

Guess who is a half century old on Friday? See inside for details...



The Knox County



News

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

Volume XXXIII Number 18 • Thursday, February 12, 2004 • Periodical • USPS #903920 • Mailed At Knox City, Knox County, Texas 79529 • 8 Pages + 1 Insert • Price 50¢

Houndettes wrap up district title

Basketball teams split games with Paducah, blowout Munday teams in all three games

- - Tuesday, February 3 - -Varsity Girls - KC - 62, Paducah - 53

Sophie Gutierrez - 21, Jodi Chambers - 2, Nikki Moss - 21, Jessica Albus - 2, Bridgett Billington - 1, Samantha Gutierrez - 15.

Varsity Boys - KC - 27, Paducah - 52

Ben Simmons - 1, Quentin Spells - 3, Derrick Magana - 7, Carlos Ruiz - 6, Dustin Johnson - 10.

- - Friday, February 6 - - JV Girls - KC JV - 41, Munday JV - 35

JV Girls - KC JV - 41, Munday JV - 35

Lindsey Villa - 5, Sondra Silva - 16, Erica Nevarez - 4, Lisa Garcia - 2, Vanessa Solis - 11, Tiffany Wilde - 3.

Varsity Girls - KC - 53, Munday - 35

Sophie Gutierrez - 15, Jodi Chambers - 3, Nikki Moss - 19, Bridgett Billington - 1, Samantha Gutierrez - 12, Brittany Hawkins - 3.

Varsity Boys - KC - 47, Munday - 44 Quentin Spells - 12, Derrick Magana - 9, Rick Gonzales - 2, Carlos Ruiz - 4, Dustin Johnson - 14, Jeremy

Voters in Rochester turn down consolidation proposal by Haskell ISD in Saturday election

Residents of Rochester expressed their feelings about a proposed school consolidation with Haskell, turning down the proposition by a vote of 147 to 128 last Saturday.

Saxton - 6.

Despite the fact that Haskell voters approved the measure with a vote of 627 for and 100 against, the proposed consolidation will not happen because both communities had to vote their approval for the merger to take place.

The idea of consolidation has been discussed for quite a long time in Rochester, forced because of the school districts declining enrollment and funding. The Rochester ISD has lost 30 students in the past five years, and has a current enrollment of 110 students. To provide the current level of services, the school district spends \$1.2 million, but only generates \$1.1 million in revenue. School financial reserves are being used to make up the difference, those reserves currently

In a story that appeared on February 8 in the Abilene Reporter News, Staff Writer Sidney Levesque quoted Rochester Superintendent Steve Self as saying

stand at \$350,000.

that "There will be changes, we told the community that Rochester would not be the same no matter what happened."

If the voters in Rochester are still considering consolidation as a way to overcome the problems caused by shrinking enrollment and funding, the proposal submitted earlier by the Knox City - O'Brien C.I.S.D. is still on the table. In order to consider that proposal, another vote would have to be scheduled and voters from Knox City, O'Brien, and Rochester would all have to vote in favor of the consolidation.

Council appoints Rob Harrison to fill vacancy created by resignation of Lewis

The City of Knox City appointed Rob Harrison as an interim member of the City Council last week, filling a vacancy on the council created when Aaron Lewis of Knox City resigned from the council

Lewis is currently attending the basic police academy sponsored by the West Central Texas Council of Governments in Abilene and will become a police officer in Knox City when he completes the academy and is certified as a law enforcement officer by the State of Texas.

The council appointed Rob Harrison to fill the unexpired term



Councilman Rob Harrison

of Lewis. Harrison has prior experience, having served in the capacity as a City Councilman once before.

Harrison is the Municipal Judge for the City of Knox City, and will continue to serve in that capacity. Rob has lived in Knox City just about all his life and is familiar with all aspects of the community

. He is married to Dorethy Harrison, and the couple reside in Knox City.

Harrison joins councilmen Fred Ledesma, Domingo Garcia, Bud Reynolds, and Darren Clark, working with Mayor Charles Lankford on the City Council.

Knox City to celebrate a century!!

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet this year will 'Celebrate a Century'.

This year's special event will be held March 18 in the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the banquet will go on sale February 16 and are \$10 per ticket. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 658-3442.

142. Daveine Clark, executive di-

rector of the Chamber, is soliciting help to make this Century Celebration a success.

Chamber officials are looking for pictures, memorabilia, stories, or any additional information citizens are wishing to share about the past 100 years.

The Chamber is planning for a wonderful birthday celebration and are hoping that many will be on hand to be part of the fun.

Immediately following the ban-

quet, the Knox City High School one-act play cast will present "The Other Side of the Wall" in the W.R. Baker Auditorium. As in year's past, everyone is invited to attend the production.

If you have any pictures, memorabilia or stories relating to the last 100 years in Knox City, please contact the chamber office at 658-3442.



THE KNOX CITY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM wrapped up the District Championship title with solid wins over Munday and Paducah last week. The final district game was played on Tuesday night of this week at Crowell. In the above NEWS photo, Samantha Gutierrez goes up for a shot against the Lady Dragons from Paducah. Other Houndettes in the photo are (shown left to right in the white uniforms) Sophie Gutierrez, Nikki Moss, Kursten Stafford and Jodi Chambers. Our Houndettes will play the runner-up of District 5, next Tuesday in Jayton.

(News digital photo)

KCHS junior selected for NASA program

By Bettye Moore KCHS Counselor

Ben Simmons, a junior at Knox City High School, was recently notified by NASA that he has been selected by Representative Rick Hardcastle to participate in the High School Aerospace Scholars Program for 2004.

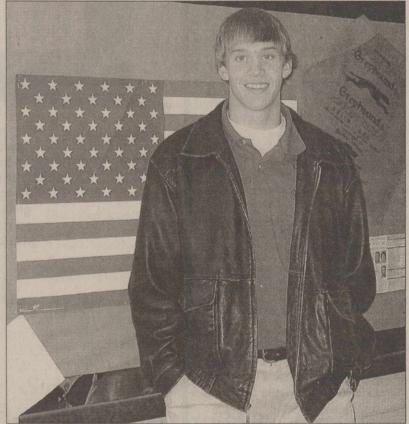
The prestigious program is a math, science and engineering based distance learning program.

Ben will be engaging in a variety of activities including: interactive web based assignments; online mentoring; briefings and tours at Johnson Space Center; and a summer group project.

This program features an all expense paid, week long summer residential program at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Ben is an all around student and athlete at KCHS.

The staff and faculty at KCHS congratulates Ben on this fine accomplishment.



SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN A NASA PROGRAM, Ben Simmons is a junior at Knox City High School. (NEWS digital photo)

KC fire department gains aid from TFS

Knox City Volunteer Fire Department took advantage of equipment aid available from the Texas Forest Service. The department acquired a free 2 1/2 ton flatbed truck courtesy of the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) equipment program administered by the agency. Under the FEPP program, equipment acquired through the military is transferred to qualifying fire departments at no cost.

Additional free equipment is available to rural fire departments, thanks to the Volunteer Fire Department Helping Hands program, through which companies and organizations donate used fire equipment for use by volunteer fire departments. Companies interested in donating industrial fire equipment should contact the TFS



Rural Fire Defense Section at 936-639-8130 for more information.

Volunteer fire departments may save money through several other programs administered by the Texas Forest Service. A self-insurance vehicle liability insurance pool offers liability coverage for \$200 per vehicle, ambulances excluded. Fire departments can also purchase firefighter clothing, hand tools and water handling accessories at discount prices through the Fire Safe pro-

gram. TFS regional fire coordinators located across the state now provide local training in wildland firefighting techniques and assist fire departments with applications for equipment and financial assistance.

Detailed information on volunteer fire department assistance programs is available from the Texas Forest Service regional fire coordinators and from the agency's Rural Fire Defense Section, P. O. Box 310, Lufkin, TX 75902-0310.

Straight Talk



By Dave Thompson What's next for Rochester?

This past Saturday, voters in Rochester and Haskell went to their respective polling places to cast votes about the consolidation of their school districts.

Voters in Haskell apparently liked the idea, 727 voters turned out to vote and 627 voted in favor of the consolidation.

Even though Haskell voters wanted the consolidation, it will not happen because voters from both school districts had to vote their approval and the folks in Rochester turned down the idea with a vote of 128 for and 147 against.

When Rochester began looking for a school to consolidate with, both Haskell and Knox City submitted proposals. The proposal presented by the Knox City - O'Brien C.I.S.D. was actually a much better proposal for Rochester than the one turned in by Haskell, but the steering committee in Rochester selected the proposal by Haskell over Knox City.

Now that the voters in Rochester have turned down a consolidation with Haskell, what is next for our neighbors to the south?

The proposal submitted by Knox City is still on the table, and folks locally like the idea of the two school districts consolidating. The plan submitted by the Knox City - O'Brien C.I.S.D. allows the Rochester campus to remain open as the mid school facility for both districts. That assures the citizens of Rochester that their campus will not be closed. The Knox City plan also assured the citizens of Rochester that their property tax money collected for schools would de dedicated towards the upkeep and improvement of that campus.

If the steering committee in Rochester revisits the proposal submitted by our school system, the entire process would have to start all over again. That would include another vote scheduled at a later date by both school districts. Voters in Knox City and O'Brien would have to approve the consolidation, as well as the voters in Rochester.

Since the voters in Rochester turned down the proposal submitted by Haskell, the basic question when wondering about what happens next is: Do the residents of Rochester actually want a consolidation, or did they just did not like what Haskell was offering?

A consolidation of Rochester and Knox City - O'Brien would be in the best interest of all three communities, and it would further the bonds of family, friendship, and business that already exist between the two communities. While the residents of Rochester decide what their next step will be, all of us in Knox City and O'Brien can help out. Whenever you speak to your relatives in Rochester, and/ or whenever you are in Rochester

conducting business, take the opportunity to let our neighbors know that we would welcome not only the consolidation, but the opportunity for our communities to unite in this way and become much

No one really likes the idea of consolidation, especially those folks who have lived in a community all their lives. Somehow, it seems that a consolidation robs a community of its long established traditions and identity. With the economy and times changing like they are, reality creeps into our daily lives and we realize that ideas like consolidation are necessary to insure the rural way of life that we all enjoy. As our population base shifts with so many families moving away, school districts suffer the most. Not only do they lose the property tax revenue dedicated to schools and education, but they also lose the federal and state money made available on a per student enrolled basis. When the enrollment drops too much, school districts are financially hard pressed to keep the doors open. Declining enrollment also forces schools to drop in classification. and that process affects both sports and academic programs and com-

No one here knows what is next for Rochester, only the voters there know if they actually want to consolidate with another school district. In the interest of keeping education the best that it can be for the kids who live in Rochester, I hope our friends and neighbors to the south will give the Knox City proposal another look. It is both genuine and sincere.

Noah Project - North's dinner theatre is Saturday

The Noah Project - North's annual dinner theatre is Saturday, February 14, at the Haskell Civic Center beginning at 6:00 p.m.

A brisket dinner with all of the trimmings will be served. The silent auction will also be held with items like Tom Ryan prints, motels, gifts and many other things to bid on.

There will be a comedy play with the "Golden Girls of Haskell County" starring Mary Kennedy, Darlene Burson, Martha Jarred and Yvonne Swofford.

WANTADS Work! Call 657-3142

Knox City - O'Brien **School Menus**

February 16 thru 20 **Breakfast Menus** Monday, February 16 - Strawberry Poptart, Juice, Milk. Tuesday, February 17 - Biscuit with Gravy, Juice, Milk. Wednesday, February 18 - Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk. Thursday, February 19 - Pancake with Syrup, Juice, Milk.

Friday, February 20 - Cowboy Bread, Juice, Milk. **Lunch Menus** Monday, February 16 - Cheese Pizza, Pinto Beans, Lettuce, Peach

Tuesday, February 17 - Fish, Cheese Sandwich, Blackeye Peas, Pineapple, Milk.

Cobbler, Milk.

Wednesday, February 18 -Hoagie Sandwich, Lettuce, French Fries, Fruit Cocktail, Milk.

Thursday, February 19 - Steak Fingers with Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Apple, Roll, Milk.

Friday, February 20 - Hamburger with Cheese, Tator Tots, Hamburger Salad, Cookies, Milk.

DPS reports on accident stats from cell phones, road rage

The number of cell phone-related and road rage-related collisions both increased in the latest

statistical data compiled by DPS. Cell phone-related traffic crashes increased from 716 to 1,032 from 2000 to 2001 -a 44 percent increase. In cases where cell phone use was listed as a contributing factor, there were 7 fatalities in 2000 compared to 8 in

Road rage-related accidents jumped from 90 to 219 -a 143 percent increase. There was one fatality in both 2000 and 2001 that was attributed to road rage.

It is important to note that new

accident reporting forms listing cell phones and road rage as contributing factors were not available until April 2000, so comparing the two years may not present an accurate picture.

"It is difficult to draw conclusions at this point, but the data probably understates the problem," said DPS Director Col. Thomas Davis Jr. "There is no doubt that cell phone misuse and road rage create major problems on Texas roadways."

The DPS urges drivers to minimize cell phone usage in their vehicle and refuse to be drawn into the road rage cycle.

KC Area Church Directory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Knox City

Bobby King, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

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

Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ Knox City

Tex Cox, Pastor Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH ~ Knox City Paul Chambers, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m. SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Knox City

Father Leo Schloemer ~ Deacon Ben Vasquez
Sunday Bilingual Mass at 11:00 a.m. ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Rhineland Father Leo Schloemer~ Deacon Ben Vasquez

Saturday Mass at 7:00 p.m. ~ Sunday Mass at 9:00 a.m. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of Benjamin John Gillispie, Pastor Sunday School at 10:00 a.m., Sunday Morning at 11:00 a.m., Sunday Evening at 6:00 p.m.

Monday Through Friday Mornings, 8:00 a.m. Mass

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Benjamin Claude McKiddy, 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 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 6:00 p.m. CHURCH OF CHRIST ~ Benjamin

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.

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

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

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH ~ O'Brien Milton McManus, Pastor Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. Mid Week, Wed. at 6:00 p.m.

> WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Rob Harrison, Pastor -Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Mid Week Bible Study, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

"ABUNDANT LIFE" ZION FULL GOSPEL Rich & Mary Ann Palma, Pastors Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. Mid Week, Thurs. at 7:00 p.m.

THIS CHURCH DIRECTORY IS SPONSORED EACH WEEK BY THESE MERCHANTS

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Crop Hail

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Life

Hospital

Liability

Workers

•Bonds

•Farm

Compensation

Equipment

Knox **County Hospital** 657-3535

O'Brien Co-Op Gin 658-3631

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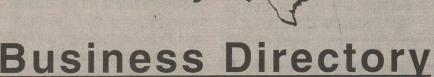
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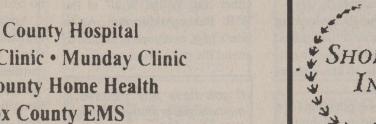
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\$104,442.00 Cash in 2003

Linda Parker of Benjamin announces candidacy for office of Knox County Tax Assessor-Collector

Linda Parker of Benjamin formally announces her candidacy for the office of Knox County Tax Assessor-Collector.

To the Voters of Knox County, I am a lifetime resident of Knox County, having graduated from Benjamin High School in 1966. I am married to Jerry Parker, formally of Munday and we have made our home in Benjamin for the past thirty-four years. We have two daughters and three grand-

I have been employed in the Knox County Appraisal District Office and Knox County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office for twenty-two years, as these offices share office space and employee salaries. I feel the compatibility of these two offices has served to reduce costs over the past years that would otherwise be a significant budget increase for all Taxing Entities involved in maintaining separate offices, equipment and employees.

I have completed mandated certification required by the Board of Tax Professional Examiners, State of Texas, acquiring my Registered Texas Collector Certification and Registered Professional



LINDA PARKER

Appraiser Certification. This entails, over a period of years, a number of courses designed on a professional level and eventually, State Level Exams. I have complied with requirements set by the State of Texas for CEU hours needed to maintain by R.T.C. and R.P.A.

The office of Tax Assessor-Collector handles on a daily basis all vehicle title transfer documents and vehicle registration for Knox County.

Numerous other permits and

placards are obtained through the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office, as well as the maintenance of the Knox County Voters Registration System. Vehicle Title and Registration, and Voters Lists for Knox County require an accounting of and reporting to the State on a regular basis, the collection and depositing of any money, as well as daily accuracy of bookkeeping and accounting procedures necessary for an annual audit of the Tax Assessor-Collector Office functions.

I believe any small office required handling different situations on a day to day basis, meeting with and working with the public in a productive and efficient manner, and performing the duties and responsibilities of that office in a conscientious manner with a pleasant and accommodating attitude toward everyone.

During my campaign, I will attempt to contact each of you personally. If I fail to do so, I apologize that I missed you. I would greatly appreciate your confidence and support in asking that you vote for me as your Tax Assessor-Collector in the March 9 Democratic Primary.

lture Commissioner SUSAN COMBS

Got risk? If you're a business owner, of course you do. With any business venture there is an element of risk; it's one of the first principles taught in Business 101. A new series of risk management workshops is being launched this spring to guide and inform cattle producers - the ultimate agricultural business leaders.

The workshops will be held between April 5 and May 26, 2004, in eight major peef production areas of the state including Amarillo, Wichita Falls, Hallettesville, Abilene, Sulfur Springs, Waco, Palestine and Alpine. For more information, please call 1-800-TELL-TDA.

The Knox **County News USPS 903-920**

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ar in the columns of this paper, will gladly cted upon notice of the same being brought to tion of the publisher personally at the office.

NOTICES, ETC.

Notice of entertainments where a charge of admission is made, resolutions of respect, in memoriam poetry, proclamations, letters expressing political opinions, weddings, engagements, anniversaries, legal notices, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

PHOTOGRAPHS Unsolicited photographs will be considered at a charge that will be determined after the picture is viewed. We prefer actual print photographs or 35mm negatives. We will not be responsible for the final print quality oi photographs submitted by e-mail, CD, or floppy disk.

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

NEWS DEADLINE All items intended for each week's edition must be received in the NEWS office no later than 4:00 P.M. on Mondays. Items submitted after the deadline will be held over for the following week. All items submitted are subject to holdover for future editions, depending on

e, content, and available space.

NO GUARANTEES OR ASSURANCES
ARE MADE AS TO WHEN ARTICLES
OR PHOTOGRAPHS WILL APPEAR IN PRINT,
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The regular hours of the News Office will be as follows:
Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
Closed Saturday-Sunday
Note: Since we are a small business with a small staff, these times may vary as we are out of the office to cover news & sports stories, attend school events, take pictures, conduct business or handle family matters.

4-H photography workshop set for Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

By SHERRY MCGOUGH County Extension Agent / Ag

A 4-H Photography workshop will be held Tuesday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the Knox City Community Center (212 SE 3rd across from the park). Sheri Baty will present a workshop on the basics of photography, such as light contrast, composition, subject matter and other topics. We will also be covering the 2004 Photography Project Guidelines for 4-H contest entries. This program is open to all 4-H'ers and other interested achool age youth.

Please join us on the 17th to learn more about photography. Students are enouraged to bring their cameras in case they have questions regarding their equipment. We'll see you there! For more information, contact Sherry McGough, County Extension Agency/Ag at (940) 459-2651.

Educational programs of the Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, dsability, religion, age or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in ameeting or program are encouraged to contact the Knox County Extension office at (940) 459-2651.

Heart drive begins with kickoff coffee

June Tankersley, Knox City and O'Brien business and individual heart drive chairman, reports that the 2004 drive began with a kickoff coffee at Kathie and Jack's.

Volunteers collecting these donations are Dorothy Dykes, Susan Emerson, Jo Cornett, Jan Lankford, Charles and Faye Reed, Joyce Lloyd, Frankie Baker, Charlene Brothers, Audie Johnston, Doris Jones, Lea Reeves, Peggy Grindstaff and June Tankersley.

In the past year alone, research funded through the American Heart Association has produced such treatments and techniques

· New high blood pressure

• The first new blood thinner

alternative in 50 years · Placement of more public defibrillators to save cardiac ar-

• Development of a new treatment option for heart failure pa-

· Restoration of patients' failing hearts with their own bone

. Wantads Work!



FROM THIS ANGLE

Local KC Notes by Billye Angle

As we begin a new work week this Monday morning, it is cloudy and cool but at least the wind is not blowing 30 mph - or should I say "yet".

Knox City fans enjoyed good basketball games Friday night when we hosted Munday. The varsity girls won 53-35 and the Hounds won a close one 47-44. The JV girls also won 41-35.

The varsity girls' district record is 5-0 with one more district game to be played at Crowell Tuesday night of this week. The Hounds' record is 1-4.

Bro. Bobby, Sylvia and Katelyn King were in Arlington the first

part of the week where he attended an evangelism conference.

Spending the weekend with her parents, Barbara and Joe Barnard, were their daughter Melissa Ellison and 18 month old son Jackson of San Angelo.

Visiting recently in the News office was former resident Otice Green of Lubbock. Otice served as administrative assistant to the late Gov. Preston Smith for a number of years. His brother Paul also lives in Lubbock and will be remembered here as quite an accomplished pianist.

Faye Railsback returned home

Friday after undergoing knee surgery in Dallas. Following the surgery, Faye recuperated in the home of their daughter, Donna Railsback, who lives in Sachse, east of Plano.

Kimberly Hawkins, student at HSU in Abilene, spent Friday night here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hawkins and Travis.

Recent guests in the homes of Romain Stubbs and Scott and Shea Edmonds and children have been Patsy and Natalie Day of Lubbock. Natalie played tennis last weekend in Wichita Falls and won super champ. She will now advance to Austin, Romain said.

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invites you to our Outreach Fellowship & Noon Buffet Sunday, February 15

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O'Brien happenings

By Audie Johnston, O'Brien Correspondent

"Shakey said to the psychiatrist, "Doc, every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it. You gotta help me!"

"Come to me three times a week for two years and I'll cure your fears," said the shrink. "And I'll only charge you \$200 a visit."

"I'll think about it," said Shakey. Six months later the doctor met Shakey on the street and asked why he never came to see him.

"For two hundred bucks a visit? A bartender cured me for ten dollars."

"Is that so! How?"

"He told me to cut the legs off the bed."

Here and There - Visiting with

C.H. and Linda Underwood over the weekend were their daughter Beth and daughters Faith and Hope and husband Shawn Donham of Roby. They enjoyed a good weekend together visiting

and attending church on Sunday. Visiting Bro. Milton and Rhonda and Laci Saturday were their son, Nathan and a girlfriend of near Dallas. Bro. Milton returned home last Thursday after spending several days in Florida attending a pastor's conference.

There were 24 men in attendance for the community breakfast on Saturday morning. It was rumored that the food was the best ever served. Thanks to Junior, Johnny and Mutt for preparing the meal. Bro. Milton shared some of his experiences from the Florida pastor's conference.

Dan and Marilyn Talbot were blessed having company over the weekend. Randall Hughes and a friend Greg of Corsicana visited with them.

Bro. Milton McManas was to be in Dallas a day or two attending to some good transactions for different occasions. We still have since people who still her health problems and doctors appoint-

Claudale and Jean Barnard, Billie Walker, Loretta Hewitt and Vivian Hendrix need our prayers.

IRS has \$203 million for Texans who did not file their taxes in 2000

DALLAS - More than 158,000 Texans could face loosing refunds totaling \$203 million dollars because they did not file tax returns in 2000. Half of the people who could claim refunds would receive more than \$563, according to Internal Revenue Service estimates. but, in order to collect their money, a tax return must be filed with an IRS office no later than April 15, 2004.

In some cases, people had taxes withheld from their wages, or made payments against their taxes out of self-employed earnings, but had too little income to require filing a tax return. Some taxpayers may also be eligible for the refundable Earned Income Tax

"The clock is running if you want to get your refund," said IRS

Commissioner Mark W. Everson. "People who aren't required to file sometimes overlook that they had tax withheld. Don't wait until it's too late. We want all taxpayers to get the refund they're due."

In cases where a return was not filed, the law provides most taxpayers with a three-year window of opportunity for claiming a refund. If a return is not filed to claim the refund within three years, the money becomes property of the U.S. Treasury. For 2000 returns, the window closes on April 15, 2004. The law requires that the return be properly addressed, postmarked and mailed by that date. There is no penalty assessed by the IRS for filing a late return qualifying for a refund.

The IRS reminds taxpayers seeking a 2000 refund that their

checks will be held if they have not filed tax returns for 2001 or 2002. In addition, the refund will be applied to any amounts still owed to the IRS and may be used to satisfy unpaid child support or past due federal debts such as student loans.

By failing to file a return, individuals stand to lose more than refunds of taxes withheld or paid during 2000.

Generally, individuals qualified for the EITC in 2000 if they earned less than \$31,152 and had more than one qualifying child living with them, less than \$27,413 with one qualifying child, or less than \$10,380 and had no qualifying child.

Taxpayers who need help also can call the IRS help line at 1-800-829-1040.

KCHC Thank You

Thank you for the support and interest shown by participating in our Knox County Museum Fundraiser held on February 1, 2004. The delicious meal was a compliment to everyone who donated their time to prepare the food. Thanks to everyone who donated door prizes and silent auction items, the County and area newspapers, the area radio stations, County Precinct employees and the Benjamin HS seniors for helping with the cleanup. We also thank those who contributed monetary donations, volunteers for their donation of time and labor, and the interest shown for the Wichita-Brazos Museum and Cultural Center to preserve Knox County history.

Knox County Historical Commission Friends of the Knox County Historical Commission

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Cathy Hostas Remember You Have The Right To Select

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BENJAMIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2003

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
Total Local and Intermediate Sources State Program Revenues Federal Program Revenues	\$ 420,899 805,172 9,176	\$ 6,177 60,282 68,837	\$ 427,076 865,454 78,013
Total Revenues	1,235,247	135,296	1,370,543
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
Instruction	559,248	96,901	656,149
Instructional Resources & Media Services	8,670	1 48 de -	8,670
Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	535		535
School Leadership	13,071	389	13,460
Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	6,543		6,543
Health Services	208		208
Student (Pupil) Transportation	39,061	545	39,606
Food Services		54,661	54,661
Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	73,205	338	73,543
General Administration	137,084	1,690	138,774
Plant Maintenance and Operations	151,945	1,137	153,082
Data Processing Services	17,475		17,475
Community Services	177		177
Capital Outlay:			
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	15,194		15,194
Intergovernmental. Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	34,619		34,619
Total Expenditures	1,057,035	155,661	1,212,696
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES).	178,212	(20,365)	157,847
Transfers In	8,016	28,170	36,186
Transfers Out (Use)	(28,170)	(8,016)	(36,186)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(20,154)	20,154	
Net Change in Fund Balances	158,058	(211)	157,847
Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	1,364,130	11,240	1,375,370
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	68,436		68,436
		\$ 11,029	\$ 1,601,653

National Bank

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208 Carothers, Rochester, TX 79544 • (940) 743-3511 110 West Main, Munday, TX 76371 • (940) 422-4522 610 Columbia, Stamford, TX 79553 • (325) 773-2112 200 South Avenue E, Haskell, TX 79521 • (940) 864-8555



We will be **CLOSED** Monday, February 16 in observance of President's

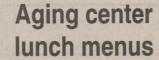
Remember Me

Remember me when the flowers bloom Early in the spring Remember me on sunny days And the fun that summer brings

Remember me in the fall
As you walk through the leaves of gold
And in the winter time remember me
In the stories that are told

But most of all remember Each day right from the start I will be forever near For I live within your heart

In loving memory of Lanta (Lank) Stafford
'Big Daddy'
June 27, 1910 - February 12, 2002



February 16th thru 20th

Monday, February 16-Mexican casserole, whole kernel corn, salad, crackers, sopapillas with honey.

<u>Tuesday</u>, <u>February 17</u>-Meat loaf, pinto beans, buttered spinach, Mexican cornbread, pudding.

Wednesday, February 18 - Chicken noodle casserole, sweet peas, pear salad, hotrolls, apple crunch.

Thursday, February 19 -Tuna casserole, green beans, light bread, cookies.

Friday, February 20 - Sliced ham, broccoli and rice casserole, apple and celery salad, hot rolls, dessert.

Benjamin news

By Gladene Green , Benjamin Correspondent

It's been a pretty slow news week. Guess folks are staying close to home and enjoying the warmth of inside during these "chilly" days. It's been sort of wintry the past week or so but no ice, or now, and we are happy about that.

News of our ill - Dutch Young underwent hip replacement surgery last Wednesday in Wichita Falls and is doing OK. He is now in rehab therapy. Not sure how long he will be there but maybe not for too long. He needs to stay until he's able to maneuver on his own without a problem. Also his daughter, Deann Lamb, is still doing nicely. Goes back to doctor on Wednesday and hopes to be "turned loose" to do a little more.

Tib Burnett underwent knee surgery Tuesday - also in Wichita Falls. He's still in the hospital and don't know when he may go to rehab or come home - whichever his doctors think best.

Omitene Barnett is a patient in Haskell hospital. She was feeling better on Sunday, so maybe she will be home in a day or so.

Leroy West spent last Tuesday night in Haskell hospital with chest pains. Was afraid it might be his heart but that was ruled out. He is, however, in Abilene today for some further testing.

Ball news - It was a good week for our high school basketball teams last week. On Tuesday night, both boys and girls defeated Northside at Northside. The girls victory came pretty easy but the boys won by only 2 points. Those kind of games are exciting as long as your team wins, but the boys tell me they prefer a little more of a lead!

Megargel came over on Friday night for a game with the boys (girls didn't play). Wasn't much of a contst - our team won 77-33.

Jr. High played Chillicothe here Monday night. Lost but I'm told played a pretty good game.

New residents - Charles and
Lynna Ann Ray and daughter,
Amie, are the newest residents of
Benjamin. They are employed by
John Moorhouse and are living in
the rock house east of town (formerly League Ranchhouse). Amie
is in the sixth grade and the family
attends the Catholic Church. We
welcome them to Benjamin and
hope they enjoy living here.

The Sr. Class sponsored a Little Dribblers tournament Saturday and lots of folks were over here to see their kids and grandkids and little friends play. It was fun watching their excitement as they ran up and down the court. Teams from Rochester, Rule, Knox City and Benjamin participated. And I'm sure the Seniors took in quite a bit of money at the concession stand (and bake sale) that will help get them to Hawaii on their senior trip.

Here 'N There - Mary Rainwater of Nocona visited her son, Chad and family, Saturday and enjoyed seeing Jonathan play ball.

Charles and Linda Griffith of Lubbock were also here Saturday for the gall games and to visit their daughter, Becky Jones and family.

Charles Ray called to tell me Amie did alright in the Barrell Racing event Sunday in Graham. She won third in the 2D category and her time was 15.873 seconds. She's riding a horse she raised and has done well every time she races.

Helen Green who lives in Guthrie called Sunday night to tell me her brother James Coppedge has finished his second round of chemo and is feeling

News renewals due by March 1

March renewals at The Knox County News are as follows.

Subscription prices are \$22.00 for Knox and adjoining counties, \$25.00 elsewhere in Texas and \$28.00 out-of-state.

David Albus, KC Mary Ann Boone, KC Susan Bowman, KC Calvin C. Brown, Perryton Tom R. Campbell, Georgetown H.B. Graves, KC / Chelsea, VT John A. Hayes, Amarillo Elizabeth Howard, Haskell Marvin Jones, KC Bobby King, KC Kuehler Ag. KC Doug Logsdon, Muleshoe Milton McManus, O'Brien Rhonda Moeller, Haskell James F. Nance, Turlock, CA John Rector, KC Pam Reed, Munday Joe and Joy Riggins, Rule Julie Sanders, Amarillo Samuel Tankersley, KC Dale Turner, KC Minnie Valencia, Rochester George E. Wynn, Port Arthur

pretty well. Said he says he may even try to work a little this week. His doctors caution him to stay out of crowds and his job sort of isolates him from everyone so he thinks he'll be OK.

Also her brother Gary of Stamford spent last week in Abilene Hendrick Hospital. He's home but really didn't learn his problem. He had a number of tests so maybe when they are all studied, he will know what's going on.





Christine Conaway

Annika and Brent Conaway and big sister Annelise of Whitehouse announce the birth of Christine. Born on June 27, 2003, at Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler, she weighed seven pounds, twelve ounces.

Her grandparents are Joan (Shaver) and John E. Muller of Tyler and Janet (Fife) and Steve Conaway of Whitehouse. Christine is the second great-grandchild of Faye (Yarbrough) Shaver of Knox City and the late Edward Braxton Shaver Jr. Other great-grandparents are E.P. (Gene) Muller of Harlingen and the late Grace (Knudson) Muller, Marjorie (Baldwin) Conaway of Tyler and the late Ed L. Conaway, and the late Marydell (Greer) and Jack W. Fife.

On December 21, 2003, Christine was baptized at Marvin United Methodist Church in Tyler by the Reverend Michael Dent. Family members attending the service were Annelise Conaway, Faye Shaver, Edward and Laurin Muller of Chicago, II; Brian and Holly Conaway of Whitehouse, Brack and D'anna Shaver, and cousins Braxton and Austin Shaver of Fort Worth, as well as her grandparents.

Afterwards, Christine's grandparents hosted a luncheon at Hollytree Country Club, Tyler, for the family members attending the baptism.

Dance at Rhineland Saturday, February 14 K-MAC

9:00 to 1:00

\$5.00 Per Person

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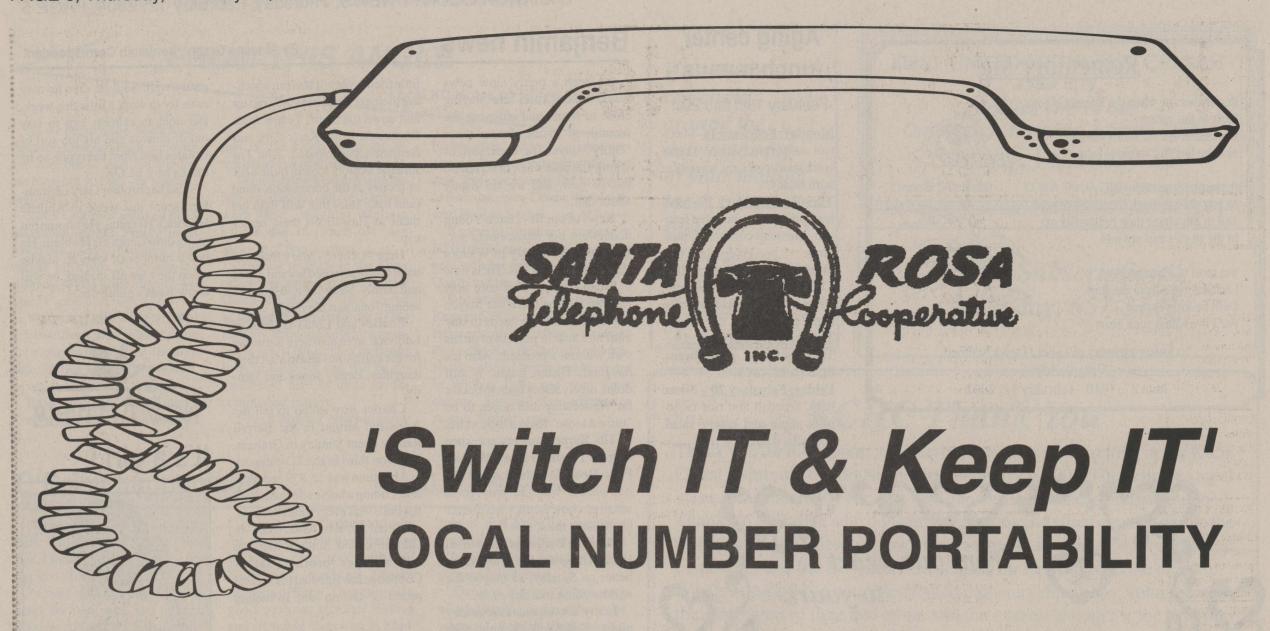
that plays 'Let Me Call You Sweetheart' . . . or better yet, both!!!

The News and Tanning, Too!

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from our heart

to yours



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You can now switch to Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and keep your existing number.

This has been made possible through lengthy, extensive changes in our telephone network and support systems.

What LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY means to Knox City:

- 1. You can switch to SRTC and.....
 - a. Keep Your Number!
 - b. Lower your local service phone bills!
 - c. Appreciate our personal, reliable customer maintenance
 - d. Value SRTC's fast & friendly customer service without punching, pressing or hitting anything!
 - e. Rely on over 52 years of telephone service business (Santa Rosa Telephone Coop., Inc. was established in 1951)
 - f. Make use of the "One Bill" option.
 You can have local service,
 long distance service and Internet (dial up or a DSL)
 all on one bill.
 - g. No additional service charges or surcharges just to keep your number!

We will be in the Knox City office February 10 & 11

Knox County News Classifieds

Our customers know how fast these ads get results !!

Prices: Minimum Ad: \$4.00 for 20 words - 20¢ for each extra word - \$1.00 Added per week if end-of-month billing is necessary - Deadline: Mondays at 5:00 p.m.

Real Estate

IF YOU ARE interested in selling your home, let us know. Several inquiries have been made for new home purchases. Let us list your home

COUNTS REAL ESTATE 658-3990 • 102 N. AVE. A 10-17 tfc 29

HOME FOR SALE - Immaculate, twobedroom, on bath with living, den, ceiling fans, window units, shop building in rear. Call 940-864-2411 for appointment. Rike Real Estate, Mary Rike, Broker. 6-19 tfc 30

HOUSE FOR SALE-811 South Aspen. Brick, three bedroom, large living and dining, large kitchen with beautiful wooden cabinets, new carpet, small shop, patio and carport. No money down, may take over loan with good credit. Call 658-3629 or 658-3342.

FOR SALE - Nice two bedroom, one bath home for sale. Storm cellar, water well. 704 Aspen, 940-657-1064.

NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT **OF ESTRAY**

On the 2nd day of February, 2004, I impounded the following estray: Kind of Animal / or Fowl - cow with calf Breed -

Color - Black Motley face cow w/ calf Sex - Cow

Age - 7-8 years Size - 1200 lbs.

Brand, Marks, Identifying Characteris-

Fleft hip 7 right hip and, on the 2nd day of February, 2004, I filed a Notice of Estray in the Estray Book of Knox County, Texas. Date Estray reported to Sheriff: 01/29/2004

Location of Estray when found: (Road, Highway #, Rural Route) - Honey Creek pasture, North west of Benjamin, Knox

Location of Estray while impounded: Spike Box Ranch, Pvt. Rd. 1116, 2 mi. South of Hwy. 83 on CO RD 1115, west of Benjamin, 2 miles, Knox County, TX. I have made a diligent search of the register of recorded brands in Knox County, Texas, for the owner of said estray, and contacted local owner of exotic fowl but the search did not reveal the owner.

Notice is hereby given that, if the ownership of said estray is not determined by the 21st day of February 2004, said estray will be sold at public auction/Sheriff's sale at Spikebox headquarters, Pvt. Rd. 1116, Benjamin, TX, beginning at 8:00

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2004.

/s/ Dean W. Homstad Sheriff of Knox

County, Texas

A Golden Time

2-5 2tc 231

Brazos Valley Care Home 658-3543

605 Avenue F, Knox City

A Mayo Clinic study says that depressed people tend to recover less well from heart attacks, coronary bypasses and other heart condition problems than people without emotional problems. The study followed 310 men and 70 women entering cardiac

Researchers know that the protein ApoE is involved in Alzheimer's. Some Duke researchers say people who inherit a variant calles ApoE are at risk before age 70.

rehabilitation programs.

For Sale

'IT IS BETTER to deserve honors and not have them than to have them and not deserve them. The best recliner you can buy is a La-Z-Boy and we have lots of them at the best rpcies in Big Country, starting at 2 for \$499. Kinney Furniture in Stam-2-12 1tc

STANLEY / FULLER Products to Clean Home and Laundry. To buy or need catalog, call LuRose Schumacher,

'SOME PEOPLE SAVE for a rainy day - and some plan on buying an umbrella on credit. Close out prices on Spring Air "Never turn" mattress sets during our Clean Sweep Sale. All sizes in stock ready for quick free delivery. Kinney Furniture in 2-12 1tc

'DON'T QUIT WHEN you're tired quit when you've won. Lots of specials on discontinued items and floor samples during our Clean Sweep Sale. You always get small town personal service and quick free delivery at Kinney Furniture in Stam-2-12 1tc

Bid Notice

ASPERMONT SMALL BUSINESS **DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC. is** accepting invitations to bid for the 2004 Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program, (CEAP) in the Heating and Cooling component. Bidders must be qualified to assess, as well as, repair, replace or retrofit central units, window units and all other major heating and/or cooling appliances for individuals who qualify. Counties to be served include: Haskell. Jones, Kent, Knox, Stonewall and Throckmorton. To request a bid package please contact Kim Lowack at 940-989-3538 or 800-722-0137 or reply to PO Box 188, Aspermont, TX 79502.

Help Wanted

nance man needed. Must have a valid DL.

Will be required to get a Class D Water/

Wastewater License with in one year of

employment with the City. Basic knowl-

edge of water and wastewater lines is a

plus. If you have any questions you may

call Shawnda Moore at Goree City Hall at

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS for

CNA - all shifts. Come and apply at

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HELP WANTED - The Knox County

Sheriff's Office is accepting applications

for part time, leading to full time jailer/

dispatcher position. Must have good work

ethics, honest, respectful to the public,

have High School/or GED education, and

be able to follow guidelines. Contact Sher-

iff Dean W. Homstad for more informa-

tion. For application call 940-459-2211.

PART-TIME HELP needed in assisted

living home. For information, call 658-

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operator for new D6 dozer with cab. All

work on same ranch. Work 30-50 hours

per week near Benjamin, Texas. Pay rate

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Wantads Work!

4080 or 940-256-1190, 256-1125.

2-12 2tc 57

2-12 1tc 12

2-12 2tp

Gray RN, Director of Nurses. EEO.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED **TEXAS HIGHWAY**

IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Childress Contract 6110-25-001 for TYPE II FULL WIDTH MOWING in KNOX County, etc. will be opened on MARCH 25, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office for ane stimate of \$49,868.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div. Offices listed Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

District Engineer 7599 US 287 Childress, Texas 79201-9705 Phone: 940-937-2571

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on thegrounds of race, color, sex or national

Political Calendar

The following have authorized The Knox County News to announce their candidacy for public office.

50th Judicial District Judge PAUL SCOTT - D WILLIAM H. (BILL) HEATLY - D

> Knox County Judge JULES RIZAN - D JOE LOWE - D DWAYNE BEARDEN - D DAVID KUEHLER - D TRAVIS FLOYD - R MITZI (HAM) WELCH - D

Knox County Tax Assessor/Collector KAY SHEEDY - D LINDA PARKER - D **BUD HOGAN - R**

Political Advertising Paid For By The Above Named Candidates

Legal Notice

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

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

> MIKE SHEEDY 10-29 tfc 52

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Keeping an Eye on Texas

Winter Energy Saving Tips

four degrees could save up to

Lowering the temperature

setting on the water heater

to about 120 degrees will

also help save money and

keep consumers from

getting hot under the

\$12 on each bill.

According to the Public Utility Commission, an energy

efficient termostat setting is 68 degrees for winter.

Consumers can save about 3 percent on their winter

heating bills for each degree they lower their thermostat.

If a monthly bill is about \$100, lowering the thermostat

Energía en el Invierno

Utility Commission), un termostato debe indicar 68 grados en el invierno para obtener un mejor rendimiento de energía.

Los consumidores pueden ahorrar hasta un 3 por ciento en sus recibos de energía en el invierno por cada grado que reduzcan en su termostato. Si su recibo mensual es cerca de \$100, reducir el termostato cuatro grados podría ahorrarle cerca de \$12 en cada recibo.

120 grados en el calentador de agua también ayuda a ahorrar dinero y a que los consumidores

Fuentes: Carole Keeton Strayhorn, Contralora de Texas y la Comisión de Utilidades Públicas de Texas.



collar.

Recomendaciones para Ahorrar

SOURCES: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn and the Texas Public Utility Commission.

De acuerdo a la Comisión de Utilidades Públicas (Public

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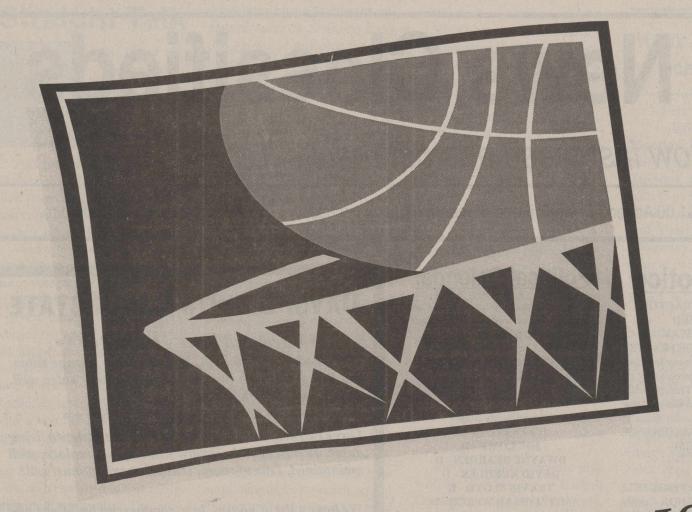
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CONGRATULATIONS, Knox City Houndettes! • 2004 District Champions •

Best of luck in your bi-district playoff round and congratulations to you on your undefeated district season.

Sophie Gutierrez Jamilla Ward Jodi Chambers Nikki Moss Jessica Albus Bridgett Billington Samantha Gutierrez **Brittany Hawkins** Kursten Stafford

Coach Shannon Fisher Coach Juree Sours



• TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 • **BI-DISTRICT** with LORENZO to be held at Jayton, 7:00 p.m.

The Merchants and Individuals on this sports booster page are proud to support the student athletes of Knox City-O'Brien CISD

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MELON CORP. Kay, Dwayne, Lorie, Brad & Dustin 658-3144

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Knox County

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