The Knox County

"Since 1971, Knox County's Oldest Established Newspaper"

Volume XXX Number 36 • Thursday, June 14, 2001 • Periodical • USPS #903920 • Mailed At Knox City, Knox County, Texas 79529 • 6 Pages + 2 Inserts • Price 50¢

4-H member receives Knox County Extension **Education Association scholarship**

Jeremy Lowe, 17 year old son of Jerry and Judy Lowe of Munday, has been selected as recipient of the Knox County Extension Education Association's "4-H Scholarship".

The \$200.00 scholarship is awarded annually to a Knox County 4-H member. The

scholarship is based upon their 4-H participation, need for financial assistance, grades, community service and extra curricular activities.

Jeremy has participated in the 4-H program for 10 years, taking part in such projects as swine, safety, photography and foods & nutrition. Jeremy has held numerous 4-H club offices and served as a district 4-H Council Delegate. He has received the Knox County 4-H Gold Star Award and Jr. Gold Star Award. Jeremy excelled in the 4-H Foods & Nutrition project. Through participation in project meetings he expanded his knowledge in the foods and nutrition



Jeremy Lowe ...4-H scholarship recipient

area. His knowledge and skills were exhibited as he participated in 4-H Foods Shows placing 1st in the county and district competitions for eight years. In 1999 he placed 7th in the state 4-H Food Show. As a part of his Foods & Nutrition project Jeremy served as a Jr. Project Leader for the project, presented programs at the local Child Development Center and Lions Club and volunteered for the Knox County Aging Center meal program.

In addition to 4-H, Jeremy was active in school UIL activities and church activities.

The Knox County Extension Education Association is proud to honor Jeremy with this scholar-

Jeremy is the grandson of Jerry & Susie Ray of Knox City.

Educational programs of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting or program are encouraged to contact the Knox County Extension office at (940)454-2651.

county funds at First National Bank of Munday Judge David N. Perdue called bids for the Court's consideration expenses. These actions were apthe REGULAR meeting of Comproved on a motion by Commismissioners' Court to order at 1:30

County Commissioners' Court votes to place

P.M. on May 14, 2001 at the Courthouse in Benjamin, Texas. Also present were Commissioners Weldon Skiles, Jerry Parker, Jimmy Urbanczyk, and Johnny Birkenfeld, County Attorney Bobby Burnett, Sheriff Dean Homstad, District Extension Agent Galen Chandler, Knox County Extension Agent Jane Rowan, and Homer Lowrance of Munday. Treasurer Penny Goodwin, Tax Assessor-Collector Stanton Brown, and Clerk Ronnie Verhalen appeared during the debate concerning the Bank Depository Bid.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the office of the County Clerk on May 11, 2001 at 2:30 P.M.

Upon motion by Commissioner Parker and second by Commissioner Urbanczyk, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 9, 2001 were unanimously approved.

Judge Perdue introdused Galen Chandler, Distrist Extension Director of Vernon, who spoke concerning his requested agenda item of the possible replacement of Agriculture Extension Agent for this County, a matter previously discussed by this Court. Numerous questions were asked by the members present concerning a qualified candidate for the position, one that has been vacant since June, 2000. Commissioner Parker presented a motion to continue the search for a qualified person and if he/she can be found that the Commissioners Court should interview the applicant. Commissioner Urbanczyk seconded, with all in favor.

Commissioner Birkenfeld moved to appoint Sam Boone of Benjamin and David Albus of Knox City to the Haskell/Knox Underground Water District, replacing Greg Clonts and Louis L. Baty, Jr., both of Knox City. The second came from Commissioner Parker, and all voted for the mo-

The Court officially rescinded its bid to purchase the unused Texas Department of Transportation facility in Benjamin, since the City of Benjamin also bid on the same property, a situation that would have caused TxDOT to open the bidding process to the general public. This action was unanimously approved upon a motion by Commissioner Parker and a second by Commissioner Birkenfeld.

Judge Perdue informed the Court that the County needed to release funds held over from the TxDOT Enhancement Project awarded the County in 1996 since we will no longer pursue a Visitors' Center on the third floor of the Courthouse. Judge Perdue verified that TxDOT representative Dwayne Culpepper on May 15, 2001 related that the funds were to be released; the judge is to check again with TxDOT to see if these funds could be used for other

sioner Urbanczyk, seconded by Commissioner Birkenfeld, and supported by all.

The Court was advised by Judge Perdue that the Knox City Country Club has requested the County to be the nominating agency for a Knox City Pedestrian and Bike Trail to be located on city property but outside the city limits on State Highway 6. The pro posed path would be an eight-feet wide all-weather paved surface located around the outside of the golf course facility. This project is part of the TxDOT 2001 Enhancement Program. Commissioner Birkenfeld moved to approve Judge Perdue working with those members on the grant project. A second followed by Commis sioner Skiles, and all approved.

On a motion by Commissioner Skiles, Judge Perdue is to request certain changing of "off system" bridge classifications within the County and to oversee new signs appropriate from TxDOT. Second was by Commissiner Urbanczyk, and all approved.

Bids were opened for the sale of Lots 9 and 10, Block 4, City of Benjamin, which had previously been advertised for sale by this court. The only bid received was from Wyman Meinzer for \$300 for each lot. Commissioner Birkenfeld moved to accept that bid, Com missioner Skiles seconded, and all voted in favor. Commissioner Parker moved to authorize Judge Perdue to sign the warranty deed on behalf of the Court, Commissioner Urbanczyk seconded, and all approved.

Judge Perdue advised the Court that several citizens of Truscott have requested the Court to post 30 mph speed limit signs in Truscott proper (but not on Highway 6, which bypasses). Commis sioner Parker so moved, Commissioner Urbanczyk seconded the motion, and all favored it.

Judge Perdue presented two

for Bank Depository for the County's funds. They were from First National Bank in Munday and CitizensBank in Knox City. Bids were opened, and County Treasurer Penny Goodwin duplicated them and distributed copies to each member present. Judge Perdue stated at the beginning that he would not enter into any discussion nor vote on the depository bids because his wife is employed by one of the institutions. Ms. Godwin reviewed each bis for the court and reported that the First National Bank had a slightly higher interest rate of savings for some (?) terms and offered free printing of checks, which seemed to be the only difference between the two bids. After a discusion of the merits of the two banks, Commissioner Urbanczyk moved to accept the bid from the First National Bank, and Commissioner Birkenfeld seconded. The vote was split, with Commissioners Birkenfeld and Urbanczyk in favor and Commissioners Parker and Skiles voting no. Judge Perdue advised the members that he had abstained from voting, which meant the motion would fail. Commissioner Urbanczyk offered another motion to assept the bid of the Munday bank, and Commissioner seconded. Those voting for the motion this time were Commissioners Urbanczyk, Birkenfeld, and Skiles; Commissioner Parker voted no; and Judge Perdue again abstained.

County Attorney Bobby D. Burnett advised the Court that computers in several offices in the courthouse have received a duplication of software products, for various reasons. Dove Computer Consulting reviewed and inspected all County courthouse computer systems and has made a recommendation that we should standardize and upgrade software where duplications exist. Randy Burns of Haskell has submitted a bid of approximately \$3000 to

See Commissioners, Page 2

City Council swears in new Mayor at May meeting

The following are unapproved minutes from the May 10, 2001 City Council meeting

The Knox City City Council met in regular session on May 10, 2001 with Mayor Tommie Reynolds presiding. Council members present were Charles Lankford, Fred Ledesma, Jessie Rios, J.M. Emerson, and Leon Watson. Also present were City Administrator Michael Burkham, Chief Harry Steen, Municipal Court Judge Rob Harrison, Adam Campbell, Mary Ann Boone, Sherry Ellis, Lara Steen, Isabel Rodriquez, Jeff Acree, Linda Abila, and Donna Banks. Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

The first item on the agenda was Public Comments. Mary Ann Boone addressed the Council on amending livestock ordinances. Lara Steen then addressed the Council on the treatment of Police officers in Knox City by public officials and non-city residents.

The next item on the agenda was to deliberate and act on the hiring of the swimming pool manager. The Council interviewed 3 applicants-Donna Banks, Linda Abila, and Isabel Rodriquez. After discussion, Charles Lankford made the motion to hire Donna Banks. Jessie Rios seconded. All voted in favor.

Next on the agenda was to deliberate and act on the hours of the Convenience Center. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to have Mr. Burkham speak with Willard Skiles to see if he would be interested in opening the Center in the afternoons. This would begin with a 30 day trial period.

The next item was to deliberate and act on possible amendments to the Livestock Ordinance. Mayor Reynolds recommended to the leave the ordinance as it but

include regulations. After discussion, it was decided to have Mr. Burkham check on State and Federal regulation before any action

Next on the agenda was to deliberate and act on Municipal Court Technology. Judge Rob Harrison addressed the Council on the need for a computer system for the Municipal Court. After a lengthy discussion, Fred Ledesma made the motion to purchase a computer for the Court. Leon Watson seconded. All voted in

The next item was to deliberate and act on appointment of Leon Burkham as a North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority director. Charles Lankford made the motion to appoint Mr. Burkham. J.M. Emerson seconded. All voted in favor.

Next was to deliberate and act on the resignation of Charles Lankford from the City Council. J.M. Emerson made the motion to accept the resignation. Jessie Rios seconded. All voted in favor.

The next item on the agenda was to deliberate and act on the replacement of Council member Charles Lankford. Leon Watson nominated Don Railsback. Fred Ledesma nominated James Manning. Fred Ledesma made the motions for nominations to cease. The nominations were then put to a vote. J.M. Emerson voted for Don Railsback. Jessie Rios, Fred Ledesma and Leon Watson voted for James Manning. Mr. Manning was elected by majority.

The Council then took a fiveminute break.

Next on the agenda was the swearing in of the newly elected officials. Mayor Reynolds admin-

istered the oath of office to Charles Lankford, Mayor and J.M. Emerson and Leon Watson, Council members.

The next items was to deliberate and act on the appointment of Mayor pro tem. J.M. Emerson nominated Jessie Rios. Fred Ledesma nominated J.M. Emerson. Fred Ledesma made the motion for nominations to cease. Leon Watson seconded. The nominations were then put to a vote. J.M. Emerson voted for Jessie Rios. Jessie Rios, Fred Ledesma, and Leon Watson voted for J.M. Emerson. J.M. Emerson was elected mayor pro tem by majority.

Next on the agenda was the City Administrator's report. During this report, Mr. Burkham recognized outgoing mayor, Tommie Reynolds and presented him with a plaque in honor of his service to the City.

Next was the Keep Texas Beautiful report given by Charles

The next item on the agenda was to deliberate and act of the Police Dept. report. Fred Ledesma made the motion to approve the report. Jessie Rios seconded. All voted in favor.

Next on the agenda was to deliberate and act on approving the financial reports. Fred Ledesma made the motion to approve the reports. Jessie Rios seconded. All voted in favor.

With no other business before the Council, Leon Watson made the motion to adjourn. Jessie Rios seconded. All voted in favor.

Michael Burkham, City Administrator

ATTEST: Elaine Eaton, City Secretary

Stubbs granddaughter to be head of Owasso student council

Shanna Smethers, granddaughter of Jack and Romain Stubbs, will be holding the position of the 2001-2002 Student Council President in her hometown of Owasso, Oklahoma.

Shanna will be the "head honcho" of about 1200 juniors and seniors. This summer, she will be traveling to North and South Carolina where she will attend the National Student Council Convention. She will have an opportunity to get acquainted with delegates from all over the United

Shanna is also the school's mascot, the "RAM" and has been for two years.

She will be attending a mascot camp at Southern Methodist University in Dallas this summer and will be competing in a National



SHANNA SMETHERS

Mascot Competition in Decem-

Shanna is the daughter of Sandy and Gary Smethers of Owasso.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the City Council of Knox City is Thursday, June 14, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Commissioners select bank

from page one

upgrade those computers in question. Commissioner Birkenfeld moved to accept Mr. Burns's proposal, Commissioner Skiles seconded, and all were in favor.

Ms. Goodwin advised the Court of Tax Assessor-Collector Stanton Brown's recent appointment to the State Board of Tax Professionals by Governor Rick Perry. Information only.

Commissioner Skiles moved to pay receivables from the County Treasurer, Commissioner Parker seconded, and all approved. Commissioner Birkenfeld moved to accept the quarterly report from Ms. Goodwin Commissioner Urbanczyk seconded, and all approved.

There being no further business to come before the Court at this time, upon motion by Commissioner Parker, seconded by Commissioner Skiles, and carried unanimously, the meeting of the Court was ADJOURNED.

APPROVED this 11th day of

DAVID N. PERDUE **COUNTY JUDGE**

ATTEST: COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COM-MISSIONERS' COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS



SEEDS FROM **SOWER**° Michael A. Guido

A man had been to a party. He had said things he shouldn't have said, and he had done things he shouldn't have done, He had been at his worst, and he was

Just before leaving he said, "Please think of me at my best Wherever you go, whatever you say and do, be at your best. Your friends will recall your words. They'll retrace your steps. They'll think of you at your worst.

Let the Lord have His way with you so that you'll always be at your best. Then you'll have nothing to regret and nothing to be ashamed of.

The Knox **County News**

USPS 903-920 Established Oct 14, 1971

Phone & Fax Line: (940) 658-3142 wer 9, 110 N. Central, Knox City, Tx 79529 E-Mail: kcnews@knoxcity.net

Entered as a Periodical (903-920) with postage paid at the Knox City Post Office, Knox City, Texas 79529. **Subscription Rates:**

> **Postmaster:** Send address changes to:

The Knox County News P.O. Drawer 9 Knox City, Tx 79529-0009

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing, or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in the columns of this paper, will gladly be corrected upon notice of the same being brought to the attention of the publisher personally at the office.

NOTICES, ETC.

Notice of entertainments where a charge of admission is made, resolutions of respect, in memoriam poetry, proclamations, letters expressing political opinions, weddings, engagements, anniversaries, extended obituaries or obituaries with photographs, legal notices, legal documants, and all other matters not of general news will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are encouraged. The signed by the author and include the telephone for verification purposes. Only the writer's name will appear in print. Letters should be kept to a reasonable length, are subject to be edited for clarity, liable and for the purpose of only conveying a single point. Every attempt will be made not to change the meaning of letters. All letters are run "space available". Each letter is accepted on that basis.

PHOTOGRAPHS Unsolicited photographs will be considered at a charge that will be determined after the picture is viewed.

ERRORS This newspaper is not responsible for errors in more than one edition. Claims will not be considered unless made within 72 hours of publication. No allowance will be made when the error does not materially affect the value of the advertisement.

NEWS DEADLINE

All items intended for each week's edition must be received in the NEWS office no later than 5:00 P.M. on Monday evening. Items submitted after the deadline may be held over for the following week. All items submitted are subject to holdover for future editions, depending on size, content, and available space.

NO GUARANTEES OR ASSURANCES

ARE MADE AS TO WHEN ARTICLES OR PHOTOGRAPHS WILL APPEAR IN PRINT **Texas Press Association**

The office of The Knox County News Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m

Closed on Fridays.

Note: Since we are a small business, these times may vary as we cover news & sports stories, take pictures, conduct business or handle family matters. Thanks in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Obituaries

Harvey Lee James

Harvey Lee James, 71, a retired machinist, died May 31, 2001, in a Fort Worth hospital.

Funeral services were Sunday, June 3, 2001, at 3:00 p.m. at the Hawkins Funeral Chapel. Bro. Bud Call officiated. Burial was in the East Bridgeport Cemetery.

He was born September 6, 1929, in Goree.

Survivors include six daughters, Norma Barnard, Sharlette Lester and husband Fred, Paula Crist and husband Rowan, Brenda Vaughn and husband Tony, Donna Tynes and La Fleata Fletcher and husband Johnny; three stepdaughters, Lisa, Latricia and Sonya; 13 grandchildren, six great grandchildren, two brothers, Wayne and Doyle James; and six sisters, Alta Mae Call, Helen Cooper, Edith Brown, Opal Zedlitz, Linda Kay Large and Marlena Teer.

Alex G. Godsey

Funeral services for Alex G. Godsey of O'Brien were held Saturday, June 9, 2001, at 2:30 p.m. in the Foursquare Church in Knox City. The Rev. Paul Chambers and Rev. Rob Harrison officiated. Burial was in the Knox City Cemetery with Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrange-

Mr. Godsey, 75, died Thursday, June 7, 2001, at a Stamford nursing home following a lengthy illness.

Born July 1, 1925, in Bovina, he farmed and combined for harvest here all his life. He married Carol Finley on July 22, 1960, in Knox City. He served on the O'Brien and Carney school board and later on the Knox City-O'Brien CISD school board for several terms. He was a member of the Foursquare Church.

Alex served in the United States Army during World War II. He was decorated with Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon with one bronze star, Philippine Liberation Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal Distinguished Unit Badge-Co. #40, Army Occupation (Japan) Victory Ribbon with two Overseas Service Bars.

Survivors include his wife, Carol of the home; three sons, Jonathan and wife Martha of Anson, Joe of Knox City and Dan of Knox City; a sister, Dorthy Harris of Knox City; three grandchildren, Bo, Ryan and Jordan; three nephews and three nieces.

Pallbearers were Adam Carver, Hoot Holmes, Alan Holmes, J.M. Emerson, Ricky Urich, John Hendrix, Morris Houck and Jerry Curd.

Honorary pallbearers were Orval Manning, Ken Butler, W.R. Orr, Weldon Leek, Charles Pack, Hiram Whitaker, Eddie Adkins, Bob Berryman, John Lippard, Delbert Hayes and David Albus.

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Local's grandson named to North Texas dean's list

DENTON - Noah Adam Norrid, grandson of Iola Hudson of Knox City and nephew of Mona Cook of Knox City, has been named to the University of North Texas dean's list for the spring semester 2001.

To be named to the dean's list, students must complete at least 12 academic hours during the semester with a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9.

FROM PAMPA

Evelyn Allen Warner of Pampa, granddaughter of the late E.B. Dentons, visited in Knox City Monday of this week.

She also visited A.P. Denton Jr. while here.

Weather

Courtesy of **Plant Materials Center** 4 Miles N.W. of Knox City

Date	Low	High	Rain
06/05	68	93	
06/06	67	90	
06/07.	67	92	
06/08	69	, 91	
06/09	66	92	
06/10	66	96	
06/11	70	99°	
2001 Rainfall - 12.24			

Aging center lunch menus

June 18th thru June 22nd

Monday, June 18 - Chicken strips with gravy, buttered potatoes, peas and carrots, salad, biscuits, cookies.

Tuesday, June 19 -Fish and tartar sauce, macaroni and cheese, green beans, cole slaw, hush puppies, cake.

Wednesday, June 20 - Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, blackeyed peas, cucumber salad, hot rolls, peaches with topping.

Thursday, June 21 - Peppered steak, buttered rice, glazed carrots, salad, hot rolls, cobbler.

Friday, June 22 - Chef salad, corn on the cob, ranch style beans, crackers, dessert.

(All menus subject to change without notification. It is important to contact the site manager in order that meals can be prepared.)

Thank you.

to all our friends for your prayers, cards, lovely flowers and plants, wonderful food, calls and visits.

To the doctors and nurses at the Knox County Hospital, the Outreach at Haskell and Seymour, Sue, Christi and the Smith Funeral Home staff, to the ladies of First Baptist Church for the wonderful meal, Bro. Johnny for the service, Phillip for the music, to Barbara at the florist and to Stacy at the News, we appreciate your outpouring of love and caring for making the loss of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother more bearable. We will always be grateful.

God bless you all, Betty, Willard and Bruce Skiles Ceissia and Kandi Zeissel Pam Tommy, Amanda and Cole Ward





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• 4 inch square pots - 85¢

• 6 inch round pots - \$1.79 • Perennials - 99¢

• Mixed planters - \$9.99 • Pine bark mulch - \$4.00

9-12 1-6, Monday thru Saturday &1:30 - 5:00, Sunday 4 Miles East of KC on Hwy. 222 • 658-3605



Knox City Area Church Directory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Knox City

Johnny Johnson, Pastor 9:45 a.m. ~ * Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 7:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m. Sunday Services telecast live on Cable Channel 6 in Knox City & O'Brien

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ Knox City Steve Pepper, Minister

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ Knox City

Wesley Holland, Pastor Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH ~ Knox City Paul Chambers, Pastor Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m. SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Knox City Father Leo Schloemer ~ Deacon Julian Estrada Sunday Bilingual Mass at 11:00 a.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Rhineland Father Leo Schloemer ~ Deacon Julian Estrada Monday Through Friday Mornings, 8:00 a.m. Mass Saturday Mass at 7:00 p.m. ~ Sunday Mass at 9:00 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Benjamin John Gillispie. Pastor Sunday School at 10:00 a.m., Sunday Morning at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening at 6:00 p.m. FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ Benjamin Wesley Holland, Pastor

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Gillespie

Ross Anderson, Pastor

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 7:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST ~ Benjamin Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. - Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL ~ Highway 222 W.O. Smith, Pastor Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Mid Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. FAITH CHAPEL ~ 8 Miles South Of Knox City Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Mid Week Bible Study, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH ~ O'Brien - Kyle Gulledge, Pastor -

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 7:00 p.m. Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m. "ABUNDANT LIFE" ZION FULL GOSPEL

- Richard Palma, Mary Ann Palma, Pastors -Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. Mid Week, Thurs. at 7:00 p.m.\ Church location: 5 miles west of O'Brien Baptist Church

> WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Rob Harrison, Pastor -Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Mid Week Bible Study, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The church is located at 200 West Guthrie in Weinert

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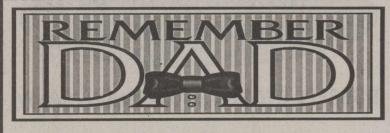


MICHAEL MCGAUGHEY and TANDY ROBERTS

Engagement announced

Rick and Tammy Gonzales and Mark and Marsha McGaughey are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Tandy Roberts to Michael McGaughey.

The couple is planning a Saturday, July 14, wedding at six o'clock in the evening at the First United Methodist Church in Knox City.



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Veterans News Notes

Questions and Answers...

By John Gillispie, Knox County Veterans Service Officer

Know County Veterans Service Officer

Q: I saw a news program on television that says veterans graves are going unmarked. When did VA stop giving headstones to veterans.

A: Since the Civil War, the federal government has provided headstones or markers for the graves of veterans. There has always been a catch, which news organizations recently focused upon. VA gives the headstones or markers only if the veteran's grave doesn't already have a marker. In this case, a marker is defined as something with the veteran's full name, date of birth and date of death.

If a veteran's grave already has a marker, federal law says, in effect, that VA cannot provide a headstone or marker. Some law-makers and survivors of veterans are working to persuade Congress to change this law.

Q: There hasn't been much said lately about VA benefits for the children with spina bifida. Where does that program stand?

A: Since Dec. 1, VA has offered health-care insurance and an allowance ranging from \$221 to \$1,317 a month to some people with spina bifida. They must be the children of veterans who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War. Congress authorized

the benefits because of evidence linking the illness to a parent's exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange. VA recently created a toll-free number where people can receive information about the spina bifida program. The number is 1-888-820-1756.

Q: Is VA sponsoring the wheelchair games again this year?

A: The 21st National Veterans
Wheelchair Games are scheduled
to begin July 1 in New York City.
The event, co-sponsored by the
Paralyzed Veterans of America
(PVA), will be headquartered at
the New York Marriott Marquis
on Times Square. It runs through
July 5.

About 500 veterans are expected, making it the largest annual wheelchair sporting event in the nation. Actress Bo Derek is scheduled to present the medals. The program is open to all U.S. military veterans who use wheelchairs due to spinal cord injuries, amputations or most neurological conditions or mobility impairments. For more information contact your local VA medical facility.

For further information about: VA financial payments, call 1 - 800-827-1000, VA health care, call 1-877-222-8387, or visit VA's web-page at http://www.va.gov.

reading the NEWS!

Thank you for

O'Brien happenings

By Audie Johnston, O'Brien Correspondent

"Ego Twist - Halfway home from church, my seven-year-old daughter realized she'd left her Sunday-school homework behind. We turned around, and all the way back, her grandfather and I lectured her on assuming responsibility for her things.

We waited in the car, and when she emerged from the church, laughing, her homework was in one hand and my purse in the other."

Receives award - The Texas Association of private and parochial schools award banquet was held June 1, 2001, in the San Antonio Omni Hotel for Class 1A, 2A and 3A schools in Texas. Attending was Juanita Wilcox of Knox City to see her son, Gary (Bimbi) Wilcox of El Paso, receive the award for "Fine Arts Teacher of the Year" in Class 2A schools in Texas. Gary teaches music at Jesus Chapel School in El Paso. Gary is pastor of the First Baptist Church in Fort Hancock.

Here and There - Beatrice Ellis spent the weekend in Plainview and Slaton and attended an Ellis family reunion while there.

Charlene Brothers was in Junction last week to visit Aderle and Doris Herring and families.

Dwight Gothard, along with his son Paul Dean Gothard, were in Kokomo Saturday to attend the family reunion for his late wife Edrie's, Whorton family.

Loretta Hewitt was in Snyder last week to visit her mom, Edna Davis, in a care home there.

We've been blessed in O'Brien by having two new families move

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in. The Loftiss family moved and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hutchinson moved in Veeta Reid's rent house and a family moved in Billie Walker's rent house across from the O'Brien school. We are all proud to have some new neighbors

Angela Roberts along with her "cheerleaders" will be at Hardin-Simmons for cheerleading school this week.

Jerry and Lou Hodges of Graham spent the weekend with Jerry's mom, Clara Hanson and sister, Joan of Alabama.

Royce Manning of Abilene visited with his parents, Orval and Helen Manning, a while last week.

Members of O'Brien Baptist Church who attended Haskell-Knox Association WMA meeting in Rochester today (Monday) were Bro. Kyle Gulledge, Marilyn Talbot, Helen Manning, Bernice Rowan, Billie Walker and I. It was a great meeting, Had some great speakers. They are really doing a great job for Hospitality House in Abilene.

Visiting Ranzy and Adelle Herring last week were Aderle Herring of Junction, Claudia Reed of Rochester and Kevin Urbanczyk of Goree.

Pink Ladies plan meeting for Monday at 5:00 p.m.

The Knox County Hospital Auxiliary Pink Ladies will meet Monday, June 18, at 5:00 p.m. in the downtown thrift shop.

All members are asked to please attend the meeting.

A Golden Time

Brazos Valley Care Home 658-3543

605 Avenue F, Knox City

A USC researcher is working with a gene that he says can transform other body cells into muscle cells. The gene has possible implications for heart attack victims. The gene might be able to change some dead heart muscle into new healthy muscle.

A survey reported in The ElderLaw Report says a third of law schools are now offering courses on law and aging. About 30 schools have added aging programs in the past five years.

BEACH SANDALS!

Come get 'em while we've got 'em!

Appearances

108 North Central • Knox City

SPECIALS GOOD THURSDAY - FRIDAY

SATURDAY 658-3424

'HOMETOWN SERVICE WITH A SMILE'

Coca-Cola

12 Pack Cans



\$2.99 Each

BLUE BELL Ice Cream
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••• WEDNESDAY SPECIAL -- STEAK FINGER BASKET - 4 PC. \$1.99 - 6 PC. \$2.99

CHICKEN STRIP SPECIAL - 6 PC.

CHICKEN STRIP SPECIAL - 6 PC.
Choice of potato log, mashed potatoes or french
fries - biscuit or rolls - gravy - free small drink - \$3.99

••• FRIDAY - HAMBURGERS •••
\$1.75 - All Day!!!

••• MONDAY - CHICKEN FRIED STEAK SANDWICH ••• \$1.99

••• TUESDAY - HAMBURGER and POTATO LOGS ••• \$2.75

POWERADE

32 Oz. Bottles

99¢ Each

Buy 2 get \$1.00 off with in store coupon Final Cost 98¢ + taxes



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BLOCK & BARREL
Sub Sandwiches



The City of Knox City

will be shutting down and draining the east water tower from

Thursday, June 14 at 12:00 noon until Saturday, June 16

for the purpose of cleaning and disinfecting this water storage facility.

We ask that all citizens please curtail or limit water usage during this time because of the limitations of our water delivery system.

We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause and thank you in advance for your cooperation.



U.S. Army Pvt. Joey Posey

Former Grad completes U. S. Army Basic Training

Pvt. Joey Posey graduated from the United States Army's Basic Combat Training on Friday, June 1, at Ft. Benning, Georgia. He was a member of 3rd Platoon, E Company, 2nd Brigade, 19th Infantry.

After a 10 day leave to visit friends and relatives in Knox City, he is scheduled to report to his next duty assignment at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. His new assignment is with the Army's prestigious and historic 101st Air Assault Division.

Joey is a 1998 graduate of Knox City High School and the son of Frances and Roy Posey of Knox



SEEDS FROM SOWER Michael A. Guido Metter, Georgia

Yesterday I saw a Talking Patty Prayer Doll. She knelt and prayed. Touch her tummy and she says the whole prayer that begins with the line: "Now I lay me down to sleep."

Great! Isn't it?

Are your prayers, like that doll's, mechanical but not meaningful, sweet but not sincere? Like the poem says:

"I often say my prayers, but do I really pray?

And do the wishes of my heart

go with the words I say?" "For words without the heart

the Lord will never hear;

Nor will He to those lips attend whose prayers are not sincere."

A woman boarded a train and continued to hold her burden.

"Ma'am," said the conductor, "if you put your burden down, the train will carry you and your bur-

And that's what the Divine Conductor says in the Bible: "Cast your burden on the Lord, and He will

sustain you." Some, when burdened, turn to grief and become a grouch. Others turn to stimulants and become

slaves. But I've turned to the Lord. Burdened? Roll them on the Lord, and He'll carry you and your burden. Roll them anywhere else and they'll roll back on you.

Why don't you let the Lord be your Burden-bearer?

Benjamin news

June is nearly half gone and it is getting drier each day. These warm, windy days sap the moisture very quickly. I think wheat harvest is nearing completion and seems everyone is pretty well pleased with the yield. It's the

Brenda Young Golleher lost her life last Monday night in an automobile accident in Wichita Falls where she resided. She had started to work around 10:30 p.m.

price that aggravates folks, but

maybe things will "turn around"

one day soon. We hope.

when the one car mishap occurred. Brenda was a very warm, living, sincere person who will be missed by all who knew her. As the pastor said at her service Friday, she was small in stature but a giant in many, many ways. Sympathy goes to her parents, Dutch and Imagean Young; sister and nephew, Deann and Anthony Lamb; and brother, Mike.

Also sympathy to Cheryl and Buford Berryhill and family of Munday who lost their daughter, Melissa, in an automobile accident in Abilene Wednesday night. Melissa was the sister of former Benjamin resident, Cindy Josselet, whose husband Kent was coach here a few years ago.

Here 'N There - Chase and Dewayne Polvado and Tiffany DeLosSantos of Vernon spent last week with their grandparents, Charles and Joy Jones.

Don Hertel had a birthday last week and his sons, Kent and Elizabeth of Coppell and Craig and baby daughter, Olivia Louise of Gainesville, came to help him "celebrate". His other son, Scott of Dallas, was unable to be here but called. Also Craig's wife Donna didn't get to make the trip but Don said he and the ones who did come had a good visit.

Leroy and Margaret Walker of Marlowe, Oklahoma, spent the weekend with Larry and Gaye Neal. Larry and Gaye spent the first of last week with relatives in Hatch, NM. They also spent some time in Ruidoso.

Wanda West of Cisco visited Leroy and Gloria West and attended the funeral of Brenda Golleher in Wichita Falls Friday.

Other Benjamin relatives and

Thank you for reading the NEWS!

By Gladene Green, Benjamin Correspondent

friends attending the funeral of Brenda on Friday were Jane Gideon, Jack and Mary Young, Pat Benson, Billy Carl Benson, Bud Conner, Joy Jones, Betty Lyles, Hazel Stockton, Jonnie Williams, Bobby Hudson and myself. Also John and Peggy Gillespie of First Baptist in Benjamin but who live in Knox City.

Dorothy Spikes had her three sons during the weekend. They were Ty and his friend, Gail of Holcomb, Kansas; Rusty of Wichita Falls and Guy and family of Seymour. They missed having their sister, Penny, here but she couldn't make it as she's being transferred to Colorado with her job. Was to leave today to go out there and "look around" but had her trip delayed as her children's dad (and former Benjamin resident) is in critical condition in Parkland Hospital in Dallas following a motorcycle accident in Dallas Sunday. He was in surgery

when I talked to Dorothy today. As always, our prayers are with Ernie and his family.

I learned this afternoon of the death of Jason Pierce, son of former Benjamin resident, Johnny Pierce and grandson of Ivalene and Jimmy Pierce. Young Jason was an asthmatic and I understand had an attack shortly after noon today and succumbed to it. We extend sincere sympathy to the Pierce families.

FYI - Regarding dumpsters -Dorothy Spikes says from here on trash pickup day will be Thursday instead of Tuesday and the choice as to what kind of dumpster we have is our own. Those desiring to keep what we have now may do so or if you want a big one to go in the alley just call Dorothy. Also says we are getting one for the park and we can paint it and design it as we wish and there'll be no charge for it. Can't beat that kind of deal, can we?







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CHRIST & THE COWBOY BOOKS

WOOD MANTLE CLOCKS

in assorted designs: Tractors, Western & Hunting

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GIFT ITEMS including golf, tractors,

sports, hunting, fishing & western

 BBQ TOOL SETS, CAMERAS, BILLFOLDS, COFFEE MUGS, **CROSS PENS, AFGHANS AND BALLOONS**

When in doubt, give a Gift Certificate. Prices good June 14, 15 & 16

Effective July 1 - Saturday hours 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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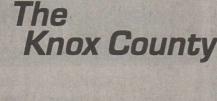
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Real Estate

· · PRICE REDUCED · · 710 South Central Great value. Lots of room. Call for appointment. Loans available. COUNTS REAL ESTATE David - 940-658-3390 Patsy - 940-658-3211

4-26 tfc 24

HOUSE FOR SALE - 1106 South Fifth Street. Three bedroom, two bath. Fenced backyard, kitchen, family/dining room combo, central heat and air, storage building. Call 940-743-3511. 8-17 tfc 27

FOR SALE - 195 acre farm, located about five miles north of Knox City on the west side of the Benjamin Highway near the roadside park. Call 800-658-

HOUSE FOR SALE - 608 SE 8th St. Remodeled, tile kitchen, baths, new appliances, three bedroom, two bath, fireplace, water well, underground sprinkler system, large shop & RV shelter, much more. Call Terry or Darlene, 658-3910,

RAILROAD LAND - If you are interested in buying any of the F&H Santa Fe Rail, Inc. land, please contact 940-549-0969 or 940-549-4869. No reasonable 5-24 4tp offer refused.

HUNTING LEASE WANTED - Twofamily group of 8-10 hunters wanting 1500 to 4000 acres for deer hunting. Have hunted together over 15 years and can provide references. Will take care of your property. Call Chad Cowan at (915)

NEW LISTING - Three bedroom, two bath, brick home on 1/2 acre outside of city limits. Garage, storage building, covered patio, water wells, sprinkler system, fenced yard with lots of extras in house. Call Counts Real Estate, 658-3390.

6-7 4tc 37 FOR SALE - Four bedroom, three bath, brick home on three acres. One mile west of Rochester of Fm. Rd. 617. 940-743-6-7 4tp 3472 or 940-743-3308.

LEGAL NOTICE - THAT IN ACCOR-DANCE WITH SECTION 30.05 OF THE PENAL CODE OF TEXAS -(CRIMINAL TRESPASS SENATE BILL III LEGISLATURE), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL LANDS OF THE W.T. WAGGONER ESTATE ARE POSTED - SAVE AND EXCEPT WHERE WRITTEN PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO COME UPON THE SAME. GENE W. WILLINGHAM

A.B. WHARTON 52 LEGAL NOTICE - THAT IN ACCOR-DANCE WITH SECTION 30.05 OF THE PENAL CODE OF TEXAS - (CRIMI-NAL TRESPASS SENATE BILL III LEGISLATURE), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL LANDS OF THE SPIKE BOX RANCH AND CACTUS FARMS ARE POSTED - SAVE AND EXCEPT WHERE WRITTEN PERMIS-SION IS GIVEN TO COME UPON THE

MIKE SHEEDY 10-29 tfc 52

Notice

ARE YOU A WOMAN between the ages of 18 and 25 years?

Single - have dependable transporation! No incumbrences!

I have an offer you simply can not refuse! This is strictly legal and requires your full time effort!

Then see 'Chuck' at Chuch's Castle Cafe (Next to Conoco Station) Benjamin, Texas

Public Notice

I, CHRISTOPHER QUINCY KEITH, as of 12:01 a.m., May 21, 2001, forthwith and hereafter, am not liable, accountable or responsible for debts, credit, charges, accounts or other financial transactions incurred or entered into by April Burns

OPENING NEW RESTAURANT in Benjamin - Desperately need three hole sink. Contact Chuck Castle Cafe, 104 US Hwy. 82 East, Benjamin. 6-15 2tp

Garage Sale

YARD SALE - One miles north of Knox City at airport, south hangar. 1975 Buick LeSabre, furniture, men's and women's clothes, misc. items. Saturday ONLY 6-14 1tc 26

For Sale

'IT SAYS SOMETHING about our times that we rarely use the word, sinful, except to describe a really good dessert. Check our Blow Our prices on discontinued tables, sofas, and La-Z-Boy recliners for some really great bargains. Kinney Furniture in Stamford, where you get quick free delivery, personal service, and easy terms since 1932.' 6-14 1tc

700 FT. OF 4 1/2 inch casing for sale Call 940-256-2141. 6-7 2tc 12

'A PERSON WHO is good at making excuses is seldom good for anything else. There's nothing like a good night's sleep on a Spring Air mattress to make you feel better. All sizes in stock at Kinney Furniture in Stamford for quick free delivery and free disposal of your old bedding. 800-256-2232. 6-14 1tc

FOR SALE - 1995 Kawasaki 750 ZXI Jet Ski. Call 658-3855 after 5:00 p.m. 6-14 2tc 16

Help Wanted

THE TEXAS AGRICULTURAL Experiment Station is accepting applications for a Technician I Position. The position requires a B.S. degree in agriculture with associated background and skills. Work location will be the Munday Research Station. A complete position description and application can be obtained from the Munday Office during regular office hours. Contact David Bordovsky at 940-852-5125 with any questions. The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station is an Equal Opportunity 6-7 2tc 71

WANTED **NOW HIRING**

Independent Contractor Waitresses Cooks Dishwashers

Also need maintenance person with own equipment and transportation.

This is a new "poor man's" restaurant opening July 1. See Chuck at Chuck's Castle Cafe (Next to Conoco Station)

Benjamin, Texas

Bid Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS The Knox City-O'Brien CISD is accepting proposals for the following:

1. Group Health and Life Insurance These proposals should be addressed or delivered to Louis Baty, Superintendent, at 606 East Main, Knox City, Texas 79529. The District will accept proposals until 12:00 noon, July 1, 2001. Proposals will be reviewed by the Superintendent and presented to the Board at the first board

meeting following the deadline. The District reserves the right to reject any and / or all proposals, to accept any proposal deemed most advantageous to the Knox City-O'Brien CISD and to waive any informalities in proposals. Specifications or additional information may be gathered by contacting the Administratrion office at (940) 658-3521.

6-7 2tc 123 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Knox City-O'Brien CISD is accepting proposals for the following:

1. Property & Casualty Insurance 2. Student Accident Insurance

These proposals should be addressed or delivered to Louis Baty, Superintendent, at 606 East Main, Knox City, Texas 79529. The District will accept proposals until 12:00 noon, July 13, 2001. Proposals will be reviewed by the Superintendent and presented to the Board at the first board meeting following the deadline.

The District reserves the right to reject any and / or all proposals, to accept any proposal deemed most advantageous tothe Knox City-O'Brien CISD and to waive any informalities in proposals. Specifications or additional information may be gathered by contacting the Administratrion office at (940) 658-3521.

6-14 2tc 126

THE CITY OF KNOX CITY is accepting bids on a

1992 Ford Crown Victoria and a Circa 1950 Elgin Sweeper.

Bids will be opened Thursday, June 14, at

Bids may be submitted to City Hall, 200 North Central, Knox City.

More information may be obtained by contacting City Manager Mike Burkham at 658-3313. The City of Knox City reserves the right

to reject any and all bids.

THE CITY OF KNOX CITY is accept-

ing bids on construction of fence around the wastewater treatment plant and

construction of fence around standpipe. Bids will be opened Thursday, June 14, at Bids may be submitted to City Hall, 200

North Central, Knox City. Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting City Manager Mike Burkham

at 658-3313. The City of Knox City reserves the right

to reject any and all bids.

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Contact lenses:

2 pair clear daily wear

Bid Notice

THE CITY OF KNOX CITY is accepting bids on

construction of brick pillars

for cemetery fence Bids will be opened Thursday, June 14, at 5:00 p.m.

Bids may be submitted to City Hall, 200 North Central, Knox City. Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting City Manager Mike Burkham at 658-3313

The City of Knox City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

THE KNOX CITY EDC is accepting

floor repairs of Duckwall's Variety Store Bids will be opened Thursday, June 14, at

5:00 p.m. Bids may be submitted to City Hall, 200 North Central, Knox City. Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting City Manager Mike Burkham

The City of Knox City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

5-17 5tc 66

Financial

I AM A DISABLED Veteran - Do you have operating capital to loan? Opening a new "poor man's" type restaurant in Benjamin, Texas, and need operating capital. Will pay a moderate amount of interest annually. See Chuck at Chuck's Castle Cafe, (Next to Conoco Station), Benjamin, 6-14 1tp

> Call in your news 658-3142

> > A L Ranch Lodge

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We have a list of houses, lots, commercial buildings and farms for sale in our office.

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658-3330 or 658-3629

Benjamin's Santa Rosa Telephone customers who have 'made the switch' as of Monday, June 11, 2001

459-4001

B J Country Store 459-2009 Babcock, Roger & Sandy 459-4004 Barnett, W.A. 459-2391 Barrientez, Raul 459-3811 Benjamin Memorial Bldg. 459-3601 Benson, Billy 459-2621 Benson, Patsy 459-3221 Cartwright, W.T. & Jo 459-2851 Charlie Myers Grain & Elevator 459-3721 City of Benjamin 459-3131 Clower, B & B 459-2210 Clower, Debbie 459-2681 Conner, Clayton 459-4039 Duke, Clodell 459-2421 Estridge, Blake & Val 459-4002 Girshaux, Jessie 459-9601 Green, Gladene 459-3551 Grill, Benny & Belle 459-2059 Hertel, Don 459-2015 Johnson, Sharon 459-2301 Jones, Charles 459-2050 Jones, David 459-4022 Kuehler, Mark & Teresa 459-9025 Lamb, Deann & Anthony 459-2305 Lamb, Deann & Anthony 459-4101 Layton, Rayburn 459-4003 Meinzer, Pate 459-3211 Milson, Clara 459-2000 Moorhouse, Mike 459-2021 Moorhouse, Mike 459-9121 McGreger, Fred & Nancy 459-2081 McGreger, F. G. Fax Line 459-9021 Parker, Jerry & Linda 459-3191 Parks, Loraine 459-9005

Patterson, Kynn Patterson, Maretha Patterson, O.L. Jr. Propps, James & Stacia Propps, Shannon Rainwater, Chad & Kathy Reed, Donny & Valerie Reed, E.O. Reed, Gary & Janet Riggins, Joe Riggins, Joe & Sharazan Children's Line Roberson, Bobby & Philomae Shaw, George & Connie Sheedy, Kay Sheedy, Mike Siemens, Jacob Spike Box Ranch

459-2026 459-3906 Mike Kelly - Spike Box Ranch Hunting 459-4009 Spikes, Dorothy 459-3051 Taylor, Donny & Cynthia 459-4006 Temple, Aubrey 459-4000 Tennison, Joe & Sherry 459-2142 Thomas, Tommy & Julie 459-9029 Tolson, Buddy & Janice 459-3231 **U.S. Postal Service** 459-3441 Vanderpool, B. 459-2031 West, Leroy & Gloria 459-2841 White, R.D. 459-4008 Wood, Danny & Lucina 459-2221 Young, F.L. (Dutch) & Imagean 459-2101

Call 1-888-886-2217

Texas prepares for emergency animal disaster

With 254 counties and more than 36 million head of livestock and wildlife at risk, Texas animal health officials cannot afford to wait until a foreign animal disease strikes to plan for disaster. For nearly four years, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock regulatory agency, and the Texas staff of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services (USDA-APHIS-VS) have prepared to respond to an animal disease or pest emergency, address bioterrorist events involving livestock, or respond during a natural or man-made calamity, including a flood or hurricane.

Each member of the joint state and federal first-strike force, called the Texas Emergency Response Team (TERT), has advance duty assignments, to lessen confusion when disaster strikes, says Dr. Linda Logan, Texas' state veterinarian and head of the TAHC. Furthermore, nearly all of the state's 21 regulatory veterinarians are foreign animal disease diagnosticians, trained to recognize dangerous animal diseases, and properly collect and ship samples for laboratory diagnosis,

In years past, said Dr. Logan, the USDA had sufficient funding to develop and maintain first-re-

sponse teams, which were called READEOs, or Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organizations. Because of funding and staffing cuts, the USDA today operates only two READEOs, and states have to be able to respond immediately, Dr. Logan pointed out.

"The 216 TAHC staff and the Texas USDA alone could not sustain eradication efforts for a longterm or widespread animal disease outbreak, so we also joined forces with Texas' Department of Emergency Management, where we can draw on services, technical expertise, equipment and manpower statewide," said Dr. Logan. "On March 29, 2001, Governor Rick Perry, recognizing the importance of the Texas livestock industry to the state's economy, appointed the TAHC as a fullfledged member of the 32-seat State Emergency Management Council."

Governor Perry then established, by a letter dated April 5th, the Foreign Animal Disease Working Group, chaired by Dr. Logan. The objective is to manage an animal disease emergency in the most efficient manner possible. More than 30 state agencies are members of this group, which is working closely with the Division of Emergency Management, Texas Department of Public Safety. Among the members are: the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL), the Texas Department of Highways, Texas A&M University, and the Texas Department of Agriculture. Dr. Logan said the TAHC also has organized a Stakeholder Advisory Group that includes all the major livestock industry organizations in Texas. This group will provide input and to be a part of the planning process needed to manage an animal health emergency. The Foreign Animal Disease Working Group and Stakeholder Advisory Group are working to complete the Texas plan to manage animal health emergencies. The infrastructure developed as part of this state plan will be tested in late June in a simulated animal health emer-

"With the industry's support, we can succeed. Without it, all our best efforts could fail," commented Dr. Logan. She said the 12 governor-appointed members on the TAHC commission also represent facets of the livestock industry, including cattle feeding, exotic livestock and fowl, equine, veterinarians and public members.

For several years, TAHC field staff across the state also have developed valuable contacts with local leaders, including county judges, local disaster agencies, agriculture teachers, county agents and private veterinary practitioners through the TRACE—or Texas Rural Awareness, Compliance and Education effort. With increased threat of foot-andmouth disease (FMD), field staff revisited community bellwethers to provide disease information and instructions on how to report suspect cases.

Dr. Logan pointed out that livestock producers may avoid reporting cases, for fear of crying "wolf." Diagnosis can also be confused with vesicular stomatitis, VS, a viral disease that, during the past 10 years, has resulted in sporadic outbreaks in New Mexico, Colorado and Texas. Unlike FMD, however, VS can affect horses. In sheep, blisters and erosions also can be caused by bluetongue, or contagious ecthyma, better known as "sore

mouth." "If a producer sees an animal with erosions or blisters around the mouth, in the mouth, excessive slobbering, lameness or foot erosions, we want them to immediately contact their local veterinarian, the Texas USDA-APHIS-VS, or the TAHC," said Dr. Lo-

gan. "We have a 24-hour hotline, and one of our foreign animal disease diagnosticians is always available to take calls. We'll dispatch a diagnostician to the premise to collect samples and assess the situation."

To promote livestock health awareness, TAHC staff are encouraged to

actively seek speaking engagements for youth associations, producer groups, and Kiwanis, Rotary and Lions' Clubs. The TAHC also distributes numerous news releases, information kits and brochures to keep producers and the public informed not only about regulations, but also disaster preparedness, said Dr. Logan.

Because it's not enough to just plan for disaster, Dr. Logan said five TAHC veterinarians have had month-long stints in Great Britain, as part of the USDA's international assistance to the footand-mouth (FMD) disease outbreak. "Seeing field cases of FMD and working on-site in an eradication effort is the most valuable training for our foreign animal disease diagnosticians," she said.

This spring, Dr. Logan also attended a reunion of people who battled FMD in Mexico in the late 1940s and early 1950s. "These folks have a wealth of practical experience they can share," said Dr. Logan. "These men and women are heroes, having spent several years eradicating the outbreak so near to us."

With a common border stretching 1,237 miles, Texas continues to maintain communication and share livestock health information with Mexico's livestock producers and veterinarians. Dr. Alejandro Perera, formerly a USDA veterinarian in Mexico, is the TAHC binational liaison, and works closely with the other border states: New Mexico, California and Arizona.

In November 2000, Texas participated in the Tripartite Exercise, involving Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. The exercise was designed to test plans, policies and procedures that would guide emergency response efforts to a multisite outbreak of FMD in North America. Hidalgo County, in South Texas, was the site of a simulated foot-and-mouth disease outbreak. This was the first time in the world that field staff were deployed in a "real-time" exercise of eight days'

Although the scenario began in mid-October, for purposes of the exercise, it was not reported to livestock health officials until early November. In the simulated storyline, a South Texas swine producer on October 15 retrieved food scraps for his animals from a foreign ship docked in Brownsville. Unwittingly, the producer had collected scraps from food that originated in an FMDaffected country. According to the scenario, after cooking the wastefood, the swine owner poured it back into the unwashed transport barrels to carry it to the animals' troughs.

Within a few days, the producer's swine exhibited signs of illness and several litters of piglets had died. The owner finally contacted the TAHC on November 1, but by then, he had sold several pigs from the premise, and more than 1,200 susceptible animals had moved through a nearby livestock market. These animals were exposed to the disease when the virus became air-borne.

"What began as a one-site foreign animal disease investigation in the South

Texas county of Hidalgo literally 'blew up,' within two days, as we received reports of sick animals next door in Cameron County and as far away as Dallas County in North Texas," said Dr. Logan. "Furthermore, the storyline included our need to 'catch' a truck that had been contaminated with the virus. The driver had crisscrossed the country from Harlingen to Canada and back, and from Missouri to the Rockies, potentially spreading disease far and wide."

"This exercise gave us a 'homegrown' demonstration about how fast foot-and-mouth disease can get out of hand. Within 24 hours after the disease was passed through the market, exposed animals were sent to more than 30 ranches and feedlots in four states," she said.

In just Hidalgo County, the estimated cost to stamp out the disease would be more than \$50 million, she pointed out. "We're using this knowledge to reinforce the need for producers to report animal illnesses or death losses to private practitioners or regulatory agencies," she said.

"Furthermore, after seeing that this exercise mirrored several of the actual outbreaks worldwide in the past 18 months, the Texas legislature has worked with us to ban the waste-food feeding of meat or meat products to swine," said Dr. Logan.

The law is effective September 1, but penalties will not be exacted until December 1. The law will affect 610 TAHC-permitted wastefood feeders in Texas. Currently, Texas USDA animal health technicians make herd health checks on the wastefood feeders at monthly intervals and make temperature checks of the devices used to cook the wastefood to kill parasites, bacteria and viruses.

As of September 1, the permitted wastefood feeders will be allowed to feed only "unrestricted garbage," which includes vegetables and fruit, dairy or baked goods. Additionally, it will be against state law for restaurants, schools or other establishments to provide wastefood meat or meat products for swine feeding. The TAHC still will permit wastefood feeders, and inspections by USDA and TAHC field staff will continue for disease surveillance, noted Dr. Logan.

In late June, Texas will step up its preparedness with an FMD exercise in College Station that will involve the state's emergency management system. Staffing up is one thing; maintaining a major eradication effort for 190 days or longer will tax all entities, reports Dr. Logan.

"The exercise will give us an opportunity to review the organizational structure and develop greater cooperation between agencies. We'll also have an opportunity to discuss issues like biosecurity, decontaminating, humane depopulation issues and other animal-related topics that may be foreign to other members of the state emergency structure. We also want to address the issues that will be associated with how to pay indemnity to producers."

"We'll be tapping the expertise of agencies, such as law enforcement, including county sheriff's departments and the Department of Public Safety troopers, on how to enforce quarantines and movement restriction. We'll also be learning from community services agencies that aid with stress and mental anguish, and other agencies that provide radio and phone communications and ground support-like construction equipment for moving dead animals and digging trenches for burning carcasses."

"Will we be ready if-or when—a disaster occurs? That's a questions that keeps me awake nights," lamented Dr. Logan. "No one is ever fully ready, as there will always be surprises. But, with the state emergency management system, we've got a lot of experienced folks who have weathered tornadoes, fires, hurricanes and other catastrophes. The livestock industry wants to be involved and has demonstrated their concern and willingness to be a part of the planning process. Our staff is intent on preparedness. I only hope this preparation won't be needed."

Five committees have been formed to consider and evaluate selected issues regarding foreign animal disease mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery issues, as well as on-going operations of the Texas Emergency Response Team.

These committees are: Impact Assessment Committee: This committee will handle economic, funding and legal issues.

Security and Containment Committee: This group will prepare for all facets of the disease eradication operations, as well as handle on-going operational is-

Environmental Committee: This committee will address the many health and safety concerns related to disease containment and eradication.

Community Impact Committee: This group will assess and define the potential short- and long-term impacts of a foreign animal disease emergency on Tex-

Public Information Committee: Because communications and providing rumor control is so crucial, this committee will consider all facets of responding to the media, public, and producers.

Summer TAAS exit test set for July dates

The summer administration of the exit level TAAS and TEAMS test will be conducted at 8:30 a.m. in the Benjamin and Knox City High Schools on the following

July 10 - Writing (TAAS only) July 11 - Mathematics July 12 - Reading

Students currently enrolled in the 10th, 11th or 12th grades are eligible to take any section of the exit level test that they have not yet mastered. In addition, individuals who are out of school may test at the summer administration.

Individuals who are no longer enrolled in a Texas public school and who wish to register to retake the TAAS test and all individuals who wish to take the TEAMS test, may pick up a registration packet at the high school principal's office in the Benjamin or Knox City high school.



A man was accused of knocking down a policeman. The man defended himself by saying, "A bee was on his neck. I didn't want him to get stung. So I hit the bee as hard as I could."

The remedy was worse than the disease.

There's no right way to do a wrong thing, but you can do a right thing in a wrong way.

Some time you may need to correct, but don't be cruel. You may need to help, but don't hold it over them. You may need to advise, but don't be arrogant.

It's a good thing to hit the nail on the head, but don't split the wood in doing it.



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Come & fellowship with us!! COST: DONATION - - Bring a friend!



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Нарру Birthday Ida Pack 1911 - June 19 - 2001

Ida's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren invite you to join them for cake and punch in celebration of her

90th Birthday

Sunday, June 17, 2001 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Doug Meinzer Community Center Southwest Fourth Street, Knox City

No Gifts - Cards appreciated

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