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KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

8 PAGES PLUS INSERTS VOLUME XXXVIII

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS

75 CENTS **NUMBER 39**

21st Annual Watermelon Festival Kicks Off Friday Night!

By Tamara Smart

Only a few weeks ago, a long article was run on the front page of the Knox County News expressing the need for locals to step up and volunteer to help make the 21st Donald Johnson Seedless Watermelon Festival a reality. Less than a month ago, the whole festival was riding on the shoulders of a few individu-

Now, with the Watermelon Festival celebration only a few DAYS away, one more thing can be added to the list of reasons to party; the spirit of the volunteer that is unquestionable in the hearts of most citizens of Knox. Not only have people come forward with open arms and willingness to help make this years Festival as good as years' past; the two day event which starts Festival's in Knox City history.

All the little things seem to just be falling into place, and the right volunteers have come forward to help each event. The 21st Annual Donald Johnson Seedless Watermelon Festival is scheduled as follows:

the festival begins with the annual parade down Main Street of Knox City. Michelle Stanfield has volunteered to sign 'em up, line 'em up, and send 'em marching (or driving, or pedaling, or whatever mode of movement one may find themselves using in the parade). To participate in this parade, all one who enjoys the Watermelon Festival must do is find a bike, a trike, a golf cart, a truck, trailer, a group of friends, or anything that stands on Friday is actually slating up out and decorate it (remember-

to be one of the best Watermelon ing the theme of the parade is "watermelon"). They will be meeting (5:30-6:00 ish?) preparade in the parking lot front of Knox City High School to line up. Prizes will be awarded to best floats and/or groups in the parade.

Yet, you don't have to On Friday night, at 7:00 pm, march down the streets to fully enjoy this parade. Onlookers can watch the parade from the sidewalks and side streets as they descend down Main Street, turn up Central and make the rounds. Maybe this year, the parade will make an extra lap or two through town so more people can enjoy the floats for longer.

As the parade dwindles, Friday night fun in Knox City is far from over. Also starting at 7:00 pm, at the Rodeo Grounds (just south of town, on hwy 6), the

etc), one can come out and watch 20 teams duke it out in competitions involving "wild cow milking", "branding", "sorting", "doctoring" and, of course, the children's favorite: "calf scramble" (for children 10 years of age and under). The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department will have a concession stand at this event both Friday and Saturday night, starting at 7 p.m. as well.

If Rodeo's aren't your thing, or a bystanders energy is so high after the parade; there is always the option to dance that energy off Friday night at Mackenzie Pritt enjoys a delicious slice of watermelon on hot first evening of the two night the Street Dance on the streets

Knox County Ranch Rodeo bordering Knox City Park. "Dan twirl, two-step, lindy-hop, shake, Rodeo Association for the up- play until their fingers hurt and "classic rock" selections. It's a keep of the grounds, light bills, vocal cords get tired. Locals can

will kick off under the organi- Green's Pure Country Band" shout and slow dance down the zation and care of Riley Carver featuring Dan Green, Rick streets of Knox City during the and Tony Hunter. With only a Hamilton, Cooper Huney, and annual Street Dance. They play \$5 entry fee (which benefits the Ron Stanfield will set up and a lot of country songs and a few

See MELON Page 8



summer day. Don't miss the 21st Annual Watermelon Festival

Knox City's Wooden Nickel Hosts Mason's Grand Master Banquet

By Tamara Smart

in the form of a subtle variety. enough to witness their works. Several of Knox County's most quality assets come in the form (Orient Lodge 905) gathered

LOOKING

AHEAD

events will be this Friday and

Saturday throughout the town

Church's youth group, G-Force,

will have a car wash in order

to raise money for camp on

Saturday, July 25, in the church

class of 1969 is having their

40th Reunion at the Wooden

Knox City athletes will be held

Tuesday @ 1:30 (girls) and

Wednesday @ 1:30 (boys) at the

Knox County Hospital Clinic.

This is for incoming 6th, 7, 9

and 11 graders wishing to par-

ticipate in athletics. Coaching

staff has mailed physical forms

which need to be brought to the

Vacation Bible School!

churches have joined together

for God's Big Backyard VBS.

VBS will be held from 9:15

a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Aug. 3rd-6th

at the Methodist Church located

at 406 SE 2nd. There will be an

ice cream kick off on Sunday

August 2nd at 4 p.m. City Park.

All children kindergarten thru

6th grade are invited to join the

Multiple Knox City

clinic with the athlete.

Nickel on Saturday, July 25.

Knox City High School

Knox City Physicals for

parking lot from 9am-???

of Knox City.

All Watermelon Festival

Abundant Life Christian

On Saturday, local Masons with brethren from Aspermont (Lodge 1382) and Albany (Lodge 482) at the Wooden Nickel for the Grandmaster's Banquet & Constituent Lodge Installation. It was truly a night to remember in rural Texas' Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry, as it is the first time that a member of the Knox County Lodge has held the title of Most Worshipful Grand Master and was able to swear-in officials in each of the lodges represented.

est ranking member of Texas Saturday, July 18th.

of a league of men who togeth- Masons for the year 2009, was of the notable guests, Grand 1982 & has held almost every Knox County is the home to er strive to "take good men and the guest of honor at the banquet; Master Counts handed out per- office in Masonry; and Pete & many great treasures. Sometimes make them better". This frater- yet, was quick to share the spot- sonally struck medallions to Nelda Laney, former Speaker of these treasures are blatant and nal organization is known by light with many of his fellow fra- distinguished guests like Jimmy the House of Representatives of stare a visitor in the face- some- many, experienced by few, and ternal brothers as the night went Willson, a Floydada Mason who Texas and his First Lady who, times these treasures are more cherished by all who are blessed on. After acknowledging many also is a Past Grand Master from holds the title of Past Master of



this year's elected and appointed Current Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Texas Masons, en to two youths, Ms. Dusty David Counts, presents former Grand Master Jimmy Wilson with a medallion honoring him for his many years of service lastic achievement) and Mr. David Counts Jr., the high- in the Texas Masons during the Grand Master's banquet on Grant Lewis (Knights Templar

Orient Lodge 905.

In Mr. Counts' comments there was clear excitement about the works of Texas Masonry as more "young men are looking for core values to grasp on to' and distinguishing this fact as the reason that "Masons are the oldest and largest fraternal organization the world has ever known". It is hard to go wrong in Masonry, when all things they stand for are directly related to Biblical principles.

Scholarships were giv-Wolf (scholarship for scho-Scholarship), for their future educational endeavors.

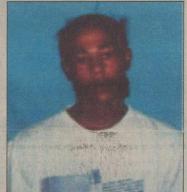
Years of commitment and service was noted and awarded 40 years), Hal Guess of Haskell years as a Mason in Knox City). Melvin "Buster" Lowrey, who five years of law enforcement ex- also has served as a Mason for 60 years, was unable to attend the banquet due to family illness. At the banquet, before the for-

mality of the inductions began, two final awards were given; the "Golden Trowel", the highest award a lodge can give one of its members for their dutiful and unrelenting service was given to Dwayne Bearden of Munday.

The Community Builder Award is the highest award presented to a non-Mason who gives significant contributions to the community. This year's recipient, Marla Hawkins was thanked plentifully for all the fine work Knox City.

The night went on through the formal processes of installation of appointed and elected local officers. The men called

See MASONS Page 8



Baylor County law enforcement

officials are looking for Wilson on charges of Aggravated Robbery, Injury to an Elderly Individual and Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon. All three charges stem from March 2009 when Wilson, along with Kory Hardeman and Chris Hardeman entered a residence in Baylor County and held two men at gunpoint while they were robbed of money and guns. One elderly gentleman was hospitalized from injuries inflicted by Wilson. Authorities have been looking for Wilson since March. Both Chris Hardeman and Kory Hardeman have been to Mutt Ivie (Master Mason for found guilty for their participation in these crimes. Both and T.A. (Tommy) Watson a were sentenced by the Court long time resident of Knox City to 18 years in the Penitentiary (Master Mason for more than 50 with the Court making an af-Officer Wilkerson, 28, years), and Clifford Cornett (60 firmative finding that a deadly weapon was used or exhibited in the commission of these District Attorney, David Hajek is asking the public to assist in finding Jimmy Earl Wilson. You may be eligible to receive a cash reward up to \$1000 for furnishing information leading to the arrest and indictment of felony crime offenders or to the capture of felony fugitives. Anyone with information that might lead to the arrest of Wilson is asked to contact local law enforcement or the District Attorney's Office with that information.

Knox County Has New Deputy Sheriff



Photo by Tamara Smart Knox County's new Deputy Sheriff, John Wilkerson and his 6 year old son, Perry

By Tamara Smart

On May 21st, Officer John Wilkerson joined the Knox County community with the new found

charge of "Deputy Sheriff." moved from Fredricksburg to Knox County, bringing with him perience from Gillespie Sheriff's Department and Seymour Police Department coupled with the knowledge he gains in his daily education as an online student at the University of Phoenix as an enhancement to his Criminal Justice Administrative career

Law Enforcement, according to Wilkerson, is "both the best and the worst job he's ever had".

Officer Wilkerson chose Knox County for "many personal reasons", mainly, though, he says he has heard a lot about Knox County Sheriff, Dean Homestead, and understands that he is a "good guy to work for."

Officer Wilkerson has a personal platform against drugs; specifically dope. In no uncertain terms, he lets people of Knox County know: "If you have dope, [he'll] put you in jail."

Retractions

To enter in the Classic Car she does in the community of show, pre-registration is available at the Chamber of Commerce office, not with Glen Dell Large.

> Glen Dell Large did not purchase the Egenbacher Building -He rents the space from building owner, Dessie Egenbacher.



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OPINION

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

Passage of the Right to Repair Act is a Chance for **Congress to Demonstrate** their Commitment to Small Business

Dear Editor

We often hear members of Congress talk about the challenges facing businesses and the need to help Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act (HR 2057) is a chance throughout the country.

simply requires that vehicle Congress to ensure that they are

manufacturers provide car owners and their trusted neighborhood repair shops with field will ensure the long term of the Right to Repair Act. survival of a competitive automotive repair industry.

Many of our members have them compete. Passage of the small businesses that have been in their family for generations. They are not seeking an unfair for Congress to demonstrate their advantage, nor are they looking commitment to small businesses for access to the proprietary information protected by the The Right to Repair Act bill. Instead, they are asking

able to compete fairly now and in the future.

We encourage all vehicle equitable access to accurate owners to visit www.rightorepair. service and repair information. org to send a letter to their Allowing these small businesses congressional representatives to compete on a level playing urging them to support passage

Sincerely,

Paul Fiore **Executive Vice President** Service Station Dealers of **America and Allied Trades** (SSDA-AT) 240-544-1262 paulf@ssda-at.org



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

Cap and Trade

Of all of the topics in the news over the past couple of years, the one people have urged me to weigh in on the most is Cap and Trade.

Before offering my opinion of this piece of legislation, some of you may need an explanation of how Cap and Trade works.

The Cap and Trade system involves trading of emission credits, where the total number of credits is strictly limited or 'capped' by the government. A regulatory authority establishes the cap which is usually considerably lower than the historic level of emissions.

Basically, it is a method for managing pollution while at the same time providing for expansion of

Like many liberal ideas, Cap and Trade is a great idea on paper. It's when you get into the substance of the matter that the perfect plan begins to show huge holes and all Americans are faced with more money coming out of our pocket books which wasn't before Cap and Trade.

That's really the problem with the mechanism. Instead of allowing a free market to evolve toward a greener world, which could easily be done with tax breaks for companies investing in such technology and not cost you and I a dime, we are faced with regulation forced on energy producers which will effect YOUR cost for energy.

Under a cap and trade system, the government sets a cap on how much pollution will be allowed and reduces that amount yearly until their reduction numbers are complied with.

Companies are issued credits, depending on how large they are. Heavier polluters will get more more credits but face a "cap" on their credits (the amount of their emissions).

If a company comes in below it's "cap" it can "trade" (sell) those credits to companies needing

Here's the bad part. The companies are going to pass the cost of their credits directly to the consumer. And since we're talking about oil, gas, natural gas, coal, etc... almost every single facet of U.S. energy, which Texas and Oklahoma are vital to, will be hurt. That is very, very bad news.

We'll get hit at the pump, at home and at work. Prices will go up for nearly everything you buy because it now costs more to make.

More damage: Manufacturing companies will continue to locate to countries trying to grow their economies, namely China and India.

By the way - China and India are not touching Cap and Trade with a 10-foot pole. They know how

much money they stand to gain as our government continues to crush U.S. energy and industry. Why can't the government play fair with U.S. corporations? Did the greed of such a small percent-

age of our corporations poison the minds of Americans.

Does the average citizen believe American companies are evil?

If so, not only does that show brainwashing on a monumental scale, it's the most ignorant thing I've ever heard. Here in rural America, we can appreciate some things because so many of our towns are struggling to stay around. We know what we've lost and we'd dearly love to have them back.

Cap and Trade will have the whole country feeling like these small towns do. "Where did everybody go?"

"Some of 'em went to China ... the rest of 'em went to India. You know, where all the good jobs

As with attempting to reform health care during an economic crisis, Cap and Trade is very detrimental to an awful U.S. economy.

I hope Americans begin to shout loud enough to be heard regarding these most important things. Democrats and Republicans around the country need to get on the same page and let our elected officials know while good on paper, Cap and Trade is a little ahead of it's time in terms of the amount of damage it will do to the American family.

Clean energy is coming and that's great. Let it come and make it compete for it's place atop the throne of energy. That's what a free market would do. That's what needs to happen now.

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

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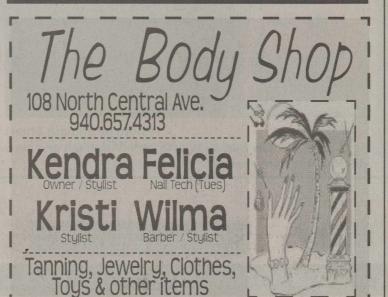
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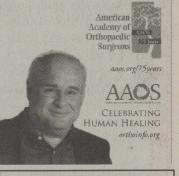
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A SHORT STORY ABOUT

GROWING UP WITH AN

As one of the last American children to

contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone

with his imagination. His story would be

dramatic enough if it was just about his

polio. He went on to a list of achievements

in medical research—including being the

principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS. Dr. Galpin actually credits his own

incurable condition for giving him the focus

that made him so passionate in his research.

His story leaves as with two of the most

contagious messages we know. Don't giv

up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more

person to make a difference, then its telling

here has been well worth while

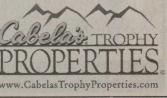
battle with this dreaded disease But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive

UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

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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

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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 selfaddressed stamped envelope is provided.

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 editor.

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4 TX Jewel

36 Richmond is seat of Fort County stores were bought 37 the best TXns by Albertsons 39 TX Roy Orbison had 9 TX Willie's "Farm one in '40s (2 wds.) Aid "was in '90

43 Jester was only gov __ office ('49) 44 in Hidalgo Co. on 83 45 "yes" so. of border

in Indianapolis 10 TXism: plucked chicken" "Alamo Rent 46 "I ____ him packing"

19 TXism: "dancing like 27 Texas A&M's a bobber 20 what Mav, Rocket, & Spur scouts look for

24 TX outlaw Bass (init.) 25 good golf score TX-born Joan Crawford film:

What You Did"

"Corps of 28 this Pease resigned

Nolan (init.)

48 Jack of "Big Bad governorship in '69 50 TX 29 rustled cattle 31 TXism: "hog

John" with TX Dear 32 Rangers president

has been passed down Verde County 56 Cowboys & Texans with parallel strings



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE by Baxter Black, DVM

ANOTHER SQUEEZE CHUTE STORY

Another squeeze chute story. In my world it is the equivalent of a shark attack or a middle of the night calving call...a story that sends shivers down my spine!

Monty said he was just along for the ride, helping his neighbor Whitey gather his cows and calves for spring branding. The roundup went smooth; eight a'horseback in four sections of pretty good country, although they had to backtrack some and rope a couple small calves that had gotten on the other side of the fence.

It was absentee owner land. The corrals were twenty years old and made of heavy pipe, sheets of steel and sucker rod. Unfortunately, this high dollar set of pens were apparently designed by a swing set manufacturer, an orthodontist, or that same guy who invented the Rubik's Cube!

Fences high and tight but so far off the ground you could roll a pack mule under the bottom wire! A crowding gate so heavy it was like closing a vault. The crowding alley was six feet high, solid iron with rolling back-stops that clanged like railroad cars when they closed! He showed me his black thumbnail.

Whitey decided to run the cows through for a little Pour-On treatment, to number brand the first-calf heifers and mouth the elders. "Shouldn't take long," he said. He asked Monty to run the squeeze chute. As squeeze chutes age they tend to look more and more alike; Priefert, WW, Powder River, Teco...etc. Monty saw the letters P-R-E, but when he scraped it off it read... HISTORIC!

The moving parts were uniformly rusty and crusted. The tailgate, squeeze and head gate all opened and closed, but only about halfway. There always seemed to be a cow's head poking in through the tailgate, or one on her side, or on her knees, or with a foot stickin' out, or hiplocked and swingin' back and forth like the masthead on a clipper ship in a hurricane!

Monty said working the headgate was like trying to fight an octopus crawling through the sunroof of your car! It would either lock partly open or partly closed but never fully opened or fully closed. Half the time he was swinging from the headgate handle, all 160 lbs of him, as Whitey clung to the thrashing cow's head like a bulldogger, trying to check her teeth!

They worked 106 cows in two hours, missed catching 12 head in the chute, set three on fire and had to guess the age of the last five because the headgate froze open! Covered with motor oil, cow manure, burnt hair, Pour On and dust, they called it just another romantic cowboy day.

Epilogue: Six days later the squeeze chute was euthanized and is now a cattle guard on a dirt road somewhere to nowhere in the great southwest. May it Rest In Pieces.



Hanaba Munn Welch



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

The Ancient Mariner got it right:

Water, water every where, Nor any drop to drink."

All the current concerns about drinking water from plastic containers - something about dioxins and cancer - puts me in a similar quandary.

Disclaimer:

I wouldn't know a dioxin if I met one, and I don't know what I'm talking about.

The word on the street is that water is OK to drink from a plastic container if it hasn't gotten too hot or been frozen while stored therein. That means if you leave plastic bottles of water in your car outside either in Texas in July or Minnesota in January, you shouldn't drink it. Fine.

But what about the history of all that water in plastic jugs and bottles on grocery store shelves? The scenario in my mind is a big truck parked on the highway shoulder with one flat tire, waiting for a tire guy while the temperature soars to 110 degrees. Maybe all waterhauling trucks are refrigerated. Maybe not. Maybe pallets of bottled water sit in the hot sun or freezing weather on loading docks. Maybe not.

Or maybe it's all a hoax to worry us about one more thing that can be bad for us. Water.

Amid the concerns, experts have been saying the safest and healthiest drinking water is ordinary tap water. Too bad they didn't get the word out sooner before an entire industry could establish itself to sell us something we don't need in containers that can't be trusted to take the

heat. Oh well.

Of course, when the term "tap water" gets tossed around nowadays it refers to water from a trusted municipal source. Chlorinated city water, even with nitrates and other bad stuff, is a known quantity. Water from a farm well is a different animal.

I remember the rat. The year was 1959. My job was pulling nails from old lumber. The site was near my grandmother's well in the pasture. I drank from the faucet by the well. The water didn't taste good, but I was just a kid used to well water not tasting good. Ours didn't taste that good either.

After a couple of days on the job, my father and a hand drove up and took the big lid off the well. The next thing I knew they were fishing around down in its depths, using a mirror to reflect sunlight to illuminate their task. Voila! They snagged a big dead rat. Oh well. Probably no dioxins.

By the way, rats aside, if you've never looked deep into an old well big enough to fall into, you've missed an intriguing experience akin to peering into the night sky. The word "enlightening" comes to mind but doesn't quite get it. Think goose bumps and the infinity factor.

That said, let's lift a glass to water, sustainer of life.

Make mine sparkling S. Pellegrino, bottled in green glass at the source in Italy.

You pay a price for bubbles and no rats. Somehow I don't mind.

R D 1 0

2008 DODGE 2500



Brandon Carr has been selected to join the staff as a Soil Conservationist at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center (PMC) near Knox City, Texas.

Carr graduated Petersburg High School in Petersburg, Texas in 1997. He received a BS degree in plant science with emphasis in Integrated Pest Management and another BS degree in Environmental Science with an emphasis in Agriculture. Both degrees are from Lubbock Christian University in 2002. Brandon has six years of experience as an assistant cotton breeder. Brandon, his wife and new baby girl reside in Haskell.

There are 27 Plant Materials Centers in the United States; three of these are in Texas. The other two Texas locations are in Nacogdoches and Kingsville. The James E. "Bud" Smith Plant from Materials Center is responsible for developing conservation plants and cultural techniques for use within targeted Major Land Resource areas including Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Colorado

> Carr and other staff members are available from 7:30 to 4:30 M-F to give technical guidance. The USDA /NRCS PMC also welcomes tours of the Center. Please call 940-658-3922 for more information.

KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES MENUS FOR JULY 27TH TO JULY 31ST

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DRIGHT IDEAS



By Alex Mills

As time passes by, more and more information becomes available that casts more and more doubt on President Obama's proposed remedies for global warming. Maybe that's why Obama and Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and others, have pushed so hard for quick passage of the so-called capand-trade program.

Let's review just a few of Obama's reasons for implementing a complicated cap-and-trade program:

The Earth's temperature is rising. However, a recent study of temperatures by Dr. Roy Spencer at the University of Alabama show those temperatures have dropped since 1995. "There has been no significant global warming since 1995, no warming since 1998, and global cooling for the past few years," former U.S. Senate Environment Committee spokesman Marc Morano writes at ClimateDepot.com of the University of Alabama study. "The latest global averaged satellite temperature data for June 2009 reveal yet another drop in Earth's temperature... despite his dire warnings, the

Fahrenheit since former Vice President Al Gore released 'An Inconvenient Truth' in 2006."

Cap-and-trade will create "millions of additional jobs and new industries." A study by Dr. Gabriel Calzade at Juan Carlos University in Madrid discovered that only one in 10 jobs created by a similar program in Spain were of a permanent nature (operations, maintenance, etc.), and two- thirds consisted of temporary jobs in construction, fabrication and installation. "Spain's experience reveals that the U.S. should expect a loss of at least 2.2 jobs on average, or about 9 jobs lost for every four created...," the study stated.

Cap-and-trade will make the U.S. less dependent on foreign oil. Quite the opposite is true. The U.S. will become more dependent on foreign oil. The Energy Information Administration estimates that U.S. demand for crude oil will continue to rise through 2030. As demand for petroleum products increase, U.S. production will decline because cap-and-trade has increased the cost of finding new oil reserves. Also, it will be more expensive to refine crude oil in the U.S., because of capand-trade. Less U.S. refining Earth has cooled 0.74 degrees capacity means more dependence

of foreign petroleum products.

Small businesses will not be affected. A study of California's anti-global-warming program finds that small businesses will have \$183 billion per year in lost output. Since the passage of California's climate change law in 2006, its economy has weakened dramatically. California wants to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The study by the University of California, Sacramento, estimated a 10% increase in transportation, housing, fuel, food and utilities costs totaling \$63.9 billion in direct costs.

The primary purpose of cap and trade is to increase the cost of fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas). The federal government sets an arbitrary cap on carbon dioxide emissions. Any facility exceeding the cap must purchase credits in the amount equal to the overage. Companies not playing ball with the administration will face stiff penalties. Of course, this is an over simplification of the massive bill that takes more than 1,000 pages to outline.

The legislation is so massive and complicated the bill's author, U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Ca.), admitted that: "I certainly don't claim to know everything that's in this bill." Yet, Waxman and Obama and Pelosi expect businesses to be in full compliance. Does that seem

God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor O'Brien Baptist Church



When you look at people what do you see? Most of us are people watchers. As we see people throughout the day we may wonder what they do or where are they going? We may see them as troubled or distraught, perhaps lonely, sad or happy. We all see people through our own eyes with our own perceptions. But how does God see them?

There is no doubt God always sees them through love. God is love. He wants the best for them. He wants to resolve any problems, remove any burdens, correct any faults, and forgive all sin. He really wants to make their life better and peaceful. He wants them to be joyful.

Gwen is a single mom with three children. She works at a large community hospital as a nurse. When she leaves home to work her shift she hopes to be home in time to spend time with her children. But she never knows what may happen any given day at the hospital that could cause her to have to work extra hours.

Gwen is now sitting in her car in a lonely parking garage in the early dawn of the morning. She's just completed a twenty-four hour shift. She's tired and a little depressed; she hasn't seen her children for two days. She is very grateful that her mother can take care of the children when this happens, but at the same time she feels guilty for having to depend upon her:

The extra hours will help with the burden of the financial strain being a single mom. She thinks, "Is it worth it?" and then realizes, why ask the question. There's not any opportunity of change. She wishes she could have an answer before she starts the car and another day begins.

You may be a "Gwen", or you may understand her situation and relate to it in a different way. You also need an answer. You don't see any opportunity of change either. Let me share a scripture from the New Testament. A scripture of assurance and hope, "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4: 19 NASB).

If you know Jesus Christ draw close to Him now, pray and He will answer you. If you don't know Jesus Christ you can come to know Him. Go to anyone that you know to be a Christian and ask them how you can come to know Jesus Christ. Go to any Pastor in our community and He can share with you how to come to know Jesus Christ. The most important thing is this, "Go and go now!" God can change your life, if you really want it changed.

I pray that you know the love of God today and that you live and trust His love every day.

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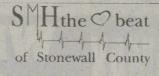
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My sleep patterns have changed, and I now sleep too much, or not enough.

I am tired all the time and have no energy.

☐ I can't concentrate, remember things, or make decisions. My friends have noticed that I am restless or that my activity has decreased.

I often think about death, or have even tried to commit suicide.a

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completes clinical training in a rural community might ultimately chose to practice in another area, word of mouth from a positive experience goes a long way to hosting future

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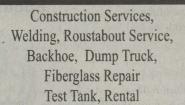


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2009 Weekly Weather Report Date Temperature (F) Rainfall Low / High inches 06/30 69/77 .25 07/01 67/90 07/02 67/97 07/03 69/98 .6 07/04 74/101 2.1 07/05 73/82 07/06 71/87 Total Rainfall 2.95

2009 Rainfall (ytd)

11.12

OFFS Last Puzzle FORA TROY Solution HAMS EPA BOA ITWAS THESEA AERIAL SIDEOFA AGARITA VEAL MRSSAM MASH ACLOSE EDTOO PILAF ANDARCHIVES MOTELROOM C A N A L G E N T L E SWEETENER ODD LORE LONE RIM COED ADD NED SLY S-916

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parents Jane Gideon & Weldon

Gideon. Colton is 16 now and has lots of other interests so doesn't come over and stay as often as he once did, so it's always

Jack and Mary Young returned Tues. from a 2 week visit

with their daughter, Debbie Neill

& family n Boca Raton, Fla.

Mary said the most of the time

was spent playing with great

grandkids (They have 3) & vis-

iting- Just a good relaxing va-

ited her aunt, Marjorie Melton in

bers of the Myers & Ryder fami-

ments early so it would be open)

She said they were impressed

Mary also said that on Sat,

And She had a little museum

fun when he does.

BENJAMIN NEWS By Gladene Green

We are happy over this way today (Mon). It's cloudy & looks like rain! Probably before I finish this "news", the sun will be out & it will be another hot, dry west Texas July day- However, a couple of little showers last week did give a little welcome relief for a brief time.

This week, again, brings not much news of happenings in the area. At least not that I am aware of. Thankfully, there are still no serious illnesses that have been reported. That's always good news.

Here 'N There

Stephanie Brannan & children of Lubbock were Benjamin visitors on Sunday.

Judy & Randolph Barnet are back home after being away several weeks. She had some surgery on her hip in late June in Houston & is doing great. Said she feels wonderful.

They were in the Lubbock area Sat. to visit her sons Jeff & Jim Bob Conner & their families. It's great to see her doing so well & hope her progress continues.

Knox County

HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Visited with Jimmy & Helen Green of Guthrie on Sun. She said her brother, James Coppedge has been diagnosed with a brain tumor & will begin treatment cation. Enroute home they vis-

Drs. are very optimistic & encouraging to him & we pray for good news soon regarding news-Said on Sun, several memhis condition.

Helen also said she has to see lies came by & toured the muher Dr. in Abilene Wed. She had seum- (They had made arrangea malignancy a few years ago & a slight problem has developed so she's to have it checked out. and appreciated the opportunity Certainly we hope and pray, also to visit. for a good report for her.

Terri Miller, Raquel the Historical Commission will Acevedo, Chloe Baty, cheerlead- have a cold water & home made ers for the coming year at BHS ice cream at their booth at the & Shelby Russell, the mascot, Watermelon festival. Giddy-up were in Abilene Sat getting things needed for cheerleading camp which begins next Mon. in Munday.

Jessica Vanderpol will also be a cheerleader, but she's out of town. Melissa Everson is the pep squad sponsor and they look forward to a good year.

Colton Caldwell of Seymour



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- Only cool rooms that you use. Close vents and doors in unused rooms. Be sure to close closet doors.
- Check your air-conditioning filter every month and replace as needed.
- Keep windows that let the sun in covered when the sun is shining on them.
- Weather strip and caulk around windows and doors to prevent drafts.
- Close your fireplace damper when the fireplace is not being used.
- Use fans to help circulate the air in your house.
- Air-dry dishes in the dishwasher.
- Lower the temperature on your hot water heater to warm during the summer, take short showers and wash only full loads of clothes in the laundry.

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Russell Graves Outdoors The Devils River

By Russell A. Graves

Way out in Southwest Texas - between Sonora and Del Rio - flows a river that defies conventional logic.

It's a remote river.

It's a big river.

It's a clean river.

It's an inhospitable river and in early June, me and five other part-time adventurers floated sixteen miles of the river to fish, commune, and explore a place that's truly wild. But don't take my word for it... Ask Kirk Stephens, William Graves, Rick Restivo, Ray Jennings or Shane Jennings they'll probably all tell you the same thing: words and pictures fall short in describing the Devils River. It's something you have to experience first hand.

On the Devils, you won't find big crowds. On day two of our trip, we didn't see a soul floating the river except each other and drifted in silent solitude much of the day. Bounded by huge ranches and notoriously protective landowners, the Devil's River only has three points of public access and a lot of rough paddling in between. In short, to float the Devil's River you have to REALLY want to go. As such, you never have to really worry about crowds.

You do, however, have to worry about class three rapids, a huge 15 foot waterfall, and various other hazards that may befall you when taking on the river.

Fresh off of a trip to Devil's River, I have to say that overall the trip was fantastic. All wasn't rosy, though, as it turned out to be my most expensive trip

For example, the financial costs include:

•In San Angelo my truck's transmission started bleeding fluid and required time at the dealership;

•I drowned a Canon 5d mark II camera, Canon 16-35mm f2.8 lens, and a 16gb memory card;

•I broke a new fly rod.

Physical costs include:

•Two legs full of stuck on leaches; •Scrapes and bruises from tumbling down some

rapids after being swept from my feet by the current;

•Tired muscles from paddling against a stiff headwind with no current where if you stopped paddling, you'd blow upstream;

·A wicked sunburn on my legs.

We also need to count the time when the shuttle van in which we rode almost ran out of gas and the only station within 50 miles had no power and couldn't pump gas. Also, after bouncing down rough and rugged roads, the van doors - except for the driver's door - wouldn't open.

However, we persevered for the sake of the fish and for the sake of adventure. In the end we didn't catch many big fish but we did catch a lot of fish. The Devils River is full of fish who thrive in some of the cleanest river water in North America. While scuba diving, I saw several five pound smallmouth bass, a huge largemouth that I estimate at being over 10-pounds, at least a 15-pound catfish and carp and ton of smaller fish like tilapia, long eared sunfish, and needlenose gar.

While this is my third trip to Devil's River I am still in awe that the river runs through some of the driest and harshest country in Texas. In the end, the bad luck won't stop me. I'll be back again.

Any questions or comments? Contact Russell at russell@russellgraves.com or visit his website at www. russellgraves.com

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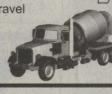
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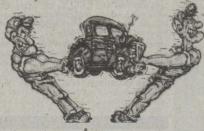


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Under a deer horn chandelier in the lodge of the Bowen Ranch west of Crowell, fiddle and guitar students and teachers combine their talents last Thursday in a mid-day concert to end the Ninth Annual Western Swing Music Camp. Nearing the center of the gathering, wearing a white shirt and holding a microphone is J.W. Sollis, camp director, who aims to preserve the heritage of Western music. (photo by Hanaba Munn Welch)

guitar students and teachers gathered again this year at the Bowen Ranch west of Crowell for the 9th Annual Western Swing Music Camp.

A concert at the ranch lodge Thursday afternoon, July 16, concluded four days of learning and jamming sessions.

At age 86, Jack Drury of Mangum, Okla., was the oldest student. Quaid Boone of Portales, N.M, age 10, was the youngest. Both took fiddle instruction.

"It was fun," said Boone, a newcomer to the camp. "I think I'm going to keep it up."

He had fun too.

cup runneth over." Playing the fiddle has been a lifelong pursuit for Drury, but last year was his first opportunity

to take lessons. Drury's father was a fiddler. He died in 1934.

"I picked up my daddy's

fiddle in 1936," he said. Someone showed him the

basics, and Drury took it from "From then on I picked up

what I could," he said. "I've been with some pretty good fiddlers."

Vikiann Gunter of Annetta, Texas, near Aledo, spent her



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CROWELL -- Fiddle and time at the camp learning guitar in beginning classes and taking pictures, something she already knows how to do.

> Before this week, she'd only picked up a guitar. Now she

"I brought my grandson's," she said Thursday. "Now I think I'm going to shop and get one on my way home."

The interaction between all the participants of the camp, no matter their ages or skill levels, impressed Gunter.

"There were no levels of 'this person is better than that one," she said, noting by way It was Drury's second year. of example that chief guitar instructor Tommy Allsup "I had a ball," he said. "My conversed with adolescent fiddle player Coby Carter, also from Portales, as a colleague.

Besides Grammy Awardwinner Allsup (renowned as a master of Western Swing and also as the late Buddy Holly's last lead guitarist), instructors

were guitarist Ronny Dale Shultz of Crowell and fiddle players Amanda Shires of Nashville, Kalli Burk of Lubbock and Linda Steen of Granbury.

Burk, who already teaches fiddle in the Lubbock area, plans to start taking students once a month at Crowell.

This year's camp was dedicated to the late Bobby Boatright, a fiddle player who helped director J. W. Sollis found the camp.

"He's missed," Sollis said. More information about the camp is available from Sollis at (940) 839-7870 or (940) 684-1894 or jwsollis@yahoo.com. For information about Burk's fiddle instruction schedule, call (806) 577-7861. Images from the 2008 and 2009 camp sessions are viewable at http:// web.me.com/hanaba/texas.



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Annual Music Camp Held at Crowell Proclamation

assets and we have a continuing responsibility for preserving our responsibility; and environment by keeping it clean, healthy, and beautiful; and

keeping our environment clean environment. and safe, by working together surroundings; and

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fortunate to live in a City so that maintaining a quality abundantly blessed with natural environment and encouraging civic pride is everyone's

WHEREAS, the City of Munday encourages voluntary WHEREAS, the Council action to keep our community of the City of Munday believes clean and beautiful and every citizen should contribute to restore and maintain a healthy

NOW THEREFORE to preserve clean air, fresh water BE IT RESOLVED THAT, and the natural beauty of our on behalf of the Council of the City of Munday, Texas, WHEREAS, hundreds of I, Mayor Buddy Norville, do citizens show their concern hereby proclaim Munday as a for the environment and their Litter-Free Community and call upon the citizens of Munday, the businesses, and other clean up and rejuvenate local organizations to join and work neighbourhoods, green spaces, together to improve and preserve the natural beauty of our city, and to participate throughout the Mayor

are Munday volunteers believe year in beautification and litter prevention efforts.

WHEREAS, Munday being a Litter-Free Community will increase awareness of the need for a cleaner Munday, emphasize the importance of not littering, and encourage recycling of solid wastes; and

WHEREAS, this emphasis on cleanliness will be a part of educating the children of Munday regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in Munday.

Dated at the City of Munday this 14th day of July, 2009.

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CITY OF KNOX CITY, TEXAS

Separate sealed bids for the construction of KNOX CITY GOLF COURSE WALKING TRACK will be received by THE CITY OF KNOX CITY, TEXAS, until 1:00 pm on August 12th 2009, at City Hall, 902 E. Main, Knox City, Texas 79529, and then publicly opened and read aloud

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds. General Conditions, Notice of Awards, Notice to Proceed, Plans, Specifications, Addenda (if any) may be examined at the

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The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from Jacob & Martin, Ltd., 3465 Curry Lane, Abilene, Texas 79606 (915-695-1070), upon payment of \$30.00 (nonrefundable) for each set.

A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of the CITY OF KNOX CITY, negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with

> CITY OF KNOX CITY, TEXAS By: s/ Jeff Stanfield

Date: July 21, 2009

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION **State Capital** HIGHLIGHTS



By Ed Sterling

Drought Pushes Perry To Declare Disaster Areas

AUSTIN - A month-long weather system producing tripledigit temperatures and no rain has much of Texas suffering. The high-pressure system centered over Texas caused Gov. Rick Perry to declare 167 counties disaster areas because of the threat of wildfires.

Bastrop County in Central Texas lost 12,000 head of cattle to the drought, and Texas farmers are facing more than \$1 billion in losses this year. Officials with Texas A&M University's AgriLife Extension Service said farmers who depend only on rainfall could lose up to 80 percent of their crops.

Farmers and ranchers looking for disaster relief from the federal government will have to wait until fall to receive payment for last year's losses. Aid for this year's losses won't be available until 2010.

Nearly 20 percent of the state is experiencing the most extreme drought conditions. Central and South Texas are suffering through the worst drought conditions in the nation. The worst drought in recent times was from 1950 to 1957, when rainfall was 40 percent below normal levels and 90 percent of the state was declared a federal disaster area.

Texans told of sweepstakes scam

Attorney General Greg Abbott is alerting Texans to a clever sweepstakes scam. People are told by phone that they are being contacted by the Federal Trade Commission because they won hundreds of thousands of dollars in a sweepstakes contest. In order to collect, however, they must pay several thousand dollars in insurance costs.

The phone calls are followed by a letter with the FTC logo telling recipients where to send a check. The phone number on the letterhead directs callers to the scammers, who pretend to work for the FTC. In fact, the FTC never collects money from consumers.

Abbott said anyone receiving the scam calls and letters should contact his office at 1-800-252-8011 or the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP.

Perry names new DPS chief

Steve McCraw, 55, was named the new head of the Texas Department of Public Safety by Governor Perry. McCraw, a former member of the FBI, was Perry's homeland security chief for the past five years.

McCraw takes over an agency in the spotlight for recent problems, including its role in guarding the Governor's Mansion in Austin when it was burned in an arson fire in June 2008. He is the department's fourth director in less than a

Panel to seek new A&M president

Texas A&M System regents have named a 15-member search committee to seek a new president for the College Station campus. Former President Elsa Murano, A&M's first female and first Hispanic president, resigned under pressure last month.

The search committee includes three regents, five faculty members, two students and five other stakeholders. Regent Richard Box will serve as chairman. The committee will cull the applicants to three finalists and recommend one to the board next February.

Texas students narrow math

gap

A national test found that the difference in math scores between black and white students Texas closed somewhat between 1992 and 2007. Texas was one of only four states that narrowed the math gap among eighth-grade students and one of 15 states that did so among fourth-grade students.

For eighth-graders, the difference in scores on the Assessment National Educational Progress math test was 26 points nationally. In Texas, the gap was 23 points. For fourth-graders, the national average was 31 points and the Texas average was 29 points.

The NEAP test also found that scores on the math test rose for students of all races in Texas over the 15-year period.

Texas running out of jobless money

The Texas unemployment insurance trust fund is going broke quickly, and the state will have to borrow \$643 million from the U.S. Department of Labor soon. Those borrowed funds will cover unemployment through claims 1, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

About 285,000 Texans remained on unemployment compensation through June 27, according to a commission official. That was triple the number receiving benefits during the same period last year.

Governor Perry rejected \$556 million in federal stimulus funds to expand unemployment benefits, saying too many strings were attached.

Higher tolls in North Texas

The North Texas Tollway Authority is increasing rates by 3.5 cents a mile on its toll roads. Drivers with TollTags will now pay 14.5 cents a mile to use the roads. A commute to Dallas from the city's far north suburbs will cost about \$8.60 for those with tags, according to the Dallas Morning News, and \$13 for those paying cash.

PHYSICIAN

by having an additional person to assist in all aspects of the work involved. This is a great program and I'm glad to be a part of it."

Community based education experiences like these are the result of a partnership between communities, community health professionals, health professions training schools and the Big Country Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Big Country AHEC's mission is to address the health care provider shortage and improve health care access in North and West Mason, the process begins with Central Texas through education no more than a mere question. and development of the health Seek out a Mason and ask how care workforce. Goals include to join. Masons are everywhere; introducing school aged youth they are easy to spot as they are to health careers, providing rural men of high character and reclinical training for students spected values. in the health professions, supporting existing health care professionals via continuing education and promoting healthy living. The Big Country AHEC is a service of Texas Tech University Health Sciences eventually end on Friday night,

Center F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health and the West Central Texas Council of Governments. For further information about the Big Country AHEC please contact Kelly Cheek at HYPERLINK "mailto:kcheek@wctcog.org" kcheek@wctcog.org or 325-793-

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great opportunity to dance under the stars all night long with that Knox County summer romance.

Even though the Rodeo will

Dan Green's band will get tired and stop playing and the sugar rush of the candy flung from the parade floats will eventually wear off; the festivities will continue on as the sun awakens Knox City Saturday morning.

At 8:00 am, bright and early, the gazebo in Merchants Park is the place to be in order to register to enter a car in the Classic Car Show or to enter the Motorcycle Poker Run. 8:00 am will also be the tee-time to begin the Golf Tournament at the Knox City Country Club.

At 10:00 am, registration ends and the FUN begins!!! This is when the booths open in City Park. There will be booths for arts & crafts, food, a petting entries, best engines, best intezoo, metal art, local artisans trinkets, etc. Also, this year, "S&J Amusements" will provide rides which include a "titanic slide", a "Sponge-Bob" ride, an obstacle course, a rock wall and a Ferris wheel. There will be plenty of watermelon to eat too... not just any watermelon, though, SEEDLESS watermelon- this is thanks to the generosity of Rodney Stevens of Gustine, TX who donated all the watermelons that Knox Citizens will stuff into themselves throughout the day on Saturday.

All day the "Class of '57" band will be playing selections from their repertoire of '50's and '60's classics for the listening (and perhaps rhythmic) pleasure of all who come out to enjoy the

also Watermelon Eating contests, Horseshoe Throwing contests (all of which have prizes for the winners) and Melon Money giveaways all day at the park on Saturday. The pool will be open for FREE swimming from 1pm

During the Watermelon Festival at the park, very cool classic cars from all over Texas will be parked down hwy 222 and hwy 6, for the "10th Annual Sizzlin' Summer Classic Car Show" as sponsored by Bailey Toliver Chevrolet, O'Rielly Auto Parts, the Knox City Chamber of Commerce and Glen Dell Large's '57 Heaven. Awards will be given to the best riors and people's choice. Basic

Energy Service will provide water for the car show spectators. This car show is the brain child of Mr. Carl Brock and Glen Dell

As the day dwindles and the evening arises, Saturday night will bring a new schlew of activities as the second night of the Ranch Rodeo kicks off. At 7:00 pm, a much looked forward to Go Kart Race at the Go Kart track west of town will be seeing the checkered flag andthe pretty redyellow-green stop lights. This race will be part of the Seymour Speedway Circuit points system. The Softball Association will be having concessions at the track for anyone still hungry, even after the gluttony of watermelon eating earlier in the day.

The whole 21st Annual Donald Johnson Seedless Watermelon Festival is being sponsored by the Santa Rosa telephone company, Citizens Bank, Tri-Country Electric and AEP. It is hosted by the Knox City Chamber of Commerce. Turner, the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, reminds Knox City that the Watermelon Festival "is for the locals. We don't usually have much going on & this is something for locals to do-come out and show some local Knox City hospitality!"

For anymore info on the 21st Annual Donald Johnson Seedless Watermelon Festival, feel free to call Mrs. Turner at the Chamber office at 658-3442.

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