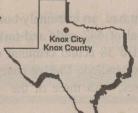
The Knox County

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News

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VOLUME XXVI - NUMBER 35 - THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1997 - PERIODICAL - USPS #903920 - MAILED AT KNOX CITY, KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS 79529 - 8 PAGES IN ONE SECTION

End of year school news.....

Sandy Chappell's 6th grade World History students complete 'world' project with project demonstrations



SOUTHEASTERN ASIA: Logan Morrow and Ashley Turner



EASTERN EUROPE: Christine Vasquez, Scooter Thompson and Jennifer Eaton

More of Mrs.
Chappell's class
project photos
inside on page 5

Inside this edition of the NEWS

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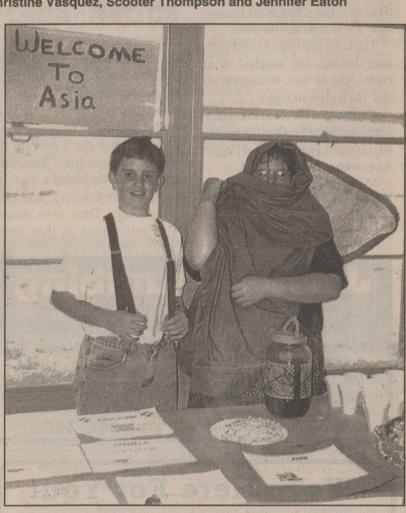
KC Hospital graduates 'Safe-Sitter' class Page 4

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Page 6

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Rep. Counts reflects on '97 session Page 8



WESTERN ASIA: Brad Johnson and Ashley Harrison



AFRICA: Dominique Collier and Gemile Roberson

Monday evening storm hits area

With severe storm and tornado warnings in effect for most of the Big Country Monday evening, a thunderstorm moved into Knox City about 8:30 with high winds, sheets of rain, and small hail. Within minutes, the electrical power went off and did not resume for about four hours. Some Rochester residents were without electricity until 6:30 a.m. Tuesday.

A large number of trees were uprooted and limbs and debris were scattered over many yards in the area.

The Johnny Peysens, who live

at 900 South Aspen in the southwestern edge of Knox City, lost vinyl siding and insulation on one room of their house.

The former Family Boutique building had it large sign blown off and the part of the facing above the awning was torn loose.

Wheat fields north and east of town, as well as some cotton fields with good stands of small cotton three to six inches tall, were reported to have been total losses.

One report to the *News* office was of a two and one-half mile wide line from Knox City to Rhineland with severe hail and

ost crops.

Another report was from Barney B. Arnold who resides in the 400 block of Main Street. A tree in his yard was blown over in an easterly direction while another behind his residence went in a southerly direction. Another tree north of him was blown in a northerly direction, thus indicating winds moving in a rotating motion during the powerful storm.

Dwayne Johnson of Johnson Melon Corp. - American Seedless reported that a portion of their season's watermelon crop received extensive damage.

Benjamin ISD recognized for outstanding safety program

Mr. Weldon Koepf, Superintendent of the Benjamin Independent School District was recently honored for outstanding employee safety by the North Texas Educational Insurance Association at its annual meeting conducted in Austin, Texas.

The Association consists of 169 participating school districts located throughout Texas. The district is a member of a uniquely designed partially self funded workers' compensation program developed by Hibbs-Hallmark & Company and administrated by Claims Administrative Services, Inc., both located in Tyler. Hibbs-Hallmark & Company currently provides workers' compensation programs to over 30 percent of all schools in Texas.

The purpose of the meeting was to recognize those districts that have held both the number and severity of employee accidents to a very low level. The combined savings during the 95-96 school year, for all participating districts, was over 6.9 million dollars when compared to the costs of fully insured programs. The total savings for all districts since inception of the programs in 1991 exceed \$37 million dollars.

The Benjamin Independent School District was a Diamond Star Performer award recipient with the actual losses from employee accidents equaling less than 10 percent of the fund set aside by the district for claims expenses.



ACCEPTING HONORS for the Benjamin Independent School District for outstanding employee saftey was Superintendent Weldon Koepf, shown here in the center of the photo. At left is Barry Jones, President of Claims Administrative Services, Inc., and shown at right is Billy Hibbs, CEO of Hibbs-Hallmark & Company. The awards ceremony was held in Austin. (Courtesy Photo)

The actual savings to the school district was \$7,195. "Our self insurance program was designed to provide the highest level of safety and offer the greatest potential for premium savings to our members," said Billy Hibbs, CEO of Hibbs-Hallmark & Company. "We have a team of safety professionals to help the districts to implement a strict set of safety policies and procedures."

Claims Administrative Services, Inc., President, Barry Jones, stated "Member districts' commitment to safety is one of the key

reasons for the Association's success. Their participation in HHC/ CAS's program sets the standard for all schools across the state to reduce on the job injuries and save taxpayer dollars. The taxpayers should also be pleased to know that the Board of Trustees and the administrative staff of the Benjamin Independent School District is doing everything possible to insure a safe working environment for its employees while reducing the cost of workers' compensation insurance." continued Jones.

Economic Development Corporation meets, discusses modification plans

The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) convenes twice monthly to discuss and evaluate plans for the regrowth of Knox City. Many months of preparation and planning have finally arrived at observable goals that were set.

The community, both individuals and businesses, have responded positively toward our common goal of improving the appearance of Knox City; especially the entrance into our rural town. Your efforts have been noticed and greatly appreciated.

Projects which are currently being undertaken are:

1.) Property Purchase of build-

ing on Central Avenue, formerly known as the Knox City Laundry. Renovation will soon be started on this building to help improve the entrance into Knox City.

2.) Property Purchase north of the City Park; Renovation will begin soon to make this area more appealing to the surroundings of our Community Park.

3.) Establishment of a Business Development Area focusing on the Main and Central Avenue and adjacent Blocks for revitalization.

4.) Denise Cuniff, local artist and entrepreneur, has been hired for consultation on renovation and regrowth ideas for Main and Central Avenue. This will include the building and landscape surroundings. Economic Development Corporation Moves Toward Modification.

The EDC's purpose is to move toward a regrowth in Knox City. Combined efforts, no matter how small, will result in a large outcome.

Follow the saying: "Goals will be accomplished both large and small, not by a few but by all."

If you have any ideas, questions, or concerns, please contact the EDC at 658-3313 or any Board Member. You input is vital and considered an important tool in the progress of Knox City.

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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.

weddings, engagements, and all other matters not of general news will be charged for at regular advertising

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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 10:00 A.M. of Tuesday morning. Items submitted after the deadlin will be held over for the following week. All item submitted are subject to holdover for future editions depending on sites content and waitible seasor.

NO GUARANTEES OR ASSURANCES ARE MADE AS TO WHEN ARTICLES OR PHOTOGRAPHS WILL APPEAR IN PRINT

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West Texas Press Association

Police Department busy during month of May, '97

KC Police Report By Chief Dean Homstad

The Knox City Police Department had an extremely busy month during May, 1997, receiving a total of 647 calls and tasks which required attention. This total included 38 actual criminal offenses, of which 33 were cleared or otherwise handled. Twelve charges were filed in regard to the above offenses, with three of the offenses involving juveniles as the offender

Offences Reported Include:

Terroristic Threat - 1, Driving While Intoxicated - 5, Criminal Trespass - 2, Burglary of a Habitation - 2, Burglary of a Vehicle - 1, Violate City Ordinance(s) - 4, False Report to Peace Officer - 1, Assault (Includes Domestic Related) - 11, Criminal Mischief - 4, Disorderly Conduct - 1, Public Intoxication - 1, Theft - 2, Aggravated Assault 1, Reckless Driving - 1, Driving While License Suspended - 1.

Traffic Charges Filed Warnings Issued Accidents: Traffic Charges Filed - 18, Warnings Issued - 17, Accidents - 0. Incidents Reported Include:

Other Items reported to the Knox City Police Department during May are classified as incidents. These incidents were not able to be considered as a criminal offense, however, they must be handled in a responsible and proper manner. Incidents reported are as follows: Prowler - 1, Disorderly Conduct - 3, Damaged Property - 11.

Chief's Notes:

The month of May consisted of a very large number of offenses, all of which had to be investigated to a certain extent. Not only do these investigations take a lot of time and documentation, but so do the follow-up investigations from previous months, in addition to the day-to-day activities of managing a Police Department.

As an example of past cases requiring follow-up, a drug case that began in April was finally settled during the last part of May. This is an exception as many cases take many weeks or months to acquire a disposition. In this case, after the forfeiture of a vehicle, this department, as well as the District Attorney's Office and the Knox County Sheriff's Office, each benefited to the amount of \$2000.00. Although this is not an extreme amount of money, anything helps to finance the operations of law enforcement within the county. It also shows those who do profit from transporting or selling drugs in this county that when caught, we are serious about prosecution and we will take what you have gained through the illegal actions, and we will help protect the law abiding citizens of our county.

The District Attorney's office was very instrumental in filing the proper paperwork to make the seizure possible, and my thanks goes out to Bill Neal, District Attorney, and Chuck Morris, District Attorney's Investigator.

> /s/ Dean W. Homstad Chief of Police, Knox City Police Department

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Jon Godsey

O'Brien News

By Audie Johnston, O'Brien Correspondent

"All in Pun - One evening, my husband's incessant remote-control channel-surfing was driving me nuts. "It really irks me when you flip through the channels like that," I said. Then he began whistling. "Now what are you doing?" I snapped. "Well," he replied, "I thought I might as well whistle while I irk."

HERE AND THERE

The Barnard reunion all met in Clyde Saturday. Those attending and enjoying lots of good food and visiting and an auction were Mike and Julie Chappell of Austin, Joan Emerson of Krum, Laverne Emerson of Clyde, Hoye and Dorothy West of Dallas, Johnette and Leah Tibbets of Rochester, Frankie Sue Barnard of Fort Worth and Pat Barton, Jan Rolston, Lorrie and Brittany Coop, Jo and Johnnie Lippard, Junior and Myra Reeves and Jean and Claudale Barnard, all of Knox City. The auctioneer for the auction sale was Mike Chappell of Austin. There were lots of things made by different families auctioned.

Junior and Myra Reeves and Billie Jean McAuley were in Munday Sunday night visiting with Arnold and LaRue Reeves and some cousins, Marvin and Freida Egger of Bastrop.

Kevin Urbanczyk of Lubbock spent several days last week with his great-grandparents, Ranzy and Adelle Herring. Kevin enjoyed keeping his grandparents entertained with his four-wheeler.

Mutt and Bertie Ivie are vacationing a few weeks in Cloudcroft, New Mexico.

Marvin Manning of Springtown are spending a few days with his son James and wife Pearce and visited with his grandchidlren Cody and Brandi and Christi of Lubbock while here and with J.O. and Charlene Brothers and Don.

Cliff (Butch) Banner of Hawley visited his mother, Billie Ruth Walker, over the weekend.

Beatrice Ellis was in Lubbock to visit Mildred Draper and family and attended a Ellis family reunion in Slaton over the week-

end. They also had a memorial service for the late Grady Ellis and his brothers who passed away in the last two years. Approximately thirty people enjoyed the occasion.

Dwight Gothard along with his son Paul Dean of Blackwell were in Kokomo Saturday to attend a Whorton family reunion. Dwight's late wife Edrie was a Wharton. Around 30 people attended the family reunion and a good meal and lots of visiting were enjoyed

Frankie Sue Barnard of Fort Worth is spending this week with her sister Pat Barton and families in Knox City. Frankie Sue was a resident in O'Brien at one time along with her late parents Pete and Jack Barnard.

Ivan and Delma Rowan spent the weekend in Arkansas attending a family reunion with Ivan's

Visiting Edrie Barnard over the weekend were Frankie Sue Barnard of Fort Worth and Pat Barton of Knox City.

April, Boyce Tankersley named to McM dean's list

ABILENE - April Ann Tankersley, a spring graduate of McMurry University, and Boyce Neal Tankersley, a graduate student, have been named to the spring dean's list at the University.

April, who received her degree with an English major and Boyce, a graduate nursing student, are the daughter and son of Ann and Jimmy Tankersley.



Gregory Jordon Huber

Nancy and Greg Huber of Rome, Georgia, announce the arrival of a baby boy born Friday. June 13, in a Rome hospital.

The baby has been named Gregory Jordon. He weighed in at eight pounds and measured 20 and 1/2 inches in lengh.

Helping welcome the baby home were big brother Christian, who is eight years old; and Peggy Ann, who is five years old. Maternal grandfather is Henry

J. Jones of Knox City.

Ann and Earnest Huber of Waco are paternal grandparents.

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From a reader's viewpoint.....

More volunteer firemen needed

July 4, 1988, a typical day in west Texas. The little west Texas town awoke to another hot, sultry day. A day full of expectations as friends and relatives came to celebrate the fourth. Children couldn't wait until night to see the glow and hear the "bangs" of the fireworks their parents had bought.

The brown, rain deprived grass lay heavy upon the dry and parched ground. Even though the winter and spring months had seen lots of good rain, the summer had again turned into drought with heat waves shimmering along the highways and about the cars. Even the old abandoned buildings seem to wither in the hot sun.

The city had posted ""No Fireworks Within City Limits" signs in the town and had made preparation for a display to be held at the city lake after dark. Pumper truckers would be on hand if a spark set a grass fire. All would be

But you know children. They sometime just can't wait for the "good things of life." Two little boys found their dad's stash of cannons, firecrackers, sparklers and rockets. Their eyes danced with anticipation as they found

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the box of matches, slipped out the door and ran to the old garage next door. No one lived in the house attached to the garage so the boys were safe from discovery. SCRATCH went the first match. Giggles were muffled as the sparklers sizzled and "sparkled". Next, a rocket.....

Two hours later the garage was

nothing but smoldering ashes and one little boy hugged his mother as the body of his brother was being placed in the ambulance. Only if.... The volunteer fire department of the little town had responded. Only two firemen were present, the others at jobs out of town or just didn't feel like responding because "they had worked the last grass fire." Only if....there had been more men and women available to help with the fire, maybe then the little boy could be watching cartoons instead of lying In the back of an ambulance. Only if....the town's people had spent a little more time volunteering their help instead of letting someone else do it. Only if....I had volunteered to serve instead of being served. Only if.....

This was a make believe story. But it could have been real. It could have been in Benjamin, Knox City, Goree, Munday, etc. It could have been your son, my son, the next door neighbors' son.

Volunteer firemen are needed in every small town. We don't have enough. We need your help. What is two nights a month compared to the life of your child, your friend, your wife, you?

Won't you please contact your fire chief and let him know that you would be willing to be trained to help in anyway?

There are many needs other than fighting a fire. Women, you can help also. Mothers at home during the day can work the phone, make sandwiches, direct traffic, hold the end of a fire hose, drive a truck, call for help. Call them! The life you save might just be one of your own family!

I volunteered and I'm glad I did! Won't you?

Linda Wagner, Benjamin

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Mid-School Honor Roll

Sixth Six Weeks 'A' HONOR ROLL

Fifth Grade: Brandon Espinosa, Ariana Gomez, Sondra Lankford. Sixth Grade: Kimberly Hawkins,

Scooter Thompson. Seventh Grade: Tiffany Jobe, Angela Roberts, James Vasquez. Eighth Grade: Audrey Lankford,

Aaron Sanchez, Jennifer Vacek. 'A-B' HONOR ROLL

Fifth Grade: Jodi Chambers, Wesley Espinosa, Carlos Ruiz.

Sixth Grade: Kayla Del Valle, Jennifer Eaton, Ashley Jobe, Wesley Parker, Wesley Powell, B.J. Stewart, Ashley Turner, Lezli Villa.

Seventh Grade: Ashley Bradford, Leilani Bruce, Casey Carver, Crystal Espinoza, Nikki Gonzales, Crystal Hunt, Carrie Richardson, Melissa Ruiz, Erica Santibanez, Shawn

Eighth Grade: Amber Collins, Kayla Garcia, Latissha Munsell, Sabrina Powell, Tandy Roberts, Jon Rocha, Salvador Silva.

Semester Grades 'A' HONOR ROLL

Fifth Grade: Brandon Espinosa. Sixth Grade: Kimberly Hawkins, Scooter Thompson:

Seventh Grade: Tiffany Jobe, Angela Roberts.

Eighth Grade: Audrey Lankford, Jennifer Vacek.

"A-B' HONOR ROLL

Fifth Grade: Cody Brockett, Jodi Chambers, Ariana Gomez, Sondra Lankford, Carlos Ruiz.

Sixth Grade: Kayla Del Valle, Jennifer Eaton, Ashley Jobe, Wesley Parker, Wesley Powell, Teresa Rodriquez, B.J. Stewart, Ashley Turner, Lezli Villa, Landon

Weiershausen.

Speck, James Vasquez.

Eighth Grade: Sandra Bernal, Amber Collins, Sonya Contreras, Kayla Garcia, Latissha Munsell, Sabrina Powell, Erica Quintana, Jon Rocha, Aaron Sanchez.

'A' HONOR ROLL

don Espinosa, Ariana Gomez, Sondra Lankford.

Sixth Grade: Kimberly Hawkins,

Seventh Grade: Tiffany Jobe, Angela Roberts.

Eighth Grade: Audrey Lankford, Jennifer Vacek.

'A-B' HONOR ROLL

Fifth Grade: Cody Brockett, Mathew Garcia, Ryan Rikala, Carlos

Sixth Grade: Kayla Del Valle, Jennifer Eaton, Ashley Harrison, Ashley Jobe, Brad Johnson, Nathan Lierly, Wesley Parker, Wesley Powell, B.J. Stewart, Ashley Turner, Lezli Villa, Landon Weiershausen.

Seventh Grade: Russell Bishop, Ashley Bradford, Leilani Bruce, Casey Carver, Nikki Gonzales, Crystal Hunt, Jennifer Ivie, Carrie Richardson, Melissa Ruiz. Erica Santibanez, Shawn Speck, Tommy

Aaron Sanchez, Biviana Silva.



William West Patterson

Carrie and Clay Patterson are proud to announce the arrival of their son born May 23 at 1:19 a.m. in Graham General Hospital.

The baby has been named William West and he weighed in at seven pounds, three and one-half ounces, and measured 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gough of Graham and the late Billy Max West.

Ronnie Patterson of Knox City and Karen Patterson of Breckenridge are paternal grandparents.

Rites are held in Kurten for Sandra Wager

Funeral services for Sandra Kay Wager, 38, of Bryan, daughter of Rowena Johnson and the late Dodock Johnson were held Saturday, June 7, at 2:00 p.m. in the Zion Church of Kurten. The Rev. Duane DeWald officiated and burial was in the Kurten Cem-

Mrs. Wager died June 5 in Bryan.

Born September 15, 1958, in the Knox County Hospital, she graduated from Knox City High School in May 1976. She married Troy Wager on September 20, 1986, in Bryan. She was an LVN at UPA in Bryan.

Survivors include her husband; three sons, Dustin, Cody and Chance of Bryan; and three brothers, Marty of Odessa, Butch of Mineral Wells and Tracy of Bryan.

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Seventh Grade: Ashley Bradford, Leilani Bruce, Casey Carver, Will Grimsley, Dana Holmes, Crystal Hunt, Carrie Richardson, Shawn

Final Grades

Fifth Grade: Jodi Chambers, Bran-

Scooter Thompson.

Trevino, James Vasquez.

Eighth Grade: Sandra Bernal, Amber Collins, Sonya Contreras, Kayla Garcia, Latissha Munzell, Sabrina Powell, Erica Quintana, Sarah Rios, Tandy Roberts, Jon Rocha,

AGING CENTER **MENUS** June 23 thru 27

Monday, June 23 - Beef casserole, tossed salad, blackeyed peas, fried squash, cornbread, peach cobbler.

Tuesday, June 24 - Swiss steak, squash casserole, baked potato, fried okra, hot rolls, cherry cobbler.

Wednesday, June 25 - Pork roast, tossed green salad, cheese potatoes, green beans, hot rolls cake

Thursday, June 26 - Chili dog on bun, relish, onion, mustard, catsup, potato wedge, baked beans, cinnamon roll. Friday, June 27 - Chicken and rice, tossed salad with carrots, sweet peas, sliced bread, cookies.

All menus subject to change without notification due to conditions beyond the control of the staff at the Knox County Center. It is very important to notify the site manager in advancr so that the visit will be on record and meals will arrive from the central kitchen.)

Yard Of The Week.



The Chamber of Commerce sponsored Yard Of The Week this week belongs to John Picklesimer at 405 N. Second Street, in the North East section of Knox City.

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce will pick a Yard Of The Week each week throughout the summer.

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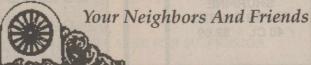
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Emmanuel ministries meeting is Saturday at 7:00 P.M.

The next meeting of the Emmanuel Ministries Fellowship will be Saturday night, June 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Knox City Community Center.

The time is now right to have a new Community Church in Knox

We now need some Christian people to come and help us to build a fellowship where love is the key; where bitterness and resentment are forgiven and forgotten...a fellowship where we are one in the Born-again spirit of love, one in goals and aims and

one in actions of reaching out to

Come and worship with us. We love you.

Jack and Jo Ann Maddox **Emmanuel Ministries** Box 53 Knox City, TX 79529

'Come Ye That Love The Lord'

You Are Invited To Join Us:

What: Christian fellowship with a difference Singing, sharing, prayer

When: Saturday, June 21, 7:00 P.M. Where: Knox City Community Center

Who: Whosoever may come



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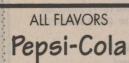
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Knox County Hospital graduates seven 'safe-sitters' from course



GRADUATES FROM THE 'SAFE SITTER' COURSE include (back row, left to right) Camille Gray, Jennifer Eaton, Jessica Zavala, Laura Neal, and (front row, left to right) Lezli Villa, Haleigh Chenhall, and Christa Gray. Students in the program will be better and more responsible sitters after learning skills that include first aid, contacting 9-1-1 emergency services and basic child care. In the best interest of children, those in our community who have need of a sitter are encouraged to utilize the services of these course graduates. (Courtesy Photo by Knox County Hospital)



'SAFE SITTER' INSTRUCTORS shown here are (frem left to right) LVN Chrystal Taylor, LVN Marqueriti West, EMT-I Ronnie Brown and EMT-P Cliff Hacker. RN Gayle Hudson (not in photo) is the site coordinator for the Safe Sitter program at the Knox County Hospi-(Courtesy Photo by Knox County Hospital)

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Rites are held in Rule for **Leota Covey**

Funeral services for Leota Covey of Rule were held Wednesday, June 4, at two o'clock in the First Baptist Church in Rule. The Rev. J.R. Williams and Rev. Bill Trice officiating. Burial was in the Rule Cemetery.

Mrs. Covey, 81, died Monday, June 2, in a Haskell nursing home.

Born in 1916 in Bangs, she was the daughter of Irvin Brooks and Sara Lewis Ethel Coker. She married Clyde Wilborn on December 26, 1935. He preceded her in death on December 25, 1987. She worked as an LVN for 30 years and was an active member of the First Baptist Church in Rule.

She was also preceded in death by a sister, Lois Speck.

Survivors include a daughter, Verla Price of Rule; a son, Lanny Mac Covey of Snyder; a sister, Jeffie Murrel Bishop of Knox City; a brother, Vaughn Brooks of Knox City; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Pallbearers were Melvin Sharp, Weldon Norman, Eugene Rhoads, Jim Beauchamp, Bill Bowles, Jack Kittley, Clifton Rinehart and Pete Kittley.

Elvin Kinney was honorary pallbearer.

9 out of 10 mice prefer the Consume Information Catalog online. Catch it at www.pueblo.gsa.gov.



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Mrs. Chappell's class project photos

Contd. from page one



WESTERN EUROPE: Savannah Guiterrez and Lezle Villa



AUSTRALIA: Erica Acuna, Josh Ivie and Caleb Carver

attendance.

ter in Knox City. There were 33 in

Attending were Verlin and Lois

Cypert of Knox City, Roy and

LaRheasa Cypert of Vernon,

Casey Cypert of Wichita Falls,

J.T and Frieda Cypert of Mes-

quite, Lyndol and Jeri Cypert of

McKinney, Floyd and Clodell

Knox of Knox City, Charlie and

Lou Pack of Knox City, Pam Pack

of Lubbock, Hazel Tankersley of

Knox City, Jim and Wynelle

Hollis of Richardson, Phyllis

Nixon, Amanda Nixon, Jodie

Humble and Blake of Midland,

Joe and Peggy Smith of Justice-

burg, Marlene Hamer of Grape-

vine and Michelle and Jeff Barker

ternoon were Mabel Hollis and

Margie Tidwell of Lubbock,

Morris Denton of Knox City,

Maxine Cypert of Seymour, Ralph

and Frances Cypert of Munday

and Joyce Crownover of Knox

Others visiting during the af-

of Mesquite.

Cypert decendents meet for reunion

The decendents of the late Wayne and Myrtle Cypert met Saturday, June 14, for a family reunion at the Community Cen-

Five from Knox City on ASU's dean's list

SAN ANGELO - Five Knox City High School graduates attending Angelo State University in San Angelo are listed on the Dean's List for the Spring semester at the University.

Those listed include James Raymond Grimsley, an accounting major; Clint Wes Grimsley, a kinesiology major; Joseph Logsdon, an undecided major; Julie Gwyn Speck Haragan, a kinesiology major; and Christopher Lance Haragan, also a kinesiology major.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled as a full time student and have at least a 3.25 grade point average.

Janet Lankford Pierce receives MSU degree

WICHITA FALLS - Midwestern State University had 567 students complete degree requirements during the Spring of 1997. Degrees conferred included one associate, 393 baccalaureate and 97 master's degrees. Honor graduated included 13 summa cum laude, 23 magna cum laude and 44 cum laude.

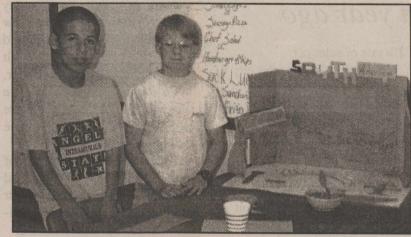
Honor requirements are a grade point average of 3.9-4.0 for summa cum laude, 3.70-3.89 for magna cum laude and 3.5-3.69 for cum laude.

Graduating summa cum laude was Janet Kay Lankford Pierce, a Knox City High School graduate.

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Date	Low	High	Rain
6-10	65	82	menaw
6-11	66	90	ortosta
6-12	63	96	.22
6-13	72	92	Sais.
6-14	66	94	.52
6-15	66	92	2015
6-16	59	92	1.32



SOUTH AMERICA: Marcelino Garcia and Wes Parker



NORTH AMERICA: Diana Miranda and Eric Rodriquez

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KNOX CITY COUNTRY CLUB POOL RULES

1. MEMBERS AND GUESTS ONLY:

GUEST WITHIN 25 MILE RADIUS, \$5.00 PER VISIT GUEST OUTSIDE 25 MILE RADIUS, \$1.00 GRANDCHILD, WITHIN 25 MILE RADIUS, ACCOMPANIED BY GRANDPARENT

- 2. NO ONE UNDER 12 IN POOL AREA UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT 18 OR OLDER.
- 3. NO ONE UNDER 12 IN HOT TUB UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT 18 OR OLDER.
- 4. NO GLASS CONTAINERS IN POOL AREA.
- 5. NO RUNNING IN POOL AREA.
- 6. RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS IN POOL AREA.
- 7. NO FOUL LANGUAGE IN POOL AREA.
- 8. NO ONE UNDER 18 IN POOL AREA AFTER 10:00 P.M.
- 9. SWIMWEAR ONLY ALLOWED IN POOL.
- 10. NO PETS ALLOWED IN POOL AREA.
- 11. FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE CAUSE FOR SUSPENSION OF POOL PRIVILEGES.

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KC Area Church Directory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Knox City Pending Name Of New Pastor

* Sunday School at 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. Services telecast live on Channel 17 in Knox City & O'Brien

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ Knox City Jim Teeter, Pastor - Virgil Ichtertz, Incoming Pastor Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ Knox City Steve Pepper, Minister

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH ~ Knox City

Dan Limitone, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m.

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Knox City Father Kevin Fagan ~ Deacon Julian Estrada Sunday Bilingual Mass at 11:00 a.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Rhineland Father Kevin Fagan

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 Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ Benjamin Jim Teeter, Pastor - Virgil Ichtertz, Incoming 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.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ Benjamin Sunday Morning Worship at 9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School at 10:30 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 Service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship Service at 7:00 p.m. Mid Week, Wed. at 7:30 p.m.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH ~ O'Brien - Bill Trice, Interim 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.

EMMANUEL MINISTRIES

- Jack Maddox, Pastor -Services Sunday evening at 7:00 Meeting currently at the Knox City Community Center

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State sales tax rebate for May.'97 to Knox City nets \$18,015.92

Monthly total up 7.73% from year ago

(Austin) State Comptroller John Sharp delivered \$216.5 million in monthly sales tax rebates to 1,086 Texas cities and 117 counties, including a check of \$18,015.92 to Knox City. The rebate to Knox City reflects an increase of 7.73% from a rebate check of \$16,722.21 for the same period in 1996. Knox City collects a 2.000% rate of sales tax, with a full 1.000% of the tax directed towards EDC funding.

Texas cities received \$199.3 million, 9.9 percent higher than payments of \$181.3 million at this same time one year ago. Counties received a total of 17.1 million in rebates, 11.1 percent above the \$15.4 million in allocations for the same period in 1996.

May, 1997 payments include taxes collected by monthly filers on March, 1997 sales and reported to the Comptroller in April of 1997.

For other Knox County cities, Benjamin received \$717.96, a 0.76% increase from \$712.52 for the same period a year ago. Goree received \$1,108.96, up 24.97% from a payment of \$887.36 last year at the same time. Munday received \$11.368.32, up 20.94% from a payment of \$9,399.63 in 1996 at the same time. Munday collects a 1.500% rate of sales tax, with Benjamin and Goree collecting a 1.000% sales tax.

In Haskell County, Haskell received \$37,546.57, up 29.43% from a payment of \$29,007.98 in 1996. Haskell collects a 2.000% rate of sales tax. O'Brien received \$1,626.06 this period, up 365.08% from a payment of \$349.63 a year ago. Rochester received \$1,128.57, up 10.06% form a payment of \$1,025.38 during the same period last year.

In Jones County, Stamford received a payment of \$55,926.04, up 12.88% from a payment of \$49,541.22 in 1996. Anson received \$19,456.99, up 19.39% from a payment of \$16,296.52 last year. Hamlin received a check of \$21,954.14, up 9.14% from \$20,115.09 in 1996. Stamford, Anson and Hamlin all collect a

2% rate of sales tax.

In Baylor County, the city of Seymour received a payment of \$20,163.17, up 12.60% from a payment of \$17,905.87 in 1996. Seymour collects a 1.000 rate of sales tax.

In Foard County, Crowell received a payment of \$6,808.49, up 23.63% from a payment of \$5,506.87 in 1996. Crowell collects a 1.500% rate of sales tax.

In Dickens County, Dickens received \$2,674.18, up 49.54% from a payment of \$1,788.18 in 1996. Spur received a payment of \$4,460.87, up 27.01% from a 1996 payment of \$3,512.01. Dickens collects a 1.5% rate of sales tax, while Spur collects a 1% rate.

In Cottle County, Paducah received a payment of \$6,793.45, up 24.58% from a payment of \$5,452.88 in 1996. Paducah collects a 1% rate of sales tax.

Sales tax figures are furnished to *THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS* by the State Comptroller's office and printed as a public service by the *KNOX COUNTY NEWS*.

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green, Benjamin Correspondent

Well, we had a little "blow - around" over this way Saturday night. No damage at all but a few things changed locations a bit and lots of rain came down. We felt very fortunate after it was all over, not to have had any more done than we did. TV speaks of more late today (Monday). We hope that's not the case.

Sympathy goes to the family of Jack Nunley today. Jack passed away Wednesday in the Seymour hospital and his funeral was Friday also in Seymour.

Also a belated expression of sympathy to the family of Dickie Patterson who passed away week before last in Allen, Texas. Dickie had been in failing health for many years. He was the nephew of the late Rex Patterson of Benjamin.

W.T. and Jo Cartwright and Ruth Ressel returned home Saturday after a two weeks vacation in Branson and other places of inter-

HERE 'N THERE

Recent guests of Maretha Patterson and Sharon Johnson were Lorene Powers of Midland, Weldon and Margie Patterson of Fresno, California, Leon and Carson Bivens of Tatum, New Mexico, and Suzanne Overton of Wellman. Sharon and Maretha also visited in the Overton home last week attending to Suzanne's children while she was at camp with the Wellman cheerleaders.

Don and Louise Hertel spent the weekend with their sons in the Dallas area. On Friday, they took her brother, Kenneth Isbel, who has resided here the past few months to Marlowe, Oklahoma, where his daughter met them. He will reside in Enid, Oklahoma, for a while now to be near his daughter and her family. Mark Brown and family and his mom, Rose and Justin Waldron, vacationed in the San Antonio area several days last week.

Steve Conner and children, Blaine and Clay, spent four days last week in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Said the scenery was beautiful and it was hot and humid. But they had a wonderful time.

Sean and Mary Widmer of Carrollton, Junior and Virginia Barrientez and family of Stamford, and Jimmy Barrientez of Lubbock visited their parents, Raul and Reyes Barrientez, during the weekend.

Dwayne and Jarvis Polvado and Tiffany De Los Santos of Vernon are spending this week with their grandparents, Charles and Joy Jones.

Benjamin folks attending the funeral of Jack Nunley on Friday were Leroy and Gloria West, Dutch and Imagean Young, Dee Ann Lamb and Anthony, Jane Gideon, Weldon Gideon, Lana Mendoza and family, Joy Jones, Bud Conner and myself.

Sue and Dave Terry and Summer of Dallas were here for the Nunley funeral and visited her parents, Jane Gideon and Weldon Gideon, Friday night and Saturday.

Linda and Jerry Parker and grandson, Sean Wilson of Knox City, spent two weeks in Rome, Italy, recently visiting the Parker's daughter and her husband, Shannon and Alfonse Alberino. They reported a wonderful time. Linda said she would have loved to have been able to stay about six months and see it all (or more) but what time they did stay and what they did see, they really enjoyed.

Reunions have begun to take place around the area. The past two weekends have had Benjamin buzzin' with "out of towners". Week before last, the annual

Coody get together was held at the Ex-Student Building. With the rain and mud, they still had a great time with over 100 attending.

Then the past weekend, the family of the late N.B. and Cora Gillentine met for their reunion. That, too, was a nice crowd with everyone reporting a great time and looking forward already to next year.

Ricky Trepanier and his friend, Cora and her children of Lubbock, were weekend guests of his parents, Joe and Julia.

Tommy Benson of Abilene was here Friday for the funeral of Jack Nunley. Dusty Collins and Trevor Neil of Watauga spent last week with their grandparents, Jack and Mary Young.

The Young reunion was held week before last at Lucy Park in Wichita Falls. Those attending from here were Dutch and Imagean Young, Dee Ann Lamb and Anthony, Pat Benson, Billy Carl Benson, Sheila and Stephen Kuehler, Aaron, Seth and Katelyn and Jack and Mary Young.

Benjamin athletes making the Little League all-star team were Chance Propps, Trey Propps, Tyler Collins and Seth Kuehler. Alternates are Anthony Lamb and Bubba Benson. These kids have worked hard all summer and we congratulate them on their accomplishments.

Another reminder - - Our plans are coming right along for our Baptist Church Anniversary Celebration to be held the first weekend in August - but your help is needed!! Anyone having names and addresess of former members, please send them to me at Box 154 in Benjamin so that everyone can receive an invitation and notification of the schedule of events. And watch this paper for a story and ad in about mid-July!

Letter To The Editor

Dear Stacy and Dave,

First, I would like to thank you and *The Knox County News* for your support to the Knox County Child Welfare Board these many years.

Most everyone is aware of the Child Welfare Board Christmas program and how this community responds in love with toys and money.

What some may not realize is that the Knox County Child Welfare Board works closely with CIDC

(Chronically Ill and Disabled Children).

When an chronically ill or disabled child from Knox County is sent by CIDC to Houston, Lubbock, Abilene or the Children's Hospital in Dallas, CIDC pays doctor and hospital bills and the Knox County Child Welfare

Board picks up the cost of mileage and meals involved in getting treatment for that child. Knox County also has three children ages 10, 11 and 12 in a Texas boys ranch.

These are our kids and together we will help furnish their clothes, school supplies, birthday and Christmas presents and lots of love.

Thank you,
Juanita Wilcox

12,000 Texas men are diagnosed with prostate cancer, constituting a major public health problem; and WHEREAS, Prostate cancer is

WHEREAS, Each year about

the second leading cause of cancer deaths after lung cancer) for Texas men, with some 2,300 men dying annually — about 11 percent of all cancer deaths among men in Texas; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans have the highest incidence of and mortality rates from prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, Screening tests for prostate cancer are available and may be able to detect prostate cancer in an early, treatable stage;

WHEREAS, it is not known if screening tests for prostate cancer lead to overall decreased mortality, and may lead to premature or even unnecessary treatments; and

WHEREAS, There are multiple treatment options for prostate cancer, having the potential to extend the lives of men with prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, It is not currently known if treatment for early stage prostate cancer prolongs life overall, and such treatment involves risks and side effects; and

WHEREAS, Texas men, together with their families, need to have quality information from which to make informed decisions concerning screening and treatment for prostrate cancer; and

WHEREAS, Prostate cancer is not just a man's disease — family and friends are also affected by it; and

WHEREAS, It is in the public interest of this state to promote culturally appropriate public education, awareness, and understanding of prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, There is a disparity in funding for prostate cancer research compared to research

funding for other major killer diseases, and improved public awareness will help bring a halt to this inequity, thereby saving men's lives; and

lexas Department of Health Resolution Draft for '98-'99

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States of America has designated a week each year as Prostate Cancer Awareness Week, in an effort to promote understanding of this disease, and it is fitting for the Lone Star State to join this effort to recognize the importance and impact of this disease; now, therefore, be ;it

RESOLVED, That the 75th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate a week of each year, that begins with Father's Day as Texas Prostate Cancer Awareness Week to promote an awareness of options in the early detection and treatment of prostate cancer, services and resources available to men, prostate cancer survivors and their families.

WHEREAS, Each year about 12,000 Texas men are diagnosed with prostate cancer, ~constituting a major public health problem; and

WHEREAS, Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths (after lung cancer) for Texas men, with some 2,300 men dying annually — about 11 percent of all cancer deaths among men in Texas; and

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brick home, but with 14 acres, greenity utilities, barn and storage buildings Call 658-3486. 11-7 tfc 26

MUST SEE! Four bedroom, two bath, living / den, sunroom hot tub, four carport, central air conditioning, carpet, ceiling fans, water well, corner lot 1208 South Third, 658-3214 or 658-39 of leave

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3 bedroom, 2 bath, never lived in mid-\$20's, small equity and take over pay ments, 817-851-9419. 6-12 3tc 26 FOR SALE - 501 South Fourth Brick three bedroom, two bath, two car garage central heat and hair, large kitchen, extr. carport, storage building, shop-building storm cellar, fenced yard, covered patter large lot, water well. Extra land available Call 658-3841 to see. 6-19 tfc 42 PRICED TO SELL - Two bedroom, one

bath home. Hardwood floors, spacious rooms, water well. 405 South Second. Call 658-5343 to view. 6-5 tfc 21 WIFE KICKED out husband but can't keep up payments on '94 3 bedroom 2 bath double wide. Pay back pmts and take over loan, call Martha 800-206-9402.

6-12 3tc 28 THREE BEDROOM, two bath, large kitchen, living room, 15' x 15' storage building, two carports. 908 South Central. Call 915-948-3752. 6-5 tfc 21 REPOS bank must sell in June, several three and four bedroom homes, 800-206-6-12 3tc 14

OAKWOOD HOMES have ever been more affordable! Special June sale, prices slashed, 9.9% fixed rate financing, factory rebates, apply to down payments, huge savings on select models! OAKWOOD HOMES SUPER STORE, 1-800-206-9402. 6-12 3tc 34

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Garage Sale

CARPORT SALE - South East Third, Thursday only; 8.00 to 75/19 ltp GARAGE SALE - Too good to miss! Friday - Saturday, 7:00. Clothes for all ages, children's books, boys, kitchen ware. All clothing \$3.00 / sack Fill your own sacks, 509 10th Street, O'Brien. 6-19 1tp

For Sale

AT KINNEY FURNITURE in Stamford you will find the lowest prices, the largest selection, and the quickest free deliveryof the world's best mattress - the nationally advertised Spring Air. Kinney's will sell you a Spring Air mettress for less money than any other store. Come in our back door during the street construction. See for yourself why Kinney Furniture has been known for low prices, good values, and free delivery since 1932. Questions? Call 1-800-256-2232.

6-19 1tc 77 T-SHIRTS FROM previous Watermelon festivals: children's medium (10-12), adult large and extra large, \$3.00. Contact Chamber office. 6-12 ltc 18 DON'T BUY A new sofa, love seat, or sleeper until you see our low street construction sale prices. Kinney Furniture in Stamford is famous for lowprices, fre delivery, and good values since 1932. Come down the alley and use our back door while the streets are messed up. Questions give us a call at 1-800-256-

FOR SALE - Two eight week old male Shih Tzu puppies to good home, \$100.00 each. 940-422-5408. 6-19 ltp SOLID WOOD, no chip core or particle

board, open stock bedroom furniture in handsome country pine. Your grandchildren will be arguing over who gets this furniture after you are dead and gone. Kinney Furniture in Stamford has been known for low prices, free delivery, and good values since 1932. Come down the alley and use our back door during the 6-19 ltc 62 street construction. A & K RAILROAD MATERIAL, Inc.

Railroad ties, starting at \$2.50 each. Call 940-888-8887. USED SOFAS, sleepers, recliners, and chairs priced to sell quickly. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 6-19 ltc 14

Legal Notice

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

Need to advertise? Call us - 658-3142

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TEMPORARY FARM WORKER position at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Munday. Must be at least 18 years old, have tractor driving experience, farm background, good driving record, and prefer experience applying agricultural chemicals. Position will be 40 hours per week for 4 to 5 months. Applications may be picked up or requested at the Munday Research Station, Rt. 2 Box 2E, Munday, TX 76371, 1-940-422-4531. The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station is an equal opportunity

DICKENS ELECTRIC Cooperative Inc. is now taking applications for a LINE-MAN position. Lineman experience is preferred. Applications are available at the headquarters building in Spur, or you may call (806) 271-3311 for an application to be mailed. Applications will be accepted through June 27, 1997 at 5:00 P.M. Dickens Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate because of a person's race, color, religion, sex or national ori-

PART TIME BARTENDER for Knox City Country Club. May pick up application at Knox City Country Club Sunday -Saturday after 5:00 p.m. or call Betsy Allen at 658-3829. 6-19 2tc 28

Notice

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Developed by the Phillips Gulf Corporation, ARTH-Rx is a breakthrough in the treatment of painful disorders ranging from minor aches and pains to more serious conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, tendonitis, backache and more.

Although the mechanism by which ARTH-Rx works to relieve pain is not totally clear, scientists suggest that pain is relieved because ARTH-Rx intercepts the messenger substance that sends pain signals to the brain. ARTH-Rx is available in a convenient roll-on applicator without a prescription. According to a spokesperson for the company, due to the overwhelming demand for ARTH-Rx, supplies are sometimes limited. ARTH-Rx can also be ordered by calling 1-800-729-8446. © 1996 PGC ARTH-RX is available locally at:

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KNOX CITY COMMERCIAL BUILDING - 25x100 with 25x40 upstairs. Great location at 112 North Central.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE LOCATION - Good condition, 118 North Central. NEW LISTING - Mobile home for sale. Fleetwood doublewide, 28 x 64, three bedroom, two bath, carport, storage,

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NEW LISTING - Two bedroom, one bath, one carport. 1106 SE Second. NEW LISTING - Three bedroom, two bath, 14 x 80 mobile home. 110 N. Avenue E.

NEW LISTING - Three bedroom, one bath, central heat. 1106 South Fourth St. Make an offer.

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*** OTHER HOMES ~ LOW DOWN PAYMENT *** FOR SALE - Two bedroom frame, one bath. 806 South Second.

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THE LEA FARM - Approximately 204 acres of white near this forending -JANE RICHARDSON FARM - 225 acres, 12 miles west of Knox City. Part pasture, part outivation.

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Donations of \$1.00 for each ticket or six tickets for \$5.00 donation. - - On display in KC News window - -

For more information and tickets contact a Knox County Child Welfare Board member Sequoyah Reynolds, Knox City - 658-3945 Kim Clonts, Knox City - 658-3378 Lynda Beck, Vera - 888-5330 Juanita Wilcox, Knox City - 658-3981

"By George! It works!" user crows.

Little-known 'vitamin' makes love grand

McKinney, TX-Little did Dr. Philip Handler know, back in 1941, that his newly discovered nutrient "Vitamin 15" would one day have men and women all over the country smiling quietly to themselves. Today, N,N-Dimethylglycine (DMG)

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See for yourself why thousands swear by NutriSurge. Send \$29.95 plus \$4.95 postage & handling for a 60-tablet supply to TDM Research, Dept. NSC31,123 South St, Oyster Bay NY 11771. Or call toll free 1-800; 645-9199 and ask for Operator C31. Use the whole supply; then, if you are not completely satisfied, return the box for a full refund.

If advertising works for your competitor, it can work for you too Call us at the KNOX COUNTY NEWS - 658-3142

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT **SPECIAL ELECTION AUGUST 9, 1997**

PROPOSITION NO. 1 ON THE BALLOT

House Joint Resolution 4 proposes a constitutional amendment which would increase the school property tax residence homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$15,000. The amendment would also authorize the Legislature to limit all or part of the exemption to political subdivisions that are the principal providers of elementary and secondary education within their boundaries.

In addition, the amendment would authorize the Legislature to allow the transfer of all or part of the age 65-and-over tax freeze to another homestead. Specifically, the Legislature would be authorized to provide that the current limitation against increasing school property taxes on the residence homesteads of persons age 65 or older, or their surviving spouse who is eligible to receive the exemption, may be transferred if the person establishes a different residence homestead.

The amendment would also allow the \$10,000 additional amount for the standard exemption to be used to lower the tax rate of persons currently receiving the 65-and-over tax freeze. Specifically, for a homestead affected by this limitation in 1996 or in an earlier tax year, the Legislature must provide for a reduction in the school property tax limitation in the 1997 tax year and subsequent tax years in an amount equal to \$10,000 multiplied by the 1997 school property tax rate. The proposed amendment will

appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment

providing school property tax relief by increasing the residence homestead exemption by \$10,000 and providing for the transfer of the tax limitation to another qualified homestead for persons over 65 and a reduction in taxes subject to the limitation."

Este es el informe explanatorio sobre la enmienda propuesta a la constitución que aparecerá en la boleta el dia 9 de agosto de 1997. Si usted no ha recibido una copia del informe en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llamar al 1/800/252/8683 a por escribir al Secretario de Estado. P.O. Box 12060, Austin,

> Published by Secretary of State Tony Garza

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TEXSCAN WEEK OF 6-15-97

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES GOLFERS WANTED!!! TURN your passion into profit! Call 813-842-9495. Distributors wanted Pre-launched opportunity. Min. investment \$49.50.

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HAROLD IVES TRUCKING needs motivated individuals to enter our training program. Call 1-800-270-1676 for complete information. Now taking owner operators \$.80 empty/loaded call: 1-888-367-4837.

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PRESSURE CLEANERS-FACTORY direct! New 2000-PSI \$379, Honda 2500-PSI \$699, 3200-PSI \$999, 4000 PSI \$1,099 complete ready to use All attachments included. Call 24 hrs. Toll-free 1-

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METER TAMPERING NOW A FELONY

The State of Texas has recently adopted an amendment to the State Penal Code making meter tampering a third degree felony. A third degree felony comes with a punishment of confinement in the Texas Department of Corrections for a term of not more than 10 or less than 2 years. In addition to imprisonment, an individual adjudged guilty of a third degree felony may be punished by a fine not to exceed \$5,000.

Before the amendment of the new law, it was a class A misdemeanor for meter tampering unless the loss of service was more than \$200. Under the new law, any meter tampering regardless of the amount of loss is now a felony of the third degree.

Meter tampering consists of, but is not limited to:

(1) Diverting electricity from passing through a meter device.

(2) Preventing electric service from being correctly registered by a meter device.
(3) Unauthorized activation of service.

As a special note to our members, it will also be considered meter tampering if a meter is reset and electrical service is restored by anyone other than a Cooperative employee.

All Cooperative meters are sealed. This seal should not be cut or broken without special authorization. In cases where the seal must be cut for emergencies, the Cooperative should be notified as soon as possible so that the meter can be resealed.

B-K ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

IF YOU SUFFERED STORM DAMAGE ON MONDAY NIGHT, THEN READ THIS:

Citizens Insurance Services wants all their customers to know that our goal of 'customer service' has never been greater than now, right after a storm.

As insurance professionals, we are ready to handle claims for all our customers. Since the storm damage was different from area to area, adjustors will not routinely come out and blanket the area. If you are a customer of Citizens Insurance Services and have a storm damage claim, please call us right away so we can schedule an adjustor to look over your loss.

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'97 Legislative session ends for Texas House and Senate

Knox City's David Counts happy with results of session



session with a number of progressive accomplishments under

The Texas Legis-

lature ended its

regular biannual

its belt according to State Representative David Counts (D Knox City).

"Without a doubt, the omnibus water bill was the most crucial piece of legislation to be passed this session," stated the Knox City lawmaker. "The recent drought conditions have shown us just how important it is to have a adequate supply of quality water for our communities, not to mention how important it is to plan ahead for those not-so-rainy days." Counts, who chairs the House Natural Resources Committee, noted that the bill would call for local and regional planning, as well as, working to find the resources and assistance needed to provide for community water supplies and infrastructure. The bill also emphasizes and encourages conservation efforts.

"Texas is such a diverse state that it is difficult to make such an undertaking," stated Counts. "Yet despite the differences that divide our state, everyone realized that this sweeping reform was timely and necessary." Counts argued strenuously in favor of strict limits on inter basin transfers to protect the Colorado River Municipal Water District, which supplies water to Big Spring, Snyder, San Angelo, and other communities in the upper reaches of the Colorado River. The "junior rights" provision, as it is called, would allow the continuance of transfers already in place, but would make any new transfers junior or secondary in priority to all other wa-

The District 70 legislator commended the work of lawmakers in developing another state budget without any new taxes. "This bud-

get makes public school funding a top priority and puts a lot more money into public education, as well as, dedicating all of the lottery profits directly to public education." In addition, the approved budget for the 1998-99 biennium will increase funding for community and technical colleges.

Counts noted several accomplishments to promote economic development in rural Texas. Counts passed an amendment to create the Rural Affairs and Development Office. The amendment sets aside existing staff and infrastructure of the department to aid economic development and small business in rural areas. "This will be very worthwhile to our area of Texas and will be a strong instigator for referring prospects to our areas, as well as, helping market rural Texas to businesses."

Counts also authored legislation which allows rural electrical cooperatives to use unclaimed funds for scholarships and rural economic development. "Currently, these funds are being sent to Austin. I feel these funds could be better invested at the local level by using the money for scholarships and economic development projects."

According to Counts, the legislation to cut property taxes by raising the Homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$15,000 and adding over one billion dollars in additional funding for public education was one of the session highpoints. "So often, the legislature finds itself simply reacting to crisis situations. This was a chance for us to do something proactive," stated Counts. "I am disappointed that we could not get the needed Senate approval for a broader plan which would have eliminated the Robin Hood plan, but this legislation will provide some relief."

Counts noted that the property tax relief plan would also include additional monies for teacher salaries. The plan would first require voter approval during a constitutional amendment election to be held on August 9. If approved by voters, the plan would continue tax freezes for seniors, as well as, providing provisions which would allow them to transfer their freeze to another property, should they move.

Counts has also been active in passing legislation which would allow the National Guard to aid in efforts at cracking down on illegal drugs. "This legislation will provide the Governor, at his discretion, with the tools to do what other states are already doing, and will help us further our efforts to crack down on drugs being transported across the border," stated Counts. "There is no substitute for educating our kids against the dangers of drugs with programs like DARE, however, this legislation stands to make a big dent in the supply of drugs coming into Texas."

"I am really proud of the way in which the legislature responded when it came to getting the Boll Weevil Eradication Program going again," stated Counts. "The court ruling really put us in a time crunch, but ultimately everyone came through and we were able to get this program up and moving in a timely fashion."

Counts, a retired Colonel in the National Guard, stated that his proudest moment during the session was passing legislation which allows for the construction of veterans nursing homes in Texas. "Currently, Texas is one of only nine states that do not have a veteran nursing home even though estimates show this legislation will save the state more than \$30 million dollars over the next ten years. This has been long overdue, not just because of the cost savings, but because it is the right thing to do for our veterans," stated Counts. "Freedom is not free. I hope that in some small way, this effort will show these veterans that we do remember and appreciate what they have done for us."



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