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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

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THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016

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Timeline set for bond construction project

By James McAfee
 The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY—Architects have set a timeline for the construction of the new facilities for the Munday Independent School District, showing approval of the design in August, bidding from contractors in November and construction to begin in December with an anticipated completion by January, 2018.

Supt. Troy Parton and school trustees Sam Hunter and Nancy Birkenfeld met with architects Leland and Stuart Gray in Park City, UT last week and shared details with other board members at a regular meeting here Monday night.

Leland Gray presented a schematic budget that outlined the costs of all anticipated building remodeling, pointing out that he estimated costs on the high side that left \$626,694 from the \$8 million bond for contingency costs to account for any unexpected expenses that might arise.

After Stuart Gray gave the anticipated timeframe for the project, he stressed the importance of talking to the attorneys regarding the contractor contract and having liquidated damages included in the event the general contractor did not finish on time while making some allowances for weather delays that are clearly defined. He also stressed the need for a pre-bid meeting with general contractors interested in the project and a pre-construction meeting. He provided a list of testing and civil engineering firms the architects had worked with in the Munday area.

It was decided by general consensus that the proposed gym should have theater-style seating for 550 to 600 persons, all hardwood floors in the actual gym floor area, portable backstops, two scoreboards with the possibility of another one in the middle if it wouldn't interfere with volleyball, locating outlets for scoring tables on both sides of the court and a Bose sound system. Discussion also covered the locker rooms, inclusion of ice machines in the training rooms and the concession stand area, incorporating a family bathroom, including changing stations, and the need for filming IT support.

Discussion about the new junior high addition centered on meeting IT needs, a clock and intercom system, a classroom/lab and the location of a secure entry that would also serve the high school.

The pros and cons of a retractable wall between the two largest classrooms, the inclusion of a toy washer, fridge and sink in the serving area, the point of entry and how to handle the drop off and afternoon pickup of students were discussed for the pre-K and

daycare. In the latter matter, the consensus seemed to be that the school should approach the city about making the street on the west a one-way street going north during drop off and pickup times.

Discussion also followed on the remodel of the high school science lab and the elementary gym.

The Munday group viewed the Big Ass Fans at Sugar House Furniture in an afternoon tour, learning the capability of the large fans to move large quantities of air. Plans call for these type fans to be installed in the new gym and the elementary gym.

They visited the Bose store next to view the type of sound system planned for the gym.

The final stop was a tour of the Los Conference Center, a performing arts center designed by Leland Gray. He explained how some of the features could be incorporated into the Munday project with very minimal costs. He stressed to the board members present that the new construction should reflect the personality of the Munday community and be something future generations would be proud of. He also stressed that having buildings the kids are proud of and take pride of ownership in will endure while cold, sterile buildings will probably not be respected and cared for as well.

In other action, Monday night, the trustees approved service center contracts that showed an increase of \$1,700 and OKed a bid on a property in Goree.

Supt. Parton provided the trustees with a version of a new tougher drug policy and indicated he would present a final version for their approval in July. Included would be a year's suspension for a third violation by a student. The first violation calls for a 30-day suspension and the second for a 90-day suspension.

Parton also noted that discussion had started for getting a bond rating in the near future. He anticipated that the board could approve the selling of the bonds in a July 13 meeting.

In his financial review, Parton indicated he felt the district would be in the black by end of the budget year although expenses were slightly ahead at the current time.

No action was taken on the purchase of a new scoreboard for the football stadium, but all signs pointed to the sale of advertising as being a way of covering most, if not all, of the costs.

The trustees heard reports from all the other school administrators who were present at the meeting.

Band director Trey Singleton did note that he would be taking seven students to a leadership training meeting in Arlington.

TEA delays STAAR results

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN—The Texas Education Agency has delayed sending results of the 2016 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) to school districts until July 5 due to ongoing issues and concerns related to reporting.

The TEA wanted to conduct additional

quality control checks and verifications to ensure that results for all students for which answers documents or online records were submitted are reported error-free and attributed to the correct campus and district.

The TEA apologizes for this delay and understands the significant inconveniences this causes everyone.

Senate rejects gun measures

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON — As many expected, the Senate on Monday rejected four partisan gun measures offered in the wake of the Orlando massacre, including proposals to keep guns out of the hands of people on terror

watch lists. The two Republican proposals would have increased funding for the national background check system and created a judicial review process to keep a person on a terror watch list from buying a gun while the two Democratic measures would have expanded back-

ground checks to private gun sales and allowed the Justice Department to ban gun sales to suspected terrorists.

Tough election year politics, paired with disputes over the effectiveness of each party's ideas proved too powerful to break the longstanding partisan gridlock that

surrounds gun measures.

Any successful bid to toughen gun laws would need bipartisan support to get to the 60-vote threshold required since there are 54 Republicans and 46 Democrats and independents who caucus with them in the Senate.

Brazos Bowl set Saturday

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY—Participants in the Brazos Bowl were scheduled to arrive Wednesday to start practice for the fourth annual all-star six-man game, scheduled here Saturday at 7 p.m. at Greyhound Stadium.

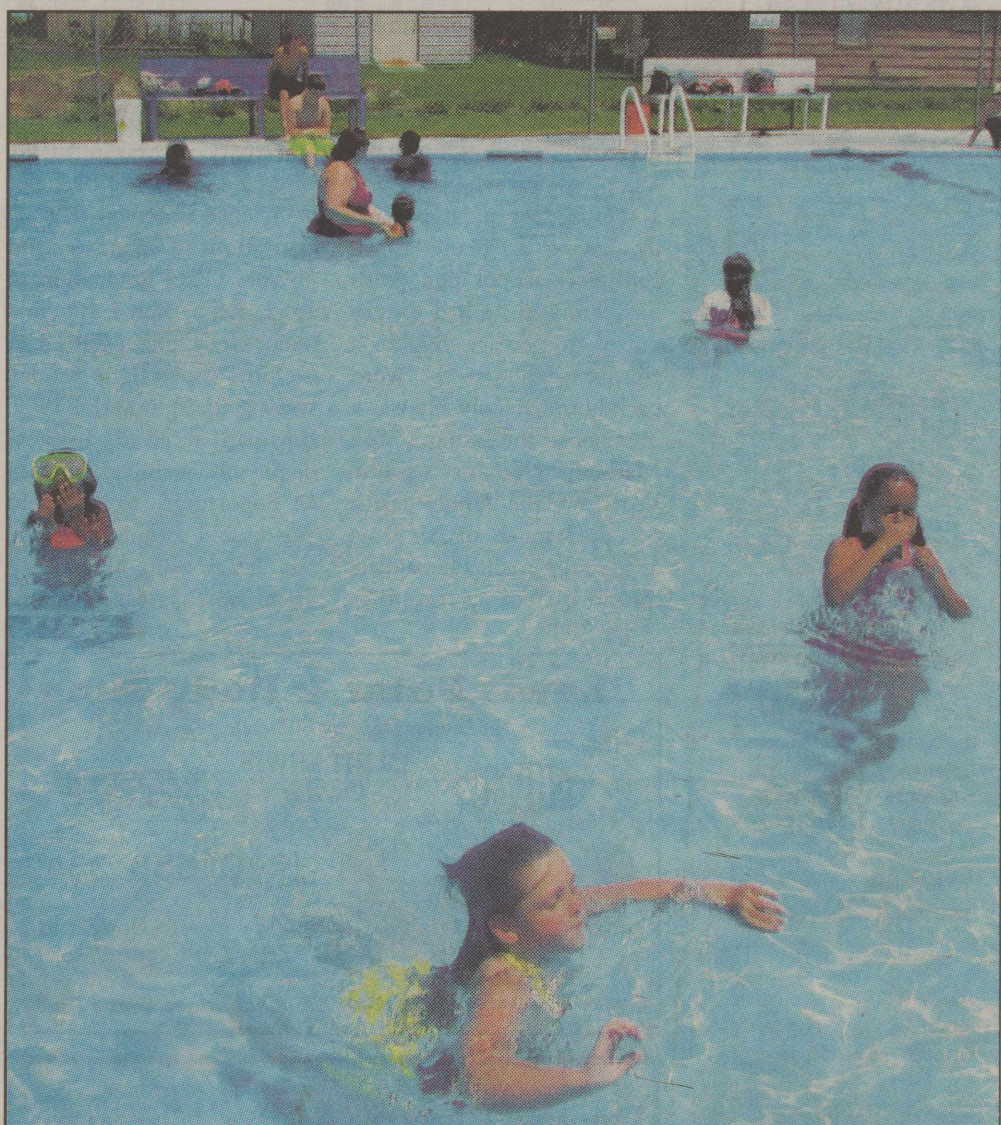
Following the first workout, the coaches were scheduled to draft players for the respective East and West squads. Practices will be held from 9-11 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. today and Friday.

The Texas Six-Man Coaches Association also will conduct all-star

basketball and football games during its coaches meeting next month in Wichita Falls.

Knox City's Kaylie Steele will be one of the all-stars participating while KCHS coach Dylan Ballard will be a coach.

Enjoying time in water



James McAfee/The Knox County News-Courier

Knox City and Munday youngsters enjoy a chance to cool off in the swimming pool as summer officially started last Monday. The Knox City pool is open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday

through Saturday and 2-6 p.m. on Sunday while the Munday pool is open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Knox Notes

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

Baker Memorial Golf Classic set July 2

KNOX CITY—The fourth annual W.R. "Bill" Baker Memorial Golf Classic is scheduled here July 2 at the Knox City Country Club. The format will be a two-person scramble and the entry fee is \$100. A shotgun start is planned for 12:40 p.m. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. Then there will be a putting contest with an entry fee of \$10. Lunch will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. Proceeds will benefit the W.R. "Bill" Baker/Exes Memorial Scholarship.

Reading program
 MUNDAY—The summer

reading program at the library here will continue from 10-11 a.m. on Monday and then again on July 6.

Ten County Camp

BENJAMIN—The deadline for signing up for the Ten County Camp will be Monday. The day camp is scheduled July 6 in Roaring Springs.

News on the go



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

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Obituaries James Weldon Bowman

James Weldon Bowman passed away Thursday, June 16, 2016. A graveside service was held last Saturday at Johnson Memorial Cemetery in Munday under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home. Memorials in lieu of flowers, contributions in Weldon's memory may be made to St. Stephen's Episcopal School, 6000 FM 3237, Wimberley, TX 78676.

Bowman was born in the Indian Creek Community, Comanche County on June 18, 1930, to Opha Ola and John Mervyn Bowman. Weldon attended the Comanche school system where he was a member of a large family, having as many as 40 cousins in school along with him. He said he had to stay out of trouble at school as a cousin would get the word back home quickly. He was a member of the Indian Creek Methodist church as a youth. Work on the family farms occupied much of his time as a young man. He said he missed school as often as

possible to stay home and work on the farm which he didn't mind as his father relied on him heavily.

At an early age, Weldon entered the Air Force and received extensive training as a combat medic. He advanced quickly and finished with the rank of Master Sergeant. Upon completion of his military service, Weldon returned to Brownwood to attend Daniel Baker College. During this time, he met and married Joyce Elaine Banks of Brownwood. The following year he enrolled in the University of Texas in Austin, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree with concentrations in chemistry and physics. Upon graduation in 1952, he accepted his first science teaching position at Goldthwaite High School. During the summer of 1957, Bowman received an academic scholarship giving him an opportunity to return to Austin and complete a Masters Degree in Chemistry. There was a great emphasis

on the development of science teachers and programs across the nation at this time. Bowman was honored to be a part of this initiative.

The 1958-59 school year saw Bowman move into school administration, serving in the position of high school principal in Flatonia and later in Roosevelt. His long career as superintendent of schools began in 1960 at Whitharral, and continuing to Blooming Grove, Itasca, Hermleigh, and culminating 31 years later in Holland. Weldon retired from public education in 1991 after serving 29 years as superintendent in five different school districts. During most of his years as superintendent, he maintained a high school chemistry teaching position along with his administrative duties. He always held the highest regard for the role of the classroom teacher. Though Bowman's success as a school leader was well documented by his peers, being referred to in education publications as "legendary superintendent," his primary interest was always the classroom and the success of his students. His success as an educator is evident in the many lives he positively influenced during his lifetime.

After retirement, Weldon and his wife Susan Bowman moved from Holland to their property and current residence in Knox City, where they have enjoyed their retire-

ment years. Early in retirement, he continued to work with youth through the Knox City Rodeo group.

Weldon Bowman was preceded in death by his son Steve Bowman and daughter-in-law Sammy Bowman, wife Elaine Bowman and daughter-in-law Lisa Bowman.

Bowman, known lovingly as Daddy or Paw Paw, is survived by his wife Susan Rayburn Bowman; brother and sister-in-law L.B. and Margaret Bowman of Brownwood; sisters LaVelle Parsons and LaVerne Dillashaw of Temple; brother Preston Bowman of Alpine; son and daughter-in-law Tom and Brenda Bowman of Wimberley; daughter and

son-in-law Sherri and Mark Woolston of Copper Canyon; son Ricky Bowman of Sweetwater; step daughter and husband Kimberley and Gordon Domaschk of Dallas; seven grandchildren; Leigh Warwick and husband Tom, Lane Bowman and wife Monica, Wren Thompson-Wynn and wife Von, Lou Bowman and partner Krystal, Talia Jaryszak and husband Rick, Lauren Jabri and husband Nidal and Chaile Allen and husband Dusty; 13 great grandchildren: Haleigh, Brooke, Blake, Breanna, Brylee, Brodie, Jaden, Madilyn, Seth, Jackson, Ainsley, Alston and Graham. He was also a much loved uncle to numerous nieces and nephews.

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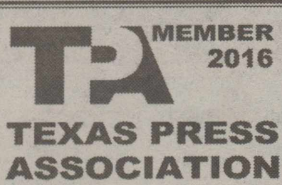
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 The Knox County News-Courier

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

DEADLINES
 Advertising: Noon Mondays
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Obituary policy
 The Knox County News-Courier will post an obituary in the next possible issue for \$65. If a photo is wanted, add \$10. Death notices are free, containing name, date of death, date of service and survivors.

Menus

Knox County Aging Center Menus
 Menus for week of June 27-July 1
 Monday: Baked chicken, carrots, beets, bread, cookies
 Tuesday: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, rolls, fruit
 Wednesday: Beef tips and noodles, mixed vegetables, corn, rolls, cake
 Thursday: Beef soft taco, Spanish rice, seasoned broccoli, Mandarin oranges
 Friday: Crispy chicken filet on bun w/trimmings, potato wedges, carrot and raisin salad, dessert

Lake Creek Golf Schedule

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

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- ★ 2013 Chevy 1500 Crew Lift Kit, 4x4, 20" tires new..... #16211A **\$30,500**
- ★ 2014 F250 Crew 4x4 Diesel, clean, 1 owner..... #1617A **\$51,000**
- ★ 2014 Ford F350 Crew 4x4 diesel, very sharp, 1 owner..... #16241A **\$51,650**



★ 2013 GMC 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 #16234B
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 ★★★



★ 2007 Chevy Tahoe LT #16114B
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 ★★★

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- ★ 2006 Honda CRV..... #15520B **\$8,995**
- ★ 2011 Chevy Equinox Clean, 1 Owner..... #R9164A **\$11,995**
- ★ 2015 Ford Escape Only 13K miles, nice..... #16098B **\$18,995**
- ★ 2013 Ford Edge Leather, new tires..... #16151A **\$20,800**
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Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

We have exchanged our cool, rainy days for hot, humid ones. The temps are staying in the 90s, and after a fairly cool start of June, it is very noticeable. Monday was the first day of summer, and I think we can all agree that it sure seems that way.

No news on the ill of the community today. Maybe everyone is feeling better. If there's someone I'm unaware of, I'm sorry I've missed reporting it. We do like to know of our friends with problems.

My sympathy to Susan Bowman and her family of Knox City. Susan's husband Weldon passed away last Wednesday after failing health for several months. Graveside rites were held on Saturday at Johnson Cemetery in Munday.

Here 'n there
Barbara and Donnie Ryder were in Abilene Monday to see her kidney doctor.

Linda Griffith is doing great since her cataract surgery. She says she can see so much better. That's good because it is very important to have good eyesight.

Debi Moorhouse was in Amarillo Friday to pick up her grandchildren Lexie, Katy, and Blaze Taylor. They will be here for several weeks to visit their dad Cody and other relatives and friends.

Fathers Day weekend guests of Charles and Joy Jones were their kids Sheila and Ishmael De Los Santos

of Vernon and David and Wendy Jones of Runaway Bay.

Jack, Jr. and Cindy Young of Round Rock spent the weekend with his mom Mary Jane and helped her celebrate her birthday on Sunday.

The event many are talking about today is the wedding of Cody Propps and Gabbie Mailloux last Saturday. According to Cody's mom Stacia it was beautiful. Held at the Melody Oaks Ranch at Priddy, it was attended by many relatives and friends. Cody is a teacher and coach in the Benjamin school, and he and Gabbie plan to make their home here.

Among the Benjamin folks attending the wedding and reception were Cody's parents James and Stacia Propps, grandparents Donnie and Barbara Ryder and aunt Shannon Propps.

Also Steven and Sheila Benson, Kinsey, and Will, Seth and Ashton Kuehler, Melissa and Kyle Everson and family, Shelby Russell, Kelsey and Emily Brown, and Kaitlyn and Ricky Acevedo and family.

Visiting Roger and Betty Bohannon and Jamie Ford and family this week are Sabra Bohannon and Miguel Rodriguez, who are in college in Lincoln, NE, Bailey Bohannon of Geneva, NE, and Liddy Brumley of Vernon.

The following is a detailed account of the 2016 Homecoming activities here in Benjamin as written and provided by Ex Student Sec-

retary Janice Tolson.

2016 Homecoming Board President Beverly Tolson Strickland, Vice President Michelle Bufkin Brown, Secretary Janice Daniel Tolson, Treasurer Joy Lynn Lyles Pool, along with board members Penny Spikes Eaton, Tom Moorhouse, Kim Conner Moore, Dylan Benson, Eddie Rivera and Shannon Ryder Propps would like to thank everyone that came in for homecoming.

The museum had a wonderful breakfast on the porch to start our homecoming off. Next was the parade. Thanks to the judges, Mitzi Sheedy Welch, Laura Reed McCannies, and Fred McGreger and Cody Taylor for announcing the parade. Thanks Kathy Rainwater for doing a great job on the parade certificates, for the Benjamin Fire Department for helping with the parade.

We met at the Memorial Building for lunch and the fiddler contest.

A thank you to the judges, Duane Johnson from Crowell, Sammy Hastsey of Sweetwater and Donnie Ryder of Benjamin. A very big thank you to First Bank Texas of Munday for first place \$100, second place \$50 and third place \$25 in the open and to Citizen State Bank of Knox City first place \$100, Kemp Jones Trucking of Knox City for second place \$50, and third place \$25 in youth. Two first places are Corrie and Shawn Earthman of O'Brien and JoAnn Albus of Knox City,

two third places, Belle and Nate Earthman of O'Brien. Everyone enjoyed the music. A thank you to Linda Rogers of Seymour, Brother Banch of Crowell, and Ben Holt of Vera for coming to accompany these young fiddlers. Gene House, a former student of Mansfield, emceed the fiddlers contest.

Patricia Barrent Culver was the winner of the quilt donated by the Brazos Valley Quilt Guild. Thanks Mrs. Gloria for speaking on behalf of our school. Thanks Troy Pratt for his memories of growing up and what the building means to him and his class of 1984.

Thanks Sammie Jo Russell, Jessica Watson, Buddy Tolson, and Willie Strickland for your help. Thanks to Gladene Green for making all phone calls and helping to collect the dues. Thanks Mike Moorhouse for the Ex-Student float, and Dickie McCannies for holding the election.

We want to thank Charles and Linda Griffith for collecting the money for lunch and supper.

We fed around 143 people at lunch and around 65 people at supper. We want to thank all the ex students for bringing drinks and items for the auction.

What drinks we had left over we donated to the Benjamin Fire Department. Thanks go to Sheriff Dean Homstad and his office for their services.

Tommy Hooker played at the dance. Two 90 year old

ladies left the dance about midnight and stopped and thanked us for having Tommy Hooker—said it took them back to the 80s, and how they enjoyed it! We want to thank Senator Craig Estes for letting the band stay in his house for the night.

Sunday was Church Services at the Church of Christ Church with Riley Carver as speaker, accompanied by Haley and Calan Rice. Pot luck lunch was the climax of 2016 homecoming with Kathy Rainwater presiding over the lunch.

We also want to thank

Jenny Jones and Debbie Green Moorhouse for their help. We want to give a very big thank you to David, Chloe and Casey Stiewert for helping before and during the homecoming. The food was delicious, and the decorations were beautiful. We could not have made it without them.

If anyone helped in any way to make this homecoming a success and did not get credit in this article, please accept our apologies.

We want you to know you are appreciated, and we thank you all.

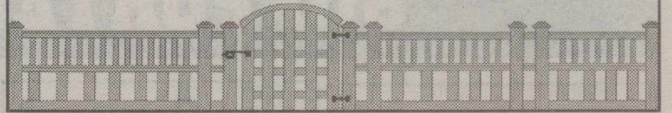
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Some restrictions may apply. Services where available. Up to three (3) connections waived. Additional connections \$20.00 each. Three (3) sets of four (4) tickets will be given away to the Texas Rangers game on August 13, 2016.



Laughing Matters

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in the event you have to eat them. Also, don't put both feet in your mouth at the same time because then you will not have a leg to stand on.

We can learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, others dull and they're all different colors. But they all have to live in the same box.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

The minister and the horse

A minister got a new horse and taught it to go when he said "praise the Lord" and to stop when he said "hallelujah."

One day while out on a ride, the horse ran away. The minister could not remember what to say until he got to the edge of a cliff where he remembered to say, "hallelujah." The horse stopped.

Looking down where he could have fallen, the minister said, "praise the Lord." Oops!

How high is the flagpole?
Two workers were standing

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Stangs
Go!

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by a flag pole looking up.

A woman walked by and asked them what they were doing?

"We're supposed to find the height, but we don't have a ladder," one of the men answered.

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The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts and laid the pole down. Taking out a tape measure, she took a measurement and announced "18 feet, 6 inches" before walking away.

One of the men shook his head and laughed. "Ain't that just like a woman? We ask for the height and she gives us the length."

Can you read this?
Weird, but interesting.
Fi yuo cna raed tihs, you have a sgrtrane mnid, too?
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Azanmig? I awlyas tghuhot spleling was ipmorant!

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GOT SOMETHING TO SELL? SELL IT IN THE NEWS-COURIER CLASSIFIEDS!

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.



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.



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT
PPC Operating Company, LLC, 10355 Centrepark Drive, Suite 100, Houston, Texas 77043 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Bateman Trust Est. Account No. 1 Lease, Well Number 83. The proposed injection well is located 6 miles east of Guthrie, Texas in the Bateman Ranch Field, in Borden County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3500 to 5300 feet.
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.
Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas, 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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USGA handling of rule embarrassing 5A, 6A alignment may see change

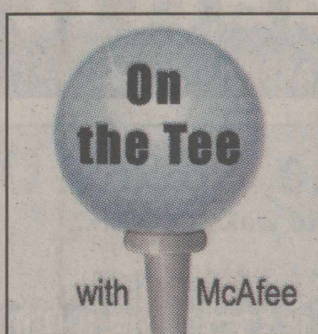
The United States Golf Association was saved from an even more embarrassing situation in the U.S. Open when Dustin Johnson's play down the stretch eliminated the possibility of a rules decision deciding the title.

While video replay seems to work in other sports, it's my feeling that it shouldn't be used in golf.

On the fifth green in the final round as he was about to putt, Johnson's ball moved back ever so slightly. He informed Mark Newell, who is chairman of the USGA rules committee and a rules official with the group, of what happened, but indicated he had not soled his putter, a claim supported by his competitor Lee Westwood. Newell told him to play the ball with no penalty.

Unlike other sports, one of the fundamentals to the rules is that it is the player's responsibility to call a penalty if he feels he did something wrong. Johnson didn't in this case. That should have settled the issue.

However, the USGA decided it should review the video, but it wasn't until Jeff Hall and Thomas Pagel ap-



proached him on the 12th tee that Johnson was aware of a possible penalty. They just said the video would be reviewed at the end of the round. In reality, the USGA had already made that determination and should have told him so right there.

Johnson was forced to play the final seven holes not knowing exactly how he stood to par. So everyone else in the hunt at Oakmont also played for two hours not knowing the score.

The USGA's move did trigger one of the biggest backlashes the sport has ever seen as word spread through the crowd. The other players took to social media to voice their complaints, too. Even Jack Nicklaus, who was on site, questioned the USGA about its actions.

Johnson, however, erased

any doubt about the outcome by sticking to his game plan and surviving the final stretch at Oakmont while all his nearest opponents faltered with late bogies. A birdie on the difficult 18 just made the margin three instead of four after the USGA did ultimately give him a one-stroke penalty.

When the green speeds get as fast as they do now, especially on greens like the ones at Oakmont, there probably were other similar situations in the U.S. Open with balls moving that weren't caught on video.

In closing, I think the USGA's obsession with green speed has reached a point where they need to not do all the double and triple cutting and rolling of the greens for future events. It's OK to make courses difficult for even the game's better players, but let's keep it a fair challenge.

The USGA did apology on Tuesday:

"Upon reflection, we regret the distraction caused by our decision to wait until the end of the round to decide on the ruling. It is normal for rulings based on video evidence to await the end of a round, when the matter can be discussed with the player before the scorecard is returned. While our focus on getting the ruling correct was appropriate, we created uncertainty about where players stood on the leader board after we informed Dustin on the 12th tee that his actions on the fifth green might lead to a penalty. This created unnecessary ambiguity for Dustin and the other players, as well as spectators on-site, and those watching and listening on television and digital channels."

"In keeping with our commitment to excellence in all aspects of our work on behalf of the game of golf, we pledge to closely examine our procedures in this matter. We will assess our procedures for handling video review, the timing of such, and our communication with players to make sure that when confronted with such a situation again, we will have a better process."



Special to The News-Courier

ROUND ROCK—The Class 6A and Class 5A football alignments could have a drastically different look over the next few years since the UIL Legislative Council voted recently to survey school districts to see what support there is for splitting each classification into two divisions.

The setup would work similar to Class 4A and below where schools are ranked by enrollment before alignment. The schools in the top half of the enrollment are all placed in districts together while the schools in the bottom half of enrollment are placed in their own districts. The schools in the high-enrollment districts then advance to the Division I playoffs while the schools in the low-enrollment districts advance to the Division II

Pink Ladies OK additional expenses

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY—The Pink Ladies approved an additional \$1,646.95 to pay for the ER cot warmer and oxygen concentrator requested by Knox County Hospital

administrator Stephen Kuehler during its June monthly meeting. Additional purchases of a portable phone and trash container were also approved and the OK given to have a plumber make needed repairs.

Frances King was welcomed as the new secretary, allowing Carol Judicheck to move to treasurer.

The Pink Ladies thanked everyone for their donations and purchases that enabled them to help the hospital.

Skiles duo, Mangis win KCCC par-3

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY The threesome of Tommy Mangis and Bruce and Estelle Skiles posted a five-under-par 49 to win the Knox City Country Club's Par-3 Scramble I here last Saturday.

The Iowa Park trio of Charles, Cole and

Keith Bastrop placed second with a 50, a stroke ahead of Chris Mendoza and Jerry and Jeremy Eaton.

The wildcard winners were Alex and Ryan Ledesma with Scott Brown.

Zach Carter registered a hole-in-one on the 147-yard second hole.

Report suspicious activity to DPS

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN—The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is calling on Texans to remain vigilant regarding potential crime and terrorist activity in their communities, and to report suspicious behaviors to the department's iWATCH website at www.iwatchtx.org. The iWATCH program was created as a partnership between communities and law enforcement, and utilizes citizen-sourced tips related to criminal activity.

"As details about the atrocious attack in Orlando continue to unfold, our thoughts and prayers remain with the victims, their families and all of Florida," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Amid today's ever-present threat of terrorism and crime, we are reminded that members of the public can be law enforcement's greatest resource. When law enforcement and communities work together to combat crime, we are inherently more successful. DPS urges

individuals to always report illegal or suspicious behavior they see to iWATCH or their local authorities — by speaking up, you could save a life."

In addition to the shootings in Orlando, and other attacks around the world, senseless attacks have also occurred closer to home in recent years, including tragic shootings at Fort Hood, and a 2015 shooting incident in Garland. Concerned citizens can visit the iWATCH website to fill out a report, which includes contact information and specifics about a particular incident. A report usually takes fewer than five minutes to complete, and once submitted, each report is reviewed by law enforcement analysts. The website also lists a phone number for possible anonymous reports.

Here are some examples of behaviors and activities to report:

Strangers asking questions about building security features and procedures.

Briefcase, suitcase, backpack or package is left behind.

Cars or trucks are left in no-parking zones at important buildings.

Chemical smells or fumes that are unusual for the location.

People requesting sensitive information, such as blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules, without a need to know.

Purchasing supplies that could be used to make bombs or weapons, or purchasing uniforms without having the proper creden-

tials. Taking photographs or videos of security features, such as cameras or checkpoints.

DPS urges residents who see something unusual to simply speak up. Preparations for terrorist attacks may often be seen, but rarely reported. When in doubt, report the suspicious activity through iWATCH. For more information on the iWATCH program or to submit a report, visit www.iwatchtx.org. To make an anonymous report, individuals can contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972. (iWATCH is not designed to report emergencies. If a situation requires an emergency response, call 911.)

Reports to iWATCH can also be made through the DPS Mobile App. The app is currently available for iPhone users on the Apple App Store: (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/texas-dps/id902092368?mt=8>) and for Android users on Google Play: (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.microassist.texasdps&hl=en>).

The iWATCH website is part of the DPS Intelligence and Counterterrorism Division (ICT), which serves as the central clearinghouse for the collection, management, analysis and dissemination of law enforcement and homeland security intelligence in Texas. This DPS intelligence strategy is essential to proactive, preventive and effective law enforcement operations to combat crime and terrorism.

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