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# THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF KENNETH BAKER

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

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## Steele selected for all-star games Knox commissioners approve resolution

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY – Kaylie Steele, a senior at Knox City High School, has been selected as one of the top girls basketball players in Texas and invited to participate in the 17th Texas Roundup All-Star game Saturday in Maypearl.

The girls game is scheduled at 2:30 p.m. with the boys to follow at 4:30. Admission is \$5.

The Texas Roundup, using recruiters from across the state as advisors, selects 24 boys and 24 girls from Classes 1A through 4A schools to participate.

Steele was selected as the co-offensive MVP in District 7-1A and named to the all-regional first team by the Texas Sixman Coaches Association.

She also has been selected by that association to participate in its all-star basketball game on July 16 in Wichita Falls.

The West team will be coached by Knox City's Dylan Ballard.



KAYLIE STEELE

By James McAfee  
The Knox County News-Courier

BENJAMIN – The Knox County Commissioners Court joined other courts in the 50th District by approving a resolution to accept a quote of \$282 monthly from LGS for access to e-file system in the courtroom during its monthly meeting here Monday afternoon.

In addition, the commissioners approved the purchase of a laptop Dell Computer for \$1,200, which includes training, from LGS to be used for filing reports.

Judge Stan Wojcik said that the county would have been required by law

to do this by July 1.

The commissioners also approved a \$5,815.50 quote from Warner Radio & Communications of Decatur to provide a link to repair radio equipment for 911. Wojcik noted that dealing with the brand of radio being used was a specialty of Warner. In addition, he noted COG might provide some help with the cost at a later date.

Approval was given to accept a \$1,500 bid from Jason Smart Construction to repair the leaks in the roof at the sheriff's office.

It was reported that \$10,500 had already been approved in the Road & Bridges budget for the purchase of a 1980 Load King Double Door Belly

Dump.

A resolution to authorize the judge to oversee the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant Program was OKed.

In addition, approval was given to remove Travis Floyd from listed bank accounts and add Stan Wojcik and to do likewise for CD accounts, removing Floyd and Annette Offutt in favor of Wojcik, Lisa Cypert and Jeannie Clark.

The commissioners approved the appointment of Wojcik to the board of the Aspermont Small Business Development Center.

The court also heard reports from various department heads and handled bills and started consideration of the 2015-2016 budget.

## Neighborhood watch group formed in KC

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY – Knox City Police Chief Richard Candelaria provided a group of 40 residents with important information on how to protect their property during a meeting to form a neighborhood watch group here Monday at the Four Square Church.

"You need to be the eyes and ears for our police, reporting anything you see to 911," Candelaria said.

He also told them to write down serial numbers on their property as this would aid in getting things back, to be sure to lock their doors and to beware of a scam involving skimmers being placed on credit card machines at

stores and gas pumps.

The next meeting for the group, according to Candelaria, will be at 6:30 p.m. April 18 at the Four Square Church.

"I hope to bring in other speakers like the District Attorney to provide information for the public," he said.

Addressing a question from a television reporter af-

ter the meeting, Candelaria did say that there was a problem with methamphetamine use in Knox City and that it had led to an increase in robberies and burglaries, but that arrests had been made.

Meth is a synthetic drug that is easily manufactured, using cold medicines and fertilizer readily available in rural areas.

## Lubbock woman dies in wreck

Special to The News-Courier

BENJAMIN – Samantha Elizabeth Dimeo, 21, of Lubbock died in a two-vehicle crash on Highway 82 three miles west of here early Thursday morning.

Trooper Kipp Koenig, DPS Aspermont, said she was pronounced dead at the scene and taken to McCauley-Smith Funeral Home in Munday.

Dimeo was driving a 2012 Ford Fiesta east when she struck a wild hog in the roadway, causing it to veer into the west-bound lane, striking a 2006 Sterling Truck towing a double trailer that was driven by Randy Don Price, 52 of Lubbock.

The Fiesta came to rest on the eastbound shoulder of the highway while the truck ran through a fence north of US-82 and came to rest there where it and the first trailer caught fire and burned.

No injuries were reported for Price.

## Coplen resigns Visioning post

Special to The News-Courier

BENJAMIN – Jimi Coplen has resigned as director of the Knox County Visioning Group, effective Friday.

She has accepted a job with the Haskell Economic Development Corporation.

## Big garage sale Saturday

One man's junk is another man's treasure. So everyone should be aware that there is a county-wide garage sale planned by the Knox County Visioning Group, starting at 8 a.m. Saturday.

Maps detailing where sales are planned will be distributed at Allsups in Knox City and Munday, Penman in Benjamin, Isabella's in Knox City and the Donut Shop in Munday.

## Pine trees planted



Courtesy photo

Members of the Munday Lions Club planted 23 young pine trees in Centennial Park last Saturday. Shown here are David Trevino, Doug Tidwell and Troy Parton. Member Kenneth Baker donated the trees.

## Court rules state can intervene

Special to The News-Courier

WICHITA FALLS – Judge Reed O'Connor of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas granted the State

of Texas permission to intervene in the litigation in motion to determine land ownership along the Red River in Wilbarger, Wichita and Clay counties.

O'Connor said in his decision that the state met all legal requirements to intervene in Ken Aderholt et al. vs. Bureau of Land Management et al.

"Having considered the motion, related briefing, and applicable law, the Court finds that Texas's Motion to Intervene should be and is hereby granted," O'Connor wrote.

The judge added the BLM waived its "sovereign immunity" to be sued because it failed to conduct a gradient boundary survey when the agency was required to as part of its inventory process.

The court also ruled that previous court decisions such as the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Oklahoma v. Texas in the 1920s could serve as the law in this matter, and the BLM is required to provide a legal survey because its assertion of ownership.

"The Court finds that

in this early stage in the litigation, Texas has sufficiently asserted that 'Oklahoma' functions as a federal law requiring that a party asserting material changes to the boundary is required to prove these changes," O'Connor wrote.

"The Court further finds that 'Oklahoma's' mandate that asserted changes must be proved by conducting a gradient boundary survey, as a specific federal law in the conjunction with the (Federal Land Policy and Management Act's) requirement to maintain an inventory of public, is not a 'general directive granting broad discretion,' but rather, is 'a sufficiently specific command to be enforceable.'"

## Knox Notes

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

### Sausage dinner set

RHINELAND - St. Joseph's Catholic Church will hold its annual parish sausage and fried chicken dinner from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Sunday. The cost will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under.

### Blood drives scheduled

Community blood drives will take place Tuesday from noon until 6 p.m. at the Knox County Hospital and at the Munday

See NOTES, Page 5

## News on the go



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## State Champs

State boys cage champs

6A: DeSoto 73, Humble Atascocita 54  
5A: Lancaster 67, Fort Bend Elkins 64

4A: Lincoln 75, Silsbee 72  
3A: Brownfield 80, East Chambers 54  
2A: Canadian 56, Muenster 46  
1A: Avinger 50, Lenora Grady 36



**Knox County Aging Center Menus**

Menus for week of March 21-25  
 Monday: Spaghetti and meat, salad, garlic bread, fruit  
 Tuesday: Baked chicken, baked potatoes, green beans, cookies  
 Wednesday: Chicken fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, pudding  
 Thursday: Crumbed top fish, garlic roasted potatoes, peas, rolls, chocolate pudding  
 Friday: Closed for Good Friday

**Area News**

**Hee Haw shows**

SAGERTON - Tickets for the Sagerton Hee Haw will go on sale at 8 a.m. Monday at the Sagerton Community Center. Individuals may buy up to 10 tickets at \$5 each. If more tickets remain, you can call 940 997-2688. Shows are scheduled March 31-April 2, starting at 8 p.m. following music and singing at 6:30 p.m.

**Sunrise Easter service**

QUANAH - The traditional Easter Sunrise Service will be held at 6 a.m. Sunday, March 27 at the park headquarters of Copper Breaks State Park. John Spangler of Quanah's Trinity Baptist Church will lead the annual non-denominational service. Participation in the service is free and all who wish to attend are welcome.

**From the Preacher's Desk**

**Respond to your calling**

Too many individuals who call themselves Christians do not live like they are responding to their calling as a servant of Jesus.

In the Bible, we are told of a man called Nehemiah. God calls him to return to the burned and torn down city of Jerusalem and to rebuild the walls and the city. He returns and is met with great opposition to his task. He stays committed to his calling and, with the help of others, rebuilds the walls in 52 days! Nehemiah was a man of ability, action, and courage.

God needs people today who have ability, are willing to take action and who will stand up in the face of opposition! Many say they are followers of Jesus Christ but refuse to live daily in the way He asks of each of us. A person must really WANT to work in the work of the Lord. Many want to take credit if anything is accomplished, but do not want to DO anything! Proverbs 21 says the lazy person kills himself because he refuses to work (Prov. 21:25).

A person who does the work of the Lord does not try to do it by himself/herself but WORKS with OTHERS who also want to serve the Lord. In Philippians 2, we are told that we are to be of one mind in perfect unity if we are to please God. God's work cannot be done if we refuse to work with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

All of our actions must be GUIDED by FAITH. In Romans 9, the Bible says the Israelites died not succeeding as God wanted, because they looked at what they did as if it was works and not guided by faith (Romans 9:30-32).

We are told in Ephesians 2:10 that we have been created in Christ Jesus for good works but our works must be guided by faith in Him! Nehemiah completed the calling God asked him to do because he really wanted to do God's will, he worked with his fellow Jews to make it happen, and he did it daily, being guided by faith in a God that he had a personal relationship with.

Are we answering our call????????

—Wayne Speer, Munday Church of Christ

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

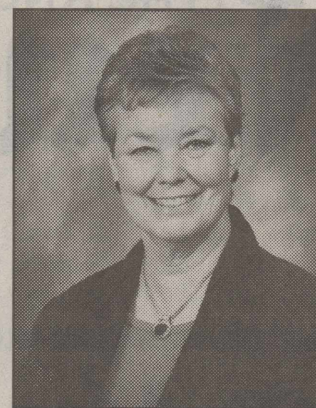
**SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
 \$36 a year in the county  
 \$42 a year outside the county

**Obituaries**  
**Brenda Dickson**

Brenda H. Dickson, 75, of Seymour, passed away Saturday, March 12, 2016 in Seymour.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, March 19 at 2 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church in Seymour with Rev. Darrell Patterson officiating, under the direction of Archer Funeral Home.

Brenda was born March 2, 1941 in Goree to Billie and Ruth Miller Hutchens. She was a graduate of Goree High School. Brenda married Joe Dickson on June 25, 1960 at the Goree First United Methodist Church in Goree. She worked as a bookkeeper for Harmel Oil Company and was a Deputy Clerk at the Baylor County Clerk's Office. She was a member of the Red River Emmaus and the Child Welfare Board. Brenda was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Seymour where she was active in the choir and served as a MYF sponsor.



**BRENDA DICKSON**

She was preceded in death by her parents Billie and Ruth Hutchens; her step-father Al Wilson; a brother Larry Hutchens; and a special brother-in-law Charlie Merrill.

She is survived by her husband Joe Dickson of Seymour; a son Jon David Dickson and wife Rebecca of Seymour; a daughter Juli Keehn and husband, Darrell

of Seymour; seven grandchildren, Cody Dickson and wife Lacey of Seymour, Ty Dickson of Kentucky, Jayla Sanchez and husband Zach of Munday, Jocelyn Reaves and husband Laramie of Seymour, Kobie Decker and wife Emily of Munday, Ry-lie Decker of Munday and Sophia Fentor of Seymour; six great grandchildren, Lexi Dickson, Kylie Dickson, Clay Dickson, Graham Reaves, Parks Sanchez and Laynie Rae Reaves; a sister Johnnie Merrill of Austin; a step-brother Howard Wilson and wife Cindy of Austin; one aunt, several nieces and nephews, several cousins and a special lap friend Louie.

The family suggests memorials to the First United Methodist Church, 1025 W. California, Seymour, Texas 76380. Visitation will follow the memorial services in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church.

**Eddie Martinez**

Edward Lee (Eddie) Martinez, 74, of Hemet CA, died Thursday, Feb 4, 2016 after a short illness. He was born on Sept 12, 1941 in Elm Mott to Dan Martinez and Santos (Lena) Acosta Martinez. He was the seventh child and the youngest of five brothers.

The family moved to Munday in the early 1940s. Eddie attended schools in Munday, and graduated from Munday High in 1960. Eddie left Texas after graduation and joined his older brothers in California, where he married Carol Saenz and had two children, Gregory Martinez and Vicki Lee Martinez.

On Sept 21, 1991, Eddie married classmate, Elise McGuire in Arlington. He and Elise had reconnected at their 30-year Munday High School reunion.

Eddie worked 31 years for the Dept of Veterans Affairs, retiring in 2004 as Chief of Material Management and Supply at Long Beach VA Medical Center.



**EDDIE MARTINEZ**

Eddie's survivors include his wife Elise of Hemet, CA; son Greg of Hollywood, CA; daughters Vicki of Long Beach, CA, and Terry Swaner of Dallas; granddaughter Amanda Lee Martinez of Long Beach, CA; grandson Jason Cypert of Canton; and great grand children Austin and Haylie Rose Cypert, also of Canton.

He is also survived by one brother Rudy Martinez of Visalia, CA; five sisters Eva Flores of Knox City, TX, Eloise Maldonado, Rita Kirkpatrick and Alice Johnson (all of

Fort Worth) and Linda Jecha of Georgetown. Another sister Beatrice Ramos of Visalia, CA became known to the family after all were adults with children. He loved Beatrice and her large family, and that was mutual. Eddie was preceded in death by brothers Dan Jr, Willie, and Bobby; and by daughter, Lori Swaner Cypert. He was "Uncle Eddie" to more than 30 nieces, nephews, and grandnieces and nephews.

Throughout his adult life Eddie traveled to family events and gatherings all over California, as well as making the almost yearly trek to Texas for family events. He always had a camera in his hand to capture the moments he treasured. His life long love of airplanes (and all things involved with airplanes) was birthed to him as a school boy in Munday, spending time around the crop dusting man and his plane. He and his brothers attended many air shows.

Eddie was loved by many, and will be dearly missed. A celebration of his life will be held in Santa Clarita, CA on March 19 for California family and friends.

For all of his Texas family, friends, and those unable to travel far, a memorial celebration will be planned in Texas with a date and place yet to be announced.

**St. Joseph's Catholic Church**  
 Rhineland, Texas  
**Annual Parish Sausage & Fried Chicken Dinner**  
 Sunday, March 20, 2016  
**Time**  
 11:00 AM-1:30 PM  
**Cost**  
 Adults & Take-Out \$12  
 Children (under 12) \$6

To order bulk sausage please call Billie (940-256-2973) or John (940-256-3113)

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

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**Holy Week Schedule of Services**  
 St. Joseph's Catholic Church/Rhineland  
 Santa Rosa Catholic Church/Knox City

**March 24 Holy Thursday**  
 THE EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER  
 6:00 PM at Saint Joseph's/Rhineland  
 7:30 PM at Santa Rosa/Knox City  
 (The washing of the feet, the presentation of Holy Oils, the procession of The Blessed Sacrament to the special altar and keeping vigil in the Church until Midnight)

**March 25 Good Friday**  
 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross  
 6:30 PM The Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion)  
 7:30 PM at Santa Rosa/ Knox City

**March 26 Holy Saturday**  
 8:30 PM Easter Vigil/ St. Joseph's  
 (Blessing of the Fire, Procession with the Paschal Candle, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Baptism, Renewal of the Baptismal vows, Confirmation and Liturgy of the Eucharist.)

**March 27 Easter Sunday**-(Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord)  
 9:00 AM Mass- St. Joseph's/Rhineland  
 11:00 AM Mass - Santa Rosa/Knox City

**HAPPY EASTER - CHRIST IS RISEN - ALLELUIA**

**Five Star Auctioneers**  
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 Thursday, March 24, 2016 — Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.  
 LOCATED: From Aspermont, Texas (Stonewall County): 2 Miles East & North on F.M. Hwy. 1263 then 1/4 Mile West To Douglas Air Strip.

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Due to the death of Jerry Douglas and Joe Holland retiring from farming, the following will be sold at public auction.

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## KCHS one act play set



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

The Knox City High School performed its one act play, "David and Lisa," for local residents last week and is scheduled to perform at the District 7-1A contest next Tuesday.

# Hounds fall, 7-6, to Stamford JV

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY – The Knox City High baseball team didn't play last Friday and Saturday as the game with the Seymour JV in Wichita Falls was rained out after one inning and then the game with Rotan was cancelled.

Earlier in the week, the Greyhounds suffered a 7-6 defeat at the hands of the Stamford JV, Payne Stanfield pitched a complete game and Christian Abila went 3 for 4 at the plate.

The next game will be Monday at Wichita Falls Notre Dame.

## Knox City CC Schedule

### Knox City CC golf schedule

May 7: Knox City Fire Department Scramble  
May 30: Memorial Day

play day  
June 4: 22nd annual Ladies Wild Hog Classic  
June 18: Par 3 Classic I  
July 2: Bill Baker Memorial  
July 4: July 4th play day

July 30: Knox City Festival  
Aug. 13: Ag-Oil  
Aug. 27: Glow ball  
Sept. 5: Labor Day play day  
Sept. 10-11: Guys & Dolls  
Sept. 24: Par 3 Classic II  
Oct. 8: Guys & Dolls

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## Lake Creek Golf Schedule

May 21-22: Daniel Ramirez Memorial Scramble  
June 25: 3 Lady Scramble  
July 9-10: 3 Person Scramble  
Aug. 7: Guys & Dolls  
Aug. 21: 1 Person Scramble  
Sept. 10-11: 3 Person Scramble

## Houndettes win pair of relays

Special to The News-Courier

GUTHRIE – The Knox City Houndettes claimed wins in two relays and five individual events in a practice meet here last week.

The foursome of Amy Harrington, Temi Flowers, Myca Flowers and Zinziley McCrary claimed the 4x200 meters relay in 2:01.2.

Brooke Jones replaced Harrington and teamed with the Flowers sisters and McCrary to also win the 4x400 meters relay in 4:34.65.

The foursome of Harrington, Makayle Cline, Kirstin Tuckness and Cheyenne Rob-

erson posted a 57.95 for second in the 4x100 meters relay.

McCrary captured the 100 meters in 13.1 while Cline won the 300 meters hurdles in 58.0 while Temi Flowers placed second in the 800 meters in 2:35.

In the field events, Myca Flowers claimed the high jump at 4-6, Chloe Grimsley won the discus at 84 feet and Kaylie Steele took the shot put with a 71 feet effort.

Myca Flowers and Tuckness finished second and third in the triple jump with 31-0 and 29-4 efforts, respectively, while Tuckness was fourth in the long jump at 13-4.

## Knox City Spring Sports Schedule

### KCHS track

March 25: Jayton  
April 1: Aspermont  
April 8: Spur  
April 14-District 7-1A, Knox City  
April 20: Area, Hamlin  
April 29-30: Region, Levelland  
May 13-14: State, Austin

April 7: District 7-A, Spur

### KCHS baseball

March 21: at Wichita Falls Notre Dame  
March 28: at Jim Ned JV  
April 11: Stamford

### KCHS softball

March 21: at Windthorst JV  
March 28: at Wichita Falls Notre Dame  
April 5: at Hawley JV

### O'Brien track

March 21: Jayton  
March 31:Aspermont

## EPA offers tips on fixing leaks

Special to The News-Courier

DALLAS – Every year more than one trillion gallons of water are wasted by easy-to-fix household leaks.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is encouraging consumers to "Be a leak detective" during WaterSense's eighth annual Fix a Leak Week, March 14 - 20.

"Water conservation continues to be the most cost-effective and environmentally sound way to reduce our demand for water," said EPA regional administrator Ron Curry. "By making a few small changes to our daily routines, we can save a significant amount of water and help conserve valuable water supplies."

EPA Fix a Leak Week tips include:

**Check for leaks:** Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, and fixture connections.

Also check toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank at the back of the toilet and wait 10 minutes before flushing to see if color shows up in the bowl. If you saw color, you probably need a new toilet flapper, which is an easy repair to make. Check irrigation systems and spigots too.

**Twist and tighten pipe connections:** If your showerhead is dripping, make sure there is a tight connection between the showerhead and the pipe stem.

It may just need a twist to tighten or some pipe tape to secure it.

**Replace the fixture if necessary:** Look for WaterSense labeled models, which are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform as well as or better than standard models.

## Weather whys

### Green sky explained

Why does the sky sometimes look green during a thunderstorm?

A: It's a question that has been asked for centuries and is still not fully answered, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "We know the ancient Greeks reported seeing green skies during thunderstorms, and sailors for hundreds of years have written about green skies," McRoberts explains. "The most popular theory is that

thunderstorms contain a lot of water – often in the form of hail – and this water or ice tends to scatter green light during the strong updrafts that occur in severe storms. That's why many people say the sky appears green right before a hailstorm."

Does the sky look green during a tornado?

It can, says McRoberts, but not always so. "Often the sky appears almost black during a tornado, but sometimes there are greenish-look-

ing tints to the clouds," he adds. "Many tornadoes have hail right around them. What we do know for sure is that green skies do exist, but they are fairly rare. They may or may not contain a tornado, and they may or may not contain hail. We do know that they are almost always an indicator of severe weather, often very dangerous weather, so if you see a thunderstorm approaching and the sky appears to look green, you should take cover immediately."

###

Weather Whys is a service of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&M University.

## GREYHOUND, HOUNDETTE SUPPORTERS

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# The 501 Grave plans for Spring break

Spring break. It's when naïve grandparents dream of diverting their grandchildren's attention from all electronic devices long enough to nurture their developing brains, save their eyesight and posture and change the direction of their lives. That's assuming the grandchildren aren't old enough to take off to Cancun. Then all bets are off.

My husband reminds me comic books were our ruination. As for spring break, we were happy to get out early on Good Friday.

Times have changed. Spring breaking 9-year-old grandson, Cutter, is headed to the farm to start his vacation. I'm thinking we'll visit cemeteries.

His 13-year-old sister, Rylee, is on a school trip to Washington, D. C. As far as I'm concerned, it's a competition.

The more I ruminate, the better my cemetery excursion stacks up against all the stuff she'll get to do and see.

Cutter's been to the gravesite of the Oma he never met, but

that neatly manicured cemetery is all too modern.

The oldest grave is from 1997.

They've even got rules against knickknacks and mementoes and rules for vases. Good for them.

I think every 9-year-old should get to see a historic graveyard with no such rules — one where some monuments are from the 1800s and where various knickknacks appear here and there, linking the dead to the living. After all, his sister probably will get to see all the things people leave at the Vietnam Memorial. I hope she does.

Cutter and I won't visit just one cemetery. We'll map our route, starting with the oldest. I'll tell him about the graves of the cowboys who drowned driving cattle across the Red River at Doan's Crossing. Those graves you can't see, but I almost know where they are.

I'll read him Andy Adams' "Log of a Cowboy" — the part that describes those graves when they were new, circa 1880. Better yet, I'll let Cutter read it. I'll mention the

importance of knowing how to swim and what to do if you get caught in a river current or quicksand. We'll look at both sides of the tall 1931 gray granite Trail Drivers Monument at Doans. Maybe the cattle brands inscribed thereon will inspire Cutter to create his own. We'll hit more rural cemeteries. I might even find a remote place to let Cutter drive. After all, his sister Rylee will be zipping under Washington on the Metro.

Then we'll pick up Mom and Granddad for a trip to the old cemetery in town. I'll share pictures of my ancestors, including my mother's brother, Bertis Cortez, who died at age 2 from a relapse of the measles. I'm just a step-grandmother, but I want Cutter to feel connected to all his step-kin and to be glad he got a measles vaccination.

We'll take pictures. At the end of the day, we'll turn it all into a spectacular comic book starring Cutter. I've got an app for that.

It'll be viewable on his mom's smartphone. Between games he'll read it, mesmerized. I can dream.



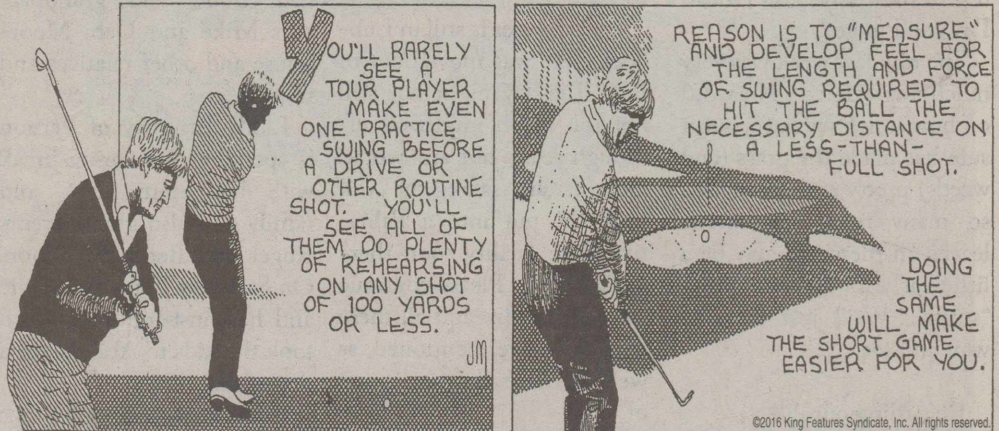
HANABA MUNNS WELCH

# Munday Spring Sports Schedule

**MHS track**  
 March 19: Hamlin  
 March 25: Jayton  
 April 2: Munday  
 April 8: TBA  
 April 14: District 8-1A, Munday  
 April 20: Area, Hamlin  
 April 29-30: Regional, Lubbock  
 May 12-14: State, Austin  
**MJH track**  
 March 21: Hamlin  
 April 7: District, Munday  
**MHS golf**

March 21: girls at Shady Oaks, Baird  
 March 22: boys at Shady Oaks, Baird  
 March 28: Albany  
 April 4: District 8-1A, River Creek, Burkburnett  
 April 11-12: Regional girls, Resse, Lubbock  
 April 11-12: Regional boys, Lake Ridge, Lubbock  
 April 27-28: State, Lions Muny, Austin  
**MHS tennis**  
 April 2: District 8-1A, Vernon

## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



# MOGUL, MOGULETTE SUPPORTERS

## Roscoe track rained out

Special to The News-Courier

MUNDAY — The Munday High track teams didn't get to see action last week as the track meet at Roscoe was rained out.

The Moguls and Mogulettes were scheduled to compete at Hamlin Saturday and at Jayton the following week before hosting their own event April 2.

## NOTES From Page 5

Clinic. Meek Blood Center supplies all of the blood used for patient care at Knox County Hospital.

### What's in freezer

MUNDAY — As part of its Relay for Life project, the Munday Church of Christ has started preparing cooked items and stocking them in a freezer at Munday Tire and Appliance, allowing residents to stop by and pick up a meal or dessert for a sick friend, funeral or a quick supper. A listing of what is available will be posted weekly.

### Republican convention

KNOX CITY — The Republican County Convention is scheduled at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the Knox City Chamber of Commerce office. Delegates to the state convention will be selected along with proposals for the state platform.

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 Worship: 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
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 5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
 Youth: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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 Melanie Grindstaff, Agent  
 megan@rikerealestate.com

- 530 Main St. Munday - 3/2 on corner lot (\$67,500) **NEW**
- 63.7+/- Ac S of Rochester - (\$1,550/Ac) **PENDING**
- 85.84+/- Ac E of Rochester - (\$1,550/Ac) **PENDING**
- 56.7+/- Ac SW of O'Brien - (\$800/Ac) **NEW**
- 1407 N Ave E - Historic 4/2 with shop (\$190,000) **NEW**
- 401 S. Hilmar, Weinert - 3/2 on large corner lot (\$58,000) **NEW**
- 909 Railroad, Rochester - 3/2.5 on 4+Ac. (\$189,000) **NEW**
- 162.9+/- Ac - NW Haskell Co. - (\$1050/Ac) **NEW**
- 219.5+/- Ac - West of O'Brien - (\$1050/Ac) **NEW**
- 135+/- Ac - Stonewall Co. - (\$1100/Ac) **REDUCED**
- 79.54+/- Ac - West of O'Brien - (\$1,650/Ac) **NEW**
- 600 N. Munday, Munday - 2/1 on corner lot (\$29,900) **NEW**
- 158.6+/- Ac - West of O'Brien - (\$1,650/Ac) **NEW**
- 159 FM RD 2976, Lake Stamford - 2/2 Lakefront property (\$25,000) **NEW**
- 380+/- Ac SE Knox Co. - New fences & Minerals (\$1,350/Ac) **REDUCED**
- 48.2 Ac North of Rule - with Minerals (\$1,300/Ac) **NEW**
- 7734 Hwy 6-Rule Drive - Rule Drive-In theater on 4 Ac. (\$49,900) **REDUCED**
- 18394 CR 4180, Seymour - 3/2 on 412 Ac. (\$585,000) **NEW**
- 1008 SE 5th St, Knox City - 3/2 with open floor plan (\$59,900) **REDUCED**
- 30 +/- Ac. West of O'Brien. Perfect home site with water well (\$1500/Ac)
- 608 Sunny Ave, Rule 3 or 4/2 with pool (\$62,000) **SOLD**
- 160 +/- Acres NW Corner of Haskell Co. Hunting (\$1,000/Ac)
- 231.3 +/- Ac. In Haskell Co. (\$1200 / Ac) **REDUCED**
- 355+/- Ac. on Hwy 6 and 1225 (\$950/Ac)

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## Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Is everyone happy about the time change? It's never bothered me before, but for some reason, I forgot all about it Sunday—consequently, I missed Sunday school but did make it for church. It makes me wonder if my age is catching up with me! But I do have all the clocks set now, and the phones are in step with the rest of the country, so I guess I'm good to go.

The rain last week was very much appreciated. No word on how much we have, but it sure has made the grass (and weeds) pretty and green, and so many trees have green leaves on them. It may be a little early for all that spring "stuff." We'll just have to wait and see.

Regarding our ill

Barbara Ryder was in Abilene Friday for a follow up visit with her surgeon after surgery on March 1. She got a very favorable report. The problem spot on her kidney was malignant, but doctors are very confident that they got it all, so she won't be having any treatments, at least for now. She does go back in three months for more tests. She says she feels

good—just weak, but that's to be expected.

Brenn Fuentes spent a few hours in the Knox County Hospital Tuesday. He passed out at school, (where he works part time). He told me his blood pressure dropped too low, too fast, causing the problem. He suffers from Crohn's Disease, and he has "flare-ups" pretty often. He was feeling OK Saturday—as he put it, he's "hanging in there."

Bud Conner is still in Lubbock. He was moved out of ICU Tuesday night but still not too much improved, although really not any worse. Doctors are saying he will likely be put into a Palliative Care facility soon there in Lubbock. Please continue to pray for him and all these friends I have mentioned, as well as those I'm not aware of.

My sympathy to the family and many friends of Margie Steward Pickering. Margie passed away last Monday after several months of failing health. She has several family members in the area, and a host of friends who will miss her deeply. Her funeral was last Wednesday in Weinert.

Here 'n there  
Spring break is here, and it seems everyone is very glad

for a few days off. There's several who have company and some who will be taking short trips just to get away awhile.

James and Jill Jackson and sons Daniel and Grant went to Cleburne for a couple of days. Her grandmother is having some health problems, and this was a good time to visit.

Lexie, Katy, and Blaze Taylor of Amarillo are here for their spring break with their dad Cody, and grandparents Mike and Debi Moorhouse and other relatives and friends.

Liddy Brumley of Vernon is spending her spring break with her mom Jamie and family and also grandparents Roger and Betty Bohannon. On Saturday Betty and Jamie and her husband Tyler Ford took the kids to Abilene for a day of fun.

Lonnie Bohannon's sons live in Eastland, and last week was their spring break, so he spent several days with them. He said they had a good time together.

Chad Rainwater spent several days recently in Mississippi. The trip was made relating to his employment with the Corps of Engineers. He returned home Friday.

Plans are being made for the annual Sunrise Service to be held on Easter Sunday. The Baptist church will be in charge this year, and it again will be held on the east side of the Methodist Church, weather permitting. In case of rain, I'm sure services will be held inside. Time for the event has been tentatively set for 7 a.m. More on a certain time next week. A pot luck breakfast will follow, and everyone will be able to get home and get ready for services at their home church. Everyone is invited!

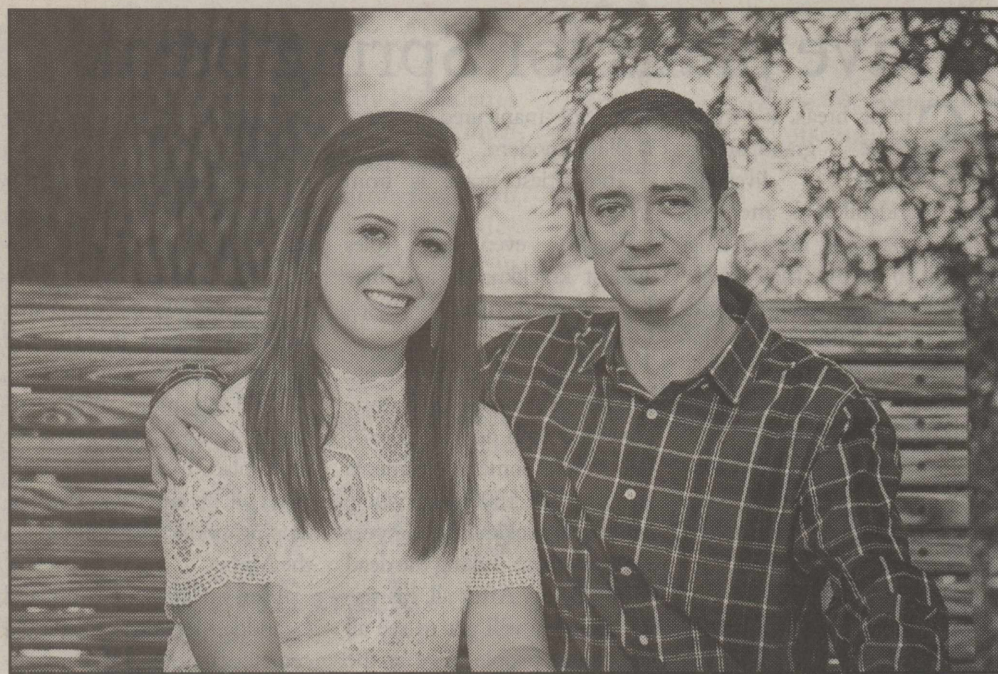
The station and convenience store here in town is coming along very nicely. Every day there are signs of more progress. We are all very anxious for its completion and opening. The completion date prediction varies, so we'll just have to wait and see when that might be.

I visited with the Mayfields, Tiffen and Erlinda, of Weinert Saturday. Tiffen is in a wheel chair now but still very alert and enjoys visiting. We are always glad to see them when they make it over this way.

On Friday, several Benjamin exes from different classes met at Easterling's in Anson for barbecue and a time of visiting. Those on hand to recall their high school days and discuss their lives now were Ronald and Verna Griffith from Minnesota, the former Peggy Jennings (last name not available) of Paducah, Donnie and Barbara Ryder, Sue Ryder Oxford of Lake Arrowhead, Judy Ryder Whitten of Lake Stamford, Jeff and Marilyn Searcey Goodin of Abilene, and Hank Green (former coach) and his wife and their daughter Sue (residence unknown). Barbara said it was a pleasant reunion, and they all really enjoyed it.

Congratulations to our coach Jacob Navarro, who recently was named District 8-1A Coach of the Year. He has done a great job, and we look forward to another good year next year. Also congrats to Justin Rainwater and Caleb Barrientez, who were named to the all district first team, and Benjamin Vanderpol and J.C. Espinal, who made the second

## Coop-Martin engagement announced



Brittany Coop, Whitson Martin

Curt and Lorrie Coop of Munday are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Brittany Coop to Whitson Martin, son of Michael and Sharman Martin of Lubbock.

Brittany is a graduate of Benjamin High School and the granddaughter of Homer and Jan Rolston of Knox City.

The couple met at their alma mater Texas Tech University in Lubbock. Coop is a Family and Consumer Sciences Agent with Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service and Martin is a Payment Recovery Supervisor with Geico Insurance in Dallas.

A May wedding is planned in Weatherford.

## Letter to the Editor

### Stewards of land honored

March 15 was National Agriculture Day – a day designated each year by the Agriculture Council of America to celebrate the accomplishments of agriculture.

Texas FSA joins the council in recognizing farmers and ranchers for their contributions to the nation's outstanding quality of life. This year's theme is Agriculture: Stewards of a Healthy Planet.

Agricultural producers are the original stewards of the land. They understand the fragility of the land and are well aware that there are increasingly fewer producers and fewer acres for production. They want to sustain it and protect what they have.

According to the 2012 Agriculture Census, there are 3.2 million farmers and ranchers in the United States. These American farmers and ranchers constantly seek new and sustainable ways to operate. Through these efforts, they preserve wildlife, protect water sources and reduce soil erosion. They also use precision production practices to greatly reduce their footprint on the environment.

Last year, 912 million acres produced food and fiber. Not only are American farmers and ranchers, who represent one percent of the U.S. population, devoted to taking care of the land, but they're committed to feeding the nation and producing imports that help the country balance its trade.

Every year, farmers and ranchers face challenges such as natural disasters, downturns in markets and plant disease, which can financially cripple their operations, but they persevere. During such times, FSA provides financial relief through various conservation, disaster assistance, commodity safety-net programs and low interest-rate credit outlined in the 2014 Farm Bill.

The programs provide the 242,000 agricultural operations in Texas with the ability to lead the nation in the production of cotton, cattle, calves, sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk, commodities having a market value of \$14.7 billion.

I am honored to administer programs that enable our producers to manage their risks when the agriculture industry faces hardship. On behalf of the Texas Farm Service Agency, I would like to thank American farmers and ranchers for continuing to feed our nation and the world during every circumstance.

Judith A. Canales  
Texas FSA Executive Director

## Vonda's Recipe Corner

By Vonda Carter

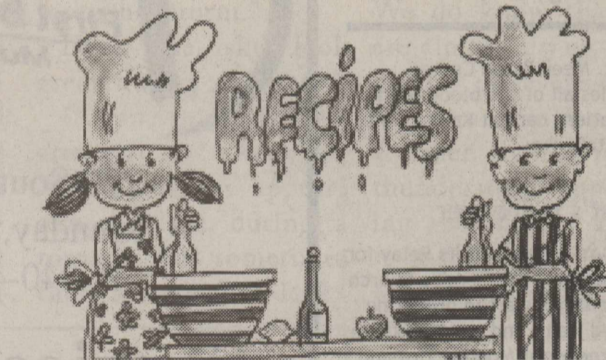
Happy St. Patrick's Day. I almost missed it. I was working on this week's recipes and looked at the calendar to see that today is St. Patrick's Day. I had to completely rethink my column. I've been thinking in so many different directions that it didn't even occur to me that it was here.

But I will not let you down. I have some really good St. Patrick's Day recipes that I know you will love. They are easy and fun and of course one of them can be done in the crock pot, and you know how I feel about my crock pot.

I also want to remind everyone to try to attend the St. Joseph's Catholic Church annual fried chicken and sausage dinner on Sunday. I'm looking forward to going and hope to see everyone there.

Don't forget the county-wide garage sale on Saturday, I'll be around for that as well, trying to find some treasures, because I need more treasures. I have a whole room in my house dedicated to all of my "treasure".

Don't think for one minute that I don't know what you're thinking. I do, and I also happen to know that a lot of you have your own extra rooms full of treasure. You know who you are, and I do



too. I like to think of myself as a collector, there is an ugly word some people use that I will not mention here, I prefer collector, it's much more dignified. We are collectors of fine objects that we know we'll find a use for later. Maybe some of you are the other word, me, I'm a collector!

You know I love you all, have a happy and fun St. Patrick's Day and weekend.

### Crock Pot French Dip Sandwiches

1 (3 lb.) beef brisket (not corned beef)  
1 pkg. (1 oz.) onion soup mix  
1 can (10 1/2 oz.) condensed beef broth  
8 mini baguettes or sandwich buns

Spray crock pot with cooking spray. Place beef in cooker. In small bowl, mix dry soup mix and broth; pour over beef. Cover; cook on low heat setting for eight to ten hours. Skim fat from liquid in cooker. Remove beef from cooker; Place on cutting board. Cut

beef across the grain into thin slices or shred beef. Cut each baguette in half horizontally. Fill baguettes with beef; cut crosswise in half. Serve with broth for dipping.

### Lucky Charms™ Chocolate Bark

1 lb. baking chocolate  
1 cup Lucky Charms™ cereal  
1/4 cup green and white candy coated chocolate candies  
2 tbsp. candy sprinkles, if desired

Line cookie sheet or shallow baking pan with cooking parchment paper. In large microwavable bowl, microwave baking chocolate on High until melted and can be stirred smooth. Pour melted chocolate onto cookie sheet. Using spatula or back of spoon, spread chocolate in thin even layer. Immediately sprinkle with Lucky Charms™ cereal, candies and sprinkles. Gently press cereal and candies into chocolate. Let stand until chocolate hardens completely. Break or cut into small pieces.

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

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For more information contact Todd Washington at 806-269-7800 or Wade Implement 325-773-2242.

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The Munday Housing Authority (MHA) and the Knox City Housing Authority (KCHA) have apartments available to eligible applicants for immediate occupancy. Renters may choose flat rent or income based rent, and rent includes some utilities. Come by 131 West Cisco Street in Munday or 203 SW 4th Street in Knox City, or call 940-422-4941 for more information. It is the intent of MHA & KCHA to rent vacant apartments to high income applicants when there are no eligible low or very low income applicants on the waiting list. Both are equal opportunity providers and employers.



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## real estate auction

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All properties auction: 6pm, Sat Mar 12 at TEDCO (Tye Economic Development Corp.) 649 Scott Street, Tye, TX

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is accepting applications for the position of Jailer/Dispatcher. Jailer License preferred but will train. Must be eligible to be licensed by the State of Texas. Night time shift currently open. Benefits include vacation, holidays, retirement, health insurance supplement, etc. \$11.00/hr salary. Contact the Knox County Sheriffs Office for application at 940-459-2211, or Sheriff Dean Homstad at 940-256-1457.

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## Save a Life

Texas Department of Transportation

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF KNOX

By virtue of Orders of Sale issued out the Honorable 50<sup>th</sup> District Court of Knox County in the following cases on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016 and the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016 and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 10:00 AM on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016, which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the South door of the Courthouse of said Knox County, in the City of Benjamin, Texas, the following described property, to wit:

Cause No. 9623 KNOX COUNTY VS. R G AVERITT II  
Tract 1: GEO: R00000341 & R00000342  
Lot 7, 8, and 9, Block 20, also known as the Southwest quarter of Block 20, Davis Addition to the 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; 107 S Ave F per KCAD

Tract 2: GEO: R000001790  
Lot 6 and West 36' of Lot 5, Block 20, Davis Addition, City of Knox City, Knox County, Texas, as more particularly described in a deed recorded in Volume 263 at Page 502 of the Deed Records, Knox County, Texas; 701 E Main per KCAD

Cause No. 9580 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. DON AWALT  
Tract 1: GEO: R000005927  
Being out of and a part of Section 74, Block 2, D. & W. RR Co. Surveys, 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; 411 N 7<sup>th</sup> per KCAD

Cause No. 9712 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. BRANDON GRAY  
Tract 1: GEO: R000003401  
Lots 4-6, Block 27, Original Town Benjamin, Knox County, Texas, as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk, Knox County, Texas; 205 N Church per KCAD

Cause No. 9422 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. BILL HAYNES COMPANY OF TEXAS, INC.  
Tract 1: GEO: R000006768  
All of Lots 4,5 and 6, Block 27, 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, Knox County, Texas;

Cause No. 9734 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. BILLY RAY MORROW  
Tract 1: GEO: R000007200  
East 70 feet of the North 1/2 of Block 1, Bettie G. Davis Addition to the 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 and including a Mobile Home, Town & Country Model, Label # DLS0021879, Serial # 60121276458 with a value in excess of \$1,000.00 located in Knox County, Texas; 110 N Ave E per KCAD

Cause No. 9752 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. SHERRY PARKHILL  
Tract 1: GEO: R000013370  
Block 2, Section No. 56, D & W. RR. Co Survey, in the 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; 501 S Aspen per KCAD

Tract 2: GEO: R000006401  
Lot 9, Block 3, Original Town Addition, in 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, Knox County, Texas;

Cause No. 9678 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. GUADALUPE PEREZ  
Tract 1: GEO: R000006443  
Lots 8 and 9, Block 22, Original Town Goree, Knox County, Texas, as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk, Knox County, Texas;

Cause No. 9745 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. ISABELL RODRIGUEZ  
Tract 1: GEO: R000007351  
Lot 7, Block 49, Original Townsite Vera, Knox County, Texas, as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk, Knox County, Texas;

Cause No. 9197 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. ALMA CUMBA WARDLAW  
Tract 1: GEO: R000008796  
the South 1/2 Block 56, R. P. Munday Addition, City of Munday, Knox County, Texas as more particularly described in a deed recorded in Volume 172 at Page 86 of the Deed Records, Knox County, Texas;

Levied on the 4 day of March, 2016, 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 4 day of March, 2016

Dean W. Homstad  
Sheriff, Knox County, Texas

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

The minimum bid for a person owning an interest in the property of 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.

The City of Knox City is accepting sealed bids to lay flooring in the Knox City Community Center, 8,400 sq. feet until Wednesday March 30, 2016 at 5 p.m. Bids will be opened at a called meeting at noon on March 31, 2016. Please bring sealed bid to City Hall, 902 E. Main. The City of Knox City has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

CALL US TODAY (940) 864-2665

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VIEW ALL OF OUR PROPERTIES AT  
[www.haskellcountyrealty.com](http://www.haskellcountyrealty.com)

Thanks for Reading the News-Courier

# Munday Lions Club work day



Courtesy photo

Members of the Munday Lions Club staged a work day last Saturday to plant pine trees in Centennial Park.

## CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

During the month of March, try something new from SRTC! We are waiving installation fees on new or additional SRTC television, telephone and internet services!

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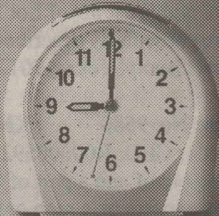
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Some restrictions may apply. Services where available. Standard installation fees waived on up to three services. All installations after the first three are \$20.

### Thank you for reading!

"A man who stops advertising to save money is like a man who stops the clock to save time."

-Henry Ford



Does advertising work? ... It just did!

# Mac's Views

## Don't overlook unclaimed property

Talking about getting a surprise last week, I was able to find a sizeable amount of money—enough to pay my salary here at the News-Courier for nine weeks—for my wife Betty as the heir for her mother on The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts website.



JAMES MCAFEE

First, Vonda Carter, my sidekick here at the newspaper, mentioned that her sister Rhonda had helped her find some unclaimed money.

So I went to the website Vonda mentioned. I put in my name and came up with four James A. McAfees mentioned, but none had one of my previous addresses. The same was true for Betty.

When I put in the name of her mother, who died 10 years ago, I found four different listings, using her address in Vernon. Betty has filed a claim and also talked to the oil company, but I'm told the process is slow.

I also found unclaimed property for Betty's uncles — she was one of the administrators for their wills—and \$30 for my daughter. Vonda found something for another couple in Munday, too.

So you might want to check yourself. Who knows what you might find!

What is unclaimed property?

It's any financial asset that has been abandoned by the owner for one or more years. Some examples are: dividend, payroll or cashier's checks; stocks, mutual fund accounts, bonds; utility deposits and other refunds; bank accounts and safe deposit box contents; insurance proceeds; mineral interest or royalty payments; and court deposits, trust funds, escrow accounts

Why does it come to the state?

The unclaimed property law requires financial institutions, businesses, and government entities to report to the state, personal property they are holding that is considered abandoned or unclaimed. The Texas Comptroller

of Public Accounts is responsible for doing it here in Texas. Property is turned over annually when the owner's whereabouts are unknown and the property has been inactive on the books of the reporting company after the appropriate abandonment period has expired.

Is there a time limit for claiming my property?

No, the Comptroller's office acts only as custodian for the missing owners, holding the property in trust until it is claimed. Texas never takes legal ownership of the property, so there is no time limit for filing a claim.

What efforts are made to find owners?

Notices may be mailed to owners reported with complete last known addresses. Guess, we should have had her mother's mail forwarded when we moved those four different times.

Does Texas require finders to be licensed?

Yes. Texas law requires search firms and heir finders to be licensed or registered with the state. Direct all questions concerning licensing to: Texas Department of Public Safety, Private Security Bureau Locator. Finder, tracer, heir finder, collector, investigator, researcher, broker—regardless of the name picked to identify the business—must be licensed by the Texas Department of Public Safety, Private Security Bureau if they are going to charge a fee for locating missing owners in Texas. A current sales tax permit is also required.

Does Texas have a limitation on finder fees?

Yes. Section 74.507 of the Texas Property Code states that one may not contract for or receive from the claimant, an amount (including all expenses incurred) in excess of 10% of the value of the abandoned property recovered. If the property involved is mineral proceeds, the fee may not include a portion of the underlying minerals or any production payment, overriding royalty or similar payment.

Good news for those who have moved from another state. Texas also participates in a national unclaimed property database, MissingMoney.com.

## Oil, gas rig count at all-time low

Special to The News-Courier

HOUSTON — The number of rigs drilling for oil and natural gas in the United States has fallen to the

lowest level since at least 1940, oil services company Baker Hughes Inc. said last Friday, as energy firms continued to slash activity amid the deepest energy price rout in a generation.

Combined rigs in the U.S. oil and gas fields fell by nine to 480 last week, overwriting a previous record low of 488 in April 1999, according to the industry data.

Oil rigs alone fell for a 12th week in a row with the rig count down six to 386, including 215 in Texas, the lowest level since December 2009.

Gas rigs fell by three to 94, the least since 1987.

Energy firms have sharply reduced oil and gas drilling since the selloff in global crude markets began in mid-2014.

Still, many analysts think the rig count will rebound later this year with signs that oil prices had bottomed in the last month after U.S. crude hit a 12-year low of just around \$26 a barrel.

U.S. crude prices jumped to a new high for the year and ended the week at \$38.50 a barrel in the fourth straight week of gains on forecasts of tighter supplies as U.S. and non-OPEC crude output fell faster than previously expected.

Chevron Corp said it will add two rigs in the oil-rich Permian shale of West Texas in 2016, part of a bet that crude prices will rise this year.

However, Texas driller Anadarko Petroleum Corp. indicated it was going to cut 1,000 workers.

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