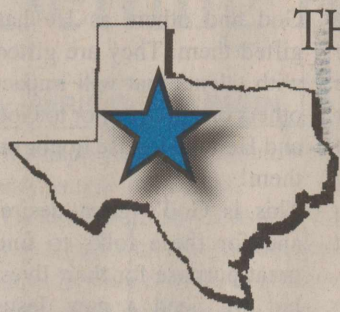




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THE

# KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

8 PAGES PLUS INSERTS  
VOLUME XXIX

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2010

75 CENTS  
NUMBER 61

## Goodbye 2010, Hello 2011



In January the youth of Knox County showed the fruits of their efforts in raising livestock at the Knox County Stock Show at the Show Barn in Munday.

### Tamara Smart

In a year of ups and downs, Knox County has had opportunities to laugh and cry together, spend time of fellowship, and see the world continue to revolve in some of its trying times.

On April 20, the country suffered through a severe oil spill crisis as a off-shore driller experienced a massive explosion and then preceded to spill barrels into the Gulf of Mexico, leaking an estimated 1.9 to 3.5 million barrels by June 25 when the leak was finally capped off (as per the New York Times). This waning year also marked the 4 year world event of athletic competition between countries at the Olympics, where the US took the overall win bring home 27 metals altogether at the Winter Games in Vancouver, Canada.

In 2010, Americans experienced the pain from the heels of a recession, which ended in 2009 (although, it has been argued by many economists, that the "Great Recession" is still very alive in the country). Gold prices are at an all time high. The Stock market is down; the unemployment rate is finally leveling out.

Yet, even with the Great Recession affecting any parts of the country, Knox County continues to thrive.

New businesses and facilities formed and became part of the Knox community this year. The Knox County Hospital District opened two new facilities in the county; a new clinic in Munday, as well as a Medical Supply store in Benjamin. The restaurant business boomed throughout the year, with the addition of a new pizza place opening in Benjamin and Knox City getting its first Steakhouse. A new burrito stand became part of the Knox tapestry of economic development. While tragedy struck B&P BBQ as a fire burned part of it down, it was only a month later when the BBQ was flowing again with the grand re-opening.

The Knox County tradition of jovial festivals flourishing with hometown pride and effervescence was alive and well in 2010. Knox City hosted the Watermelon Festival in late July, and welcomed the Christmas season with the traditional "Christmas in November". Munday held their annual Freedom Fest to celebrate Independence Day and the Harvest Fest in October. Benjamin held the Veteran's Day revelry next to the Knox County Veteran's memorial, as they also celebrated the Christmas Season with a "Rockin' Ranch Christmas".

In high school sports, 2010 is one of those years that go down in the books. Derrick Coleman of Knox City grabbed three metals at State competition in track and field events, his cousin, Dee Paul from Munday High also came home sporting his own metals. Knox City high school 2010

football season ended in a trip to the Regional playoffs and Munday's 11-man team fought through the playoffs, only to be defeated on their way to a State title by Throckmorton.

The children in the community continued to show up and show off their amazing academic skill at UIL competitions, 4-H events, stomping the infamous TAKS tests, creating imaginative inventions for schoolwork and overall being the pride of Knox. Knox City graduated 17 students, Benjamin cheered over 15 young adults receiving their diplomas and Munday sent 23 kids out into the world armed with their MCISD education.

In Knox County, together we mourned several untimely deaths of our friends and family, prayed over a number of men and women who fell prey to cancer and other illnesses, and saw several accounts of miracle turn-around recoveries from these infirmities and injuries. Single people found the joy in marriage, babies were born and mothers became grandmothers. Spouses passed on, and husbands and wives became widows and widowers. Life continued on as it always does.

May 2011 bring more tears of laughter than tears of sadness to the faces of Knox and beyond, may everyone know love, embrace life and deny defeat, and most of all, may you all have a wonderful and safe New Year.

Let's see what is yet to come.



February saw the Annual Quilt Show finding a new venue at the old school in Gorée

For more Knox County 2010 year in review pictures, see page 8

## Knox County News Thanks Contributors

### Tamara Smart

As every year, 2011 promises to hold many more memories in the hearts of locals, as well as another 52 issues of the Knox County News to chronicle it all.

Those 52 issues a year are not the easiest of feats to accomplish, and it's only once a year that this News periodical takes a moment to thank all the individuals that make each issue a reality. I, Tamara Smart, am officially the Reporter, Editor, Ad Sales Rep and Office Manager for the KC News, and am often praised for putting the paper together "by myself". This is seriously a false belief. This paper wouldn't be possible without the contributions of columnists like Gladene Green (Benjamin News), Jeff Stanfield (Just Jeff), Sammie Oilfield (Sammie's Knox City Corner and Final Thoughts), Anthony Munoz and Lorri Coop at the Ag Extension Office, Cheryl Daniel at the

KC Aging Center (who provides weekly menus), Bandon Carr of the NRCS who provides the weekly weather report. Also, Daveine Clark and Michelle Stanfield have offered a vast array of photographs from their Knox City Sports pictures that are often the centerpiece of the sports pages. Jeff Stanfield did an amazing job following the Hound football season, and the reports on the KC Houndette journeys couldn't be possible without the weekly visit from Coach Arnold Perales. Since it is impossible for me to be two places at once, it is not uncommon that I call on husband or in-laws to help me out when two news items are transpiring simultaneously. Barbara Rector, Travis Floyd, Dean Homstad, Annette Offutt and other county officials are diligent on keeping me apprised of goings-on in the community.

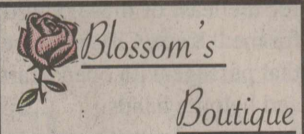
The paper would never get into the hands of Knox County residents, or

subscribers not in the Knox county area, if it weren't for Lance Kilgore. Lance is the man who goes to the printing press in Wichita Falls every week and retrieves the paper then brings it back here, getting it on all the newsstands and in the mail.

This publication is a community effort in many ways. The door to the KC News office, located at 110 Central in Knox City, sometimes becomes a revolving door with one news item after the next. I receive various calls on a weekly basis informing me of things in Knox County I wouldn't otherwise be aware.

The paper layout and the display ads are put together by the fine folks at the Childress Index, one of Knox County affiliate papers (all owned by Blackburn Media Group).

As for parting remarks for this fleeting year of 2010, thank you for making another year a success, and best wishes for 2011.



Jill Kilgore/owner,  
stylist, nail tech  
111 N. Central,  
Knox City, Texas  
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## New format for Knox County News starting next week

Starting next week, the Knox County News will have a fresh, new look.

The weekly publication is going to change its format to a tabloid style publication instead of the current format, which is a standard, broadsheet style.

"We are excited about this change in format for the Knox County News and its readers," Chris Blackburn, CEO of Blackburn Media Group said.

"I think our readers will enjoy the revamped look of the paper plus it will allow us to save money on postage and printing without having to raise current subscription and advertising rates substantially.

"We appreciate our faithful readers of the Knox County News and are excited about this upcoming change."

The change will take place with the Thursday, Jan. 6 edition.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Public Health Information Meeting on "Safe Water Consumption". Presentation by Dr. Ezekial Duke; Brannde Estrada, TTA; and Ronnie White, City of Benjamin. Parents of small children and school age children, Senior Citizens and Care Givers, strongly encouraged to attend. People who have local well water and subscribe to City water in Knox County welcome to attend.

Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 4 at the Benjamin School library and 6:30 p.m.

The Texas Department of State Health Services Knox City Immunization Clinic will be held on Thursday, January 6, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Vaccinations for children and adults will be available including Hepatitis

A, Pneumococcal conjugate, polio, MMR, HIB, Hetanus Diphtheria Pertussus, Hepatitis B, HPV, meningitis, zoster, influenza and chickenpox. For information about immunizations, call the Texas Department of Health office at 40-552-8770.

The Haskell/Knox Relay for Life will be on April 1 at Indian Field in Haskell from 7PM until 7AM.



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## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City

Jerry Vincent, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
 FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City

Timothy Trimble, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 No Sunday Evening Service

## ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -

Knox City  
 Tex Cox, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Warriors 6:00 p.m.  
 "Discovering God's Word" radio broadcast Sunday mornings on AM 1400 The River 8:20 - 8:50 a.m.

## FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City

Gary A. Schnable, Pastor  
 Sunday Morning Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
 Mens Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am. Wednesday Morning

## SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH BILINGUAL - Knox City

Father Charles Gorantla • Deacon Ben Vasquez  
 Sunday Mass at Noon

## LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knox City

Gene Ward Jr., Pastor  
 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.  
 Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

## ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rhineland

Father Charles Gorantla • Deacon Jim Novak  
 Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass  
 Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Timothy Trimble, Pastor  
 Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

## GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie

Matt Harrington, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.

## CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin

Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 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.

## O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m., Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.  
 Sunday Mornings on KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.

## WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Rob Harrison, Pastor  
 Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

## MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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# God's Promises

## A New Year, A New Move of God

"See, I Am doing a New Thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I Am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland" (Isaiah 43:19 NIV)

In 1967 America was being torn up in the blender of secularism, rejection of all authority and free love. The 1960's saw God as dead and tossed out of schools, a President and 2 popular leaders were assassinated, an unpopular war caused generational clashes, while church attendance and a faith in God was being rejected by a younger generation. America desperately needed spiritual help!

With our country at the brink of breaking apart socially, there were two phenomenal events that would usher in a new era of people seeking relationship with a personal God. The first a headliner event as the nation of Israel reclaimed all of Jerusalem as it's capitol in the Six-day War in May of 1967. The second event started more quietly as a great move of the Holy Spirit swept radical change into young lives forever...called the "Jesus Movement". This move of God was birthed in prayer by Spirit-led Believers and nuns seeking a real life changing move of God!

God started the fires of a peaceful revolution in our youth on the campus of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. There, a group of professors stirred the Holy Spirit fires in students after having a personal encounter

with God themselves. This fire quickly spread to Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, and to the University of Michigan. Coinciding with this, the fires began in one of the most liberal cities out west... San Francisco's Haight Ashbury district.

The cultural clash that led the younger generation to rebel against all authority of society was being countered by a great move of God. The Jesus Movement started as a trickle with hippies, gang members and students being radically changed. The pastor's who accepted these youthful radicals were ostracized because they allowed the young to attend church with tie-dyed t-shirts, bathing suits and of all things uncombed long hair! Thankfully they did, because many of them today are the faithful ones serving and touching the world with Christ's love!

Why do I share these events of the past? Am I romanticizing events that would radically change this church kid of 15 in 1974 and two thirds of the school population by the time I graduated? Maybe! But more than this, our world is again in turmoil and the church has again slid into a place of wanting a feel good religion or rejection of it (2 Timothy 4:3). Yes, the times are different; yet we are just as desperately in need of another fresh "Move of God!"

So, what are we to do? They say, when one generation experiences "Revival", the next generation slides into a "Rote" form of going through the motions of religious

practice "lacking the power of God" (2 Timothy 3:5), then the next generation "Rejects" faith altogether leaving a need of revival/refreshing again. We are there! We need to stop lamenting, arguing over or trying to figure out the next slick gimmick that may change a few lives. The only thing that will change lives is a fresh encounter with God...an encounter that causes radical change in drug addicts to long time church attendees. It's something that man cannot make happen... only God can.

We as leaders and the older generations who remember the miracles of radically changed lives that saw God transform people, churches, schools and communities need to pray for it! Do we again want to see radical changes in broken lives, our younger families and our youth culture? Do we want to see people giving of their "Time...Talents... Treasures" to God again? We need to ask for it!

Oh, we can kick, scream and belittle them for not being serious about God...BUT we must set a good example first. We can get upset when they do not honor God with the first of their "Time" on Sundays and for regular times God calls us all to serve others. Yes, God will release blessings on all who are faithful to put Him first in their Blackberry's over anything else, while satan will always drain them.

Or that their "Treasures" is given to God's purposes first. By giving as He has asked, they will see Him bless their finances. After

all, investing in God always brings a greater return in the long run, though satan will always try to get one stuck on instant gratification to bankrupt us.

Last of all we want them to share their "Talents" with God and others as He has gifted them. They are gifted with talents that will impact others bringing honor to God and He will release honor on them!

This is God's great desire, and for these folks to find great purpose for their lives, but we need a new Jesus Movement (It will not be the same as the 60's & 70's)! We need a Theophany, a fresh encounter with the Living God! One that puts God first in our lives again, that reveals the Father as a loving, caring and personal God! The natural outflow of a real, fresh encounter with God will radically change how anyone will give of their "time, talents & treasure"!

We need a fresh move of God. Yes, it can happen here in the Knox City area... Jesus encountered the world first in Bethlehem with maybe a population of 300! Let's make a New Year's resolution to pray for this "Fresh Move of God", as we come to God with an openly transparent heart confessing our own sin. This will release times of refreshing to come into the church and our community this year!

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from...the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19 NASB)

# Brazos Valley Care Home Christmas



## Tamara Smart

The Brazos Valley Care Home had their annual Christmas party last Friday, December 17. Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special appearance for the residents of the Center, many volunteers turned out to help pass out cookies and punch, and the party was filled with laughter and stories of old.

All the residents received wonderful gifts donated from many caring hearts throughout the community.

Donna Banks, activity director of the care home, especially wished to thank the following groups and businesses for their loving gifts:

- The Aging Center for their beautiful cards
- Jerry's Plumbing
- Women in Action
- FBC Knox City
- Lou Vail
- Shorties
- Michael Espinosa
- Banks Tire Service
- KC Cleaners

LaDonna Smith  
 Thelma  
 Citizens Bank  
 A-Team  
 KC Methodist Church  
 Crowell Hat Design.

A special thanks goes out to Duckwalls, who for many years has been the home of the Angel Tree.

There is a passage in the Bible that says: "What you do for the least of these, you do for me." Knox City embraces that passage with open hearts and helping hands.

# The Knox County News

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The Knox County News welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number to allow verification. Please keep letters to a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for any reason and to reject letters for publication for any reason. Letters deemed libelous and/or not for the public good will be rejected. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Knox County News.

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The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements.

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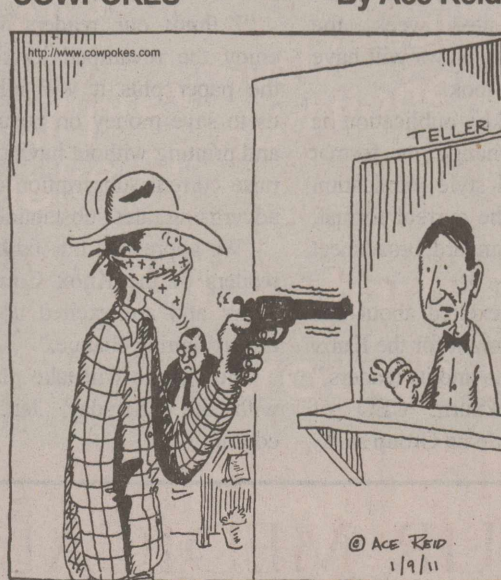
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## COWPOKES

By Ace Reid



"Put your pistol up Jake, with all the notes you got in here, you have done robbed this bank!"

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SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

Sammie Oilfield

Monday turned out to be a good day. We had some small fires last week, but they were easily put under control.

As I was getting my column done, I got a phone call from a friend who had some bad news. Jeff Urbanczyk had an accident and lost his life. Please pray for this family and keep them in your Thoughts.

I understand that Danny Reece has been moved so they can control his cancer and hopefully have the hip replacement that he needs.

Roni and Quinn Gass are hopefully going to a doctors appointment for Quinn to see his progress in his recovery on his leg.

I understand that Ester Grindstaff is back in the hospital in Hendricks and health wise doesn't look so good. She's had more foot surgery and has set her back

quite a bit. May God be with them and Bless them.

Norman Townsend is doing good and will probably have to have some chemo or radiation. I'm not sure, but he may return home, which may mean a speedy recovery.

Our visit with Alfredo Abila Monday night, found him doing wonderful. He is going to kick this illness that plagues him. He had a wonderful trip with his family to Rhome, Texas to visit some friends that have adopted his family and showered them with Christmas gifts. During our visit with him at the hospital, he told me, "Aunt Sammie, you were right, God takes care of your problem- you just have to bring your problems to Him."

On Christmas Eve I returned from a fast trip to Abilene, Alfredo took a turn for the worst, but hopefully

our prayers will change things around for him. When I arrived at the hospital where he was being treated, he was on a ventilator to help him breathe. The doctors told us that he was in God's hands. They are doing everything they can. I left hoping to hear some good news on Saturday.

Saturday (Christmas) there was a little change in Alfredo's condition, but he is still relying on God to do His miracle.

The next morning, the news I received from Alfredo's brother was that Alfredo had a good night and God is doing what He needs to do to help him recover from this set back.

Christmas day and all the little ones have enjoyed a great day, starting with a visit from Santa Claus. Eddie and I spent the day in Hamlin and most of our grandkids and

great-grandkids were there, also, our daughter Tracy and the others. It was a long day, and I spent it sitting back and trying to get my pain under control.

Our pastor and his family had a trip to see her family in Tyler. It was a wonderful morning in church.

Missy Eades, Mingo Garcia and the boys spent the weekend at Tyler visiting her mom and family. Hope their trip was safe and the visit was great.

As I close my column for the week, I hope you remember the sick in this community and keep them all in your prayers over the New Year holiday. Remember to praise God for what he has done in each of our lives.

Have a wonderful and prosperous New Year. Be careful if you plan on a trip. Always put God before anything



Named for the historic FW&D Engine 501, The 501 is always exactly 501 words and dashes long, whatever the topic. Welch, a freelance writer for Blackburn Media Group, divides her time mostly between Abilene and the family farm north of Vernon.

Real heat is my favorite kind. Nothing beats backing up to a hissing steam radiator, a crackling wood stove, a blazing campfire or a gas space heater with radiants glowing orange. Ah, the feel of hot starched jeans against human flesh. You can't beat it.

Yes, I'm cold. My laptop is the closest thing I have to a good heat source. I'd put it up against the household iron for joules generated.

Meanwhile, our central heating and cooling system is blowing overhead. I don't trust it. Much ado about nothing. Takes a blowhard to know one.

Speaking of irons, they don't get as hot as they used to, do they? Have you seen any scorched clothing lately? I haven't, and I've been looking. I suspect the government has intruded to regulate irons, meaning they're probably equipped now with thermostats that keep them from burning human flesh, therefore making it hard to use them to flatten wrinkles out of fabric. My theory. If I look ruffled, I'm blaming the government.

Speaking of joules, in retrospect, that's what I should have put on my Christmas wish list. Not that I really know what a joule is. Isn't it some sort of measure of heat and energy? I need both.

My husband would rather keep me in the other kind of jewels than turn up the thermostat. That's OK. I'm as much a skinflint as he, and I'm not going to touch that thermostat any

more than I would try to commandeer the television remote control. I barely know how either works.

As for television remotes, a friend of mine had no clue how to turn her television on and off after her husband left. She had to ask her children. Lucky she had some. Really.

Sort of reminds me of my mother, city-bred farm wife, who was very careful not to learn how to do certain things on the farm. She was especially proud of not learning how to milk a cow. And the main tool she purposely didn't master was a hoe, if you don't count the tractor. Sure enough, she successfully stayed out of the barn and didn't have to hoe cotton either.

Mother was no slacker; she slopped the hogs some, pouring skim milk on their heads, and I remember her tossing bread crusts -- the ones I didn't eat -- over the fence to the chickens. I was glad we had chickens. If you don't know why she poured that milk between the hogs' ears and over their snorting snouts, you've never tried to get swine to step back from the trough until the table is set. Only in cartoons do piggy bank-looking pigs wait politely and then, on cue, plunge in to eat with the coordination of synchronized swimmers. The same old cartoons compare eating corn on the cob to typing on a typewriter, one row at a time, with a bell ringing at the end of each line.

OK. I feel better now. There's some warmth in memories.

From the Desk of the Sheriff

A recent topic of conversation came up about emergency vehicles along the highway with flashing lights in; with traffic passing both directions daring a person to step over the solid white fog line along the shoulder of the roadway. Maybe this bit of information can served to confuse everyone a little more. Section 545.157 of the Texas Transportation Code seems to indicate the following: on approaching a stationary vehicle, unless directed by a police officer, shall (not should) (1) vacate the lane closest to the emergence when driving on a highway with two or more lanes traveling in the direction of the emergency vehicle (in other words, move

over to the other lane if passing the emergency vehicle), or (2) slow down to a speed not exceeding 20 miles per hour then the posted speed limit when the speed limit is 25 mph or more, which is the majority of this area. In other words, SLOW DOWN to 20 miles per hour or more if you cannot move over. You can receive a citation for not following these simple directions or be arrested for carelessness resulting in bodily injury, a more severe charge. If that occurs, additional more severe charges will probably follow as well.

There is a variety of authorized vehicles as described by the said Texas Transportation Code, to make this as short

and easy to understand as possible; if you see flashing lights in front or approaching you from behind, move over, slow down or stop s the situation sees feasible. If you are meeting flashing lights, so the same. If you are about to pass flashing lights on the shoulder of the lane you are traveling in, move over to the other lane if possible, if not, slow down to 20 mph under the speed limit. If the speed limit is 70, drive 50 mph or less if you cannot move over. If the speed limit is 65 at night, slow down to 45 or less. The flashing lights, whether normal flashing hazard lights, fire department lights, yellow TxDot lights, red and blue public safety lights, or what-

ever, it means there is a situation that deserves caution and you immediate attention. It may be an officer dealing with an irate subject or maybe an officer assisting in changing a tire for a stranded motorist.

Courtesy and caution is something that must be on out mind all the time. In addition, for goodness sake, is you slow down and recognize the stopped vehicle as an ambulance, use extreme caution because there is obviously an emergency and you don't want to add to the problems. Hope this is clear as mud, and please, use common sense.

Dean Homstad  
Knox County Sheriff

Knox County Market Place

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Public Notice

Public Service Announcement  
Public Health Information Meeting on "Safe Water Consumption". Presentation by Dr. Ezekial Duke; Brande Estrada, TTA; and Ronnie White, City of Benjamin. Parents of small children and school age children, Senior Citizens and Care Givers strongly encouraged to attend. People who have local well water and subscribe to City water in Knox County welcome to attend. Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 4 at the Benjamin School library and 6:30 p.m.

Munday location of our 40 year drug free, smoke free established 51 store stable restaurant chain hiring management with a yearly base pay of \$30,000 plus bonus potential and up to \$10.00 hourly for restaurant experienced cooks and team members. Call Lisa at home office for a pre-screen interview: 940-549-5041

KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES

MENUS FOR JAN. 3<sup>RD</sup> TO JAN. 7<sup>TH</sup>

Monday, Jan. 3rd	Thursday, Jan. 6th
Sliced Ham	Stew
Fried Green Beans	7 Minute Cabbage
Buttered Potatoes	Mexican Cornbread
Hot Rolls	Baked Apples
Cookies	
Tuesday, Jan. 4th	Friday, Jan. 7th
German Sausage/Potato	Chicken Salad Sandwiches
Casserole	Chips
Salad	Pork & Beans
Sweet Peas	Dessert
Garlic Toast	
Fruit Crunch	
Wednesday, Jan. 5th	
Chicken Fried Steak/Gravy	
Mashed Potatoes	
Mixed Vegetables	
Biscuit	
Cobbler	

New serving time is 12 noon (in Knox City only). Alternate desserts for diabetics.

Please call in your orders by 10 a.m. to 657-3618. Orders can't be taken after 10 a.m. and need to be picked up after 11 a.m.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center  
Knox City, TX

2010 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
11/22	46/84	
11/23	35/68	
11/24	47/84	
11/25	23/58	
11/26	18/58	
11/27	21/65	
11/28	33/69	
Total Rainfall for month		0.40
2010 Rainfall (ytd)		36.43

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# District 4-H food and nutrition quiz bowl contest held

4-H members from across the Rolling Plains District competed in the 2010 4-H Nutrition Quiz Bowl contest on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 in Olney, Texas. Approximately 40 participating teams took part in the double-elimination tournament testing their knowledge of subject matter involving nutrition, food safety, and food economics.

Both Junior and Senior age 4-Hers competed in their divisions with the top three Senior teams advancing to the State contest to be held during State 4-H Roundup at College Station in June.

Knox County youth participating in the Nutrition Quiz Bowl contest were:

Knox Team A: Katelynn Baker, Kayla Hunter, Brylee White and Brogan White

Knox Team B: John Ross Shaver, Sean Logsdon, and Jesse Munoz

Amy White served as coach for Knox Team A and Amanda Baker-Adkins served as coach for Knox Team B. Awards were presented to winners immediately following contest. Both Knox County teams had several wins, making it to the finals, and did an excellent job of representing Knox County 4-H. They are all to be commended on their accomplishments.

The contest was sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension Service, a part of the Texas A&M System.

Educational program conducted by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are for people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. 4-H is the youth development program of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, a part of the Texas A&M System.



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# BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

**Gladene Greene**

Christmas is now history and in only a few short days, the year 2010 will be a thing of the past. I hope everyone had a good Christmas. I know there were several sorrowful families and that sorrow affected people beyond the family circle. My sincere sympathy to the families of Jeffrey Urbanczyk and Howard Vass, both Munday area residents who passed away during the past week. Also, to the family of Tamara Strickland of Rochester who passed away on Saturday. The deaths of these people leave an emptiness in many lives.

The weather has been much cooler but not any moisture, which we need. We had a light shower one day last week, but it didn't amount to much. But as badly as we need the moisture, I'm thankful we don't have what they are having in the East. Hopefully we won't experience that kind of weather.

Here 'N There  
Lots of visiting has been going on during the holidays. I don't have it all, but I do have an account of some of it.

James and Stacia Propps hosted their family get together on Christmas Eve. Present

were Don and Jimmie Kay Liles of Holly Lake Ranch, Lynn Francher of Longview, Herb and Dickie Propps of Seymour, Chance Propps of Los Angeles, Donnie and Barbara Ryder, Shannon Propps, Trey Propps and Carrie West, all of Benjamin; Shaylee Propps of WT A&M, Canyon, and the hosts: James, Stacia and Cody. Also, Ton Brown of Rochester was a guest. On Christmas Day, the groups were at Shannon's for their traditional dinner. Also dropping in on Thursday for a brief visit was Jay Whitten and family of Lubbock.

Imagean and Dutch Young had Christmas on Wednesday before Christmas. The family, Mike Young, Deann Lamb, and Anthony and Jessica Lamb all of Benjamin were in attendance as was Imagean's sister, Jane Gideon, also of Benjamin.

The Conner family all met at the home of Blaine and Gary Neal in Seymour for a lunch on Sunday and gift exchange following. Attending were Hazel Stockton, Bud Conner, Kim Moore, Shelby Russell and Jimmy and Michele Barrientez and family, all of Benjamin; Keith and Pam Conner and Casey, Lacey and Carson

Conner of Midland; Bob and Stephanie Bronnan and family of Lubbock; Samijo Russell of Knox City and the hosts, Blain and Gary.

Our family met at the home of Mike and Debbie Moorhouse for our Christmas get together. Present were Lynn and Michael Rogers of Snyder; Cody Taylor and family, Beckie Keys and family of Amarillo, Diane Evans and family of Childress, Jessica Moorhouse and Brandon Hutchenson of Abilene, Liz Herring and family of Munday, Will Moorhouse of Sweetwater and Gladene Green of Benjamin.

Edith Broach of Lubbock spent Christmas her and at Knox City with relatives and friends.

Bo Milson planned to go to Austin to spend Christmas with daughter, Kelly. Last weekend, her children, Kathy and Kermit of Spur and Shane who lives in Oklahoma, were all here and she said on Tuesday, David was on his way home from North Carolina where he had been to watch his son, Tanner, play ball. Said David is doing well. It's just hard to get them all together at the same time.

## Keeping an eye on the green slime of biofuels

COLLEGE STATION — Algae grown for biofuel could be a sweet deal, but without constant monitoring, its growth process can be inefficient and economically untenable, according to a Texas AgriLife Research expert.

Dr. Alex Thomasson, AgriLife Research engineer, has developed an optical-electronic sensor that will automatically measure algae growth stages and allow micro-management of its production of oils for biofuels.

One of the main advantages of using algae for biofuel is its rapid growth potential, Thomasson explained. The other advantage is that algae can be induced to produce large quantities of lipids — fatty molecules that can be used to produce a wide range of hydrocarbon fuels.

Both the amount and type of lipids that algae produces depend upon how well the growth processes of the microalgae are regulated. However, the very speed at which some algae grow — some strains may double their mass every six to 12 hours — makes management tricky, he said.

"Very rapid measurements will be required when scaling up to commercial production of algae as a biofuel feedstock," Thomasson said.

Most algal-oil production scenarios consist of two stages, he said. The first stage involves promoting optimal growth so that the number of algal cells increases rapidly. The second stage requires limiting nutrients at exactly

the right time to maximize lipid production by the cells.

"This is a natural response of many organisms; as their nutritional intake is reduced, they tend to convert more of their nutrients to stored energy, such as lipids or fat, to protect against future starvation," Thomasson said. "In fact, a process-control system is necessary in both production stages to ensure that inputs and durations are optimal."

To help solve this problem Thomasson headed a team comprised of himself, Dr. Ruixiu Sui, a U.S. Department of Agriculture engineer in Mississippi, plus Dr. Yufeng Ge, an assistant research engineer, and Yao Yao, a graduate research assistant, both at Texas A&M University at College Station.

Thomasson and the team agreed that measuring optical density of algal cells as they grew in water was the most straight-forward and readily achievable way to go, he said.

"(In research situations) optical density is typically measured by collecting a sample of aqueous solution, taking the sample to the laboratory, and using a spectrophotometer to measure the absorbance of the sample at a specific wavelength," Thomasson said. "OD probes are available and could potentially be incorporated into a process control system, but those currently on the market had not been proven to be of acceptable accuracy, ruggedness, etc., for a process-control system for open-pond

algae production."

To be suitable for commercial production, the optical sensor needed to be mountable at a fixed location in a production facility, operate without human intervention and provide measurements that could be used to adjust production in "real time," Thomasson explained in a paper the team presented at the 2010 annual meeting of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers last summer.

Real time is a computer science term for systems that function instantaneously or nearly so.

In addition to all of the above parameters, Thomasson thought it a good idea not to take measurements in just one wavelength of light as did the laboratory tests. Multiple measurements at different wavelengths would ensure increased reliability, he said. Therefore, the team experimented with wavelengths ranging from 250 nanometers to 2,500 nanometers, from the ultraviolet through infrared.

Because the team has applied for a patent, the actual wavelengths used are subject to intellectual-property protection, Thomasson said. But he could disclose that one wavelength in the near-infrared region was used to accurately measure the slow-and-steady increase of optical density during the growth process, as well as the drop in optical density when more water and nutrients were added.

## Just Jeff

Christmas is all about the kiddos. It has to be. It's not about the Moms, although they are the ones that work their rears off. Imagine all the baking they do; all the sweets, fudge and cookies. A bird and a Ham and of course Mash 'Tators and giblet gravy, Pumpkin Pie and Ambrosia, cleaning house and wrapping gifts. I think I understand why we have Valentine's day, it is the time we make up for 2 holiday meals and the love they put into them.

New Years is coming and time for the resolutions. All fat people have the same one: lose weight. And 90 percent of us are chomping down on a Butterfinger and sucking down a Sonic Route 44 drink by January 15th. How about this year we come up with some promises we can keep. For me, that would be to stay of the cigarettes. Since I have never smoked in my life that would be easy to do.

With New Years Eve right around the corner, I ask all of you one thing. Please do not drink and drive. One bad decision and you can either be in a box or in jail. If you have to drink, then get a driver. It is simple just be responsible. Just think about your future and someone else's.

Heck, I have no problem with people drinking. If it wasn't for booze ugly people would not have kids. I mean, look around Knox City we have some pretty ugly faces, imagine how

many of them have great kids. Thank You Budweiser for all the help! Speaking of a pretty lady marrying a not so pretty man, my son Andy finally broke down and popped the question. We are getting a beautiful daughter in law. Jessy will be the newest member to our clan. Congrats to both of them we are very proud to have such a wonderful daughter.

The funniest part about the engagement is the night of buying the ring. Andy, Zach, Michelle and me went to Wichita Falls to eat and do some shopping (Michelle was breathing, so that meant she was in the mood for shopping) and to buy the ring. Well Zach and Andy are in Zales at the ring counter and the lady comes up and ask them if they need some help. Zach puts his arm around Andy's arm and pulls him close and say's ma'am we are looking for a wedding ring. She looks at them and Zach just pulls Andy closer and says, "We want a real big one that's real shiny and sparkly." She looked very relieved when Andy explained it was for his girlfriend, and Zach backed away to a safe distance out of Andy's slap zone.

I was in Walmart, the cesspool of America, and on the cover of some magazine, it claimed the sexiest woman in America was Michelle Obama. I hate to say anything bad about another man's wife, but wow, that woman could make a freight train take a

dirt road. There is no way she is on the top of any list of good looking ladies... matter of fact she is the definition of "beer goggles".

I have a friend who was stranded in London for Christmas, he was flying back from Russia on business and it was suppose to be a direct flight. Well the pilot had a case of Anal Glaucoma, a.k.a. "had his head up his rear", and wanted to stop off in London for a mechanical check that was not even necessary. He landed in a heavy snow and 2 hours later they shut down the airport and it wasn't until 4 days later that my friend got to depart to his destination. He had the worse Christmas ever and told me if our future is what's happening in Europe, we had better wake up. The goat eaters (Muslims) are taken over. He said it was very scary and is afraid for his grandkid's future.

I ran into a old friend at the grocery store on Christmas Eve. CJ Bruce is still 5'2" and weighs about 242, but I bet he can still crush a baseball or a quarterback with ease. For his size, he has to be one of the best athletes we have ever had here. CJ worked for us for 4 years and was one of Andy's good friends. CJ is in Wichita Falls and works at the prison. He seems very happy and I really enjoyed visiting with him.

God Bless  
Jeff Stanfield

## Simplify the technology in your life for the new year

(StatePoint) Your family's pockets, purses and backpacks are probably packed with gadgets, as technology expands into all aspects of your home and work life.

It seems like every device is turning into a mini-computer that texts, talks, syncs and computes. But do we really need every device to do everything?

Simplifying the technology in your life can make you more serene and even more productive.

Go Basic

Most people use computers for Web surfing, word processing and e-mail. So why get one with the latest feature film-making software? A basic desktop should suffice, without expensive processing chips and the bells and whistles needed for cutting-edge video. Or be thrifty and trendy by buying a tiny netbook for less than \$300.

Consider utility software that keeps computers running smoothly. There are several programs from brands like Norton, McAfee and others that keep your hard drive clean and running fast.

Calling All Cell Phones!

Unless you're a text-crazed teenager or senior executive, why choose a cell phone with more fea-

tures than your laptop? Select a phone that does one thing really well -- make phone calls!

Choose a phone with a simple display and only those buttons you really need, such as dedicated volume controls. For example, U.S. Cellular's CDM8635 is a straightforward model that's a phone first, with large dialpad keys and simple-to-read display. It even includes a noise suppressor, making it easier to hear when background noise is loud, a slow speech option that reduces the speed of the voice on the other end of the line, and frequency altering for those with hearing problems.

And if you'll be traveling, consider a simple global phone, such as the Verizon Escapade, that's usable from over 220 worldwide locations. Without excess features, it's one of the lowest priced global phones, so you can check on the kids or grandkids while in tourist mode. And it includes a simple camera to capture images of your travels.

Camera, PhD

The average photogra-

pher doesn't need to know f-stops to take beautiful shots. Instead of a camera suited for a National Geographic explorer, try one with a PhD button -- "Push here, Dummy."

While big family vacations may require big cameras, point-and-shoot models are all that are needed for that weekend barbecue. Open Sesame

From online banking to email, multiple passwords guard against identity theft. It's even better to remember them all. Consider selecting passwords thematically: Perhaps all your financial accounts should use variations of your favorite beer, or all e-mail accounts should use your pet's name.

Coordinate Gadgets

Do you really need an mp3 player, camera, netbook, e-reader, and home PC? Make sure your gadgets don't overlap in function. You may even help the environment, since gadgets are often less eco-friendly than paper and pen.

Start now and you'll be on your way to simple serenity.

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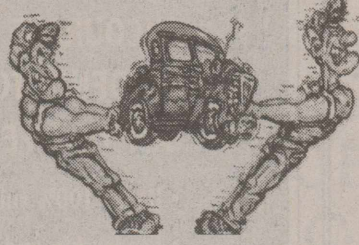
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## AgriLife Research releases new wheat variety for High Plains

AMARILLO – Until Nov. 24, it was simply known as TX02A0252, one of hundreds of wheat varieties being tested in regional field trials throughout Texas for the past five years.

On Nov. 24, it became TAM 113, the latest in a long line of Texas AgriLife Research wheat variety releases, according to Dr. Jackie Rudd, an AgriLife Research wheat breeder in Amarillo.

A wheat variety can only take on the TAM moniker after being reviewed by scientists both within and outside The Texas A&M University System, and has been approved for release by AgriLife Research officials, Rudd said.

The announcement of the variety's release opens it up to be marketed by private industry, as AgriLife Research is in the business of developing new varieties but is not a commercial seed company, said Steve Brown, Texas Foundation Seed Service program director in Vernon.

Brown said Texas Foundation Seed Service's role is to take the product from the research program and expand the seed to a large enough quantity to make it available to a commercial seed company.

Currently, a Texas Foundation Seed Service grower has 80 acres of TAM 113 seed planted for the first Foundation increase.

"While that crop is growing, we've sent out a request for proposals to parties who have indicated an interest in licensing the variety," Brown said. He said anyone else who is interested in submitting a proposal should contact him at 940-552-6226 or rsbrown@ag.tamu.edu for more information.

TAM 113 has been submitted to the State Seed and Plant Board for consideration and acceptance into the Seed Certification Program operated by the Texas Department of Agriculture and has been submitted for plant variety protection, which is similar to a patent, Brown said.

The license packet will include a protected variety that has to be produced in the certification program and the right to produce and sell that seed, Brown said. It is typical, then, for the licensee to sub-license that variety throughout the area of adaptation to other seed

companies who would then produce TAM 113 and sell to producers in their area.

"For the producer, TAM 113 will probably be available on a broad basis in 2012 and 2013," he said.

It takes any new variety approximately 12-15 years to make it from the initial cross through the selection, testing and purification process before it can be considered as a possible release, Rudd said.

The TAM 113 cross was made in 1995 in Vernon, with the final selection made in Amarillo by Rudd in 2002. Along the way, it was recognized for its High Plains' adaptation, yield and exceptional bread-baking quality under both dryland and irrigated trials, he said.

Further testing indicated superior disease resistance, which moved it from one of thousands of experimental lines to one of five that were tested in Great Plains' regional trials, Rudd said. This means it demonstrated growing ability through the hard-winter wheat area from Texas to South Dakota.

While the final recommendation for its growth is for Texas, Rudd said that does not mean it will not thrive in similar wheat-growing areas in other states.

For instance, TAM 111 was also released for this region and is currently the No. 1 variety in Texas, but it is also No. 2 in Kansas; No. 3 in Colorado and No. 4 in Nebraska," he said.

The cross to make TAM 113 includes TAM 105, TAM 200 and TAM 202 as well as experimental germplasm, Rudd said. The 100s series releases were from the Amarillo/Bushland wheat breeding program, while the 200s series were released by the AgriLife Research program at Vernon. The two programs have subsequently become one under Rudd and serve both regions, but maintain the numbering system.

"We build upon success. We bring in variability, but keep the best qualities from our other releases – that's how we succeed."

He said the quality of TAM 113 was tested by the Wheat Quality Council, a national organization made up of millers and bakers from throughout the U.S. They rated it very high for its bread-baking quality, saying it provided better internal texture and higher loaf

volume.

TAM 113 has similar yields in dryland and irrigated trials to TAM 111 and TAM 112; it has better leaf rust resistance than both; and it has better stripe rust resistance than TAM 112, Rudd said.

Dr. Ravindra Devkota, AgriLife Research associate scientist, is an integral part in that process. He has spent the past seven years evaluating data gathered from hundreds of yield trials and locations and helped identify varieties for possible release.

In his data mining, he compares yield, quality and disease data from multiple locations throughout Texas.

"Early in the process, this line started showing promise with its high yields, which got it recognized," Devkota said. "Then the quality data started coming in and made it even more attractive."

Rudd said the team has made a conscious effort to breed for quality.

"At one time, Texas did not have a good reputation for quality wheat," he said. "But TAM 111 is significantly better than the highly recognized TAM 107, and TAM 113 is better than TAM 111 for baking quality."

"This is a real positive step for us. Our goal is for millers to source or look to the Texas High Plains for the best quality wheat."

TAM 113 is the latest of approximately 25 releases that have been developed by the AgriLife Research Center of Excellence wheat breeding program based in Amarillo and Vernon, Rudd said.

"Our research directly benefits the producers and the entire wheat industry, as well as the consumers," he said, adding that an important part of the funding for the wheat breeding program is provided by the Texas Wheat Producers Board.

Over the years, the increased grain yield of more than 1 percent a year has meant that Texas has gone from producing an average of 23 bushels per acre with varieties like Scout 66 in the 1970s to producing an average of 31 bushels per acre with the newer varieties, Rudd said.

And for the consumer, that is the difference of putting an average of 1,679 loaves of bread on the table from one acre of wheat in the 1970s to 2,482 loaves of bread from each acre of wheat during the past decade, he said.

## Teaming up on New Year's resolutions may prove more effective than going solo

HOUSTON – Some people fall short of their New Year resolutions year after year until they finally find that one kernel that helps them achieve their goals – and for many, it's implementing the "buddy system," said a Baylor College of Medicine expert.

"It can be a very effective system to achieve a set goal, as seen in programs such as Weight Watchers and Alcoholics Anonymous," said Dr. Richard Pesikoff, clinical professor of psychiatry in the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at BCM.

But there are important things to keep in mind when you decide to pair up with a pal on your New Year's resolutions, Pesikoff said. The buddy system works best with particular goals, he said. In addition, it's crucial to pair up with the right person.

Teaming up with a friend is best suited for action-based goals, like quitting smoking or drinking, losing weight or starting a fitness routine. Feeling-based goals, like being more forgiving, are generally not right for this approach.

Probably the most important factor in the buddy system is finding a reliable partner – someone who has an attachment both to you and to the goal you have set.

"Look at it like a business contract – any contract is only as good as the person you've entered into it with," Pesikoff said.

You should look for a partner with the same goal as you and who has the ability to meet short-, mid- and long-term commitments, he said. You'll need someone who doesn't want to let you down, and vice versa.

"You've set a certain goal

because it's the right thing to do, but sometimes you need that added foot in the back," Pesikoff said. "A friend can provide that, and there's extra motivation because you don't want to let your friend down. It doesn't feel good when you leave someone out in the cold, waiting for you to show up at the gym."

Buddy systems can extend to more than one person, Pesikoff added. Running clubs are a great example of this. "If everyone else in your group is doing it, you'll be more likely to do it too," he said.

Goals can take a long time to achieve, usually because it takes a long time for cravings for such things like food, alcohol and cigarettes to disappear. So be sure to find a buddy who will stick with you for an indefinite period and one that you can continue to turn to if cravings reappear.

## Nominations sought for Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, deadline Feb. 28

ATHENS, Texas – Individuals or organizations that have made a lasting contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas may be nominated through February 28 for induction into the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame.

Nominations may be made in the categories of industry, angler or media. The nominee must be a Texan or Texas organization.

Individuals may be either living or deceased. One nominee will be chosen by an independent selection committee and formally inducted during the annual Hall of Fame banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens.

Prior inductees include Floyd Mabry, Jackie Hewlett, R.D. Hull, Bob Kemp, Nick Crème, Charlie Inman, Sugar Ferris, Leonard Ranne, Earl

Golding, Kathy Magers, the Sabine River Authority, Skeeter Boats, Michael ("Shorty") Powers, Ray Murski, Albert S. Bradley, Richard M. Hart, William B. ("Doc") Shelton, Charlie Pack, Paul Hinton, Edward Bond and Philip Durocher.

Nomination forms and instructions are available on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department web site or by calling (903) 670-2228.

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America needs good citizens, strategic thinkers, and leaders. As a teacher, I recommend the Army National Guard to students who want to learn more about leadership and teamwork.

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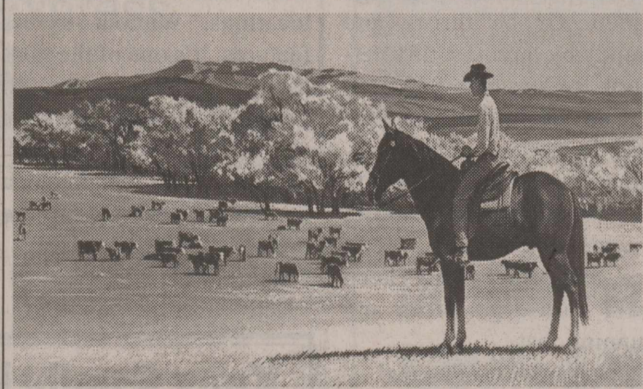
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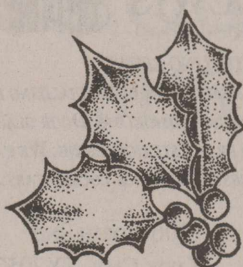


Do Your Part, Don't Let A Wildfire Start. TEXAS FOREST SERVICE

Happy New Year from The Knox County News!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from everyone at Hollis Livestock Commission. Our next sale will be Saturday, January 8th.

580-688-9213





# OPINION



## The Paperboy

### Getting fuzzy

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

It's happened. My vision is declining. What was once 20/10 vision is now much less.

Outside of getting a fishing lure in my eye 20 years ago, my dealings with eye doctors have been few and far between. Those days are coming to an end.

I'm told it's common in your 40s. How wonderful. I suppose I can throw that right in there with increased lower back pain and more nose and ear hair. Hooray!

Soon I'll have glasses. I wonder if I'll look smarter? I've always thought those wearing glasses looked more intelligent than those without. Perhaps I'll even look more distinguished.

I don't believe I'll ever be in the market for contact lenses. Right off the top of my head I can think of a couple of hundred things I'd rather do than mess with them. Maybe you get used to it, maybe not, but the thought of messing with them seems unpleasant.

It's the time of year for your New Year's resolutions, if you're into that type of thing.

I'm making a few this year including diet, exercise and sleep. I've been promising myself for years that I'll get in shape and now it's time to deliver. Besides, my children need me to be an "active" part of their life and that's good motivation for me.

I had a buddy tell me that his New Year's resolution was to stop making resolutions. That's not a bad idea either...

Ever been tased? Childress County Sheriff Michael Pigg stopped by the other day and zapped four employees.

Sheriff Pigg didn't shoot the darts and then tase. He simply touched their right thigh with the device and gave them a quick tase.

Even so, the instrument is very effective. Each employee conceded that there is no way in the world they would want to be fully tased as if they were perpetrators.

If you'd like to see the employees getting a small sample of a taser, you can see the video at [thechildressindex.com](http://thechildressindex.com).

By now I'm sure you've heard of Apple.

The company which spent the 1990s getting its hat handed to it by Microsoft has become the company to own stock in and for good reason. Their iPhones, iMacs, iPods, iPads are revolutionizing technology.

Now Apple might be on the verge of one of the greatest technological breakthroughs in history. Apple now has a patent revealing plans for holographic display.

Before you start thinking about 3-D television and movies, which are already becoming prevalent, this is something else.

Apples holographic images will require no glasses. Furthermore, you will be able to walk around the hologram.

This new technology could be used to produce a new generation of televisions, computer monitors and movie screens.

Not much has been released on the new technology, but apparently it relies upon a special screen that is dotted with

tiny pixel-sized domes that deflect images taken from slightly different angles into the right and left eye of the viewer. By presenting images in this manner, it creates a stereoscopic image that the brain interprets as three-dimensional.

The patent states: "An exceptional aspect of the invention is that it can produce viewing experiences that are virtually indistinguishable from viewing a true hologram."

"Such a 'pseudo-holographic' image is a direct result of the ability to track and respond to observer movements."

"By tracking movements of the eye locations of the observer, the left and right 3D sub-images are adjusted in response to the tracked eye movements to produce images that mimic a real hologram."

"The invention can accordingly continuously project a 3D image to the observer that recreates the actual viewing experience that the observer would have when moving in space around and in the vicinity of various virtual objects displayed therein. This is the same experiential viewing effect that is afforded by a hologram."

"It allows the observer, for example, to move around a virtual object and top observe multiple sides from different angles."

Incidentally, Apple's stock has skyrocketed over the past decade and is now trading at over \$320 a share. A few years ago it was less than \$10.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

## The Icelandic Model Disproves "Too Big to Fail"

By BILL WILSON

In 2008, there were two competing wisdoms about what to do about failing financial institutions in the wake of the economic crisis. The first said to do nothing and allow institutions that behaved irresponsibly and became overleveraged during the housing bubble to fail. The second said that those institutions were so interconnected, and that the losses they were facing were so insurmountable, that their failure would have spawned a worldwide depression. In short, they were too big to fail.

Implicit in the latter wisdom is that the ability to extend credit beyond the scope of the economy was necessary for prosperity. In other words, those banks just had to continue lending to keep money flowing through the economy. This portrayed the crisis as one of liquidity rather than of solvency.

In the U.S., obviously, policymakers opted for bailing out the financial institutions to, they said, keep credit available in the wider economy. The Federal Reserve opened its lending facilities to investment firms that bet poorly on mortgage-backed securities (MBS), derivatives and other financial instruments. Congress put mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into conservatorship. The \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program was sold on the premise of taking toxic securities off the books of the banks. Then it was quickly converted into a "bank recapitalization" fund, and next the Fed stepped in to buy \$1.25 trillion of the toxic MBS.

This, we are told, saved the nation and indeed, the world, from a complete economic collapse. It took the bad bets made in housing and transferred the losses to the government because, thought the policy wonks, those losses could be absorbed by taxpayers. Countries like Ireland and Spain have adopted this model, guaranteeing the financial institutions against losses after their own housing manias went bust. Others, like Iceland, refused to bail out the banks and let the bank's bondholders

eat the losses.

Perhaps this is owed in part to the fierce liberty of the Icelandic people. These are the same people who remained neutral in World War II. The Germans wanted an air base there, but the government told the Nazis to pound sand. The British countered with their own offers of assistance, but they were unwanted, too.

Physically, Iceland forms where the North American and European tectonic plates meet. Politically, it seems that it too has adopted models from both sides the Atlantic. While it has European-style socialism in parts of the economy, it maintains an independence that is distinctly North American.

Although its parliament has applied for accession to the European Union, the people have come to their senses and are rebelling against the decision, coming out two-to-one against, reports The Telegraph's Daniel Hannan. Also, a March 2010 Capacent Gallup poll found that 69 percent of its citizenry does not support the adoption the euro as a currency.

It has a flat tax system and a low corporate tax rate, but it also has a national sales tax. It has a government-run health care system, but it also has strong property rights for native Icelanders. Its energy sector is largely self-sufficient with geothermal and hydroelectric facilities, although it has to import many other natural resources. In many ways, it remains a modern model of a free, sovereign people who refuse to be pushed around, but yet are not completely isolated.

So, its decision to go against the grain and forego a banking bailout has become something of a testing ground economically. Who is better off, those who bailed out the financial sector, like Ireland, or those that did not, like Iceland?

Certainly, the case for "too big to fail" in Iceland would have been compelling. As noted by Bloomberg News, at the time the crisis hit in 2008, "the banks had debts equal to 10 times Iceland's \$12 billion GDP." By the

logic of "too big to fail," Iceland's decision to let the banks fail should have completely destroyed the economy. Businesses should have closed down shop completely from an inability to meet payroll as credit ceased to exist.

But that did not happen. Surely, a recession did follow the largest financial crisis per capita in human history. It immediately resulted in a massive devaluation of the Icelandic currency, the krona, in foreign exchange markets. And although the recession was steeper in terms of GDP compared to Ireland, its unemployment is and will remain lower, according to data by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development: 8.1 percent projected in 2011 for Iceland versus 13.6 percent for Ireland.

So too is Iceland's budget picture better off than Ireland's, according to the Bloomberg News report, citing European Commission estimates: "Iceland's budget deficit will be 6.3 percent of gross domestic product this year... compared with the 32 percent shortfall in Ireland... [And] Iceland's budget will be in surplus by 2012, compared with Ireland's deficit of 9.1 percent of GDP". How can this be?

"The difference is that in Iceland we allowed the banks to fail," Iceland President Olafur Grimsson told Bloomberg Television. "These were private banks and we didn't pump money into them in order to keep them going; the state did not shoulder the responsibility of the failed private banks."

Finance Minister Steingrímur Sigfússon says that a bailout would have been impossible: "There was not a question that we would rescue the banks; they were far too big." They were completely overleveraged. According to the prevailing wisdom here across the pond, their failures should have been a financial doomsday.

But it wasn't. Apparently, the damage that Wall Street can inflict on Main Street should it fail is not as cataclysmic as is widely believed. New York Times' Paul Krugman

makes the same point: "The moral of the story seems to be that if you're going to have a crisis, it's better to have a really, really bad one. Otherwise, you'll end up taking the advice of people who assure you that even more suffering will cure what ails you."

So, because Iceland let the financial institutions, and not the taxpayers, bear the losses of the financial collapse, the country remains essentially solvent. In contrast, Ireland is in deep trouble, and just had to accept an €85 billion bailout from the European Union. Shucks. Trillions of dollars later in bailouts and "stimulus," should we have just done nothing after all?

In the U.S., the worst may yet be ahead, although, the current 9.8 percent unemployment rate and a national debt at almost 100 percent of the GDP is certainly bad enough. Our budget picture is so bad that the Federal Reserve will soon be, if it is not already, the top lender in the world to the U.S. government — more than China or Japan.

Moody's has threatened to shift the credit outlook of the nation to negative as soon as 2011, and to downgrade our Triple-A credit rating by 2018 if the accumulation of debt is not reduced drastically.

This may ultimately result in a sovereign debt funding crisis where interest rates go through the roof, inflation too would rise, and the dollar's status as the world's reserve currency would be threatened.

Of course, it's not too late, but if that happens, it may be that the U.S. traded a severe recession that would have resulted from letting financial institutions fall for a national default that threatens to destabilize the global economy once again. "Too big to fail" will have become too big to save. Certainly a recession, even a sharp one, would have been better than losing the status of the world's economic superpower. Too bad we were not more like Iceland.

## The 10 Year Counting: What we can learn

By RICK MANNING

The census has been with us for more than 2,000 years, and is so important that the founding fathers wrote it into the U.S. Constitution as one of the duties of the federal government. While the process has changed from the time of Christ, where the people came to the census takers, to a more modern system of counting, the effect is the same — the government knows how many people reside within its borders at one fixed point in time.

In the U.S., this decennial census has the impact of deciding how many congressional districts each state gets, and the eligibility of the state for various federal government tax distribution programs.

One unintended consequence of the 2010 census is that it reveals a simple truth. People move to states which have lower taxes, and away from high tax states. This is reflected in the apportionment of seats in the House of Representatives: high tax states New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Illinois and Massachusetts lost 6 seats, while zero-income tax states Florida and Texas netted 6 new seats.

We saw this in 2010, when the most famous moving van in sports took self-adulating basketball star LaBron James' skills to South Beach. The fact that South Beach is in Florida, which doesn't have a state income tax, might just have played a small role in the decision.

On a less public scale, the geniuses who run Maryland's state government decided to impose a "millionaire" tax with the idea of increasing their revenues to support their ever burgeoning welfare state. Just like LaBron, Maryland's millionaires apparently decided to take their talents elsewhere as the Wall Street Journal reports that the number of millionaires in Maryland declined from 3,000 to 2,000 in just one year after the millionaire's tax went into effect.

The WSJ story quotes Christopher Summers, president of the Maryland Public Policy Institute, as explaining the reason for the decline by noting, "Marylanders with high incomes typically own second homes in tax friendlier states like Florida, Delaware, South Carolina and Virginia. So it's easy for them to change their residency."

The phenomenon of the wealthy moving away from high tax areas to lower tax areas is not confined to just state governments. In the 1970's, Great Britain had an effective tax rate of just under 95 percent for the wealthy, meaning that the taxpayer got to keep one shilling for every twenty shillings earned. The Beatles wrote about this phenomenon in their song on their Revolver album called "Taxman," with eerily familiar lyrics,

*"Should five percent  
Appear too small,  
Be thankful I don't  
Take it all."*

*"Cause I'm the taxman."*

*Yeah, I'm the taxman."*

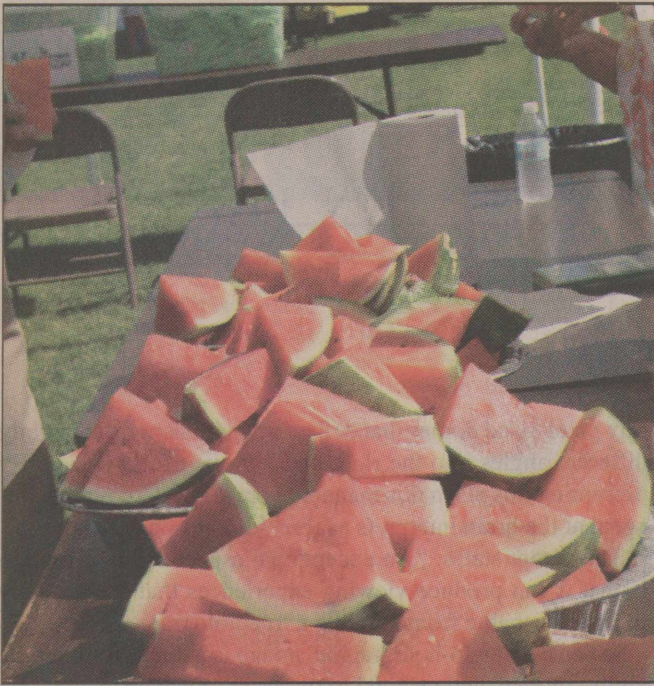
But John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr didn't just sing about hating taxes, they did something about it. According to numerous sources, Apple Records was at least partly, a scheme to avoid paying taxes.

However, even if the left, that continues to cling to the notion that the wealthy will just stay put no matter how high the tax rate, only listened to John Lennon's socialist anthem, "Imagine", they would be hard pressed to miss how other music icons have moved to avoid onerous tax rates. Icons like the Rolling Stones' Mick Jagger who escaped Great Britain's tax system by moving to the south of France, where one publication lists him as the top "tax exile" in the world, and Phil Collins, who is number ten on the list.

Given this history, no one should be surprised that the just released U.S. Census shows that Americans, are also behaving rationally by flocking from high tax states to low tax one's, and that those who are left behind are often those who use the very government services that have driven the tax payers out of the state.

So the question is simple, are those who continually look for ways to soak the rich merely ignorant of history, or do they just choose to ignore it?





Even with temperatures exceeding the 100 degree mark, Knox City residents still showed up in droves to the annual Watermelon Festival the last weekend of September



July 4th was celebrated county wide with the Freedom Fest Parade and Fair in Munday.



December, Knox found the announcement Duckwalls Vriety Store to close soon after the first of the year.



The long awaited walking path that runs the perimeter of the Knox City Golf Course was finally finished in late August.

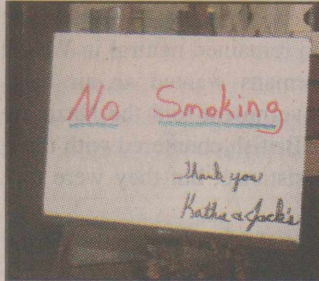


The Knox City Chamber of Commerce voted Joanne Albus the Person of the Year.

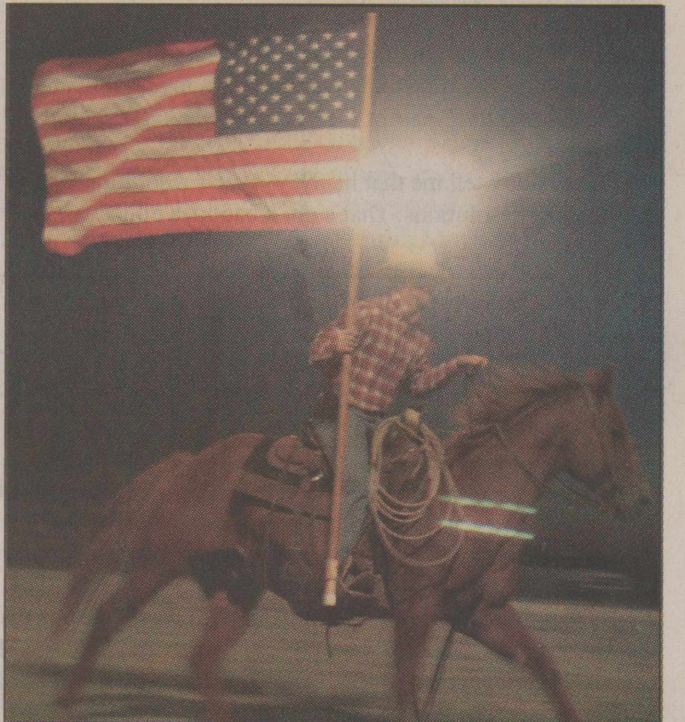


Knox County woke up to a white world outside their windows as a snow storm covered the ground with a glorious blanket of snow

In April, several Knox City eateries decided to hoin the better health campaign and went to a non-smoking atmosphere.



Derrick Coleman was given a hero's welcome back into Knox City after winning three metals at the State Track meet in May.



This year marked the bi-annual homecoming for Benjamin, Knox City, Rule, Rochester, and Munday.



The children of Knox Communities met at the Knox City Park for the annual Easter egg hunt.



Torrential rain storms didn't hinder the September Run-Walk event that profitted over-seas ministries

### Just follow the money

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