38, in the semifinals

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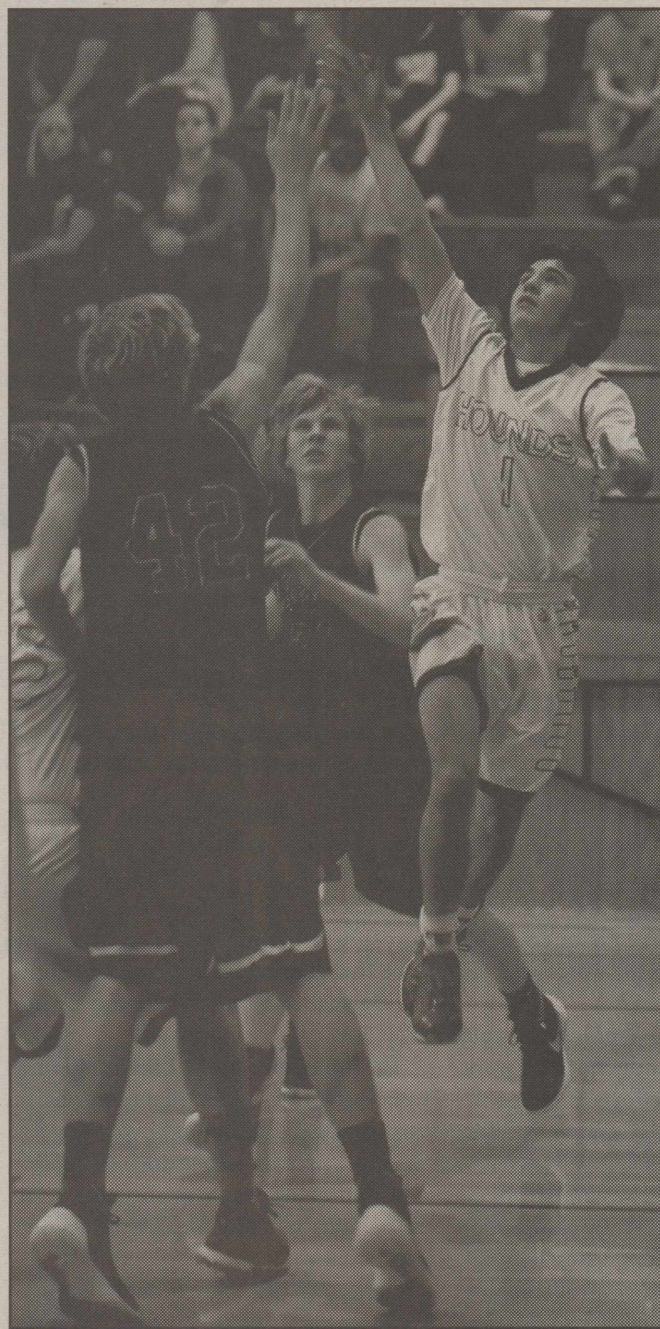
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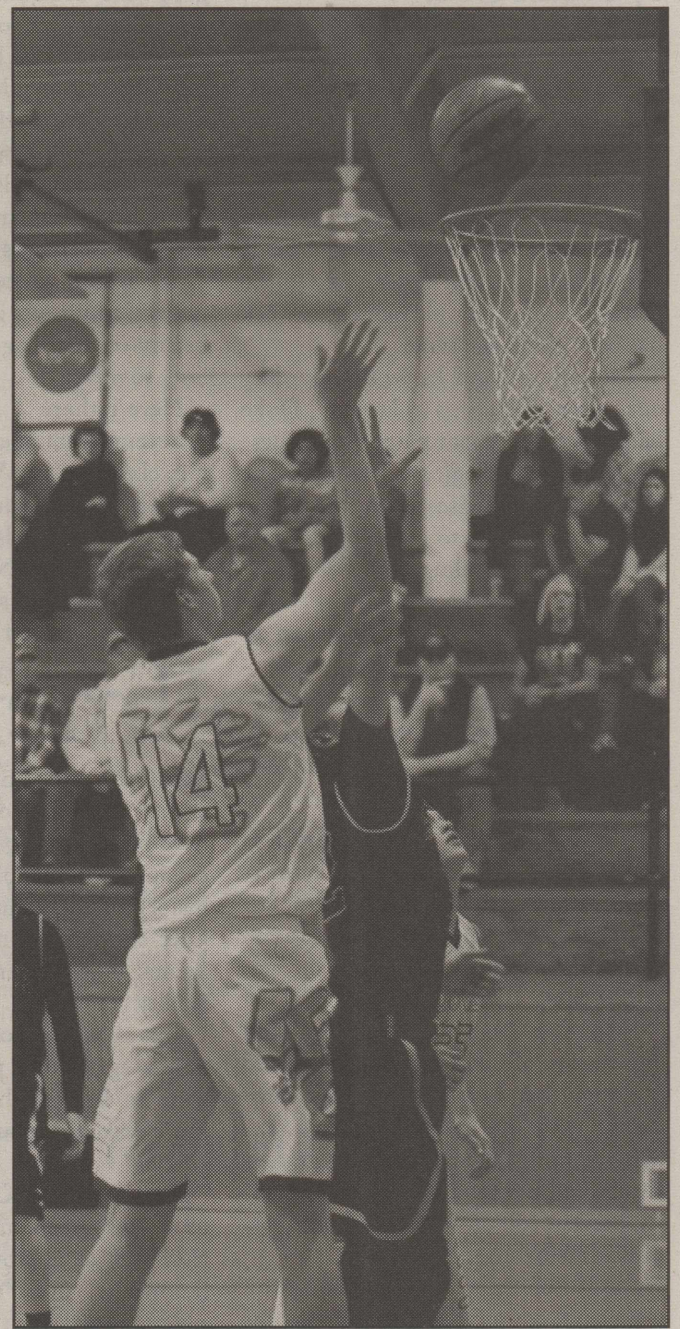
Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

Knox City's Brady Hawkins connects against Archer City.



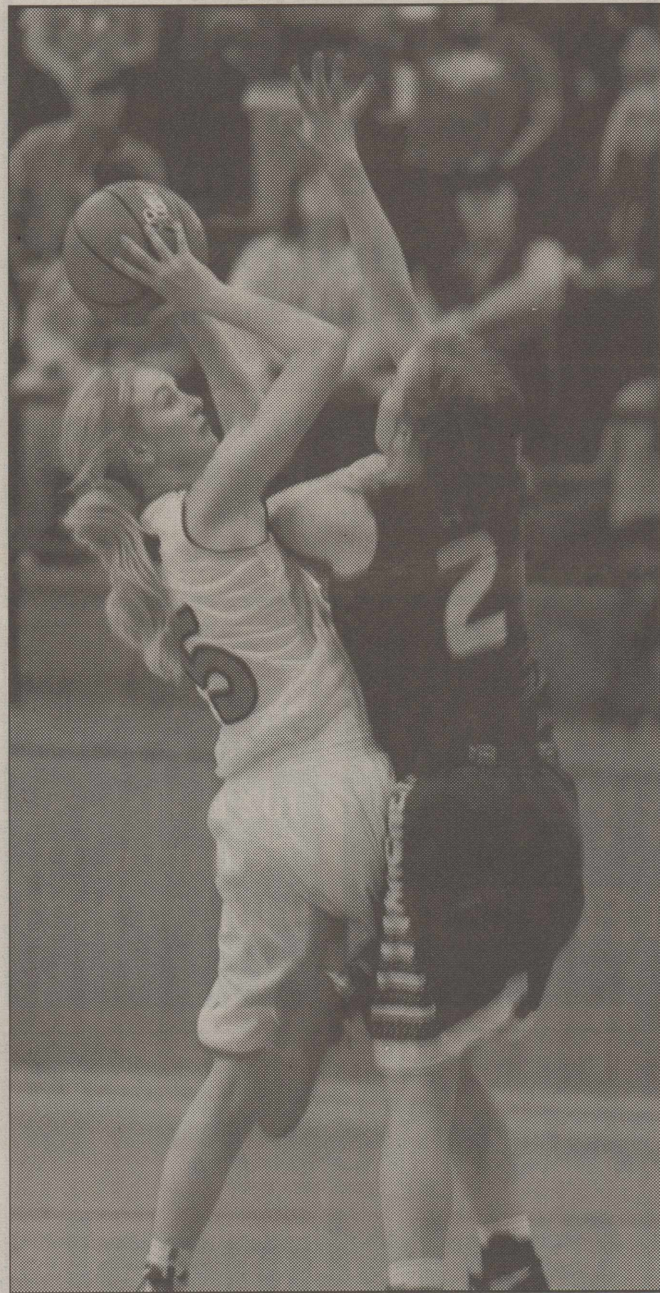
Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

Greyhounds' Anthony Estrada scores on layup.



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

Ryan Heard arches ball into net for two points.



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

Archer City defender can't stop Amy Haarrington's drive

Greyhounds finish third at Guthrie

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The Knox City Greyhounds, ranked 20th in the state, claimed third place in the Guthrie Tournament last Saturday, walloping Petersburg, 62-15, to improve to 6-1 for the season.

"Overall, I was happy with the effort and execution during the tournament," said Coach Josh Ballard.

The Greyhounds got off to a fast start against Petersburg that led to some easy baskets while their foes struggled shooting the ball. "We shot the ball well and

ran the offense to get some good looks," Ballard said. "Only a couple times do I think we forced some stuff."

The Greyhounds suffered a 59-57 setback to Shamrock in overtime earlier at Guthrie.

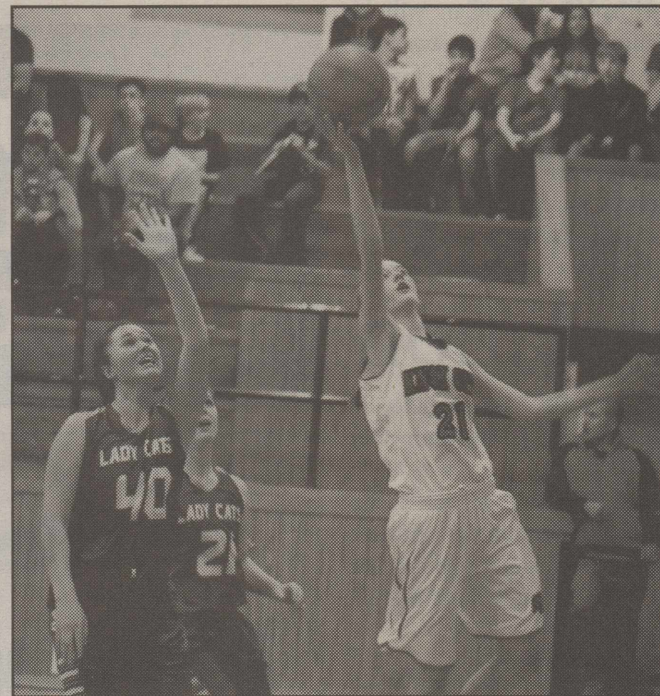
"We played really well at times and really tired at other times," Ballard said. "We had some big shots to force OT and to take the lead. I take the loss as a coach for not having our kids properly prepared for some of the situations we faced. The Shamrock kids played well and hit a great shot at the end of the game to win. It was a good battle be-

tween both groups, but we just didn't come out on top."

Knox City downed the Childress JV, 59-45, in the opening game at Guthrie. Ryan Heard and Skylar Neill led scoring with 14 and 14 points respectively.

The Greyhounds downed Archer City, 71-33, last Tuesday as Anthony Estrada scored 17, Neill 14 and Elias Nevarez 12.

"We played pretty good defense against a short handed team," Ballard said. "We play them again Thursday night and I know it will be a different game with all of their guys back."



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

Knox City's Myca Flowers scores two against Archer City

Houndettes 4th in Guthrie

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The Knox City Houndettes settled for fourth place in the Guthrie Tournament, falling 57-37 to Petersburg. Earlier, the Houndettes defeated Crosbyton, 71-41, but lost to Haskell 42, 36.

"I thought we competed in the tournament and played well" said Coach Dylan Ballard. "I saw some good things and saw some things we need to work on. If we make free throws and not get in foul trouble, then our two losses might have turned out different. Hopefully we learned some things and can move on from this as we have a big week with at least five games.

Kaylie Steele had 20 and Brooke Jones 14 against Crosbyton.

Haskell had a 27-12 edge in free throws, and that was the difference in a defensive battle. Steele had 15 points and nine rebounds. Jones scored 23 and Steele 10 in the Petersburg game. Earlier in the week, Knox City got into foul trouble in the third quarter.

Archer City broke open a close game, outscoring the Houndettes 20-4. Steele had 15 points.

"Archer City is a well coached and disciplined team," Ballard added. "So knowing we can hang with them says a lot about how far we have come."

Cox finishes eighth at state FFA event

Special to The News-Courier

HUNTSVILLE — Hailee Cox of the Knox City FFA placed eighth in the Senior Creed Speaking contest here last week at the Texas FFA state contest.

Cox qualified for the state competition by finishing first or second in one of the state's 57 district competitions and first or second in one of 10 area competitions. A total of 5,973 entries began the statewide-tournament in 13 different events which reflect classroom

instruction in basic leadership skills.

The Texas FFA is the nation's largest state FFA associations with a membership of more than 113,000 active FFA members. FFA programs teach skills in leadership, career development and personal growth.

FFA gives students the opportunity to practically apply classroom knowledge to real-world experiences through local, state and national competitions. Sam Houston State University has partnered with Texas FFA in hosting these competitions for 80 years.

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Six Moguls named to 7-2A first team



HEATH BIVENS

Moguls break into win column

Special to The News-Courier

MUNDAY — After suffering six setbacks in their opening week of play, the Munday Moguls broke into the win column at home Tuesday night, scoring a 48-28 victory over the Quanah Indians.

The Moguls assumed a 16-8 lead after one quarter and maintained it, leading 21-12 at halftime and 33-22 after three quarters.

Brady Weaver led the scoring.

Weather Whys

Does the weather service still use weather balloons?

Yes it does, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. Many of the uses of weather balloons can now be utilized by weather satellites, which orbit hundreds of miles above the Earth. "But weather balloons are still used regularly by several agencies," McRoberts reports. "In fact, there are dozens of weather balloons released every day in the United States. Weather balloons carry sensors that measure specific readings, such as temperature, humidity, wind speed and even air pollution. This information is relayed back to a sensor on the ground. There are two types of weather balloons — free-flying and tethered. The free-flying balloons often reach 90,000 feet or more into the atmosphere."

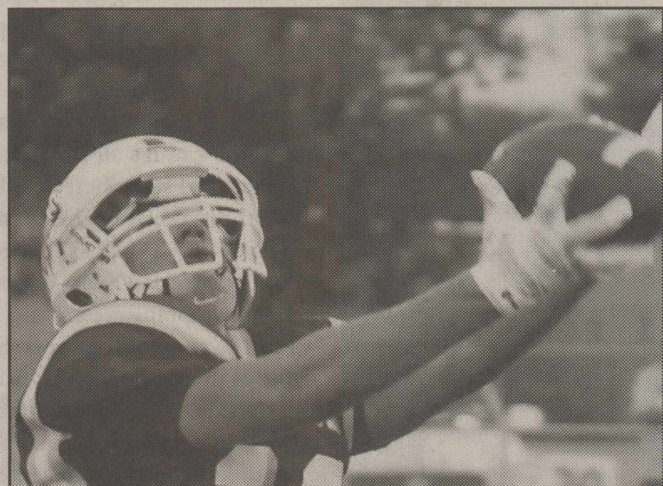
When were the first balloons used?

ing attack with 15 points while Day'veon Dockins and Cole Parton added 12 and 11, respectively.

Coach Greg Clark was especially pleased with the Moguls' defensive and rebounding efforts.

"We're still struggling scoring," he added, "but the boys did show more purpose tonight."

The Moguls were scheduled to participate in the Stamford Tournament starting today.



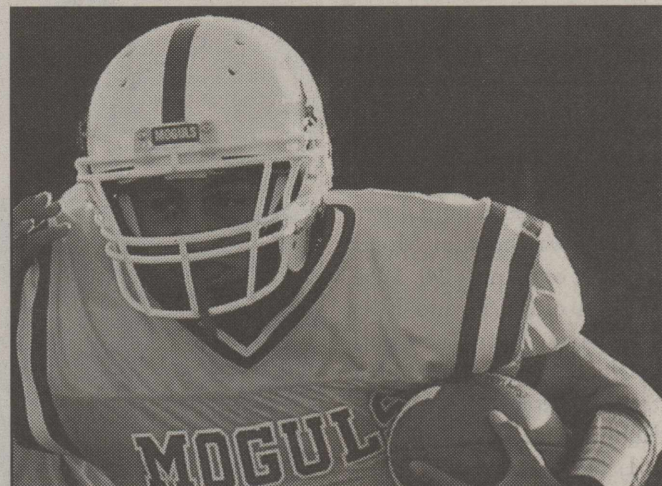
HOLT BIVENS

Special to The News-Courier

MUNDAY — The Munday Moguls' junior running back Day'veon Dockins and senior lineman Cole Parton were unanimous choices for the District 7-2A DII all-district first team offense selected by the coaches.

Junior fullback Dee Hemphill and junior tight end Heath Bivens also were named to the first team offense.

Named to the first team on defense were lineman Parton, defensive backs



DAY'VEON DOCKINS

Hemphill and Heath Bivens and sophomore outside linebacker Holt Bivens.

Heath Bivens was named as the first team punter and Kellen Redder as one of the first team utility players.

Receiver Holt Bivens was named to second team offense while junior inside linebacker Julio Vitolas, senior outside linebacker Bryan Castorena and junior lineman David Serrato were selected on the second team defense.

Both of the Bivens, Parton, Aiden Hunter and Joseph Ramirez were named academic all-district.

Senior Markesis Lee of Electra was selected as the district's MVP. Hamlin seniors Brandon Bell and Noe Arce were named the offensive and defensive MVPs. Hamlin sophomore Ayrton Wagner was the offensive newcomer of the year while Electra sophomore Montana Hernandez and Hamlin sophomore Shawn Montanez shared newcomer honors on defense.

Mogulettes gaining valuable experience

Special to The News-Courier

MUNDAY — The Munday Mogulettes won only one of four games in the Albany Tournament last week to see their record fall to 3-5, but Coach Stephenson was especially pleased with that one win.

"We played some tough competi-

tion and we're gaining valuable experience that will help us when district play starts," he said.

After losing to Coleman, Merkel and Santo, Munday earned a 22-19 come-from-behind win over Albany in a defensive battle.

"We hit some big shots late after our press forced a couple of turnovers," Ste-

phenson said.

The Mogulettes suffered a 35-15 setback at the hands of Quanah Tuesday night at home and then play in the Stamford Tournament starting with an 11:30 a.m. game today against Ranger. They will then play the Wylie JV at 5:30 p.m. today and Trent at 8:30 a.m. Friday in pool action.

Combatting stage fright with music

Special to The News-Courier

COLLEGE STATION — Nursing simulations are an important part of the curriculum at the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Nursing, and even the most confident of students may experience performance anxiety when putting theory into real-world action.

New research now shows classical music may soothe nursing students' nerves on simulation day.

While simulations are

an invaluable opportunity for students to learn, practice and correct mistakes in a controlled environment, these highly-monitored clinical situations and the weight of their importance, can be extremely stressful.

"Nursing students can experience performance anxiety before and during their clinical simulations," said Kevin Gosselin, associate professor and assistant dean for graduate studies.

"While a certain degree of anxiety is natural, and

maybe even helpful, too much anxiety prevents students from learning and demonstrating what they are capable of accomplishing."

Gosselin leads a team of nursing faculty who are conducting research on how nursing students might better manage their performance anxiety as participants in clinical simulations. The idea for the study originated from a discussion that Gosselin and Brian Holland, assistant

professor and assistant dean for undergraduate studies, had regarding student's responses to the simulations.

"Kevin and I are both musicians, and we noticed similarities in the type of anxiety that we experience when performing in front of an audience, and in our student's anxiety when they participate in clinical simulations," Holland said. "So we began looking at options that might help students to better manage their anxiety."

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Burkhams to celebrate 60th anniversary Vonda's Recipe Corner

Special to The News-Courier

Knox City—Leon and Leona Burkham will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends on Saturday, Dec. 19, in the Church of Christ Fellowship Hall from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Leon was born in Mount Vernon on April 24, 1936, the son of W. E. and Edna Burkham. Leona was born in Nocona on Nov. 29, 1935, the daughter of W.A. and Ruby Magee.

Leon graduated from Burkburnett High School in 1954, Abilene Christian College in 1958 and Sam Houston State University in 1959.

He then devoted his professional life to teaching and supervising FFA members and agriculture students until he retired in 1999 after teaching Vocational Agriculture for 40 years, 38 of which were spent in the Knox City School system.

Leona graduated from Olney High School in 1954, met and married Leon while attending Abilene Christian College. She worked as a secretary and aide at Knox City High School for 10 years and retired from Citizens Bank of Knox City in 1999 after 25 years of service. She also served as the secretary/treasurer for the Knox County Junior Livestock



Show for 30 years.

The couple was married at the Hamilton Street Church of Christ in Olney on Dec. 22, 1955. The ceremony was performed by the groom's father W.E. Burkham. They made their first home in Abilene.

The couple has been blessed with three children, Michael and his wife Melissa of Yoakum; Gaylynn and her husband Greg Covey of Stephenville; and Bob and his wife Angela of Canyon. Grandchildren are Wade Covey and wife Kaylee of Iowa Park; Lee Covey and wife Kara of Stephenville; Ryne Burkham of Plano;

Will Burkham of Fort Cobb, OK, and Clay Burkham and Abby Burkham both of Canyon. They have four great-grandchildren, Izabelle Burkham, Breana Burkham, Tyler Burkham and Wyatt Covey.

By Vonda Carter

I know a lot of you are having company for Christmas. Breakfast will be a very important part of the days, almost as important as the dinners. This week is dedicated to breakfast made as easy as possible because we're all very busy preparing for our shopping trips, visits, guests and so much to do at the last minute. I'm right there with you. I absolutely love Christmas. I love how it makes me feel, warm and cozy and happy. Yes, it's tiring and sometimes stressful, but in the end it's all worth it. So here's to breakfast because we're going to need it to give us the energy to start these very busy days.

Mini Breakfast Quiches with Potato Crust

- 1 box (4.5 oz.) box skillet recipe potatoes
- 1/2 cup crumbles cooked bacon
- 1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup whipping cream

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray 12 regular-size muffin cups with cooking spray. Make potatoes as directed on box. Divide potato mixture evenly among muffin cups, pressing in bottom and up side of each cup to form crust. Sprinkle bacon and cheese evenly in cups. In medium bowl, beat eggs and cream. Pour filling evenly in cups, about 1/4 cup each. Bake 25-30 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Breakfast Bake for a Crowd

- 2 pkgs. (12 oz. each) bulk pork sausage
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 1 onion chopped
- 3 cups frozen hash brown potatoes
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup baking mix
- 2 cups milk
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 4 eggs

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Grease rectangular baking dish, 13x9x2 inches. Cook sausage, bell pepper and onion in skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until sausage is no longer pink; drain. Stir together sausage mixture, potatoes and one and a half cups of the cheese in baking dish. Stir baking mix, milk, pepper and eggs until blended. Pour into baking dish. Bake uncovered 40-50 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake one to two minutes longer or just until cheese is melted. Cool 5 minutes.

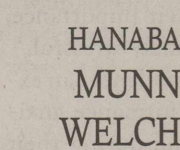
If you're enjoying my little recipe corner, let me know, and send some recipes of your own to kcnews-courier@gmail.com or mail them to P.O. Box 151, Munday, TX 76371.

The 501 Absentee grandparents and rag dolls

Being a grandparent isn't a competition. Not exactly.

But when you're the out-of-town pair, you start out behind, competition or not.

Christmas offers a chance to narrow the gap in the race for the child's affection. When you're the distant grandparents, you do it with gifts. Right? It's not that we have one of those out-of-town grandchildren, but we're expecting one. A girl.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

The game plan is already in place. It starts this Christmas. My friend Terri makes rag dolls. She calls them Cotton Gin Kidz because she sells them in a de-commissioned cotton gin. If they're not 100-percent cotton, I don't want to know. They'd probably sell nicely in real cotton gins too, except cotton gins typically don't have gift shops. They should. Neither

farmers nor gin hands have time to go to the mall when a good harvest is in full pre-Christmas swing. We digress.

The absentee grandparenting strategy: You've got a chance to get a head start if you give the baby-to-be gifts the Christmas before his or her first one.

The closer grandparents – the pair with the home field advantage – may even be planning to do the same. In our case, I'll bet they're already shopping. She'll be their first grandchild.

Our edge: Terri the doll-maker has been commissioned to make a Hanaba doll and a Hugh doll.

Although our grandbaby will live hundreds of miles away from us, our effigies will be there with her from the day she's born (in April). I picture us on a shelf in her room, always watching. When she looks our way, her parents will tell her who we are – Granddad and Hanaba, who live in Texas. If we're lucky, we may end up getting to spend some time with her in her crib. When she learns to walk, if we're really lucky maybe she'll drag us around with

her by our hair.

That's not all. I've also ordered three more dolls so she'll grow up knowing her Texas cousins Rylee and Cutter and her Aunt Rachel too.

All five dolls are barely off the cutting board, but I'm already smiling – the real me, that is. I'm not sure if the doll me will have a mouth. Cotton Gin Kidz are sort of like those faceless Amish dolls, but I know we will at least have eyes. I've had to furnish eye colors – three hazels and two blues.

Accoutrements will be problematic. Anything extra for an eight-inch doll would likely be a choking hazard for a child under the magic age of 3.

But if little whatever-her-name-turns-out-to-be likes her Texas family dolls, we can give her little stuff go with them for Christmas in 2019. I can't wait.

On the other hand, maybe she's going to like us so much we will be worn out by then – raggedy rag dolls, too fragile to do anything but sit on a shelf.

By 2019, the shelf may be the best place for Grandad and Hanaba. If we're lucky, we'll get rocking chairs.

Put a freeze on winter fires

Special to The News-Courier

The weather outside may be frightful this winter, but a fire in your home is far from delightful. Unfortunately, the risk of home fire does increase during the winter months: December, January, February and March are the leading months for U.S. home fires. The National Fire Protection Service and the United States Fire Administration have teamed up to promote "Put a Freeze on Winter Fires."

"The colder months and holiday season bring a set of fire risks that can quickly turn this festive, wintry time of year into a tragic one," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "With a little

added awareness and by following some basic safety precautions, people can greatly reduce the likelihood of winter home fires and ensure a warm, fire-safe season."

Following is an overview of the fire dangers:

Cooking

While cooking fires are the leading cause of U.S. home fires and injuries year-round, Christmas Day and Christmas Eve ranked second and third (after Thanksgiving) as the leading days for home cooking fires. On Christmas Day in 2013, there was a 58 percent increase in the number of home cooking fires than on a typical day, and a 54 percent increase on Christmas Eve. Between 2009 and 2013, cooking equipment was involved in annual average of

162,400 reported home fires that resulted in 430 civilian deaths, 5,400 injuries and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage per year. Unattended cooking was by far the leading cause of these fires and fire deaths.

Heating

Heating is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires, deaths and injuries; December, January and February are the peak months for heating fires. In 2009-2013, heating equipment was involved in an estimated average of 56,000 reported home fires per year, which caused 470 deaths, 1,490 injuries and \$1 billion in direct property damage. Home heating equipment was involved in 16 percent of home fires, 19 percent of the home fire deaths, 12 percent of the home fire injuries, and 15 percent of the direct property damage from home fires. Failure to clean chimneys and other heating equipment was the leading cause of these fires. However, space heaters, including portable heaters and those that are permanently installed, were involved in five out of six home heating fire deaths. Heating equipment was too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding, etc. in roughly half of the fire deaths.

Christmas Trees

Christmas tree fires are not common, but when they do occur, they're much more likely to be deadly than most other fires. One of every 31 reported home Christmas tree fires results in a death each year, compared to an annual average of one death per 144 total reported home fires. Between 2009 and 2013, Christmas trees were involved in an annual average of 210 home fires resulting in seven civilian deaths, 19 injuries and \$17.5 million in direct property damage. Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in 38 percent of home Christmas tree fires.

Candles

December is the peak time of year for home candle fires; the top three days for home candle fires are New Year's Day, Christmas, New Year's Eve and Christmas Eve. In December, 11 percent of home candle fires began with decorations, compared to 4 percent the rest of the year. Each year between 2009 and 2013, an average of 25 home candle fires were reported each day. Overall, an estimated 9,300 home fires were caused by candles, resulting in 86 civilian deaths, 827 civilian injuries and \$374 billion in direct property damage.

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COUNTY OF KNOX

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Cause No.: 9503 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. AMELIA CASTORENA ET AL
Tract 1: GEO: R000009186
The North 1/2 of Lots 3 and 4, Block 5, Bullington Addition, City of Munday, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; 505 S Aspen per KCAD

Cause No.: 8988 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. PATSY JANELL FORD
Tract 1: GEO: R000003013
Lots 1, 2, & 3, Block 135, Reeves & Musser Addition to the City of Munday, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;

Cause No.: 9564 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. GRAND ENERGY INC
Item 1: GEO: N009702402
Working Interest, Denton Lease, RRC # 21209, Lease # 436, Operator- Grand Energy Inc, D & W Survey, Section 91, Block 2, located in Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;

Cause No.: 9380 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. JOE GUTIERREZ
Tract 1: GEO: R000004414
Being all of Lot 9 and part of Lot 8, Block 30, Original Town of Knox City, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; 404 NE 2nd per KCAD

Tract 2: GEO: R000005523
Lots 10 and 11, Block 30, Original Town of Knox City, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; 408 NE 2nd per KCAD

Cause No.: 9385 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. JOHN J. MCKINNEY ET AL
Tract 1: GEO: R000000327
Lots 7, 8 & 9, Block 17, Original Town of Goree, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;

Cause No.: 9673 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. ARVEL R. PONTON III
Tract 1: GEO: N000805196
.004687 Royalty Interest, Cartwright -Q-, Chase Carlin, Section 71, Block 45, H& TC Survey, located in Knox County, Texas;

Tract 2: GEO: N000805191
.004687 Royalty Interest, Cartwright Perry V Cooper Glenn W, Abstaact 139, Section 73, Block 45, H&TC Survey, Survey # 73 Knox County, Texas;

Cause No.: 9593 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. RALPH RIOS
Tract 1: GEO: R000007240
Lot 12 & E 10' of 11, Block 53, Original City of Knox City, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; 204 SW 3rd per KCAD

Cause No.: 9592 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. SPECK VERNON ROYCE ETUX
Tract 1: GEO: R000007967
The East 125 feet of Lot 6 and East 125 feet of the South one-half of Lot 5, Block 70, of the J.T. Lee Addition, to the town of Munday, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;

Cause No. 9649 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. UNKNOWN SUPPLEMENT/ GOREE
Tract 1: GEO: R010000340
Lots 11- 12, Block 45, Original Town Goree, to the City of Goree, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas;

Levied on the 30 day of November, 2015, as the property of said Defendants to satisfy the judgments rendered in the above styled and numbered causes, plus all taxes, penalties, interest, and attorney fees accrued to the date of sale and all costs recoverable by law in favor of each jurisdiction.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 30 day of November, 2015.

Dean W. Honstead
Sheriff, Knox County, Texas

By _____ Deputy

The minimum bid for a person owning an interest in the property of for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgment(s) against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or the tax collector.

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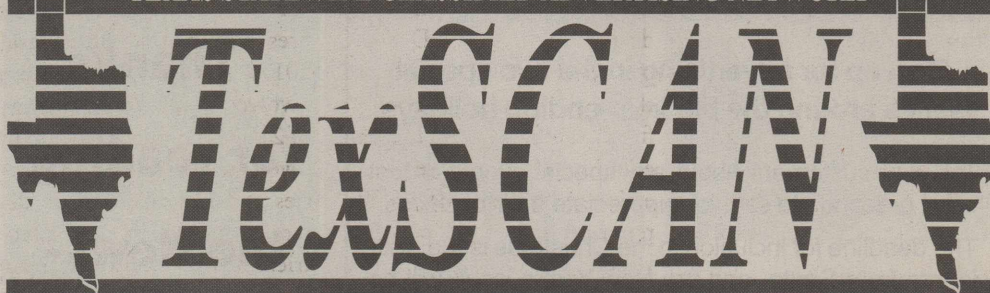
It is the intent of the Munday Housing Authority to temporarily rent USDA-RD apartments to all persons without regard to income restrictions when there are no eligible applicants on the waiting list. Call 940-422-4941 for more information. The MHA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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On the Tee

Anchoring of club prohibited

The rules of golf aren't simple—the only thing more complicated might be the U.S. Tax Code. That is obvious to everyone as even some of the game's top golf professionals have run afoul of the rules. It takes more than 800 pages to cover the decisions on the rules and sometimes even rules officials don't get it right.

Every four years, the USGA and the R&A, the governing bodies of the game, amend the rules, always saying they are trying to improve and change them to simplify matters. It certainly helps.

The USGA released a seven-page explanation of new rule 14-1b, which will prohibit the anchoring of a club when making a stroke. Reading it will definitely assist players, club officials and tournament administrators.

It makes clear that a player can not use an anchor point, defined as holding a forearm in contact with with any part of the body to establish a gripping hand as a stable point around which the other hand may swing the club. For an anchor point to exist, the player must do it intentionally, not accidentally. The player must grip the club so that the

hands are separated and work independently from one another.

The penalty for anchoring will be two strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play.

According to former USGA staff member Frank Thomas, who has spent many years writing, interpreting and monitoring the equipment rules, this will mark the first time in 600 years that the rules have dictated how to hold the club.

Thomas felt strongly that the best way to rid the game of a "non-traditional" manner of holding the club would have been to simply modify the rules to say that the length of the putter shall be no longer than the shortest club in a player's bag.

He could eventually be proved right as I see the implementation of the rule creating some disagreements in the coming years.

Perhaps the most significant change besides the one on anchoring is the withdrawal of Rule 18-2b, ball moving after address. This means that a player will not automatically be considered guilty if a ball at rest moves after the player has addressed it. A one-stroke penalty will now apply only if the facts show the player has caused the ball to move. Considering the speed of the greens and high winds, this is a really good rule.

A "limited" exception was added to Rule 6-6d, the penalty for signing an incorrect

scorecard. A player will not be disqualified for returning a score lower for a hole as a result of failing to include penalty strokes that he was not aware of at the time he signed his scorecard.

The best example of this is where Camilo Villegas was DQed from the 2011 Hyundai Tournament of Champions at Kapalua in Hawaii. He moved a loose impediment when he saw his chip shot rolling back to him. The violation was reported by a television viewer. I saw it happen myself and realized the error, but wasn't the one making the telephone call.

If this happens now, Villegas would have been given an additional two-stroke penalty, but could have continued playing.

In addition, the same penalty would apply the first time a player breached Rule 14-3, using an artificial device, unusual equipment or the abnormal use of it. He would be DQed for the second such mistake.

D.A. Points was disqualified from the 2014 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am when he used a spongy green ball under his arm as a training aid to keep his arms connected while waiting on another group on the 18th tee.

My first look at the decisions did reveal a few other things that makes common sense. I'm sure a closer look when the USGA sends me the entire book will reveal other interesting cases.

If you find you have a 15th club in your golf bag and realize it before you start, you can declare it out of play without any penalty, placing it on the floor of the golf cart or by turning it upside down in the bag.

If you drop a provisional ball, it can be picked up if the ball is found in the five minutes allowed to search for the ball provided you have not made a stroke with it.

Animal hoof prints can be repaired on the putting green or treated as ground under repair provided a local rule has been added. I would think even the local rule would not be needed in any regular games.

One other thing I'd like to see along these lines. Golfers should get relief from divots in the fairway. Why should they be penalized in such a case?

Breakfast with Santa



Vonda Carter/The Knox County News-Courier
Kids got a chance to visit with Santa Claus and to learn some new crafts at the Munday Church of Christ's Breakfast with Santa last Saturday.

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