Mostly Sunny

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

20% Chance of Showers

340 03-07-08 TOBY WHISENHUNT

OFFICE PICKUP

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THE

KNOX COUNTY NEWS

Proudly Serving Knox and King Counties

Volume XXXVI Number 28

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Knox City, Texas

8 Pages + 1 Insert

Price 75¢

Looking Ahead

· Ag Day —

Ag Day will be at the Knox City School on Saturday, May 19 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 per child, \$15 for on site registration. Cost for a family is \$25. The cost includes a t-shirt, meal and snacks with each ticket. There will be door prizes, including a Game Boy donated by the Spike Box Ranch.

• The Noah Project —

The Noah Project - North is having a fish fry Sunday, May 20, at the Haskell Memorial Hospital Education building from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 each and \$3 for children ten years of age and under.

Knox City High School Baccalaureate -

will be held Sunday, May 20th at 7 p.m. in the W.R. Baker Auditorium.

*Benjamin High School Baccalaureate -

will be held Sunday, May 20th at 8 p.m. at the Benjamin Church of Christ.

• Pink Ladies Meeting — The Pink Ladies will have a meeting on Monday, May 21 at 5:00 p.m. at the Thrift Shop.

• Elementary Awards

Program will be held Tuesday, May 22nd at 10 a.m. in W.R. Baker Auditorium.

• Knox City-O'Brien Middle School Awards Assembly — Thursday, May 24th at 2 p.m. in the O'Brien campus cafeteria.

 Benjamin Kindergarten & Junior High Graduation — Thursday, May 24th beginning at 8 p.m. at the Benjamin Memorial Building.

Benjamin High School

Graduation — Will be held on Friday, May 25th at 8 p.m. in the Benjamin Memorial Building.

• Knox City-O'Brien Middle

School Graduation — Saturday, May 26th at 7 p.m. Ben Grill Field at Benjamin ISD. Keep Benjamin Beautiful will have a hamburger meal beginning at 7 p.m. Movie will begin at dark on football field. Bring lawn chairs and blankets.

• Knox City High School Graduation

Will be held Saturday, May 26th at 7 p.m. in the W. R. Baker Auditorium.

MSG Ronnie Reece, Members Of Bravo Company 490th Civil **Affairs Battalion Honored**

MSG Ronnie Reece, son of Danny Reece and the late Betty Reece, was honored along with members of the Bravo Company 490th Civil Affairs Battalion in Abilene on Saturday, May 5.

The unit received the Valorous Unit Citation for actions that were conducted in Iraq's Anbar Province with the 3rd Armored Calvary Regiment.

The Anbar Province encompasses the portion of Iraq West of Baghdad to the Jordanian border and Northwest to the Syrian border. The Province is roughly the size of Wyoming.

MSG Reece was the 1st Sergeant for the 38 person company that was headquartered in Ramadi, with teams spread over the area, attached to the different Squadrons and support units of the Regiment.

The men and women of Bravo Company were with the Regiment from April of 2003 until September of 2003 before moving into the Baghdad area to continue operations with the Battalion until their redeployment in March of 2004.

The Company helped to pro-

vide stability and support to over one million Iraqi people after the start of the war.

Some of the functions provided by the company were to help with rebuilding key infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and municipalities.

Other missions that the Company had were to reestablish electricity, potable water sources and irrigation, assist in the establishment of the first local police and Iraqi Army Academics, as well as to stand up the local governments to start the path to democracy, working toward a national government.

The Company also assisted the Regiment with continued operations against an ever growing insurgency.

MSG Reece has been in the army for 22 years, with eight years active duty and the last 14 in the Army Reserves. He returned from his third trip to Iraq in late May of 2006.

The Valorous Unit Award is to be awarded to units of the Armed Forces of the United States for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the



MSG Ronnie Reece

United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign

The unit must have performed with marked distinction under difficult and hazardous conditions in accomplishing its mission so as to set it apart from the other units participating in the same conflict.

The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would warrant award of the Silver Star to an individual.

Knox County Election Results

Knox City City Election

Mayor — Jeff Stanfield - 109, Charles Lankford - 77 Council — Delbert Lloyd - 125, Danny Lewis - 123, Fred Ledesma - 98

Knox City School Board — Todd Lewis - 247, Dale Turner - 229, Dusty Bradley - 220

Benjamin City Election

Mayor — Ernie Eaton - 72, Sylinda Meinzer - 26 Council - Three Open Three Filed — Brandon Gray, Gary Reed, Pate Meinzer

Economic Development Tax - Adoption of a 4B sales and use tax at rate of one half of one percent to undertake economic development for the City of Benjamin

For - 81, Against - 14

Munday City Election

Mayor - Unnoposed — Robert Bowen

Council — Tammy Pienarr - 103, Mario Sigala - 82, Dena King - 72, David Booe - 58

O'Brien City Council — Richard Garcia, One Open

Guthrie School Board Election — Jay Hurt - 68, Terry Daniels - 55, Ricky Criswell - 51, Brenda Jones - 48

Proposition for the issuance of \$5 million of bonds for the construction, renovation and equipment of school buildings and the purchase of necessary school sites in and for the Guthrie Common School District, and the levying of the tax for payment thereof.

For -77, Against - 13

Dallas Dykes Honored Upon **Retirement From County**

Dallas Dykes was honored at the Knox County Courthouse in Benjamin on Tuesday, May 15 with a retirement party.

"We want to congratulate (Dykes) on 18 years of service to the county," said Judge Travis Floyd during the ceremony.

While employed with the county, Dykes operated equipment, including a blade, dozer and various trucks.

Irma Bell, past Knox County treasurer, stated that Dykes had an extremely good work ethic, while Jerry Parker, former commissioner, stated that Dykes "made a good hand."

"I love running equipment and loved working around the guys (from county). I had a good time," said Dykes of his eighteen years.

Dykes' retirement from the county is effective on May 31st. Even so, he will stay busy. He will begin working for Air Ag on June 1st. He will replace L.A. Covey, who retired on May 15th. Dykes stated that he wasn't looking for a job, "it just happened," he said.

Dykes never intended to take it easy upon retiring. He said that



Dallas and Dorothy Jean Dykes

when people ask him how long he is going to work he always tells them until he's 80, because that's how long

his father worked.

"I'll be 66 years old, I don't intend to slow down," he said. (Continued on Page 5)

Benjamin Voters Pass Sales Tax

Benjamin voters passed by landslide the adoption of a 4B sales and use tax at the rate of one half of one percent to undertake the economic development for the City of Benjamin.

The proposition passed 81 to

"I was really excited when I heard that it passed," said Steve Bisbee, Benjamin Chamber of Commerce president.

The funds are intended to be used for possible infrastructure improvement in the city and to attract businesses. Newly elected mayor Ernie

Eaton, who was traveling, said on Tuesday, "The first thing I'd like to see is the streets and drainage addressed. I think these are top priority with us, but that'd be up to the board of directors."

"It lets businesses that are interested in locating in Benjamin know that we are serious about economic development," said Bisbee.

The funds collected can be used for projects such as, but not limited to, projects related to convention and tourism, exhibition facilities, primary job training facilities for use by institutions of higher education, research and development facilities, regional or national corporate headquarters facilities and recycling facilities. Also, projects to promote new or expanded business enterprises that create or retain primary jobs.

The funds can also be used for streets and roads, drainage, and related improvements, demolition of existing structures, development and expansion of affordable housing.

There is still a series of steps to be taken in order for the process to be completed, but the enthusiasm is tangible.

"I'd just like to thank the citizens for their support. I take it as a sign that the city is behind the economic development of the community and wants to see it grow. Their overwhelming support shows that they want growth and development," said Bisbee.

A more extensive interview will be included in an upcoming edition of The Knox County News.



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Local • Long Distance • Internet





AUSTIN - Texas voters approved Senate Joint Resolution 13 in the May 12 election.

Unofficial results available May 13 revealed the statewide turnout was only 7 percent, with 88 percent of the voters casting ballots in favor of the resolution.

SJR 13 amends the state constitution to authorize the Legislature to adjust the public school ad valorem tax or tax rates for taxpayers who are aged 65 or older, or are dis-

Voters Approve Tax Relief Amendment For Seniors, Disabled

abled, and who are owners of an exempted homestead.

The change benefits older or disabled taxpayers who did not receive tax relief as a result of the school tax rate reduction passed a year ago in the 79th Legislature, 3rd called ses-

Guv threatens special session

The bill the Texas House and Senate passed enacting a two-year moratorium on private toll road projects landed on Gov. Rick Perry's desk

The legislation, HB 1892 authored by Rep. Wayne Smith, R-Baytown, and sponsored by Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, puts Perry's Trans

Texas Corridor on ice but grants powers to certain county and regional tollway authorities. Those entities would have first option in building projects within their jurisdictions.

Perry said the moratorium is not what bothers him the most about the bill.

The big issues, he said, are potential loss of federal funding and the wording of the bill, which he said would adversely affect the

Texas Department of Transportation's contracting and oversight responsibilities. A letter from the Federal Highway Administration raises those questions.

Perry suggested lawmakers reconsider and rework the bill before the end of the current session. He hinted that the alternative to that would be a veto and then a special ses-

House passes TYC reform bill

The House on May 7 tentatively approved legislation to overhaul the Texas Youth Commission, which earlier this year was put in conserva-

torship after reports surfaced of sexual abuse of inmates and fiscal mismanagement at the

SB 103 by Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen, is crafted to enhance transparency of its operations, prosecute offenses committed within the agency, and improve the hiring practices of guards.

The bill's House sponsor, Rep Jerry Madden, R-Richardson, said, "The abuse and poor performance identified at the TYC cannot be allowed to continue. This bill reforms the structure, management and oversight of the commission to provide true rehabilitation, not just the punitive warehousing that characterizes the system today."

In related news, Will Harrell, executive director of the Texas chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, was named ombudsman for the TYC, contingent on passage of SB 103. His job will be to evaluate and secure youths' rights.

Agency would send border funds

The House on May 7 passed its version of the border security bill.

HB 13 by Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, creates a border security council to oversee distribution of more than \$100 million to border law enforcement agencies.

Swinford's bill encourages cities and counties to cooperate with federal agencies in immigration matters.

The bill also provides for a study to evaluate expedited deportation of illegal immigrants held in state jails and prisons for criminal offenses.

Speaker Tom Craddick said, "This is one of the most important pieces of legislation that we will pass this session as it affects the safety of every citizen of this state and country." The bill moves to the Senate for further consideration.

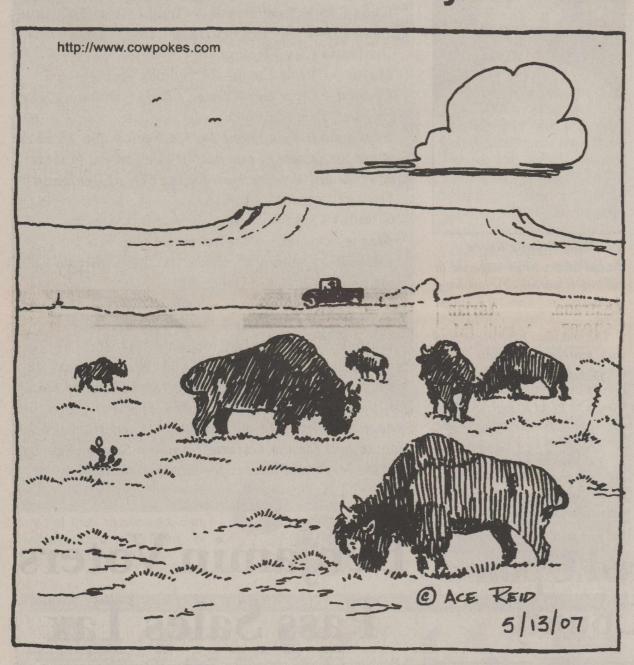
Bill ties teacher raise to tax relief

Also moving to the Senate for further consideration is HB 2785, legislation reducing the school property tax rate to 91 cents per \$100 valuation in the 2008-2009 biennium.

An amendment to HB 2785 by Rep. Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, prevents the state from reducing property taxes further without giving school districts and open-enrollment charter schools an amount equivalent to \$6,000 for every full-time teacher, librarian and counselorLt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate, said Dunnam's amendment "tacks on \$4.4 billion in other costs which would likely gut tax relief that we promised Texans last year."

COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Yep, the buffalo has come back, now the train is nearly extinct!"

The Knox County News

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES Within Knox County & O'Brien: \$26/Year Within Texas: \$28/Year All others: \$30/Year

DEADLINES — The deadline to submit news and advertising is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Exceptions may be granted only by permission=from the Editor.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY 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

SUBMISSION POLICY

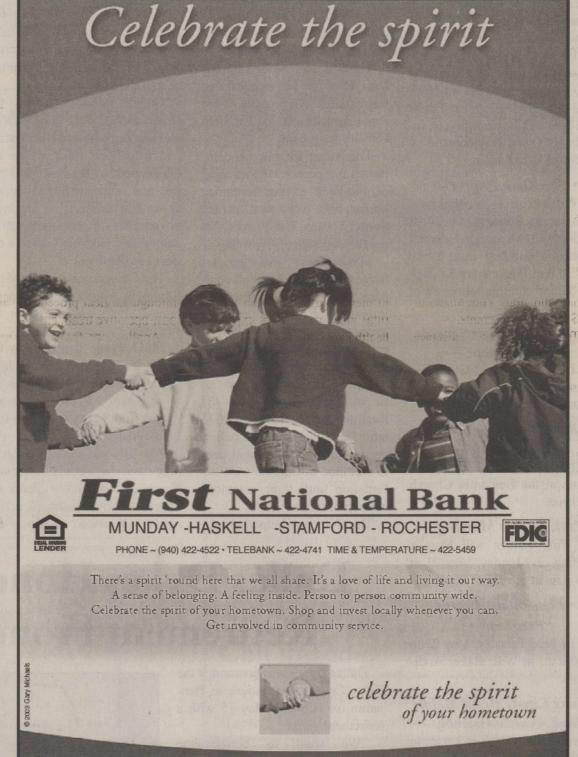
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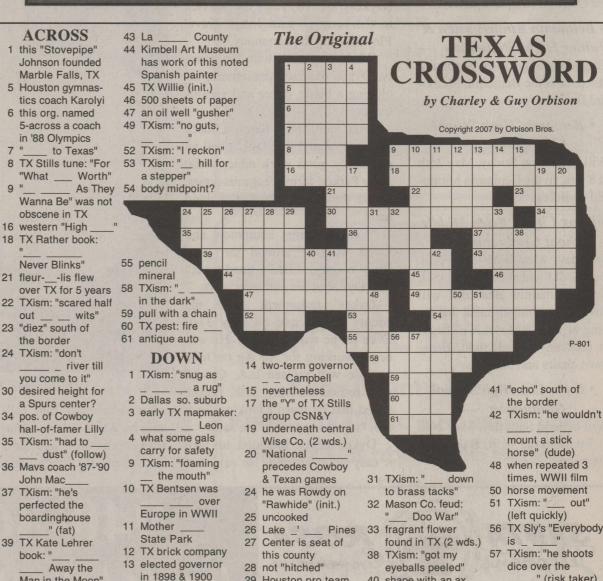
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upon being brought to the attention of the publisher. KCN OFFICE HOURS

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly corrected

Monday - Thursday • 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Friday • 9 - 1





29 Houston pro team

40 shape with an ax

" (risk taker)

BAXIDR

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

RANCH REAL ESTATE

By Baxter Black, DVM

The ad read: For sale: 30 acre ranchette

with 2 wells, year-round creek, round pen, loading chute, runin shelter, paddocks, corrals, grainery and poultry condo, a and critters grow and thrive in a Montana atmosphere!

clinch it for me!

When the housing market declines, real estate agents resort to more diverse enticements to lure prospective buyers. The most stubborn example I can recall is an ad that I saw running in comic books, western magazines and pamphlets since my youth called the Deming ranchettes.

Described in my memory as "A beautiful 4-acre piece of Heaven, in the shadow of rugged mountains with abundant wild life and exotic flora".

These ranchettes were on the first.

mesa and easily seen from the freeway and I have driven by them for over 40 years now. It is a fairly barren piece of scrub mesquite and greasewood. Ah, but the lure of the west.

I remember falling prey to perfect place to watch people the offer to buy one square foot of national forest. And the ad to have a star named after one Poultry condo? That would of my dogs. Now there's a sun there named Hooter.

> I read "Custom Home and Custom Features" in lots of real

breaks you can't find an easy replacement? Like bathroom fixtures made

out of concrete or a unique bathtub that was once an old water heater cut lengthwise.

yard! "How close is that to the septic tank?

I'd like to do an e-coli count

"Mountain backdrops"! What part of Kansas is this?

"Close to metropolitan amenities"! The old hardware store is now a tanning salon and video rental, and don't forget the Lutefisk festival!

"Abundant open space!" How far is it from Ely?

"A diverse natural environment!" Below zero in winter, 100° above in summer. Blizzards, floods, droughts and dust storms on a regular basis!

"A community dedicated to sharing its cultural values!" Yard sales every weekend during the summer.

"Eco-conscious construcin some alien solar system out tion!" AC/Heat, big windows, electronic entertainment room, massive all-electric kitchen, can sleep 40, with theater, 4-car garage, large enough for RV and Does that imply that when it Hummer with automatic everything! But carbon offsets can be purchased from local ranchers who will ride their horse to work instead of drive!

Maybe a poultry condo isn't such a bad selling point, after "A duck pond in the front all. It could be sold as a timeshare to quail or pheasant. A place for them to chill out, drink latte and hang out by the pool 'till hunting season's over.

USDA Rural Development Announces Nearly \$153 Million Available For Distance Learning And Telemedicine In Rural Communities

TEMPLE — Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development, Thomas C. Dorr, today announced the availability of \$62.9 million in distance learning and telemedicine loans, \$75 million in loan and grant combinations, and \$15 million in grants.

"Telemedicine and distance learning are the foundation on which the quality of education and health care in rural America can and will improve," Dorr said.

"With these systems in place, rural residents will be able to take advantage of the wide variety of health care services and education programs available now and into the future."

"Distance learning and telemedicine systems are powerful tools for rural Texas," said Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development Texas State Director.

"Through technology, students and families can participate in classes not previously available to them, and people who live in rural areas can access expanded health care options."

In Fiscal Year 2006, Texas was awarded \$652,000 to be distributed through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. The education projects helped schools provide students with advanced educational tools.

Distance learning projects provide funding for computers and internet connections in schools and libraries. The vast array of study options available to rural

students through distance learning technologies literally brings the world to their doorstep. Telemedicine projects are providing new and improved healthcare services beginning with patient diagnosis, through surgical procedures, and post-operative treatment.

Applications for the \$15 million in grants must be received by June 11, 2007 and will compete nationally for funding. Applications for loans and loan and grant combinations will be accepted year round.

The application guide and materials can be obtained online at http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/ dlt/dlt.htm or by contacting the Texas Rural Development State Office at (254) 742-9700.

Knox County Sheriff's Report

April 30 - May 14

Lara, Terence Lee 4/30/07 - FTA/Traffic Misd-C (Knox County)

Castillo, Fabian Andrew 5/02/07 - Possession of Marihuana (M-B) (Knox County)

Sosa, Mark 5/02/07 Probation Violation/ DWI Felony (Knox County)

Hodge, Ray Anthony 5/04/07 - Public Intoxication (M-C), Drug Paraphernalia (M-C) (Knox County)

Ward, Marshall Todd 5/04/07 - Possession of Marihuana (M-B) Knox County

Smith, Jimmy Len 5/07/07 - Public Intoxication (M-C) (Knox County)

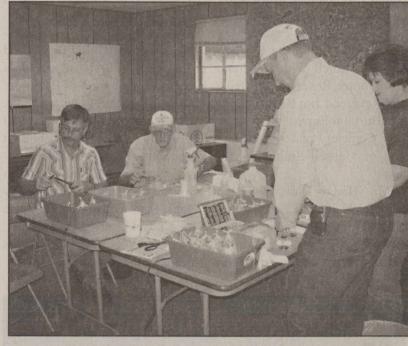
Whitley, Jack Burton 5/08/07 - Assault (M-A) (Foard County)

Estrada, Adrian 5/10/07 - Assault (M-A) (Knox County)

Garcia, Lyndell 5/10/07 - Assault (M-A) (Knox County)

Fitzpatrick, Braondon 5/11/07 - TBC - arrested in Coleman County (Knox County)

Four Winds RC&D, Wichita Brazos SWCD, USDA-NRCS **Sponsor Water Screening**



Four Winds RC&D, Wichita Brazos SWCD, and USDA-NRCS sponsored a water screening to check for nitrates, bacteria and total salts in privately owned water wells on May 8th.

The results were provided to the individual participants during a short educational program on underground water protection and well management on Wednesday, May 9th at the USDA Service Center in Knox City.

Photo — Darren Clark - RC & D Coordinator, Four Winds RC & D Area; Stacy Stark - Chisholm Trail RC & D; Oscar Magis - Board Member Four Winds RC&D; and Charlie Schur - District Conservationist USDA-NRCS

Jerry Anderson Named Manager Of Knox City IGA



Manager at Knox City Lawrence Brothers IGA supermarket, Jerry Anderson

Jerry Anderson of Stamford, Texas was recently named manager of the Knox City Lawrence Brothers IGA supermarket. He took the position at the end of April.

Anderson has been with Lawrence Brothers IGA for about seven years, beginning as a stocker.

He has worked at Lawrence Brothers IGA stores in Stamford and Ruidoso, New Mexico. While at the Stamford location, Anderson moved from third

assistant manager to first assistant manager in two months. He held the first assistant manager, position for five months before transferring to Knox City.

Anderson currently resides in Stamford, but plans to move to Knox City in the near future with his wife, Misty.



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U.S. Representative Mac Thornberry will have a member of his district staff available in Knox City on May 18 to assist area residents with questions or concerns related to federal issues.



Friday, May 18 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Knox City Chamber of Commerce Office 123 Central **Knox City**

For more information, please call 940-692-1700

Connect to Customer Choice

AS THE ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY that has been serving south and west Texas for over 90 years, AEP Texas knows a thing or two about energy conservation. While we no longer sell electricity or send out monthly electric bills, we recognize this is going to be a long, hot summer.

Since AEP Texas and its 1,700 employees are directly connected to the many communities we live in and serve, we'd like to share some information on how you can help manage your electric bills through active retail choice and where you can go for additional help if need be.

One of the best ways to lower higher electric bills is to shop around for a less expensive retail electric provider (REP). Finding different offers can be done quickly and efficiently.

- 1) Visit the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) electric choice website at www.powertochoose.org. If you don't have access to a computer, you can call the PUCT's Electric Choice hotline at 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (797-4839).
- 2) Use the information you receive to contact different REPs to collect more information on various services and offers. Also contact your current REP at the number listed on your electric bill for other offers that may be available. Ask about contract terms and prices and be sure to look at the REPs' Electricity Facts Labels to make a good comparison.

Need some help?

Customers having trouble paying their electric bills and wishing to avoid disconnection should discuss their concerns with their current retail electric provider. All REPs are required to offer deferred payment plans to eligible customers who express an inability to pay. REPs also offer balanced billing plans, which allow eligible customers to pay an average amount each month year-round.

Additionally, many community action agencies may be able to help with electric bills or energy efficiency programs. For more information, contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) at 1-800-525-0657, e-mail at info@tdhca.state.tx.us or visiting one of the following websites.

www.aeptexas.com

TDHCA Utility Bill Help and Other Assistance TDHCA Home Repair Assistance and Weatherization www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_energy.htm www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_repair.htm



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OBITUARY

George W. Hodges

George W. Hodges, 91, of Knox City passed away early Wednesday morning. Funeral services were held Friday, May 11 at 2:00 p.m. at the O'Brien Baptist Church with Reverend Dale Turner, Reverend Bill Trice and Reverend Jim Reid officiating. Burial followed in the Knox City Cemetery under the direction of Mansell Smith Funeral

Mr. Hodges was born on September 30, 1915 in Coyme, Texas. He had lived all of his live in Knox City and was a farmer. He married Mozelle Apple on October 18, 1936 and she preceded him in death on August 3,

He was a Baptist. He attended schools at Union Grove and Knox City. Survivors include a son, Glenn Hodges of Burleson; three daughters, Betty Balis, Sue Marion and Jan Kilgore, all of Knox City; six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by three grandsons. The family asks that memorials be made to Knox County Aging Center, P.O. Box 306, Knox City, Texas 79529.

Aging Center Lunch Menu

May 21 — May 35

Monday, May 21 - Salisbury Steak, Buttered Rice, Stir Fry Vegetables, Light Bread and Cake Tuesday, May 22 - BBQ on a Bun, Tater Tots, Salad and Cookies

Wednesday, May 23 - Casserole, Garden Salad, Glazed Carrots, Hot Rolls and Banana Pudding Thursday, May 24 - Chicken and Dressing with Gravy, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Rolls and Fruit Salad Friday, May 25 - German Sausage with Sauerkraut, Great Northern Beans, Salad, Cornbread and Dessert

Alternate Desserts for Diabetics Call in Orders by 10:00 a.m.

657-3618

Orders can not be taken after 10 am and need to be picked up after 11 am YOUR COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED! (Menu subject to change)

KC AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City Gayle Baucum, Pastor

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City **Timothy Trimbel, Pastor** Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. No Sunday Evening Service

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - Knox City Tex Cox, Pastor Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City

Jody Smith, Pastor Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 7 p.m.

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH - Knox City Father Leo Schloemer • Deacon Ben Vasquez

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

Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass

Saturday Mass at 7 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin **Timothy Trimbel, Pastor** Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

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

Mid-Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien

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

> WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH Rob Harrison, Pastor Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY IS BROUGHT TO YOU **EACH WEEK BY THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS:**

Knox County Hospital 657-3535

O'Brien Co-op Gin 658-3631



God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor O'Brien Baptist Church

One of the greater misquotes of the Bible would have to be, "God helps those who help themselves".

I have heard that nonexistent verse quoted many times in and out of churches. It rings as a clanging cymbal of self pride and self righteousness.

Many people feel inadequate, weak and even lost in their circumstances.

To them, their trials and problems are bigger than they can ever resolve.

To have someone tell them in those moments of helplessness, "God helps those who help themselves" is of no comfort! In fact it might possibly remove their last ray of hope.

Now listen to the One who is God: And he has said to me, " My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. (II Corinthians 12: 9 NASB)

God's mercy, forgiveness, gift of Christ and power is always sufficient for any circumstance.

Our strength is shown by allowing God to have control of our lives and our circumstances.

He will resolve them in a way for us to see His presence in our lives. Therefore our weakness becomes His strength. I pray that you will let God be your strength in all things.

Trust His love today and prove Him to be God. He will provide all your needs and remove all your fears.

PUBLIC

PUBLIC NOTICE

North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority is accepting bids for two (2) year lease on tract of land located at Miller's Creek Reservoir.

Two year lease term begins July 1, 2007 and expires June 30, 2009.

All bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes with "Land Lease Bid" noted on the outside, and delivered to 135 North Munday Avenue, Munday, Texas 76371 or mailed to P.O. Box 36, Munday, Texas 76371.

Bids must be received by 5:00 p.m. on June 12, 2007.

All pertinent information relating to said lease conditions may be reviewed at the Authority office located at 135 North Munday Avenue, Munday, Texas 76371. Bids will be opened and read aloud at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority beginning at 7:00 p.m. on June 12, 2007.

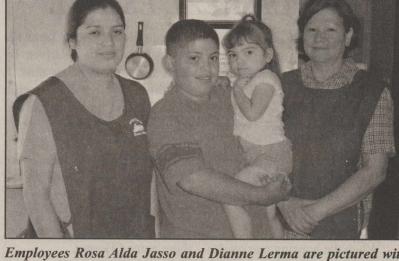
> Published on May 17, 2007 and May 24, 2007

Burrito Express Honors Customers And Mothers With Mother's Day Drawings

Burrito Express honored their customers and mothers on Friday when they held a drawing for several Mother's Day gift items. "We wanted to do something for our customers," said Ben Vasquez, co-owner.

Customers had the opportunity to enter at the business since Monday the 7th.

The prizes were a floral arrangement and three crosses from the Knox City Florist and a throw from The Art Stall and Frame Shop. There were a total of five prizes in all. Winner of the floral arrangement was Homer Rolston. Winner of the throw was R.K. Wilkins III. Winners of the wooden crosses were Wes Holmes and Moses Munoz. Jeremy Eaton's name was drawn for the black iron cross.



Employees Rosa Alda Jasso and Dianne Lerma are pictured with Victor Vasquez IV and Kylee Michelle Carnes, their mother is Michelle Carnes of Haskell. Mother's Day items were drawn by Victor and Kylee.

were Kylee Michelle Carnes, great niece of Ben and Mary Vasquez, owners of Burrito Ex-

Drawing names at the event press and Victor Vasquez IV, nephew of the couple. Burrito Express will soon feature a convenient drive-thru.

Matthew **Brockett** Graduates College

Mr. and Mrs. Marq C. Brockett are pleased to announce the graduation of their son, Matthew Cody Brockett who was awarded his Associate of Applied Science in Digital Imaging and Design Technology from Texas State Technological College Texas on April 29, 2007.

Cody has been an active member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society and volunteer teaching assistant on the Sweetwater campus. He was named as Board of Regents honor graduate for maintaining a 4.0 average for all semesters and received a Certificate of Excellence in Digital Imaging and Design. Cody competed in the "Rez'd" gaming technology competition in Abilene and was awarded a second place for his entry in the gaming modification category. He represented TSTC West Texas in the Skills USA competition in San Antonio, where he was awarded a gold medal in 3D Visualization and Animation. He will represent the state of Texas in the national competition in Kansas City, Kansas in June of

Cody is a 2004 graduate of Knox City High School, attended Texas Tech University and transferred to TSTC Sweetwater to pursue computer graphics and design. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Orr of O'Brien and Mrs. Evelyn Brockett of Ralls, Texas.

Cody, your family, school and community are proud of your accomplishments and wish you the best of luck as you achieve your dreams.

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Tom Butler Memorial **Bronc Riding & Foundation** Scholarships Awarded

Guthrie High School graduating seniors, Joanna Elliott, Melyssa Elliott and Dayla Ship have been awarded the Tom Butler Memorial Bronc Riding Scholarship.

"This is a special one...it is our way of honoring Tom as well as contributing to graduating seniors to help them pursue a higher education," said Kelly and Traci Butler.

The First Annual tom butler Memorial Bronc Riding held last November generated funds to disperse seven scholarships from the event. Along with the three selected from Guthrie,

Shanai Slover from Paducah High School, Shaylee Propps from Benjamin High School, Will Kittley from Rule High School and Waylon Davis from Breckenridge High School have also been awarded the Tom Butler Memorial Bronc Riding Scholarship.

Receiving the Tom Butler Foundation Scholarship from Guthrie are graduating seniors, Callie Wynn, Louis Uribe, Kaleb Criswell and Nanci Sandoval, with The Tom Butler Valedictorian Scholarship being awarded to James Reid of Guthrie.

Blossom's Boutique

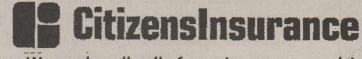


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Krysta Fuller Named Marketing Representative Ag Workers **Mutual Auto Insurance**

Krysta Fuller raised in Nocona. Texas has been named the Marketing Representative for the North West Region of Texas of Agricultural Workers Mutual Auto Insurance.

Krysta brings forth strong interpersonal skills to the marketing team of the company.

She has served as the marketing assistant to Vice President of Public Relations Communications, Beckham. Mrs. Fuller is a graduate of Nocona High School. She received her Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Services and Development from Tarleton State University.

Krysta has been very instrumental and successful in building incremental sales for the State of Texas where she worked in the home office in Fort Worth.

Her innovations will be a continuation of development and creating opportunity for those persons in agriculture who are a part of the select - risk group eligible for Ag Workers Mutual Auto Insurance and the subsidiary company Worth Casualty Company.

Krysta's position will oversee and utilize representatives of North West Texas area. Working with interns and university representative from Tarleton State



Krysta Fuller

University she will implement marketing avenues for Ag Workers and Worth Casualty Company. In addition, they will assist Mrs. Fuller with tradeshow development and other pertinent appearances in the North West Texas area.

Proud parents are Carroll and Treavor Fuller of Nocona, Texas. Krysta plans to marry in September, 2007 to Larry Moore of Weatherford where they will reside. Patti Beckham, Vice President of Public Relations/ Communications welcomes Krysta to the marketing team of Ag Workers/Worth Casualty and congratulates her accomplishments as she extends her career as Marketing Representative in the North West Texas Area.

Dallas Dykes Honored — Continued

(Continued from Page 1) Dykes stated that he has worked for many judges, commissioners and with many county road employees in his eighteen years of service, including judges David Perdue, Greg Clonts, and current Judge Travis Floyd; commissioners Billy Gene Johnston, Leonard Phipps,

Weldon Skiles and current commissioner Johnny McCown; and past and present county road emplovees Tommy Mangis, Glenn Huffman, Kenneth Hendricks, Lindell Lambeth, John Sanchez, Bud Conner, Raul Barrientez, Randy Smith and the late Eddy Balis. "I think they deserve recognition, too," said Dykes.

News At

The sample TAKS question for this week comes from the exit level (11th grade) social studies test.

Many Americans opposed U.S. membership in the league of nations out of concern that it would A. place a financial burden on the taxpayer B. lead to involvement in international conflicts without congressional approval C. expand the power of the president on domestic issues D. prohibit the U.S. from annexing additional territory. The correct answer to this question is at the bottom of this article.

In Coach Welch's U.S. History and Economics classes the students are watching the movie "Fly Boys".

This movie is a true story about six young American men who fought for the French in

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WWI before the United States became involved. Mrs. Shahan's Chemistry class is working with acid and bases, and the IPC is working with chemical for-

Upcoming events at MHS include: HS awards assembly will be May 17th at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium, senior trip is May 18th, the 2007 prom will be May 19th, baccalaureate for the class of 2007 is May 20th at 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium, UIL academic, athletic, and OAP play banquet will be May 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the high school gym, projected student schedules for high school students for the 2007-2008 school year will be handed out to all high school students on May 21st. The correct answer to the taks question

P.O. Box 241 2:00pm Sunday May 20, 2007 117 N. Central Knox City, Texas 1/2 block north of Hwy 222 on Hwy 6

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> Complete List w/ Photos on Website Updated Daily Join Our Email List @ www.pepperandassociates.com

Local Educator To Retire

Haskell - Knox Shared Service Arrangement, who serves the needs of students in Benjamin ISD, Knox City-O'Brien CISD, Munday CISD, Paint Creek ISD and Rule ISD schools is announcing the retirement of Kathleen Tanner, MS, CCC/SLP at the conclusion of her current contract.

Kathleen has diligently provided speech-language services over the past 34 years to students throughout the Big Country area and will be sorely missed. Mrs. Tanner is the wife of Ronny Tanner of Haskell. They have one son, Chris of Phoenix and two precious granddaughters, Ashleigh and Avery. Kathleen earned her undergraduate degree from Abilene Christian in the seventies. She began teaching in the public school with speech therapy services at Tri-County Co-op in Stamford and then in Monahan's schools. Later she and her husband moved to Haskell, where she returned to Tri-County schools. She then was hired by Haskell-Knox Consortium and has been employed continuously with this group. In 1997, she was selected to participate in a statewide initiative "TETN-cycle I".

This collaborative program by Texas Woman's University and the Texas Education Agency allowed selected speech therapists to complete the Master level degree of Speech Language Pathology through a form of distance learning. Kathleen completed the program with honors in August 1999, which led her to earn her Clinical Competency Certification or CCC/SLP,

from the American Speech and Hearing Association.

Education and educators have played an important role in Kathleen's life, Her father, Pete Lollar of Anson, dedicated to Anson ISD 32 years as an educator before becoming Special Education Director of Tri-County Co-op in Stamford under Plan A and completing his school career at the State School in Abilene. Her parents raised five children in Anson setting fine examples and expectations. Kathleen and her siblings have many good memories being raised as "teacher's kids." All in all, Pete Lollar's legacy has been passed on encompassing first to his daughters, Kathleen Tanner, Speech Language Pathologist for the public schools 34 years; Geri Middlebrook, a teacher of special needs students in Spring ISD, Alexandria, Louisiana and Stamford's Tri-County; and Jill Bradley who has taught Special Education as well as reading specialist in Abilene and Conroe ISDs. Later the next generation was influenced as well with numerous grandchildren also following his footsteps into the field of education.

Kathleen is pleased to have passed on to her son Chris, the love of making a difference in the lives of students. Chris is a sixth grade teacher in Phoenix, Arizona. And who knows, very possibly one day Ashleigh or Avery may very well be just like their "Mim" and become an educator also. We wish the best for a well-deserved retirement to Mrs. Tanner. You have made a difference.

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- · the market or appraised value of your property · the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
 the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- · the taxable status of your property
- · the local governments which should be taxing your property
- · the ownership of property
- · the change of use of land receiving special appraisal · any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or
- appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affects

Informal Review

Appraiser will be available on Tuesdays, beginning May 22 2007, in the Appraisal District Office, Knox County Courthouse, Benjamin, Texas.

Review by the Appraisal Review Board If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews probems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening. Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD will use to uphold their determination. The CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your

hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at

P.O. Box 47 Benjamin, Tx 79505

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court or an Arbitrator

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 45 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. As an alternative and within the same time period, you may file a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district in certain cases.

Tax Payment

You must pay either the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at P.O. Box 47, Benjamin, TX 79505.

You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB"

On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good. cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

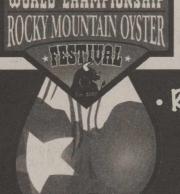
For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of

your land), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1). The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Friday, May 18 — Arrival of teams, Cook's meeting at 5 p.m. & "Tastes like Chicken" contest begins 6-ish. Live music with Twisted Country of Albany.

Saturday, May 19 — Competition begins! First turn in of calf fries starts at 11 a.m. with other category turn-ins at every hour...until we're done! Award announcements will be 6-ish. Live music with Sunny Country Swing.

Po you call yourself a BBQ afficionado? Well, if you're not competing, come out and judge! Contact Jack at 849-3170 for more details.

Lots of vendors! Jewelry, furniture, arts & crafts...and food! Lone Star Amusements providing entertainment for the kids!







Benjamin Sports

Award Banquet Photos —



Lady Stang Award and Ricky Carver **Fighting** Mustang Award Shaylee Propps, Lucas Cartwright, Kaitlyn Kuehler



Sophomores receiving their letter jackets Leah Vanderpol, Brittany Coop, Devon Jones, Gilbert Nevarez.

BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

We have had a very nice weekend and lots was going on around the area. I hope all Moms had a very special day. Saturday was a good day and folks were out and about casting their votes for their favorite candidate. We have a new mayor. Ernie Eaton was elected, as were three new council members: Pate Meinzer, Gary Reed, and Brandon Gray.

Concerning Our Ill

Thankfully no illnesses this week. Those with ongoing problems all seem to be doing better. Leroy West is out a lot during the day. For a while he didn't feel much like anything except staying in. He's able to keep his yard mowed and with the rate it's growing it's a full-time undertaking. I saw Bobby Henderson Saturday and he too seems to be doing pretty well right now.

Sympathy Sent

Sincere sympathy to the family of George Hodges today. George passed away last Wednesday after a brief illness. He had been in failing health for quite some time. He was my friend as he was to many and he will be missed greatly. His funeral was May 11 in O'Brien.

Senior Supper

The Methodist folk hosted a Mexican supper last Tuesday night to honor the graduating seniors.

Also attending was the sponsor and school's superintendent. Each graduate received a Bible as a gift from the church.

Here 'N There

Sue Terry, and children, of Dallas and Lana Gideon, and family, of Seymour spent Mothers Day with their Mom, Jane Gideon. They also visited with their dad, Weldon Gideon.

Debbie Neil of Boca Raton, Florida visited her parents, Jack and Mary Young and other relations and friends last week. On Thursday, they all went to Round Rock to visit their son (and brother) Jack Jr. and Cindy Young a few days before Debbie left by plane Sunday for her return trip.

Will Moorhouse accompanied his grandmother, Bobbye Moorhouse, to Lubbock on Saturday and attended commencement at Texas Tech. His cousin, Christi Moorhouse, was among those who received their degrees.

Weekend guest of Charles and Linda Griffith was their grandson Matt, a student at the University of Texas in Austin.

Diane Evans and Ashlee Childress visited me on Saturday. We had lunch with Debbie and Mike Moorhouse and enjoyed an early Mothers Day get-together visiting with each other.

Jimmy and Michelle Barrien-

tez visited his sister, Lupe Palacio, and family in Fredericksburg during the weekend.

Betty Bohannon was in Canyon during the weekend for the graduation program of West Texas State College. Her sister-in-law, Pam Mosteller was among those graduating. A party honoring Pam for her accomplishment was held in Panhandle later in the day. Betty said lots of well-wishers attended the bash.

Bubba Benson and Wendy Henderson and family visited her relations in Amarillo during the

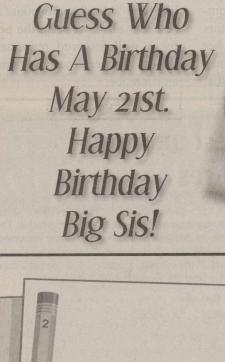
Anthoy Lamb of Vernon visited home one day last week. He also went to visit his friend Jarrett Ferguson in Guthrie and said Jarrett is improving slowly. Jarrett was critically injured in an automobile accident earlier this year near San Angelo and was hospitalized several weeks before he was able to come home. Any progress is encouraging and we pray for his complete recovery. Jarrett went to school here for two or three years and is well-known locally.

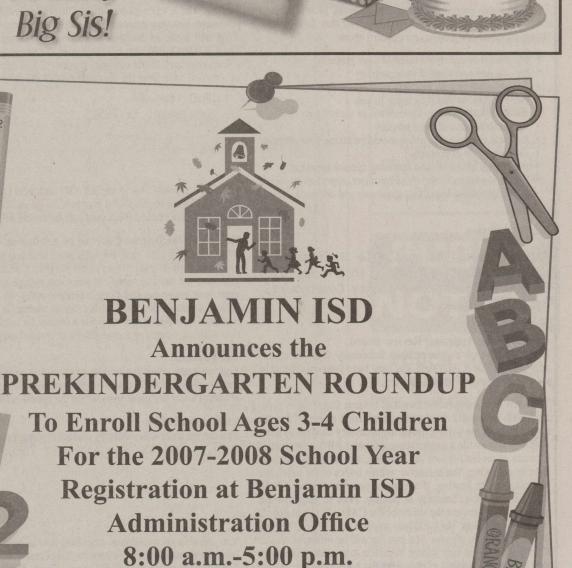
Saturday night is Prom night and preparations are underway; everyone is getting ready for the big event. It takes a lot of work to get ready for this type of activity, but it's always enjoyed by every-

2007 - 2008 Benjamin High School Cheerleaders



2007-2008 Benjamin High School Cheerleaders back row l-r: Leah Vanderpol, mascot; Judit Acevedo, Julia Acevedo. front row l-r: Karla Benson, Nafeesa Ebraheim





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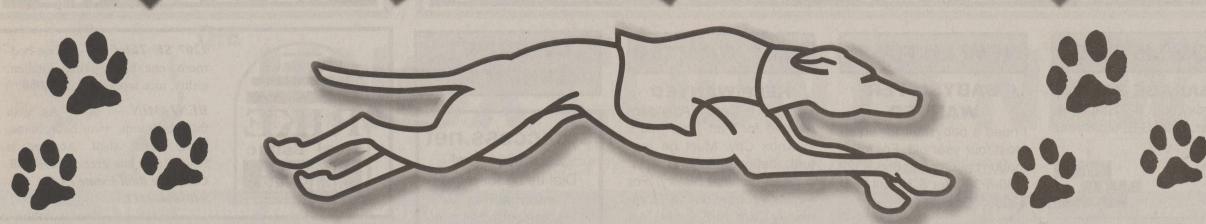
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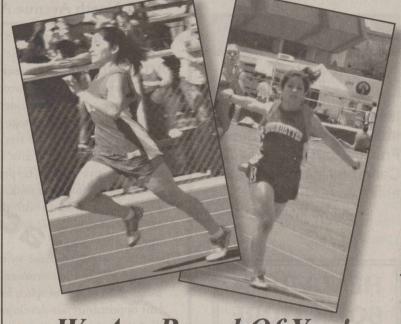
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Safety Day To Be Held Saturday

School in Knox City.

Registration will be held from 3:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. with the program kicking off at 9:00 a.m.

Organizers urge all youth to be part of this fun filled, educational day. A \$10.00 registration fee for the event covers lunch, snacks, a take-home packet and a Safety Day

The closing session of the day will feature a variety of great door prizes including a Nintendo Game

Parents can register their children

Area youth completing grades 3 to participate in the camp by calling 8 are reminded of the Progressive the Haskell County Extension of-Agriculture Safety Day this fice at (940) 864-2658 or the Knox Saturday, May 19, at the Knox City County Extension office at (940) 459-2651

Parents can also register their children at the door on Saturday.

Educational programs of Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting or program are encouraged to contact the Haskell County Extension Office at (940) 864-2658 or 864-2546.

KNOX CITY-O'BRIEN CISD FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

WHEN: JUNE 04, 2007 THROUGH **JUNE 29, 2007 MONDAY - FRIDAY** WHERE: KNOX CITY ISD CAFETERIA BREAKFAST — 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. LUNCH — 11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. **OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN AGES 1-18**

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Baker Petrolite DRIVER

Baker Petrolite, a world leader in chemical technology solutions for the global hydrocarbon recovery and processing industry, is currently seeking a truck driver in the Knox City,

This position will be responsible for application of Baker Petrolite products to producing oil/gas wells and pipelines throughout the North Central Texas area. The successful candidate will have a current CDL with Hazmat Endorsement, and be able to comply with all D.O.T. regulations. Applicant must not have 3 or more moving violations within the past 3 years. Good mechanical knowledge and organizational skills are preferred.

Our work schedule is generally 5 days per week, Monday thru Friday, but weekend work may be required from time to time. An average work week generally consists of 50-60 hours. Estimated annual earnings range from \$40,000 - \$50,000 plus a very generous benefit program.

Baker Petrolite offers competitive salaries and excellent benefits including the following:

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5-17-07c

NEW LISTINGS

BABYSITTER WANTED

I need a babysitter for an almost four year old. For information call Sheri at 658-3322 8:30-5:30 after 5:30 call 658-5305.

5-17-07-/tfc

FOR SALE

OWNER FINANCE

407 SE 2nd St. 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath. \$41,500. Easy Terms. Call 325-893-1973.

5-17-07-5-24-07/C

FOR SALE Spacious two-story brick home, C/H/A on large corner fenced lot. Large bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Utility room, sunroom and 2 room basement. Carport and detached apartment. Located in Munday. Call 940-422-

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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MAINTENANCE PERSON needed at Haskell Healthcare Center. Needs to have common sense, positive attitude, and a basic knowledge of plumbing, carpentry and painting. Call Steve at 940-864-8537.

LVN needed at Haskell Healthcare Center. Please contact Cindy or Julie at 940-864-8537.

5-10-07-5-17-07c

\$1.000 Sign On Bonus for CNA's!

Munday Nursing Center has exciting opportunities for CNA's who love the elderly and who are organized and ready for a challenge! We have positions available, to be filled immediately! Sign on Bonus offered for a limited time

APPLY TODAY at 421 W. "F" Street or call Rachel Grav. RN. DON at 940-422-4541 for more information. EOE M/F/D/V

5-3-07-5-17-07/c

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HOMES

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NEW LISTING! 705 NE Third Street — Three bedroom/one bath frame home. Call for more information! \$19,900. 612 Eighth St. O'Brien — 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath home located on a

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