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KNOX COUNTY NEWS

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VOLUME XXIX

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009

75 CENTS
NUMBER 7

Cody Pack Newest Member of Knox City Council

By TAMARA SMART

At the November Meeting of the Knox City City Council, there was a new face sitting at the table. Cody Pack, who most people in Knox County know as one of our local State Highway patrolmen, was sworn in to the council on November 12, 2009.

Mr. Pack fills the seat on the council that was vacated by Heath Turner after he resigned in order to become a part time City Policeman. The Council voted in the October meeting whom to ask to fill this position, and the decision was made after a secret vote amongst the remaining councilmen to nominate Cody Pack to join the board.

Upon being asked to be a councilman, Cody accepted the position wholeheartedly. "If I can, I want to help better the community and

the city of Knox City," was Officer Pack's sentiments concerning his new position.

Officer Pack is married to Shannon Pack, a nurse, and has two children (ages 14 and 7). He has lived in Knox City since August, 2005 when he moved here from Merkel. Being an officer of the law, Cody is used to being put in the "hot seat" and making tough decisions, two things that will help him serve the council to the utmost.

Cody reflected on his first meeting as a councilman in November as "going smoothly" but realizes this, as most new endeavors in life, will be "a learning experience."

The Knox City Council will meet again December 10th at 7:00 pm.



The lawn of the Benjamin Courthouse has been transformed into a holiday wonderland thanks to Dub & Ja Cartwright, who spent many years collecting Christmas decorations, which adorned their own yard for ages. Now, all of Knox County can enjoy this compilation of Christmas décor as it sits in front of the County Courthouse. The collection is complete with many Disney figures, Santa and Mrs. Claus, signs wishing "Seasons Greetings", Family Circus characters, patriotic themes, and much more. The scene is illuminated at night and well worth the drive to Benjamin to view and take pleasure in these figurines.

(Photo by Jason Smart)



Knox City Jr. Firemen Program Flourishes

By TAMARA SMART

One of the greatest assets in Knox City is the heart of the volunteer... that is seen especially at unfortunate instances of fires, at the hospital when a landing zone needs to be made, and in the Fire Hall the first three Mondays of every month. Recently, this passion for helping and saving one another in time of need that fuels the volunteers of Knox City Fire Department has been seen extended in a more youthful nature.

Although the Jr. Firemen Program has always existed in Knox city, it wasn't an active program until a high school student who was looking to apply for college grants approached the Firemen about getting volunteer hours and community service with them.

The Jr. Firefighters is open for any Knox City/ O'Brien youth from the age of 15-18 to join. All they have to do is fill out an application. All the Jr. Firemen are allowed to do is attend the Fire meetings; they do not respond to fires, they do not mess with fire gear or equipment. They are allowed to go to the meetings and see how the whole thing works in that way.

There are two firemen at the schools, Terry Butler & Teddy Espinosa who can answer any questions about the program for interested youths.

LOOKING AHEAD

Foursquare 75th anniversary will be held December 12 and 13th. They will be "Celebrating our Past and Connecting with our Future". All are invited to attend and worship with them. Please call Gary or Wanda at 658-3345 for more information.

The December meeting for the Knox County Retired School Personnel will be a covered dish luncheon at 12 noon on Tuesday, December 15. We will meet at Fellowship Hall of First United Methodist Church in Munday. Lou Jagers, District 9 TRTA President, will bring a brief message on current affairs for retired teachers. Leona Partridge and Cathy Albus will hostess the luncheon. In addition to bringing a covered dish for the lunch, each member should bring children books for our book drive, two bingo prizes for the nursing homes and each member's total steps for Walks a Million and the annual total of volunteer hours. We look forward to having a large group of members and spouses present at the meeting.

Birthday Party for Jesus

All kids ages 2- 4th grade are invited to attend a Birthday Party for Jesus on Sunday, December 13 from 4-5 PM at the Methodist Church. Come join us for games, crafts, singing, and birthday cake!

There will be a community food drive from now to the end of December sponsored by Lawrence Brothers Grocery and the Knox City Ministerial Alliance. The community is being asked to assist with the effort by purchasing holiday food bags for \$10 each at Lawrence brothers during November and December. The bags will be distributed to families in the community needing assistance by the Ministerial Alliance and church volunteers each Wednesday evening from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Knox City First United Methodist Church starting Wednesday, December 2, 2009. For more information contact Pastor Tim Trimble at First United Methodist Church at 406 SE 2nd, 658-3517.



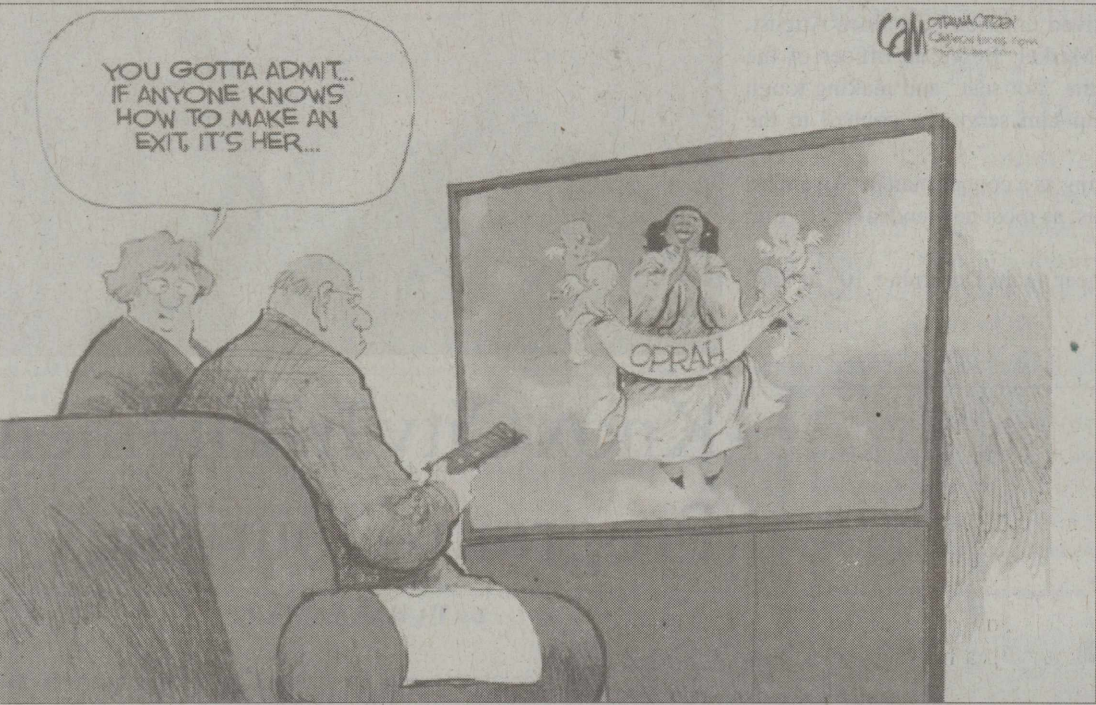
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OPINION



Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters should be no more than 200 words and can be mailed to the Knox County News, 110 N Central, Knox City, Texas, 79529. Please include your street mailing address (no P.O. boxes), daytime phone number and full name. Our e-mail address is kcnews@valornet.com.



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

Healing, Shopping and Irony

My wife Sharon reached a milestone in her road to recovery Monday afternoon. After over two months, her central line was removed and she no longer has to receive her antibiotics via IV. It was an immediate boost to her psychological well-being. It was to mine too! Again, thanks to all of you who've had us in your thoughts and prayers. It has made a tremendous difference in our lives and has given Sharon the will and the strength to heal.

Christmas will be here before you know it. Keep in mind that there are local retailers with great merchandise to sell. Your neighbors rely on local sales to make ends meet and they need your support! We all look forward to a day-trip to a larger town to get some shopping out of the way. There is nothing wrong with that. But, keep in mind the items you can get locally. That's all local merchants ask. Give them a chance!

Sometimes our weather can be brutal. If you've been outside the past couple of days, you know what I mean. Tuesday, I knew it was slick when I went to start my truck to take my son to school. Our back steps were treacherous. When I came in to get my son for school, I warned him of how slick it was. As soon as he hit the top step he went down hard. We made it to school though. Later, I was getting out of my truck when I went down. Guess it's a good thing Sharon is getting better because I'm hurting from my neck to my right foot.

Anyone tired of our "leaders" never leading by example? Somewhere in the neighborhood of 100 world leaders are meeting in Copenhagen to try and rob us of more of our money at the climate summit. So far, with the event underway, Copenhagen is expecting 140 private jets and 1,200 limos. Isn't that ironic? How about you fly commercial and take the train to the summit. That might actually start to convince me that there is a problem. The fact is when it was proven the planet was actually cooling, they dropped the term global warming for climate change. News-flash, this is a planet - the climate has been changing for billions of years and will continue to do so until it is consumed by our sun in a few more billion years. I implore you, dear readers, to check your own sources and find out the truth about climate change and other major topics concerning us. To take what the mainstream media tells you as gospel is a dangerous way to form an educated opinion. Don't be afraid to ask questions and get the facts. The truth shall set you free!

I've been a Tiger Woods fan since he was a boy and I first heard about him on "That's Incredible." It's rough to watch the circus his life has become since Thanksgiving night. I'm disappointed in Tiger because I have a big problem with infidelity. I really don't know what to think about the situation other than the man has lacked the proper discipline in certain areas. Along with so many other athletes and celebrities, Tiger will now be known for plenty of other things besides being the greatest golfer in history. What will be most interesting to me will be how he plays now. It's a new ball game for him as he has never been the butt of every new joke coming down the pike. When my wife asked me if I thought his endorsement deals were in trouble, I responded by saying that there are plenty of products out there for Tiger. Perhaps he can endorse a condom company for times when "You're on the prowl like a Tiger!" I know that was terrible...

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.

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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SUDOKU

7		4	6	5			9	
9	5			3	2	6		4
	1							
		1	8			7		3
	7			1	5			
				4	3	1		
			3			8		
	6			2			5	7
4		7			9	3		6

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The 501

by
Hanaba Munn Welch



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.

Just do it.

That's how you break the news to your spouse that you dropped your cell phone in the toilet.

Me, I fretted a while first. I let him read part of the paper and drink some of his first cup of morning coffee. Even then, I proceeded with caution.

"Ever do anything stupid?" I asked.

He said he had. That's what I'd hoped he would say.

"I dropped my cell phone in the toilet," I said.

His response made me feel much better. He said one of his employees flushed his phone.

At least I didn't flush mine. Our sewer line probably couldn't have handled a cell phone. I know our sewer line.

Back to my phone. It happened about 3 a.m. I hadn't been able to sleep. I don't know why I dropped the phone. It all happened so quickly. I fished it out quickly. The phone blinked at me a couple of times, shuddered and the death throes were over. I placed it near an electric heater and hoped it would revive, sort of like the way a chilled lamb will come back to life in front of the kitchen oven. The phone didn't rouse. Then I really couldn't sleep - not even on our old sofa. I keep thinking about the unfortunate phone.

Earlier in the week I'd spent some time wondering how I'd ever lived without a cell phone. I'll keep wondering. Only my \$300 iPhone took the plunge. I still have my \$30 secondhand Nokia. How did I ever live with just one cell phone? I'll find out.

The phone fall reminds me of what my friend Larry experienced years ago when he was staying with his 90-something-year-old grandfather. Larry's parents were traveling. His granddad flushed his teeth down the toilet. Teenager Larry told his mother the bad news by phone.

"The dentist's number is written down," she told him.

Larry's reply: "Dentist? I need a plumber!"

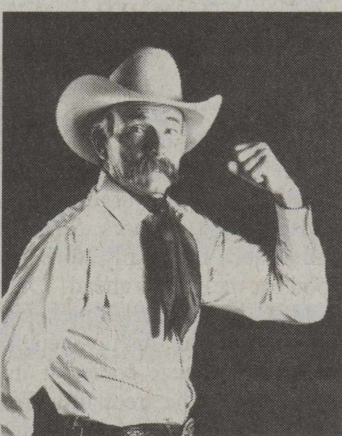
Larry and I think alike. Try the cheap solution first. (Only in the context of dentists do you get a chance to call a plumber cheap.)

Back to phones. I once dunked one in a Coke, mistaking the cup for the cell phone holder in the console of my vehicle. It happens.

I grabbed the phone, disassembled it, patted the pieces with a paper towel, stuck everything back together and laid it on the defroster. Within 15 miles it came back on.

Not too long after that, I dropped that phone on the ground at night and didn't discover it until the next morning. A whole colony - I exaggerate -- of tiny ants had migrated to my phone. It must have been the Coke. They were reluctant to leave. I don't exaggerate.

A friend of mine said her husband has dropped phones in watering troughs. A lucky winter day in the livestock business is when you drop your phone before you break the ice. I'm keeping an eye on stock water during this cold snap. Wish me luck.



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black,
DVM

INTERNATIONAL GOAT SENSATION

There is a parable of the International Goat Sensation. A story about a boy and his goat. Tim was a kind-hearted graduate student who raised Longhorn cattle. On his daily trips from ranch to school and back, he passed a plowed field with sparse feed left. A big horse and a small goat stood by the fence and watched him as he came and went. Concerned for their well being, the third day he stopped at the feed store, bought some hay pellets and after dark, snuck back to the pasture and fed them.

One day he saw a man loading the horse in a trailer. Tim pulled in to visit, never mentioning his 'meals on wheels' activity. It turned out that the owner had been hospitalized and it was his brother picking up the horse. The sick owner had given instructions to sell the animals...

"I've got the horse sold," he told Tim, "But my brother promised the goat to a family of 'exchange students' from Mexico and I'm afraid they plan to eat him."

This saddened Tim so he reluctantly took the goat. He named him Chico. Back home Chico didn't fit in with the longhorns. They used him variously as a soccer ball, shot put, back scrubber and tank float! He also stank!

When the veterinarian was out at the ranch working cows he offered to castrate the goat. Might make him better company. Only \$150. He also suggested that goats were herd animals and he should buy Chico a female goat. But...not just any goat!

Tim, Compassionate Tim, who believed the veterinarian, searched all over and finally found a purebred Pygmy female goat in Okmulgee, halfway across the state. At \$4.02 per gallon, the diesel roundtrip cost \$300. Plus, of course, \$75 for the goatess, herself named Lila!

Goat life on the ranch became blissful. Chico greeted all Tim's Longhorn customers by putting his front feet up on the driver's side and waiting from the window to roll down. He became the official caprine greeter. Tim said when his customers would call or e-mail, they never inquired about his health, his family or his graduate studies, but they always asked about Chico! Thus, an undernourished, unwanted, orphan goat that had been banished to spend life with a horse, became an international goat sensation!

Alas, as with many celebrity athletes, when Chico's trading option came up and he became a free agent, Tim couldn't afford to keep him and he was snapped up and is now working at the Walmart in Miami, OK.

KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES

MENUS FOR DEC. 14TH TO DEC. 18TH

MONDAY DEC. 14TH GERMAN SAUSAGE/ CABBAGE SWEET POTATOES BLACKEYED PEAS CORN BREAD COOKIES	PINTO BEANS COLE SLAW CORN BREAD COBBLER
TUESDAY DEC. 15TH SLICED HAM SALAD BAKED POTATO HOT ROLLS COBBLER	FRIDAY, DEC. 18TH HAMBURGERS/CHEESE SLICES FRENCH FRIES LETTUCE, TOMATO, PICKLES & ONION DESSERT
WEDNESDAY DEC. 16TH CHICKEN STRIPS/GRAVY MASHED POTATOES GREEN BEANS BISCUIT CAKE	ALTERNATE DESSERTS FOR DIABETICS
THURSDAY, DEC. 17TH BBQ CHICKEN	PLEASE CALL IN YOUR ORDERS BY 10 A.M. TO 657- 3618 ORDERS CANT BE TAKEN AFTER 10 A.M. AND NEED TO BE PICKED UP AFTER 11 A.M.

Knox County Sheriff Report

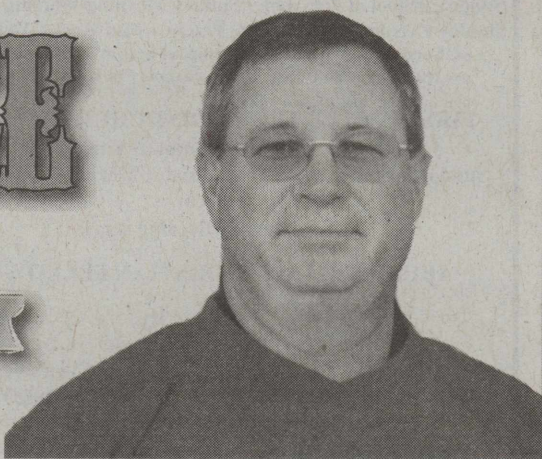
Nov 9- December 1st

Schoolcraft, William 11/14/09 DWI 3 rd (f-3) Foard County	Hull, Gary 11/23/09 Burglary of a habitation (F-2) Knox County
Coody, Eric Lynn 11/14/09 MTR/Theft (M-A) Knox Cnty arrested Williamson Cnty, Texas	Taplin, Robert 11/24/09 MTR/ Assault w/ Bodily Injury (M-A) Knox County (McClennen Cnty warrant)
Moore, Diana 11/19/09 Public Intox (M-C) Foard Cnty	Martinez, Roberto 11/24/09 MTR/Possession CS(cocaine0 (SJF) Knox Cnty (arrested in Shackelford Cnty)
Hands, Cierra S. 11/19/09 Theft (F-3) Knox Cnty arrested in Wichita Falls	Brown, Michelle 11/24/09 TBC (M-B) Knox Cnty (Parker Cnty warrant)
Garcia, Patrick Ralph 11/20/09 MTR/ Credit Card abuse (F-3) Knox Cnty, MTR/Theft (M-B) Taylor Cnty	Lowrance, John 11/26/09 DWLI (M-B) Knox cnty
Dena, Tanya (Tears) 11/21/09 DWLI (M-B) Knox Cnty	Gee, Donny 11/28/09 DUI/ minor (M-C) Knox cnty
Tyree, Joshua 11/23/09 Delivery CS (marijuana) to a child (F-2) Foard Co.	Ramon, Joshua 11/28/09 Assault Family Violence (M-A) Resisting Arrest (M-A) Foard cnty



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Obituaries



Audie L. Johnston

Audie L. Johnston, 94, of Lubbock, formerly of O'Brien, passed away Monday, November 30, 2009 at Garrison Care Center of Lubbock. Funeral services will be held 2 pm, Friday December 4, 2009 at the O'Brien Baptist Church with Jim Reid officiating. Burial will follow in Rochester Cemetery under the direction of Mansell Smith Funeral Home.

Audie Lucille was born on October 29, 1915 in Jonesboro, La. She married the late Sam Johnston in 1931 and he preceded her in death. Audie had worked with the O'Brien Lunchroom and Lowrey's Department Store as well as being a homemaker. She was a member of the Pink Ladies, Knox City Hospital Auxiliary and the O'Brien Baptist Church.

Survivors include three sons Don and wife Marilyn of Slaton, Jim and wife Tenia of Lubbock and John and wife Nancy of Houghton, La.; son-in-law Billy

Proffitt of Lancaster, Cal.; two daughters Sammie and husband Ken Roberts of Plainview and Shirley and husband Freddy James of Shallowater; a sister Avis Johnston of China Springs; 14 grandchildren; 31 great grandchildren and 6 great great grandchildren.

She is also preceded in death by two daughters Joye Johnston and Laura Jeanette Proffitt; granddaughter Kelly Johnston; two sisters and two brothers.



Eva Espinosa Losoya

Vigil will be at 6:30 PM Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with Rev. Joseph Ravi, associate pastor of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church of Pampa, officiating, and funeral mass will be at 2:00 PM Thursday, December 10, 2009, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church in Pampa, with

Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating. Cremation will follow the services, under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Losoya was born June 13, 1945 in Weslaco. She married Lupe C. Losoya on February 26, 1968 in Wichita Falls. She came to Miami in 1990 from Knox City. Eva was a member of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church in Pampa.

The family would like to thank the staff at Pampa Regional Medical Center for their loving care of Eva, and the community of Miami for their prayers.

Survivors include her husband: Lupe C. Losoya of the home; a son: Eddie Losoya and wife Cecelia of Pampa; a daughter: Donna Kay Almaraz of Miami; 5 brothers: Raul Espinosa, Manuel Espinosa, Jr., Robert Espinosa, Juan Espinosa, all of Knox City, and Rosendo Espinosa of Santa Paula, California; 3 sisters: Emma Casillas of O'Brien, Ermenda Sosa of Munday, and Elva Aleman of Garland; 3 grandchildren: Joel Almaraz, Jr., of Miami, Celeste Gonzales and Andres Losoya, both of Pampa; 1 great-granddaughter: Melody Angeliah Almaraz of Santa Maria, California. She was preceded in death by her parents: Manuel and Celia Espinosa.

Memorials can be made to St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

"Lets Talk Plants"

James E "Bud" Smith

One of the prettiest seasons of the year must be the fall. The cooler temperatures allow us to once again feel the urge to go out and enjoy the outdoors. Squirrels can be seen frantically storing up food for the winter ahead. Other wildlife also hurries to enjoy the last of the lush vegetation before the freeze forces it into dormancy. The trees turn from a deep green color to different orange, red, yellow, and brown shades. Why does this happen, and how does a tree know when to begin this transformation?

First we must look at what a leaf is and what it is responsible for. The leaves of trees are responsible for producing the food for the tree to live on. Water is taken up from the roots and sent to the leaves, where it is combined with carbon dioxide that has been absorbed into the leaf. The leaves then use chlorophyll, which is a chemical in the leaf that gives it a green color, to conduct a reaction known as photosynthesis. Photosynthesis, which means putting together with light, will use the energy from sunlight to produce oxygen and glucose. Glucose is a sugar that is used by the plant for energy and a building block for growing. It is also stored in the plant so the tree can survive through the winter months.

The shorter days of autumn as well as cooler temperatures triggers a response from the plant that tells the tree that there is no longer enough energy from the sun to continue to produce food. The trees stop producing chlorophyll which causes food production in the leaves to also shut down. As the chlorophyll is used up in the leaves, the green color leaves and is replaced with red, orange, yellow, and brown. Once all the chlorophyll is gone from the leaves, the tree aborts the leaf and it falls from the plant. The tree will have stored enough food to allow it to survive the winter and re-bud in the spring time. The whole process will begin again for another year.

Whether you are driving through the countryside, or just admiring the trees in your yard, now you know why trees turn in the fall.

We invite you to come and see us anytime. The NRCS Field Office staff can assist you in planning all the conservation needs on your land. Or, give us a call at the plant materials center (940-658-3922), we would be happy to visit with you about our plant material releases and research projects. We also welcome groups large or small to come out and take a tour. Let us know when you want to come and we will have someone available to show you around. We are open Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you. The USDA NRCS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor
O'Brien Baptist

God continually directs me to put emphasis on prayer and to encourage others to always pray. Prayer is so needful today. Our lives are difficult and seemingly becoming more so. Jesus

Christ has given us the blessed opportunity to go to God in prayer and be heard. So many scriptures in God's Word guarantee that He hears and answers our prayers.

When we pray, we want to pray with belief and with fervor. We want to pray knowing that God hears even as we speak, **"Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear," Isaiah 65:24.** We have His assurance that He hears and desires to give us our requests. We are to come to God boldly, knowing that He loves us. We are His children, **"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."** Mark 11:24

These scriptures should remove all doubt that God answers prayers. Many times we simply just don't ask God for our needs to be filled. We will do everything we can of ourselves until we continually fail and then perhaps we will ask God to fulfill our need. **"The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them."** Psalm 145: 18,19.

I believe that you will pray believing that God who loves you will answer your prayers. Never give up on God and never stop praying, **"Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him."** 1 John 3: 21,22.

I pray that you experience the love of God in every way every day.

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Legal Notice

A sealed bid was received for the following property: Parcel number # 6742, account 00600-00020-001400-000000 further described as being, lot 17-18 & N 50' 15-16 in Block 25, Orig, Knox City, Knox County Texas. The Knox County Appraisal District, acting as trustee for the taxing units is offering this property for a sealed bid to all interested parties. Sealed bids may be sent to Knox County Appraisal District, PO Box 47, Benjamin Texas 79505, along with cashiers check or money order for the amount of the sealed bid. Please put the parcel number on the outside of the envelope of the sealed bid. The taxing unit, owners of the property, reserve the right to reject all sealed bids. If your bid is rejected, you cashiers check or money order will be returned. Sealed bids will be opened and considered at least quarterly. For further information please contact the Knox County Appraisal District at the above address or phone: (940) 459-3891.



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Large brick home, located on a corner lot in a great residential neighborhood. Large detached garage and back yard	
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This property has potential for many different uses, with over 4000 square feet of floor space, central H/AC, kitchen area, bathrooms, ADA compliant, and more! A new roof, ample paved parking area, and a great location makes this property a prime candidate for a variety of possible uses. Located at 1101 E Main Street in Knox City.	
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8	6	3	4	2	1	9	5	7
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Lady 'Stangs Win Woodson Tournament

(Stats courtesy of Doug McCollough)

The Lady Stangs won the Woodson Tournament going 4-0.

The finals scores of the four game tournament were:

Lady Stangs 31 v. Lueders Avoca 23
Lady Stangs 45 v. Woodson 20

Lady Stangs 52 v. Moran 34

Lady Stangs 49 v. Paint Creek 25

Tournament Honors for Benjamin Lady 'Stangs:

Tournament MVP - Becky Baldwin
All- Tournament - Teri Miller
The boys gained 4th place in the tournament.
Benjamin- 34 v. Paint Creek- 33
Benjamin- 37 v. Woodson- 48
Benjamin- 48 v. Lueders Avoca- 53
Tournament Honors for Mustangs-
All Tournament - Derric Northrup

Lady 'Stangs Victorious in Rematch vs. Paint Creek Pirates

By Tamara Smart

Twice this season the Paint Creek ladies have challenged the Lady 'Stangs to a game of basketball... twice the Lady 'Stangs have prevailed as the victor. After Tuesday's game in the Benjamin gm, there was no question as to who was the better team, as the final score on the books showed Lady Stangs with a total of 59, while was only able to score 28 points against the Ladies defense.

Becky Baldwin earned 22 of those points, had 11 rebounds, & 3 steals. Teri Miller scored 15 points, 9 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals, & 2 blocks. Raquel Acevedo reaped 8 points, 2 rebounds, 11 assists, & 7 steals to add to the final game stats. Jesse Vanderpol had 6 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, & 1 steal. Valerie Mendoza scored 4 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assist, & 1 steal; Chloe Baty scored 2 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 2

steals, & had 2 blocks.

Coach McCollough had this to say about the game: "The girls played another solid game against Paint Creek. I thought we did a great job of moving the ball around tonight and finding the open shot. Another big factor for us was the rebounds. Several of the girls contributed tonight in that category. We have improved to 4-0 heading into the Woodson Tourney Thursday."

Benjamin Boys Basketball overtake Pirates in Rematch

By Tamara Smart

After suffering a loss to the Paint Creek pirates only days before, the Mustang men showed the Pirates who was boss in the Benjamin gym last Tuesday. The final score was 40 v. Paint Creek- 29.

Derrick Northrup was the lead scorer of the Benjamin Mustang team with 12 points, 2 rebounds, 5 assist, & 4 steals. Other stats left Dusty Stevens with 11 point in the game, 20 rebounds, 2 blocks. Dylan Benson scored 7 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, & 3 steals. Mitchell Welch racked up 4 points, had

7 rebounds, 2 assists, & 1 block. Mathew Acree scored 4 points, & 2 rebounds.

Cody Propps was responsible for 2 points, 1 rebound, 5 assists, & 3 steals.

According to Athletic Director of Benjamin ISD, Coach McCullough, "[The boys] jumped out to the lead early and never gave it up. We played a lot better inside tonight and believe that was the difference in our last meeting. We played aggressive and shut down their big guy in the middle." The boys are now 1-2 heading into the Woodson Tourney Thursday.

BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

Did it get cold or what? It's a miserable grey day this first day of the workweek. As I always say, I'm never satisfied- Hot weather, I want cold- Cold weather, I'm ready for summer! But we take what we get, and really shouldn't complain.

Basketball

Last week was a pretty good week in local sports. On Tuesday nite, Paint Creek came over & the Mustangs & Lady 'Stangs each were victorious. Then on the weekend, the teams were entered in the Woodson tournament. Beginning on Thursday, it continued through Sat. The girls played for first place on Sat & came home with the championship trophy. The boys played for consolation but suffered a loss, thus winning fourth. Good game from both teams according to those who were in attendance. This weekend they play in the Hamlin tournament.

Here n There

There's a little more

Thanksgiving news this week. Judy and Randolph Barnett had company on Thurs. Visiting were Jeff & Sharon Conner, Cheyenne & Cayden of Lubbock, Jim Bob Conner, Charlie & Madelyn of Slaton, & Corrine Parrish who lives here in Benjamin. Also, Matthew Pasey who has been serving in Iraq but will now be stationed in Spokane, Washington. Also visiting during the holiday weekend were former Benjamin residents, Ernie and Mary Dee Eaton who now live in Wyoming.

Philomae Roberson had Jack & Kathy Waldron of Knox City & Tres Pierce & family of Seymour on Thanksgiving.

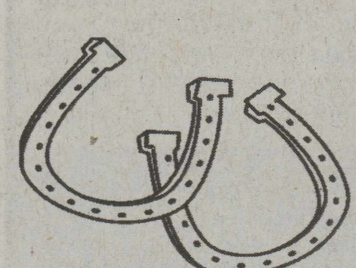
Lorene Powers & Gloria West spent the weekend with Gloria's daughter (Lorene's niece) Cathy Tomlinson & other family members in Denton & the surrounding area. It was Cathy's birthday & so they gathered for a surprise party (& she was surprised!)

Benjamin folks continue

to decorate for the holidays. Steve & Casey Sheedy have lots of lights on & around their house- Cartwrights, Dukes & the Mark Kuehlers are among others who have put out lots of effort to make things look more festive- And many windows have the Christmas trees shining, but at my house, nothing so far- Gotta get busy or I'll be too late! The Methodist church lawn is decorated nicely.

Oh, by the way, in last week's news about Debbie Clowers Thanksgiving company, I failed to say where Sara is in school. She is in her first year of college at Nacadoches.

The news is scarce again this week. I made several calls, but everyone seemed to be "out of pocket". So till next week, I'll say- stay warm & call in your "happenings".



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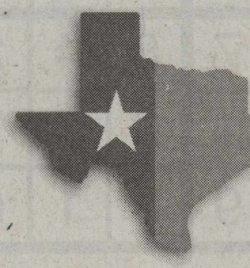
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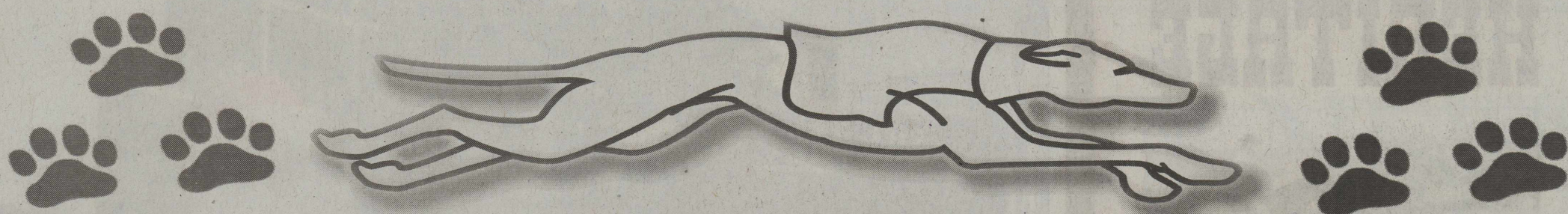
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
Benjamin Independent School District
Monday, December 14, 2009 – 7:00 pm**

Topics for Discussions Include:

- 2008 -2009 Academic Excellence Indicator System
- 2009 Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System
- 2009 Adequate Yearly Progress Results
- 2009 Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives
- 2008-09 & 2009-10 Highly Qualified Teachers Reports

**BISD School Administration Building
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Benjamin, Texas**

KNOX CITY SPORTS



Houndettes 1-2 at Patton Springs Tourney

By Tamara Smart

After suffering a loss to Throckmorton on Tuesday (61-25), the Houndettes went to the Patton Springs Tournament this weekend and played 3 games. In the first game, versus Aspermont, the Houndettes found the first defeat of the tournament, losing by a mere 10 points to the Lady Hornets. Brittney Gonzalez lead the statistical highlights in this games scoring 10 points. Lacey Peirce and Gabriela Moya both scored 7 points. Laura Vasquez and Reagan Clark both put 5 points on the board.

The next game, against Moteley County, Laura Vasquez was the high scorer with 8 points,

followed by Gabriela Moya, Brittney Gonzales and Chastity Tolson, who all scored 6 points. Yet, even with these points, Moteley County barely defeated the Knox City girls 42 to 39.

Finally, the Houndettes met Patton Springs and came out victorious, the final score being 47 (Knox City) to 15 (Patton Springs). The high scorer of this game was Reagan Clark who scored 12 points; and was closely followed statistically by Brittney Gonzales with 11 points, and Brittany Baker, who scored 10 points in that game.

This upcoming weekend, Knox City Houndettes will enter the Hamlin Tournament, meeting Baird at 11:00 on Thursday morning.



Photo courtesy Daveine Clark

Bandy Moeller shoots for two at the Patton Springs Tournament this last weekend.



Photo courtesy Daveine Clark

The Knox City Houndettes competed in the Patton Springs Tournament recently.



Photo courtesy Daveine Clark

The Houndettes competed in the Patton Springs Tournament over the weekend and picked up a win over Patton Springs but lost to Moteley County and Aspermont.

O'Brien Jr. High Lady Bulldogs Lose to Harrold

By Tamara Smart

On Monday, the Lady Bulldogs played Harrold, losing by only 6 points. Heather Thomas was the high scorer of the game, bringing in 12 points to the final score. Joanna Trevino scored eight, Cassandra earned 6 points and Andrea Lynn & Leighton Pepper both scored 2 points each.

The next game is Thursday (12/10) in Crowell at 5:30.

O'Brien Jr. High Boys Basketball

Monday 11-30-09 the JH Bulldogs Played Harrold in Thursday 12-10-09 vs. Crowell Harrold.

O'Brien 11 19 23 30

Harrold 8 12 18 26

Scorers for O'Brien

Zach Carter- 15, Lyndon Baty- 1, Adrian Silva- 2, Zack Rodriguez- 2, Austin King- 2, Tylynne Eaton- 8

The next game is this Thursday 12-10-09 vs. Crowell in Crowell; girls game will start at 5:30 followed by boys.

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The Knox City Elementary school kids and the Benjamin School kids got a surprise visit from Santa Claus on Tuesday. They got to whisper their secret Christmas wishes in his ear and put their letters in his Magic Mailbox, which the Knox County News intercepted and will print the letters in next weeks issue. (photo by Tamara Smart)

Thornberry Files for Election

Committed to conservative, common-sense government under the Constitution

Amarillo - Saying that "these are difficult and challenging times," Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) formally filed his candidacy to represent the 13th-congressional district of Texas during the 112th Congress.

"This is a critical time for our nation, and, thankfully, our citizens are more engaged than ever. That is a good thing because it is going to take all of us working

together to return some common sense to Washington and to get the country back on the right track," Thornberry said.

"I strongly believe in a common-sense, conservative approach of limited government under the Constitution," Thornberry emphasized.

While he is optimistic about the national results of the next election, Thornberry pointed out that his first responsibility is to represent the people of the 13th district during the next year. "It is very important for me stay focused on doing the job I was

hired to do, and that is representing the values and common sense of our area in fighting for what's best for the nation, even when I am outvoted in Congress."

Noting that recent debates have brought renewed focus on the proper role of the federal government, he said, "As fiscally irresponsible as this Administration and the majority in Congress have been, the concern is about more than money. It's about the relationship between government and its citizens. It's about whether our kids have a decent opportunity

to make a living and a life for themselves. It's about whether we are losing some of our freedom to big, intrusive government."

Thornberry has sponsored legislative proposals on issues important to the district and the nation. Among the legislation Thornberry has authored in the current session of Congress are bills to reform health care, to simplify the tax system and encourage small business growth, to encourage domestic production of energy of all kinds, to reform civil service and government employment, and to improve intelligence information sharing between Congress and the Executive branch.

Thornberry serves as a senior member of both the House Intelligence Committee and of the House Armed Services Committee.

A fifth-generation Texan, Mac was born in Clarendon and raised on the family ranch in Donley County. He continues to be involved in the family cattle business. A graduate of Clarendon Public Schools, Texas Tech, and University of Texas Law School, he and his wife, Sally, have two college-aged children.

The 13th district is one of the largest in the country, spanning more than 40,000 square miles over 44 counties.

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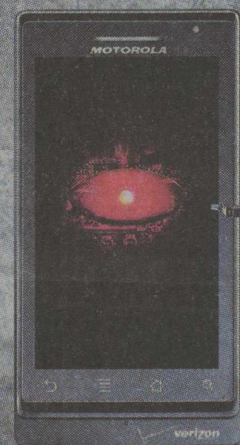
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