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Wednesday, August 6 Thursday, August 7 Friday, August 8 Saturday, August 9 Sunday, August 10 Monday, August 11



High/Low
93/71°

30% Isolated T-Storms



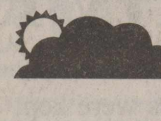
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30% Isolated T-Storms



High/Low
95/71°

Partly Cloudy



High/Low
100/73°

Partly Cloudy



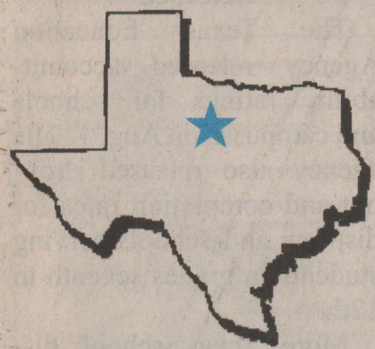
High/Low
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Partly Cloudy



High/Low
102/73°

Partly Cloudy



THE

KNOX COUNTY NEWS

Proudly Serving Knox and King Counties

Volume XXXVII

Number 41 Thursday, August 7, 2008

Knox City, Texas

8 Pages + 1 Insert

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Looking Ahead

MIDNIGHT MADNESS WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE FOOTBALL FIELD IN KNOX CITY. EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND CHEER ON THE KC FOOTBALL TEAM AS THEY SUIT-UP OR THE FIRST TIME AT 12:01 A.M.

KNOX COUNTY SINGLES AND SINGLES

The August meeting of Knox County Singles and Singles Again will be on Friday, August 8th at 7:00 p.m. An evening of snacks and games is planned at the Fellowship Hall of the Munday Church of Christ, 330 North 3rd, Munday, Texas. Please join us for an evening of conversation, board games, card games and dominoes.

\$1,500.00 1ST PLACE TO BE AWARDED AT "OFF THE HOOK" BASS TOURNAMENT

The third annual "Off the Hook Bass Tournament" sponsored by the Stamford Chamber of Commerce will be held Saturday, August 9, 2008 at Lake Stamford Marina. Guaranteed prize of \$1,500.00 for 1st place will be awarded, (*2nd and consecutive places based on entries). Registration fee for the Tournament is \$125.00 per team, (2 person team), which includes \$5.00 for the "Big Bass Pot". Contestant registration will be Saturday, August 9 from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. at the Tournament Headquarters, (pre-registration prior to tournament is encouraged). For information or an entry form, contact the Stamford Chamber of Commerce at 773-2411 or visit the website at www.stamfordcoc.org.

KID FISH TOURNAMENT SET FOR AUGUST 9

The third annual "Off the Hook Kid Fish Tournament" sponsored by the Stamford Chamber of Commerce will be held Saturday, August 9, 2008 at Lake Stamford Marina from 10:00 a.m. until Noon. The Tournament is limited to children ages 12 and under. Registration will be at 9:30 a.m. on August 9, (pre-registration prior to tournament is encouraged). Registration fee is \$8.00 and includes a hot dog lunch, live bait, and a Tournament t-shirt. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Places. Each participant will need to bring their own rod and reel. For information or an entry form, contact the Stamford Chamber of Commerce at 773-2411 or visit the website at www.stamfordcoc.org.

O'BRIEN HOMECOMING

Mark your calendar and check your mail---the O'Brien Homecoming is scheduled for October 10-12, 2008. If you are an O'Brien Ex-Student or O'Brien Ex-Teacher please share your email and postal address with us. We want to keep you informed about the Homecoming this year. Email: derobe@srcaccess.net Or O'Brien Homecoming Committee P. O. Box 11 O'Brien, TX 79539

New Coaches And Players Ready For New Season

Amanda Sandusky
Reporter

Monday marked the start of the 2008-2009 Knox City sports season.

With new coaches, players' and teammates' spirits were high while the teams prepared for this year's season.

The football team so far has had 18 boys show up, ready to learn plays and to practice.

The volleyball team has 22 girls, all ready to practice and show off their volleyball skills.

Fans will see a few new faces and one familiar one on the sidelines this season. This year the new athletic director is Coach Charles Steele. He has 12 years' coaching and teaching experience. Coach Steele was in Benjamin for three years and then Bryson until he came to Knox City to coach the Greyhounds. For the last eight years he has coached six-man football.

Coach Steele and his Wife Melissa have been married for 13 years and have two daughters -- Marlie, who will be in the 6th grade, and Makaylie, who is going to be in her first year in junior high as a fifth-grader. Melissa will also be working in the school system.

When asked why he became a coach, Steele's response was



Coaches Left to Right: Josh Webb, Charles Steele, Jan Reed, Colin Howeth and Kurt Maxwell, not pictured above Amanda Daughtery. Picture taken by Brandy Wise

that he knew from an early age that he wanted to work with kids and to help make a difference in their lives.

Steele said that the boys are working hard and have very positive attitudes.

Coach Steele is going to be more than the Athletic Director. He's also going to be head football, baseball, and powerlifting coach, high school social stud-

ies teacher, and he will help out with junior high football and track.

Coach Jan Reed is one of the new faces on the girls coaching staff.

Reed has been in the education and coaching for 20 years -- ten years as a substitute teacher and ten years as a coach and teacher. A graduate of West Texas University, Reed has been

married for 24 years and has two daughters -- Katelin, 16, and Abby, 11.

When asked why she came to Knox City, Reed said that it was the perfect opportunity for her and her family and that she loves small town life. Coach Reed will be teaching high school health and keyboarding, elementary physical education and all girls' sports. She expects

the girls to take pride in where they are from and to remember they represent the town.

Coach Josh Webb is experiencing his first year of coaching and teaching with the Knox City students. Webb is a Texas Tech graduate. He has a wife, Bergen, who is going to be the new second grade teacher.

■ See Coaches on Page 8

Roping Saturday in Munday To Benefit Thompson-Cypert

By Hanaba Munn Welch
and Amanda Sandusky

A benefit team roping Saturday in Munday at the athletic complex sounds like a full-fledged celebration -- competition in the rodeo arena, a live auction, games for kids and concessions anchored by a smoker-grill big enough to feed a small army.

By some standards the Thompson-Cypert Benefit Roping will double as a fundraiser and a true celebration -- a time to be thankful that a tragic fiery pickup-truck col-

lision south of Rhineland on Sunday, May 18, took no lives. Proceeds from the roping will help the men hurt in the accident pay medical expenses that have ensued since the accident.

Except for the brave actions of a Munday teenager, Keith Cypert, driver of the pickup, things could have turned out much differently -- especially for his passengers, Trey Thompson and Tyler Thompson, both of Munday, both knocked unconscious by the impact of the crash, helpless to extricate themselves from the

burning wreckage.

Cypert, 17, first pulled Trey Thompson from the pickup and then, at great risk, went back for Tyler Thompson, pulling him from the crumpled vehicle only moments before the pickup exploded. The driver of the truck, a young wheat harvest worker from Minnesota, wasn't hurt. No charges were filed.

"He had stopped," said Konnie Kuehler, who lives near the intersection and was home when the accident happened.

But the grain truck driver, traveling on FM 2534, apparently didn't see Cypert's pickup and pulled onto FM 267 and into its path.

Cypert and the two Thompson brothers were northbound, on their way to investigate a grass fire on ranch property managed by the Thompson family.

Kuehler and her 8-year-old daughter, Kristen, arrived at the accident scene in time to see much of what happened.

"Trey was out, and then they brought Tyler over and laid him beside the Suburban," she said.

**THOMPSON-CYPERT
BENEFIT ROPING**

SATURDAY
AUGUST 9TH

BOOKS OPEN AT 9 AM
ROPE AT 10 AM
DRAW FOUR (4) PARTNERS FOR \$50
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\$30 TO DONATION

AUCTION AT 9:30

RAFFLE: TWO WINNERS OF A HALF BEEF PLUS PROCESSING
AND A HOLLAND GAS GRILL

MUNDAY ATHLETIC COMPLEX
AUCTION AND RAFFLE CONTACT
KONNIE KUEHLER 940-422-4778 OR 940-256-3145

"(Kristen) was there with me and she saw them."

The 8-year-old has dealt with her feelings about the traumatic event by putting together a book about what she saw and

naming it "Three Good Men."

"She started out with just a couple of pages," Konnie Kuehler said. "She has stapled together ten pages. We made

■ See Benefit on Page 8

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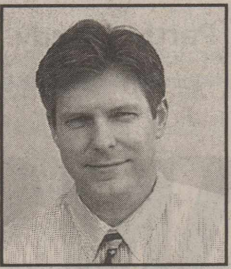
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State Capital HIGHLIGHTS



By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN - President Bush on July 24 granted Gov. Rick Perry's July 23 request for a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration as Hurricane Dolly walloped South Texas. The declaration helps pay for emergency expenditures that occurred before, during and after the hurricane. But, Gov. Perry said, the declaration does not cover hurricane-related individual or business losses. Perry wrote again to the president on July 31, to speed "individual assistance" to

Governor Perry Presses For More Disaster Aid

people whose homes were damaged but not covered by insurance and "public assistance" to fund the repair or replacement of damaged or destroyed public facilities or infrastructure. Thousands of South Texans remained without power and hundreds were staying in temporary shelters, as of Aug. 1. State Releases Mansion Tape Clips Newspapers and broadcast media stations requested copies of videotapes recorded by governor's mansion security cameras on the night of June 8, when the governor's mansion was gutted by fire. The Texas Department of Public Safety initially denied the requests, arguing that the videotapes relate to a pending criminal investigation and should not be released. The Texas Attorney General's Office sided with the DPS

and the videotapes were kept under wraps. However, on July 29, state and federal investigators made two video clips from the videotapes available to the public and offered a \$50,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction. One video clip shows a man walking on a sidewalk near the mansion. Another video clip shows a man running on a different sidewalk near the mansion. The video clips and still images can be viewed at the DPS Web site, www.txdps.state.tx.us. Indicted Men Turn Themselves In A Schleicher County grand jury on July 22 indicted five men, all members of the polygamist sect that occupies the Yearning for Zion Ranch near Eldorado.

On July 28, the men surrendered themselves to the Schleicher County sheriff. The Texas Attorney General's Office published their names and the charges against them: Raymond Merrill Jessop, 36, charged with one count of sexually assaulting a child, a first-degree felony; possible sentence of five to 99 years or life in prison. Allan Eugene Keate, 56, charged with one count of sexually assaulting a child, a first-degree felony; possible sentence of five to 99 years or life in prison. Michael George Emack, 57, charged with one count of sexually assaulting a child, a first-degree felony; possible sentence of five to 99 years or life in prison. Merrill Leroy Jessop, 33, charged with one count of sexually assaulting a child

and bigamy, both first-degree felonies; possible sentence of five to 99 years or life in prison on each count. Lloyd Hammon Barlow, 38, charged with three counts of failure to report child abuse, a class B misdemeanor; possible sentence of up to six months in prison and a fine of \$2,000 per count. Also indicted was sect leader Warren S. Jeffs, 52, who is a Utah prison inmate convicted of two counts of being an accomplice to rape. Jeffs is serving two consecutive sentences of five years to life. An anonymous allegation of domestic violence and sexual abuse prompted San Angelo State District Judge Barbara Walther to order the seizure and custody of more than 400 ranch children in early April. State appellate courts overturned Walther's order and

the children were returned to their parents in early June. Education Ratings Are Released The Texas Education Agency released accountability ratings for schools and campuses on Aug. 1. The agency also released drop-out and completion rates for districts and schools serving students in grades seventh to 12th. More Texas school districts and campuses earned the state's two highest ratings, exemplary and recognized, in 2008, the TEA reported. Statewide, the graduation rate for the 290,662 member class of 2007 was 78 percent. Between ninth grade and the end of 12th grade, 11.4 percent of the members of this class dropped out of school. Complete statistics can be found at www.tea.state.tx.us.

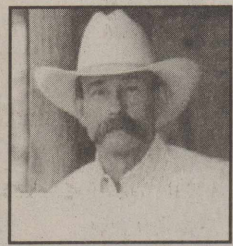
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COW POKES By Ace Reid http://www.cowpokes.com [Illustration of two cowboys in a desert landscape] "Sometime it seems that all that ever grows on our place is overhead!"

The Paperboy By CHRISTOPHER BLACKBURN An Open Letter To: The Honorable Mac Thornberry 2457 Rayburn House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 Dear Representative: Thank you for representing your constituents with class and honor. We have many problems facing us in the near future, problems Congress failed to act on before recess. Unfortunately, that has come to be expected. I commend you on your efforts to get your colleagues to act on drilling for oil within our own country. It's a pity Speaker Pelosi refuses to let the collective American voice be heard on this issue. I find it hard to believe one lady stands in the way of whether the United States takes control of the world oil market or not. It's completely absurd, because we now stand at 70 percent in terms of the percentage of Americans who support drilling. Here in rural America, we spend a considerable amount on gasoline as you well know considering your Clarendon roots. The simple fact is, we are forced to drive more miles for service. Many rural Americans must drive many miles for health care, groceries and ironically, gas. In many cases, people drive 30 or 60 miles to their jobs or to take college classes. The miles add up. Out here, we do not have the option of mass transit. There are no subways and no busses to take us from town to town. Our farmers and ranchers work to put clothes on our backs and meat on our tables, yet every time they start the tractor or the truck, the money starts flying out faster than its coming in. Mr. Thornberry, we need you to help force the issue on drilling in this country. We need you and your colleagues to form a bipartisan petition to have President Bush call Congress back into session and force a vote on this issue. One person should not stand in the way of lower gas prices. One person should not stand in the way of more jobs for Americans. One person should not stand in the way of a more secure country. It's time for Mrs. Pelosi to step out of her limousine and pump and pay for her own gas. No doubt she'd be shocked. Sincerely, Christopher Blackburn, Blackburn Media Group PO Box 1210 Childress, Tx. 79201

The Knox County News "Since 1971, Knox County's Oldest Established Newspaper" USPS 903-920 POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to The Knox County News, P.O. Box 188, Knox City, TX 79529. Published weekly, 110 North Central, Knox City, Knox County, Texas. Periodicals postage paid at Post Office, Knox City, Texas 79529. MEMBER - Texas Press Association • West Texas Press Association CHRISTOPHER BLACKBURN Publisher BRANDY WISE Editor AMANDA SANDUSKY Reporter 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 News. SUBMISSION POLICY The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements. PHOTO SUBMISSION POLICY The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided. NOTICE Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher. KCN OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ACROSS 1 Cowboy starts: kick- 5 TXism: "couldn't buy hay - nightmare" (poor) 6 ex-Cowboy Aikman 7 showy actors 8 agcy. that monitors air of TX cities (abbr.) 9 feathery scarf 12 TXism: "if any better the sheriff wouldn't allow it" 17 TXism: "couldn't hit the barn" 19 Corpus Christi: "The Sparkling City by" 21 TX Indians used this flower to make dye & jelly 22 Aikman toss 23 historic Washington Co. site: Houston House 28 homemade brew: sour 29 calf meat 30 TXism: "shave" (near miss) 31 ex-Cowboy "Tall" Jones 35 steamed rice dish 36 in Austin: State Library 42 accommodation at Day's Inn (2 wds.) 44 Las Colinas Mandalay waterway 46 coffee additive 48 TXism: "as a lamb" 49 peculiar 50 TX tradition 51 TX Ranger film: "Wolfe McQuade" 52 Sea State Park 53 TXism: "piece" 54 woman at A&M 56 TXism: "it don't up" 57 this Beatty starred with TX Jimmy Dean in "Big Bad John" 58 Dallasite founder of the Family Stone DOWN 1 TXism: "they're eatin' out bag" (associated) 2 TXism: "buying pearls" (wasting money) 3 TXism: "wouldn't know him" 4 "Simon" 9 TX tree: "d'arc" 10 El Paso-Mex. link: "Bridge" 11 Andrews h.s. class 12 TXism: "call day" 13 Telegraph & TX Register was "the TX Revolution" 14 TXism: "seeing eye to eye" 15 it's bigger than TX 16 the state has a 5-pointed lone star 18 historical period 20 Mr. Neiman 23 Gov. " Ferguson 24 TX Ranger signee Palmeiro (init.) 25 TXism: "pickings" 26 Tex Beneke sang these for Glenn Miller 27 TXism: "weak day-old kitten" 32 Pepper 33 "best little puzzle in TX" (abbr.) 34 express surprise displayed at TX museums 37 Sir Coward 38 contributor 39 White of the "Wheel" 40 get in the contest 41 TX lake: El del Rey 43 Houston the army at San Jacinto 45 Pepe Pew 47 to make over 48 TXism: "I'm to know you" 55 Waller of film "Bandit King of Texas"



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

BUY BILINGUAL

Senator Barack Obama is taking partisan flack for saying, "...you should be thinking about how can your child become bilingual...you need to make sure your child can speak Spanish...I know because I don't speak a foreign language. It's embarrassing."

For a man who is normally an eloquent and commanding speaker from the podium, he seems to have two left feet when speaking without notes. He has that in common with President Bush's malapropismic articulation, except, of course, President Bush does speak a little Spanish. However, Senator Obama could have said, "If I was going to give a gift to my children, it would be to speak another language in addition to English."

I grew up in New Mexico. My county was 65% Spanish-speaking. I went to work in agriculture. Spanish is commonly the first language of a large portion of the people I worked with. Today the percent of Spanish speaking people in the ag workforce has expanded far beyond the Southwest.

Scholastically, I did not do well in Spanish class, but it interested me and I made it a point to teach myself.

There are commentators and politicians who became indignant with Senator Obama's comments. But think about it. If your children could better themselves by learning to weld or program a computer or auctioneer, would you discourage them because you oppose the Alaska pipeline, Microsoft, or free trade? Would you dissuade them from learning Arabic or Spanish because you are incensed by the Iraq war or illegal immigration?

We spend endless hours helping our children play volleyball and soccer, or the piccolo. Granted, these pursuits can improve character, but rarely will it help them get a job. But a second language is a gift that can last a lifetime.

So, to those who are offended by Senator Obama's verbal stumbling, don't throw the baby out with the... I mean, don't shoot the messenger...no, that's not it... anyway, what he says is good advice.

On a personal note, even though I speak passable Spanish, I was told that I sound a lot like Charro or Desi Arnaz does in English!

En terminando, mis amigos Mejianos dicen que yo hablo Español como Desi Arnaz o Charro hablan Ingles!



Sweating in the sunshine Tuesday, Greyhounds work hard to learn plays and get in shape for football this fall. Two-a-day practices started this week. Picture taken by Amanda Sandusky

63 Years Later, Veterans Clearly Remember When "Little Boy" Fell

First atomic bomb ever used in warfare dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945

AUSTIN - At 8:15 a.m. August 6, 1945, the United States became the first nation on earth to use an atomic weapon in war.

"Little Boy", the single bomb dropped on Hiroshima, ended the lives of more than 140,000 men, women and children. Three days later, the U.S. dropped another atomic bomb, "Fat Man", on Nagasaki killing another 80,000. On August 15, the Empire of Japan surrendered and Americans were spared from the specter of a bloody invasion of the mainland.

Old soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines remember how they felt when the bombs were dropped, as well as what they think now. Voices of Veterans, an oral history program run by the Texas Veterans Land Board, asks each veteran interviewed to share their personal story about this pivotal time in U.S. history. Their stories are posted on a website for all to hear, www.voicesofveterans.com

"I had no regrets. Harry Truman was saving a lot of American lives," said James Groesbeck, a staff officer with the 8th Fleet during the war. "Those were my thoughts at the time. I don't know how I feel, knowing what I know now."

Groesbeck has since visited

Hiroshima. "The Japanese have kept it as a reminder of the horrors of war," he said. "And boy, it's a devastated place."

Jerry Patterson, Chairman of the Texas Veterans Land Board, created the Voices of Veterans Program so the personal stories of Texas veterans could be captured and archived for future historians. Patterson is a Vietnam Veteran and retired Marine Lt. Colonel.

"Every veteran has a story to tell. The goal of this project is to ensure that those treasured memories are not lost forever," Patterson said. "These veterans remind us that ordinary people, faced with unthinkable situations, can do extraordinary things."

James Crabtree, a Captain in the Marine Corps who served in Iraq, runs the program for Patterson. For Crabtree, it is an honor to be able to capture the intimate details that would otherwise be lost to the broad-strokes of history.

"All the major battles and personalities are well-documented," Crabtree said. "But the individual stories, those add to the entire picture. The goal of the Voices of Veterans Program is to gather as many of these personal stories as we can. It all comes together like

a big patchwork quilt."

The stories themselves are fascinating, Crabtree said.

Jesse Cruz, a lineman with the Army's 99th Signal Battalion, was in Manila preparing for the anticipated invasion of Japan. Cruz remembers looking out at all the activity in the crowded Leyte Gulf and feeling relief.

The gulf was "just teeming with soldiers, war machines of all sorts, landing craft, you name it," Cruz said. "What we were doing, was preparing to go into Japan ... and it had been understood that every man, woman and child was armed in Japan, waiting for us." Ralph Miller, a pilot with the Army Air Corp's 336th Bomb Group, had already served his tour in Europe and was on the way home when he heard the news.

Miller had been traveling home by plane, train, and finally was on a bus headed into his hometown of Rochester, Indiana when he noticed "all the noise and hoopla."

"Bells rang, whistles blew, people were standing along the street - all sorts of excitement was visible from my window on the bus," Miller said. "I thought, 'Oh boy, they knew I was coming and there's a big celebration for

old Miller."

Miller spent the last mile of his trip composing in his mind what he'd say to the expected welcoming committee.

But when the bus turned the corner and there was no one at the bus station, Miller soon figured out what the celebration was about.

"It was VJ Day, and people were celebrating the end of the war in the Pacific," he said. "I had to call my mother for a ride."

Patterson is urging World War II veterans like Miller to share their stories with the Voices of Veterans Oral History Program.

Oral history interviews can be conducted in person at the Veterans Land Board in Austin or by telephone from anywhere in Texas. All that's required is completion of the interview release form and a couple of hours for the interview.

Any veteran interested in including his or her story in the Voices of Veterans program should contact the Veterans Land Board at 1-800-252-VETS (8387), or visit www.voice-sofvetans.com.

To hear more Texas veterans tell what they thought on August 6, 1945, visit: www.glo.state.tx.us/news/VOV/media.htm

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The Cost Of Crooked Lawyers

By RICHARD W. WEEKLEY

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has observed that 10 percent of politicians go around giving the other 90 percent a bad name.

These days, the same could be said for the growing ranks of disgraced personal injury trial lawyers who over just the last year have been fined, convicted and imprisoned for fraud, bribery, perjury and other corruptions of our system of civil justice.

Earlier this month, Richard "Dickie" Scruggs, of Mississippi, the so-called "Tort King," who made his name in asbestos and tobacco litigation, was sentenced to five years after pleading guilty to a criminal conspiracy charge that included a scheme to bribe a judge in a case over legal fees stemming from Hurricane Katrina.

Consider just a few other high-profile examples:

- Last September, Houston trial lawyer John O'Quinn was required to pay \$41.4 million when an independent arbitration panel ruled he improperly charged expenses to his former breast implant litigation clients.

- A criminal trial is currently under way in federal court in Kentucky in which three personal injury trial lawyers face allega-

tions they misappropriated about \$65 million of a \$200 million settlement on behalf of plaintiffs who claimed they were injured by the diet drug Fen-Phen.

- Perhaps most notably, prominent class-action attorney Melvyn Weiss of New York was recently sentenced to 30 months in a federal prison for his role in concealing illegal kickbacks to plaintiffs. Along the way, Weiss obstructed justice and committed perjury, bribery and fraud while collecting about \$250 million in fees from about 250 cases using paid plaintiffs, which is illegal.

Weiss will follow his former partner, Bill Lerach, who is currently imprisoned for a multi-million dollar kickback scheme. Weiss' firm recently paid a \$75 million fine to avoid a criminal trial. As The New York Times observed, "the guilty pleas and the firm's agreement represent a stunning change of fortune not just for the convicted lawyers, but also for a certain legal culture of braggadocio and excess — always in the name of justice for the investors that they represented."

The image of Mr. Lerach brandishing shredded documents from Enron, taking a stand against corporate corruption, has been eclipsed by sordid revelations of these lawyers' conspira-

tions to fool the courts and by confessions of criminal misconduct."

The sad fact is there are too many personal injury trial lawyers whose sole motivation is not justice or their clients' interests, but naked greed. As others have noted, they view lawsuits as "products to be manufactured, like widgets on an assembly line."

Unless you have been a party to one of the lawsuits in question, you might think that this wave of legal malfeasance is a series of isolated, unrelated incidents that do not affect you. If so, you would be wrong.

For example, law firms dedicated just to representing asbestos plaintiffs have bankrupted 70 American companies, displacing tens of thousands of American workers.

A 2006 study by the Pacific Research Institute found that excessive tort costs resulting from meritless lawsuits exceeded \$198 billion annually. The lawsuit industry generates more revenue each year than Microsoft or Intel and twice as much as Coca-Cola.

We have made dramatic strides in Texas reforming our system of civil justice in ways that have limited meritless lawsuits and improved the competi-

tive environment for business and industry.

A report by the nationally recognized economist Ray Peryman, released earlier this year, found that annual impact of lawsuit reforms implemented by the Texas Legislature since 1995 includes gains of \$112.5 billion in spending each year, \$2.6 billion in annual tax revenue and 499,000 permanent, new jobs in our state.

These are important gains, but as the recent scandals among personal injury trial lawyers tell us, our efforts to preserve, protect and defend our system of civil justice from manipulation must continue.

Famed attorney Clarence Darrow once said: "The trouble with law is lawyers."

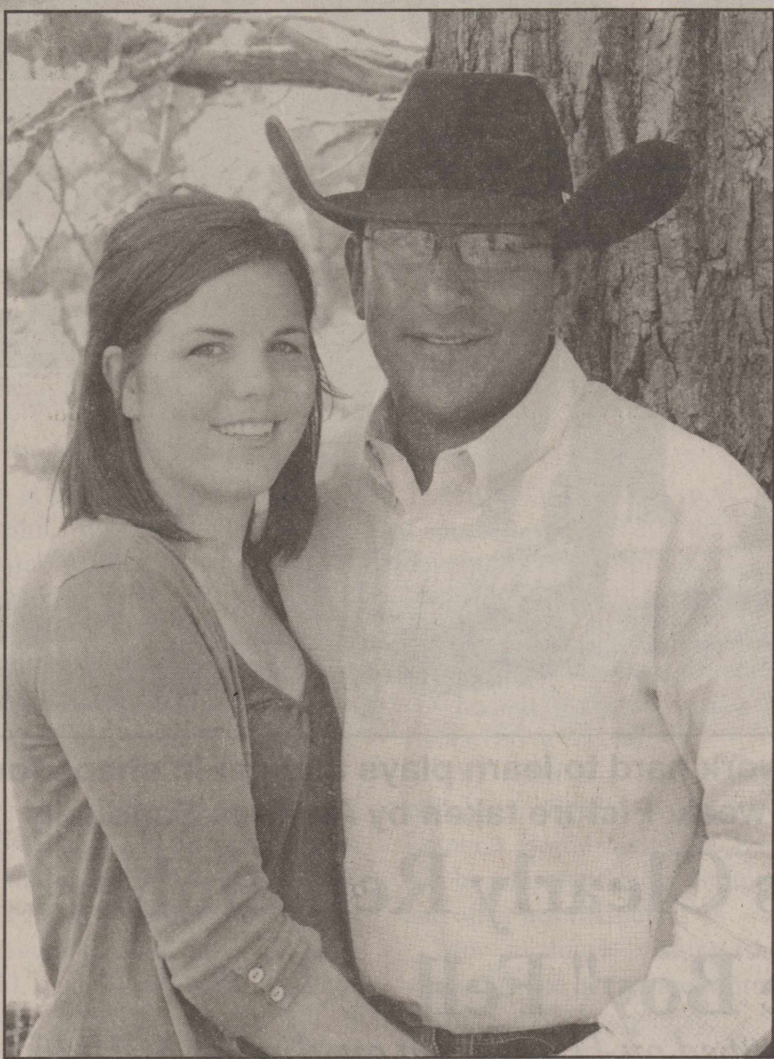
I will not paint with so broad a brush, but simply note that the price we pay for crooked lawyers and their rotten deeds goes beyond jobs lost, companies ruined and dreams lost.

Worst of all, the collective impact of their devious actions serves to undermine a common belief in justice and respect for the law.

And that affects us all.

Weekley, a Houston businessman, is chairman of the advocacy group Texans for Lawsuit Reform.

Engagement News



Farrar and Estrada

Rocky and Polly Farrar of Canadian announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kathleen Slayden Farrar of Lubbock, to Louis Edward Estrada. He is the son of Demetrio and Teresa Estrada of Knox City, Texas.

The bride-elect earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Restaurant, Hotel and Institutional Management and a Master of Arts degree in English from Texas Tech University in Lubbock. She teaches English at Lubbock Christian University.

The prospective groom received a degree in Ranch and Feedlot Management from Clarendon College. He breaks and trains horses for the public and dayworks for area ranches.

The couple will exchange vows on October 11, 2008 at 6 o'clock in the evening at the Farrar home in Canadian. Jim Reid will officiate at the ceremony.

*Abundant Life
Christian Fellowship
&
Reconciler's Motorcycle
Ministries*

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GOLF CLASSIC &
MOTORCYCLE RALLY**

On August 23, 2008

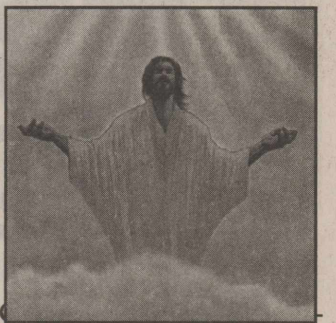
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940-657-4146 2 Person Scramble Only 27
Teams available.
Motorcycle participant registration begins
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The Reconciler's Band
will be putting on a free
concert that evening

**God's
Promises**

**By Jim Reid, Pastor
O'Brien Baptist Church**



How many times do we wonder if we can trust God? Circumstances and consequences enter into our lives and we question trusting God? Peril and poverty are world wide and we ask, "Can we trust God?"

We debate removing "In God We Trust", from our coins and bills, because this nation would argue "Can We Trust God?"

I believe we're asking the wrong person the wrong question! We should be asking, "Can God trust us?"

Can God trust me with my spouse? Can God trust me with my children? Can God trust me with my job and career? Can God trust me with my Church? Can God trust me with my thoughts, my words, and my actions? I mean we could go on and on about God trusting us.

But that really is the question. If I say that I love God and believe that He loves me, can we; do we; trust each other?

Every personal relationship of love is a covenant relationship. A covenant relationship is one which is based and founded upon trust one to another.

ship between you and Him with trust! Believing trust, speaking trust and trust in action and works. The truth of the relationship is, "Can God trust me?" Can He believe what I tell him? Can He see the truth in what I do? Can He see me sharing His truth and trust with others? God does trust you with His gospel message.

I Thessalonians 2: 4 But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which tries our hearts.

I Timothy 1: 11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

God wants to trust us completely. He gave us such great blessings and challenges to be trusted with His gospel. He wants us to share His gospel message with the world. Tell God today that He can trust you to share His gospel (the Good News of Jesus Christ).

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

**KC AREA CHURCH
DIRECTORY**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City
Rick Neal, 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

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

FOUR SQUARE CHURCH - Knox City
Don Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:50 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH - Knox City
Father Leo Schloemer • Deacon Ben Vasquez
Sunday Bilingual Mass at 11 a.m.

LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knox City
Gene Ward Jr., Pastor
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.
Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rhineland
Father Leo Schloemer • Deacon Ben
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.

MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST
Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law. To promote fair housing policies, the West Central Texas Council of Governments encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

On July 25, 2008, James Falcon filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission to assign the permit of KTSX(FM), Channel 297, Knox City, TX to South Texas FM Investments, LLC.

James Falcon, the permit holder, is an individual permittee.

South Texas FM Investments, LLC, the assignee, is a limited liability company with the following five member-owners: Eloy Vera, Mario Mascorro, Juan Diego Posada, Eugenio Falcon Jr. and Jose Vasquez.

A copy of the application and related materials is available for public inspection at Munday City-County Library, 121 East B St., Munday, TX 76371 during regular business hours.

CITY OF KNOX CITY TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM CONTRACT NUMBER 726319 FINAL PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Knox City will conduct a final public hearing on its 2006 Texas Community Development Block Grant Program, on August 14, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at City Hall, 902 E. Main Street. Topics to be discussed are completion of sewer improvements and expenditure of grant and local funds. The City encourages recipients of the project as well as other interested citizens to participate in the hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and comments to Barbara Rector, City Administrator. Handicapped individuals that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If anyone interested in attending the public hearing requires a translator, please contact the City Hall office prior to the public hearing so arrangements may be made. All written comments will be addressed in writing within fifteen days after public hearing.

Small Taxing Unit Notice

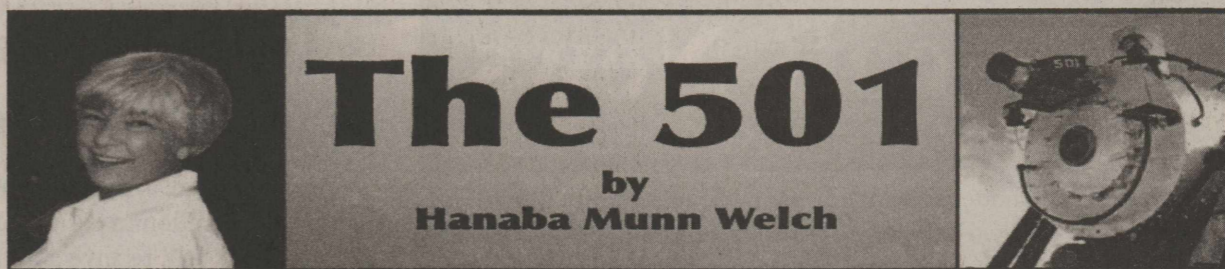
The Rolling Plains Groundwater Cons. Dist. will hold a meeting at 7:00 p.m. on August 21st, 2008 at 135 N. Munday Ave. Munday Texas to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2008. The proposed tax rate is 0.0239 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Rolling Plains Groundwater Cons. District by 0.0%.

Proposed City Budget

Proposed City budget for 10-08 to 9-09 will be presented at the City Council Meeting on August 14, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall, 902 E Main in Knox City.

Knox County Sheriff's Report

1. **Perez-Perez, Noel**
7/12/08 DWI 3rd (F-3)
Knox County.
2. **Dockins, Joshua L**
7/19/08 Reckless Driving
(M-A) Knox County
3. **Moore, Seth**
7/19/08 Public Intoxication
(M-C) Knox County
4. **Bohannon, Jamie**
7/26/08 Possession of
Controlled Substance
5. **Powers, Ricky Kade**
7/26/08 Public Intoxication
(M-C) Knox County
6. **Dorsey, Kevin**
7/25/08 DWI 1st
(M-B) Knox County
7. **Harvey, Eddie Joe**
7/26/08 Assault by threat/
Family Violence (M-C)
Knox County



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

More people are riding bicycles these days, aren't they? My husband says it's my imagination. Yes, I have one – an imagination.

I also have a bicycle. Sometimes I imagine myself riding it.

Truth be told, I own four bicycles – a ten-speed touring model, a 15-speed commuter, a three-speed folder-upper and a slow-speed Schwinn from Christmas circa 1958, not exactly in running condition. I can sympathize. I'm not in running condition either – or cycling condition.

But I still like to ride, preferably downhill and – even more important – with the wind to my back. Maybe Heaven will be like that. Or maybe not.

An episode of "The Twilight Zone" comes to mind. A fellow died and crossed into eternity to find himself in a place much like earth but where everything turned out right for him, time after time. When he played pool all his shots were good. In fact, I think all the balls rolled perfectly into pockets each time he broke the rack. He was surprised to think he'd

landed in Heaven and even more surprised when he figured out it was Hell. No challenges.

That "Twilight Zone" lesson notwithstanding, I still dream of living for a while in a place with no headwinds and no long uphill climbs.

Europe beckons.

Sure, the wind blows on that continent too. I'd just keep my itinerary flexible and always ride with it. Ups and downs? No problem. I'd pick one of those countries where you can rent a bicycle at one train station and return it to a different one. I'd start at a high elevation and ride to any lower one.

Don't tell me I'm the exception. All those train bicycles must collect at low points. I picture train people in train hats periodically loading the rental bicycles onto baggage cars and shipping them back to their lofty Alpine points of origin. I could be wrong.

Another plus for Europe is the lack of cattle guards across public roads. At least I've seen none. I still have scars from an encounter with one in Louisiana,

not that my fellow-riders and I hadn't been warned. Some of them didn't know what a cattle guard was and didn't ask. Presumably they were keeping their eyes peeled for a curious roadside person assigned to protect a herd of cows.

When the bovine barrier across our way came into view, a savvy forward rider yelled "Cattle guard!" We were sailing downhill. Startled, the contingent in front of me braked. Long story short, it took a while for me to regain consciousness.

Oh well, if misfortune is inevitable, a few mishaps like that one are better than a day-long nagging headwind or a boring uphill climb.

If you're keener than I, you might find a moral there.

Meanwhile, maybe I should quit looking for an all-downhill wind-to-my-back world in this lifetime. Here's my new wish instead:

Whatever happens, bicycling or not, all I want is always to live to tell about it.

Bring on the interesting mishaps.



With Less than 200 Days Remaining, Digital TV Transition Requires Preparation

In fewer than 200 days, the Digital Television (DTV) transition will affect every television-watching household in the country. The DTV transition will dramatically enhance the clarity of television broadcasts and allow for new and diverse television programming.

Most importantly, it will free up the frequencies on which data is transmitted to the public, otherwise known as the broadcast spectrum, for important safety activities that will increase the nation's ability to respond to terrorist attacks and national disasters.

Broadcasters will switch from an analog format to digital broadcasting at midnight on February 17, 2009 and the change will be imperceptible to households with cable or digital television service, or those who have already equipped older model TVs with converter boxes. But those who are not prepared will wake up the next day with neither basic television programming nor access to public emergency broadcasts, such as AMBER

Alerts, severe weather warnings, and other important safety messages.

In Texas, 20 percent of households – much higher than the national average of 13 percent – still receive broadcasting in analog and must take steps to prepare for the transition.

When the DTV transition occurs, customers who rely on rooftop antennas or "rabbit ears" to receive television broadcasts will have to subscribe to a "pay" television service, purchase a TV with a digital tuner, or acquire a converter box for each analog television in their home.

To help defray the cost of converter boxes, the National Telecommunications and

Information Administration will issue up to two \$40 coupons per household to be used toward the cost of a converter box.

Consumers may apply for their coupons until March 31, 2009 by calling 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009) or by visiting www.dtv2009.gov. The coupons must be used within 90 days of being issued.

Unfortunately, those who are at the greatest risk of being caught off guard, such as the elderly and non-English speaking populations, face significant obstacles to obtaining sufficient information about the transition. While the government, advocacy groups, and the broadcasting industry have worked to provide educational materials in Spanish and in media that will reach residents without Internet access, many households may slip through the cracks.

Border communities are also confronted with a unique challenge. Nearly 30 percent of Texans living along the border rely on antenna reception and must equip their televisions with converter boxes. Even after the transition takes place, these residents will still be able to receive analog broadcasts from Mexican television stations. Due to the expense of transition and the continued availability of analog programming from

Mexico, many households may choose not to participate in the transition.

Government data reflecting the number of converter box coupons that have been requested, and redeemed, is extremely low along the border. This is a strong indication of how many residents may not be properly prepared.

Last year, I introduced the Digital Television Border Fix Act to make sure that Texans

living along the border will not lose access to public safety messages. This bill, which passed the Senate on August 1, allows broadcasters along the border to seek permission from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to continue both analog and digital broadcasts during a transition period. The legislation applies only to stations within 50 miles of the common border with Mexico.

Residents across Texas and all over the United States who are aware of the transition must be careful that they don't become the victim of DTV scams that are cropping up around the country. In particular, households should be wary of "discount" converter boxes, "free" coupons, and retailers that try to sell an "installation package" for a converter box. Consumers should be mindful of these scams, deal only with reputable retailers, and contact their local government or the FCC if they need information. The FCC's website dedicated to the DTV transition is <http://www.dtv.gov/>. There is also a Spanish-language version at <http://www.dtv.gov/spanish/index.html>.

I hope that Texans will embrace the spirit of community and look for opportunities to aid friends and family with preparations for the DTV transition.

You could help a household senior who is unable to get to the store to redeem his or her converter box coupon, assist your neighbor in setting up a converter box, or prevent others from being taken advantage of by warning them of possible scams.

By working together, we can ensure a smooth transition for households across Texas.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior Senator from Texas.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION – Rule 114 & 101 – Rules of Civil Procedure

CLERK OF THE COURT

Annette Offutt, Clerk
50th District Clerk
Benjamin, Texas 79505

Attorney: Michael A. Henry
P.O. Box 113
Quanah, Texas 79252

THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty two days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

To: JUAN ESPINAL, SR., Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's petition at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being Monday the 1st of September, 200 8 at or before 10 o'clock a.m., before the 50th District Court of Knox County, at the Courthouse in Benjamin, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Motion to Modify Parent-Child Relationship was filed on July 17, 2008 in this case, numbered 8990 on the docket of said court, and styled IN THE INTEREST OF: ISAAC FLORES AND JUAN ESPINAL, JR., MINOR CHILDREN.

The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: TANYA DENA is Petitioner and ALLEN RHODES AND JANICE RHODES are Respondents.

A brief statement of the nature of the suit is as follows, to-wit: Motion to Modify Parent-Child Relationship as is more fully shown by Petitioner's Motion on file in this suit.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly served the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Benjamin, Texas, on July 17, 200 8.

ATTEST: Annette Offutt, District Clerk
Knox County, Texas

By: Michelle Esquivel, Deputy
Michelle Esquivel, Chief Deputy

THIS COPY OF CITATION WAS DELIVERED TO YOU ON THE 22 DAY OF July 2008
Dawn W. Hensley
CONSTABLE OR SHERIFF
KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS
By: Michelle Esquivel DEPUTY
AM 9:03 PM

The Knox County News 940-657-3142
• 940-658-3228 fax

Truscott News

By Clara Brown

It has been hot, hotter and hottest the past week. Two days high 110 and one day on the China creek thermometer was 114.

The 2008 Truscott Homecoming will be Saturday August 30 in Downtown Truscott.

The Truscott Community Center will open at 10 a.m. coffee, tea, water, and snacks will be available at the center throughout the day.

Everyone is asked to register at the center with a current mailing address. These registration addresses help keep the Homecoming mailing list updated. If someone fails to get an invitation it is probably because they moved and failed to send a new address to the Homecoming Committee.

Anyone who wants a Truscott Homecoming invitation now should call or write Gordon Bell, Jerry Bob Daniel or the Truscott Community Foundation, 1620 F.M. Road 1756 West, Truscott, Texas 79227.

The catered evening meal will be served at p.m. meal tickets will be \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children and under.

Advance reservations for the meal may be paid for in advance or upon arrival at the reunion. Making advance reservations will assist the caterer in knowing how many customers to expect.

Persons needing information about meals may phone or email:

Jerry Bob Daniel - 940-474-3333 or: jbdaniel@Hughes.net
Gordon Bell 940-474-3303, or: gwbell@srcaccess.net

After the meal a short program will be held. The names of those who have passed away in the last few years will be read first. Help is needed to be sure names of persons who grew up at Truscott or attended school here but are not buried here are included. Names of such deceased can be left at the registration table. Obituaries left at the registration table will be taken to Benjamin to be put in

the museum's family files.

The program will also include certificates for the on who traveled the longest distance to the reunion and similar awards and other announcements.

There are a limited number of lodging facilities and motor home/travel trailer hook ups available in the Truscott community. Jerry Bob Daniel can help with information about these.

Other reunion details will be announced later.

From 1p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 30, the new Wichita-Brazos museum at Benjamin will be open to the public, with a special invitation for anyone from out of the county who will be visiting during the Labor Day weekend.

The Gilliland homecoming will be on Sunday August, 31, Ramona Horne and Lula Baty can be contacted about the meal and other information.

Not to much visiting this week. Maybe people are waiting for the Labor Day holiday.

Kathy Longshore and family of Balko, Oklahoma visited Edmund and Geraldine Tomanek Saturday August 2.

Joe and Kay Tomanek visited his parents Edmund and Geraldine, briefly Sunday. They were taking their daughter, Sarah, back to Lubbock where she is in graduate school at Texas Tech.

Jaquelyn, Sam, and Claire Richey of Houston visited Jack and Clara Brown Sunday night until Tuesday this week. They had been in New Mexico attending a "Scouting in the Churches of Christ" conference at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico.

The conference is associated with the Church of Christ scouting religious award, Loving Servant Series; www.goodservant.org

On their way back to Texas The Richies visited Bill, Stacie, Brisa and Brandell Brown and attended "Texas" at Palo Duro Canyon with them.

Texas Mutual Pays \$150M In Dividends

AUSTIN - Texas Mutual Insurance Company began distributing nearly \$150 million in policyholder dividends today. About 38,000 policyholders will receive a dividend based on their premium size, loss ratio and history with Texas Mutual.

"Affordable workers' compensation insurance is a key element in sustaining Texas' healthy economy," said Richard A. Cooper, chairman of the Texas Mutual board of directors. "These generous dividends reward policyholders who share our commitment to preventing workplace accidents and controlling claim costs. Together with Texas Mutual's competitive pricing and exemplary service, they demonstrate our commitment to helping build a stronger Texas."

The dividend plan, the largest in the company's history, includes a \$75 million special dividend in recognition of the company's excellent financial results in 2007.

Texas Mutual Insurance Company has declared more than \$595 million in individual policyholder dividends since 1999. In addition, the company has declared about \$42 million in dividends to members of its group purchase programs.

"Texas Mutual continues to pursue initiatives that will help better serve Texas businesses in the future," added Cooper. "We are committed to working with our policyholders, the independent agent community, the Governor, state leadership and the Legislature to strengthen the products and services we bring to support growth of Texas businesses."

Texas Mutual Insurance Company is the state's leading provider of workers' compensation insurance, with offices in Austin, Dallas, Houston and Lubbock. The company notes that past dividends are not a guarantee of future dividends, and the Texas Department of Insurance must approve all dividends before distribution. For more information about dividends, visit the News and Publications section at texasmutual.com

Meek Blood Center Bloodmobile Here August 11

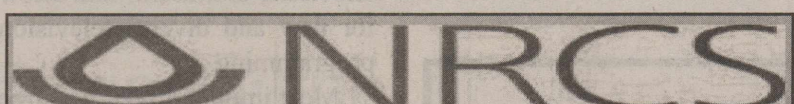
Knox County Hospital will host a community blood drive on Monday August 11. The Meek Blood Center Bloodmobile will be available for blood donation from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

"The summer months, especially August, are challenging," said Frances Baker, donor recruiter. "Usage never slows down and blood must be available when it is needed. No patient should ever have to wait for a blood transfusion, because it could be a matter of life or death."

"Our blood supply is completely dependent on volunteers who make a choice to donate blood out of the goodness of their hearts," Baker continued, "I am very thankful that there are good hearted people who live in this area. They are truly a lifeline to patients with many different health problems who can all be helped by receiving blood from another person."

Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and in good health. All donors are required to present a photo ID. Those who have eligibility questions may call 325-670-2798 or visit www.meekbloodcenter.org

Each donor will receive a free mini-physical, total cholesterol test and a patriotic T-shirt.



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

2008 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F)	Rainfall inches
	Low / High	
07/29	79/101	.20
07/30	75/100	
07/31	73/103	
08/01	71/98	
08/02	71/98	
08/03	75/102	
08/04	71/102	
Total Rainfall		.20
2008 Rainfall (ytd)		10.38

If any questions, call us at 658-3922.

BENJAMIN NEWS

By Galdene Green

Sincere sympathy this week to the family and friends of Jeffrey Herring. Jeff a former Munday resident who was living in the Houston area, died last weekend in a boating accident in the Gulf of Mexico. He was a part of our family for a long time and we all loved him. His funeral was Friday in Richmond and a service in his memory is planned later this month at Rhineland. Jeff's dad, Ricky was also injured in that accident as well as an uncle and two friends. They are all improving and should be o.k. in time.

Regarding Our ill

Don Hertel continues to be hospitalized at HMC in Abilene. He is taking chemo and is very weak from the treatments. Doctors aren't saying when he can return home. Please continue to pray for him.

Lucile Moorhouse had a little "flare up" Saturday and was taken to the ER in Knox City. She was doing much better after she got over there. No word on weather or not she had to stay.

Lana Gideon Mendoza of Seymour had surgery to repair a heart valve on Friday. She had trouble for several years and tho it was not a life threatening matter, she needed it taken care of. She had it done at Scott and White in Temple. According to her mom, Jane, she is doing fine.

Here 'N There

The two a days began today and hot as it was the kids were all ready to go and looking forward to the first football game.

The volleyball girls are also working out too. They also are eager to begin competition.

Larry Conner and Kathy Carroll of Lubbock visited his brother, Bud last Wednesday night.

Debbie and Mike Moorhouse were among those from Benjamin who attended the wedding of Josh White and Amy Barns in Abilene Saturday evening. Josh is the son of Ronnie and Susan White.

Henrietta Styles has provided me with information regarding her family reunion held recently. I appreciate, so much, her sending this to me. As I have said many times, everyone is interested in happenings in others lives.

At the business meeting, Bill Boys and Henrietta Styles were replaced as President and Secretary/Treasurer by Alvin Hertel and Kimberly Hertel, to serve the 2009-2011 terms. Five scholarships were awarded to high school graduating seniors. They are Matt Chaffin, Callon Coltharp, and Peyton Styles. We missed those who couldn't be with us this year and look forward to seeing them next year on the last Sunday in July.

The First Baptist Church here in Benjamin will be holding a revival beginning on Friday evening, August 22 and going through Sunday night. Though several weeks away, keep this time in mind and the closer it gets to time, will have more about it. They hope for a good meeting.

The Sports Pages are coming back soon!! Contact The Knox County News to reserve your spot

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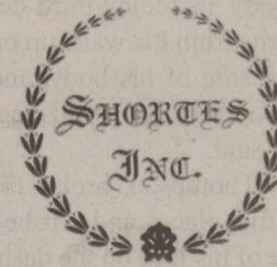
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The Brazos River Authority sets drawing dates for lake duck hunting blinds

August 1, 2008 - The Brazos River Authority announced the dates and times for the 2008 - 2009 drawings for duck hunting blinds in the Brazos River basin. Each of the blinds is set in prime locations for waterfowl hunting around Possum Kingdom Lake, Lake Granbury and Lake Limestone.

The drawing for Possum Kingdom Lake blinds will take place August 29 at 8 a.m. at the Brazos River Authority Lake Office located at 301 Observation Point Road, Graford, TX.

The Lake Granbury duck blind drawing will take place

on August 29 at 8:30 a.m. at the Brazos River Authority Lake Office located at 4552 Mambrino Highway, Granbury, TX.

The drawing for Lake Limestone blinds will take place on August 29 at 8:30 a.m. at the Brazos River Authority Lake Office located at 20226 Sterling Robertson Drive, Thornton, TX.

The annual drawing for duck blinds offers hunters the opportunity to utilize one of the many hunting blinds located at three of Texas' most beautiful lakes.

Up to four people may share use of the blind area during the 2008-2009 year. Participants

must be present to claim their blind and fill out the forms for the annual permit. Cash or check is required at the time of the drawing.

Please note that hunters must have a Brazos River Authority blind in order to hunt at these lakes. All hunters are required to stay within 200 feet of the marked area while hunting.

For additional information on the drawings, please contact the Possum Kingdom Lake Office at 940-779-2321, the Lake Granbury Lake Office at 817-573-3212 or the Lake Limestone Office at 903-529-2141.

Benefit continued from page 1

copies of the book and gave it to the Thompsons."

The original book, the one Kristen herself colored, will go on the auction block Saturday, just one item in the auction.

Konnie Kuehler, a friend of the Thompson family, has helped coordinate all aspects of Saturday's benefit and is still taking items for the auction.

"We even have a registered quarterhorse that the Brown Ranch (at Throckmorton) has donated," she said.

The most unusual feature of the event will be 70-foot-long "Mrs. Baird's World Famous Ultimate Smoker and Grill," a huge piece of equipment decorated to advertise the 100th anniversary of Mrs. Baird's Bread and participating at Konnie Kuehler's request.

"They're going to come and bring 1,000 hot dogs," she said. "The feed yard is donating 600 hamburger patties."

Mrs. Baird's is supplying the hamburger buns too, Kuehler said.

AGENDA FOR THE DAY

9 a.m. -- Books open for the roping
10 a.m. -- Opening ceremony
10:30 a.m. -- Live auction
11 a.m.-3 p.m. -- Hot Dogs & Hamburgers
Other concessions & kids' games all day

Both Trey Thompson and Tyler Thompson suffered severe injuries in the accident. Both are recovering.

Cypert's injuries were less severe.

"He did have burns and stuff," Konnie Kuehler said. "He spent the night in the hospital."

Tyler Thompson is undergoing rehabilitation in Knox City. He suffered burns on 30 percent of his body, including third-degree burns from his waist up on the right side of his body, and a compound fracture of his leg, Kuehler said.

Trey Thompson broke his arm in five places and crushed one side of his face on the dash, Kuehler said. As part of the reconstruction, he has eight plates and 28 screws in his face.

"Considering their injuries, they are doing very good," Kuehler said.

Although hailed as a hero, Cypert has stayed in the background since the accident, maintaining his close ties to the Thompson family but shunning attention.

"He's handled this very well for somebody that's 17 years old," said Gary Cypert, his father. "They had a big benefit up there in (Colorado Springs,) Colorado (a ranch rodeo event). They offered him money. He didn't take it."

For Cypert, Trey Thompson and Tyler Thompson have been

mentors.

"Them boys have been close ever since Keith was 7 years old," Cypert said. "They were trying to make him a cowboy. They've been a real good inspiration to Keith period, since day one. Tyler and Trye are super people. You just don't find any better people."

Since the accident, Keith has helped fill the vacancies on the Thompson Ranch rodeo team.

"Once they were hurt, they put Keith back on the team," Cypert said. "They won in Vail; they won in Colorado Springs."

But never was Cypert a more valuable member of the team than when he pulled the two brothers away from certain death on the road south of Rhineland.

For more information about the roping and other events Saturday, contact Konnie Kuehler, (940) 256-3145 or (940) 422-4778.

An interesting sidenote: The Thompson Ranch held a ranch rodeo to help the Munday Volunteer Fire Department raise money for a new fire truck. The first call for the new truck was the Thompson wreck.

More information about the accident and the recovery process of Trey Thompson and Tyler Thompson is at <http://www.prayfortreyandtyler.blogspot.com>.

Wheat Variety Trials Show Promise

AMARILLO - 2008 may have been a bad year for wheat, but it was a good year to test different varieties for drought tolerance and disease resistance, said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service specialist.

To identify the best-performing varieties for this region, AgriLife Extension annually conducts variety trials throughout the High Plains, said Dr. Brent Bean, agronomist. Partial funding for these trials is provided by the Texas Wheat Producers Board through grower check-off funds.

Two varieties stood out in the performance trials, Bean said. TAM 112 and Hatcher had the highest yields when averaged across six irrigated locations. They averaged 59 and 57 bushels per acre, respectively, and were consistent performers, ranking in the top 25 percent in five of the six locations.

Irrigated variety trials were located at Perryton, Bushland, Etter, and in Dallam County, Castro County and Gaines County.

TAM 112 is greenbug tolerant and has some tolerance to wheat streak mosaic, he said. Hatcher was released by Colorado State in 2005 and has moderate resistance to stripe rust and good drought tolerance. Endurance finished in the top 25 percent in four of the six locations, and when averaged across trials yielded 55 bushels per acre, Bean said. Other varieties of note that finished in the top 25 percent in three of the six locations were Jagalene, TAM 304, TAM 203, TAM 110, Keota and Jackpot.

TAM 111, which has performed very well in the previous three years, held its own, averaging 54 bushels per acre across lo-

cations and finishing in the top 25 percent in two of six locations.

Dumas has been a main irrigated wheat variety for several years but yielded 3 bushels per acre less than the average across all locations.

The Texas A&M System experimental line TX02A252 yielded in the top 25 percent in four of the locations and should be watched in the future, Bean said. Danby, a white wheat, also yielded well in all trials.

"We were unable to report several of our dryland locations due to extremely poor yields and high variability within a test," he said. Of the three trials reported, exceptional yields were obtained at Canadian, Bean said. This location is next to the Oklahoma border where timely rains were received.

The Bushland and Claude sites reported low yields, averaging 12.5 and 9 bushels per acre, respectively.

The conditions made drawing any conclusions suspect, he said. However, TAM 304, TAM 112, Fuller, TAM 110, Bullet, Duster, TAM 111, Endurance, T81 and Jackpot were the top yielding and most consistent varieties across locations. Bean made some variety recommendations based on those that have consistently performed well over at least a three-year period. Those varieties that perform well under full irrigation also tend to be the same varieties that yield well under dryland.

"In our environment, even those varieties grown under full irrigation are going to be subject to heat stress and likely some periods of drought," he said.

"Although TAM 111 did not stand head and shoulders above the competition like it has in previous years, it should still be

considered on most farms in the Panhandle," Bean said. "It has been a consistent high performer."

Other recommendations by Bean include:

-- TAM 112 is an excellent choice for limited irrigated or dryland.

-- TAM 304 was released in 2007 by the Texas A&M System and is being marketed by Scott Seed Co. of Hereford. It has good leaf and stripe rust resistance.

-- Hatcher has now been tested for three years in AgriLife Extension trials. In those three years it has finished in the top 25 percent in eight of 19 irrigated trials and eight of 12 dryland trials.

-- Fuller has now finished in the top 25 percent in 10 of 12 dryland trials making it the most consistent dryland variety over the last three years.

-- Endurance is a good irrigated choice for the producer who also wants to graze his wheat.

-- T81 seems to do best in those very dry years.

-- Dumas still makes the list under full irrigation. It has very good straw strength and relatively good resistance to stripe rust and can be a good grazing wheat. Use Dumas where yields are going to be pushed by maximizing both fertilizer and irrigation use.

"As is always the case, I strongly recommend planting more than one variety on any given farm," Bean said.

Yield data from previous years, variety descriptions, two- and three-year averages by location, and other information can be found at the following Web site under publications: <http://amarillo.tamu.edu/programs/agronomy>><http://amarillo.tamu.edu/prog>.

Coaches continued from page 1

Moving to Knox City puts Coach Webb close to family. He is originally from Haskell. He will be assistant football, head basketball and high school and junior high track coach.

Greyhounds have another first-year coach. Kurt Maxwell is a graduate of Lubbock Christian University. Coach Maxwell said that he came from a family that coached six-man football. When asked why he chose a small school, he said "Small schools, you have a better chance to help the kids."

Maxwell has been married to his wife, Pam, for three years.

She is a social worker.

Coach Maxwell is going to be the assistant football, basketball, baseball and track coach.

Amanda Daugherty is the other new girls' coach. Coach Daugherty is going to be assistant volleyball, basketball and junior high girls' track and will teach junior high social studies. She was not available for an interview at press time.

The one familiar face? It's Coach Colin Howeth, a nine-year veteran of the Knox City staff.

Coach Howeth will coach football and junior high boys'

sports and will teach eighth-grade science and high school biology.

Howeth played six-man football in high school and likes both the six-man game and 11-man football.

This year's football team is showing a positive attitude - better than last year, Howeth said.

Howeth's wife, Christie, is high school counselor. They have a 5-year-old daughter, Gracie, who will start kindergarten this year.

Knox City is the only place the couple has ever worked.



There was this farmer and his son out doing the chores. The son asked his Dad, "Why do you always invest your money with the bank in town? There are other places out there advertising some pretty high rates."

The father replies, "Are those rates guaranteed?"

The son says, "No."

The father asks, "Do those others places loan money for agriculture?"

The son says, "No."

The father says, "The bank in town loans us the money to plant our crops. Investing in those other places would be like planting seeds you didn't even know would grow in someone else's field."

The son says, "Ya know, Dad, I think you're getting smarter as I get older."

The father says, "I think we both are."

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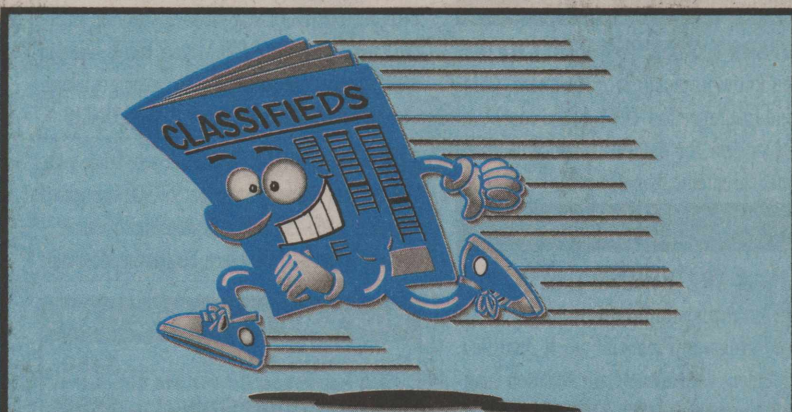
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