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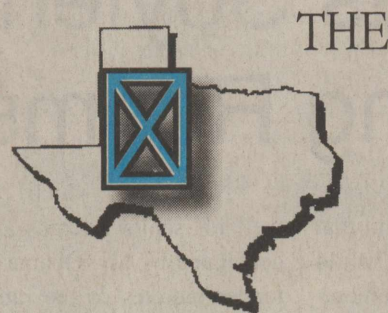
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THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

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KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS
 THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2009

75 CENTS
 NUMBER 40

21st Annual Watermelon Festival Deemed Huge Success

By Tamara Smart

As sunset on Saturday night, people blessed enough to find themselves in Knox City were still out and about, even after 24 hours of playing hard throughout town.

Friday started the festivities of the 21st Annual Watermelon Festival as a parade slowly drove through town featuring make-shift vehicles, local athletes, our revered mom-and-pop businesses, and hoards of candy being flung onto the street.

After the parade, spectators scattered to either the City Park for some "jumpin' & jivin'" with Dan Green's Pure Country

Band at the Street Dance, or they flocked to the Rodeo grounds to watch the local ranches participate in the cowboy games.

Saturday morning, bright and early, Knox Citizens (and a whole lot of visitors) started their day registering.

The car show and the golf tournament were well underway before the heat of the day began creeping to the high 90's and 100 degree temperatures.

The City Park festivities officially began at 10:00 am, but when this reporter arrived at the park at 9:30; rides were already going, sticky kids already running from booth to booth, vend-

ers already selling their wares, and watermelons being consumed seemingly by the truckload. The "Class of '57 Band" was swinging from morning until evening hours as people ate watermelon, visited, played, shopped and ... well, ate some more watermelon... all day long (well over 3 pallets of watermelon were consumed!)

By the time the pool opened for free swimming at 1:00 pm, a crowd was waiting to jump into the water and cool down. 251 people ended up enjoying the free swimming between the hours of 1 pm and 5 pm.

As the day wound down,



Photo by Hanaba Munn Welch

Beating the heat, Tayley Espinosa gets a drink Saturday from a misting device at the watermelon booth at the 21st Annual Donald Johnson Memorial Seedless Watermelon Festival. Holding her is her dad, Teddy Espinosa.



Photo by Hanaba Munn Welch

Rule residents Gary and Irene Richardson look at a 1923 Ford T-bucket hot rod at Saturday's car show. Former area residents, the Richardsons recently moved to Rule after spending several years in New Mexico.

and winners were announced for the golf tournament, the horse shoe competition, the car show and the "melon money" recipients were counting their bills; there was still a lot left to do.

The second night of the rodeo brought more spectators than the night prior, even with the buzz of the engines coming from the Go Kart track.

All in all, the overwhelming feeling about the 21st Watermelon festival was glorious. Knox City Chamber of Commerce, the hosting party of the Festival was thrilled that they had set out what they had aimed to do: they "put heads in beds, generate business for locals and

brought people to town". During the festival and for the few following days, this reporter has heard nothing but positive feedback about this year's event.

There is a definite feeling of rejuvenation in town, as well as a renewed camaraderie between lost friends.

The next Watermelon Festival is scheduled for the last weekend of July in 2010.

10th Annual Sizzling Summer Classic Car Show Results

Best Motor- Kenneth McCoy ('57 Chevy)
 Best Paint- Matt Birkla ('63 Chevy)
 Best Interior- Kenneth McCoy ('57 Chevy)

Best of Show- Scott James ('68 Camaro)

Parade Results

1st Place- Preston Lynn (4 wheeler helicopter representing Lynn Electric)

2nd Place- Bradyn Durham ("Weinie Dog-gone Good Time" float)

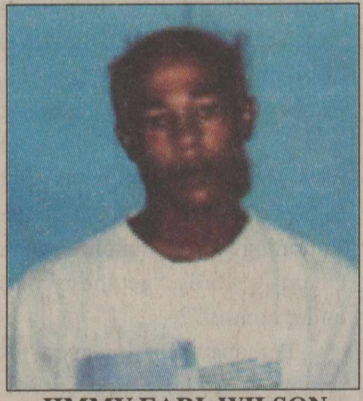
3rd Place- Dustin Johnson (full size helicopter on flat bed pulled by Lewis Paint and Body)

Melon Money Recipients

Sandra Logsdon (\$25)
 Mitzi Goodgin (\$50)
 Brian Tankersly (\$100)

Daniel Casterena won the raffle for the prizes provided by the BJHS Cheer Squad and the Supply House

Wilson Captured by Law Enforcement



JIMMY EARL WILSON
 Baylor County law enforcement officials have cap-

tured Jimmy Earl 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 had been looking for Wilson since March.

Both Chris Hardeman and Kory Hardeman have been found guilty for their participation in these crimes. Both were sentenced by the Court to 18 years in prison with the Court making an affirmative finding that a deadly weapon was used or exhibited in the commission of these crimes.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Knox County News will be implementing new hours of operation for the office located at 110 Central in Knox City. Starting Monday, August 4, the office will be open on Monday-Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed from 12-1 for lunch) and on Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed from 12-1 for lunch). We will be closed on Thursday.

All Texas UIL practices will begin Monday, August 3, 2009. (This includes, but is not limited to all sports and band related activities).

Texas' August Sales Tax Holiday Will Get Bigger

AUSTIN -- Great news for back-to-school shoppers. For the first time since it began in 1999, the annual August sales tax holiday will include many school supplies.

"A lot of families look forward to saving their hard earned money during the sales tax holiday weekend," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "Now they can make their back-to-school budgets stretch even further because more than two dozen school supply items will be tax-free."

House Bill 1801 identifies school supplies priced less than \$100 that will be exempt from state and local sales tax for the tax-free weekend. Pens, crayons, calculators, notebooks, rulers, scissors and lunch boxes are a few of the items on the list. The full list can be found below.

These items are in addition to school backpacks and most clothing and shoes priced less than \$100 that are already tax-free the weekend of Aug. 21-23.

The Comptroller's office is sending information to retailers about implementing the expanded sales tax holiday.

Tax-free school supplies include binders, blackboard chalk, book bags, calculators, cellophane tape, compasses, composition books,

See HOLIDAY Page 8

Texas Making Right Decisions On Unemployment Insurance

Texas is standing strong to protect and maintain unemployment insurance (UI) benefits for workers suffering the effects of the national recession. Our UI trust fund will be sustained, individuals and families in need will receive the benefits they are entitled to, and Texas job-creators and taxpayers will be protected from federal mischief.

The Texas economy is the strongest in the nation. Our unemployment rate is 2 percent lower than the national average, and employers continue to relocate and expand in Texas.

However, I am fully aware that because of the national recession, too many Texans are out of work or uncertain about their economic future. That's why I, state lawmakers and leaders at the Texas Workforce Commission, have worked hard to keep our unemployment trust fund sound, adequately funded and safe from the meddling of Congress, the Obama Administration and federal bureaucrats.

Recent weeks have seen a flurry of news stories regarding unemployment benefits in Texas. Taken as a whole, they have painted a confusing and incomplete picture of unemployment insurance in our state. Here are the facts:

Texas unemployment bene-

fits are safe. Unemployed Texans are and will continue to be covered thanks to a combination of additional contributions from Texas businesses in the form of unemployment taxes, bond financing and borrowing of federal funds. As in previous recession years, these tools will be used to keep the trust fund financed.

Texas employers know that state officials work to keep UI taxes low to encourage job creation. But when the need arises, businesses are required to pay more into the unemployment compensation system. Borrowing from the federal unemployment fund - which employers pay taxes to maintain - is also routine. Texas borrowed such funds during the 2003 national recession and in prior economic downturns. At least 15 other states are doing or preparing to implement similar federal borrowing.

We are also utilizing some "no-strings" funding available in the federal stimulus package. This allows Texas to provide an additional \$25 per week in benefits to qualified unemployed Texans, resulting in an additional \$161 million for the program and weeks of extended benefits for Texas workers.

I did reject \$555 million in federal stimulus dollars that would have mandated the State

of Texas to pay costlier benefits and put higher taxes on Texas employers indefinitely. Even if we had accepted these stimulus funds, Texas would have still seen higher unemployment taxes, bond financing and federal borrowing to keep benefits from the UI Trust Fund flowing.

But in return for less than seven weeks of unemployment benefits, this \$555 million stimulus payment would have required Texas to permanently expand its unemployment program and burden Texas job creators with higher taxes for the long haul. Those stimulus dollars would have done more harm than good for Texas workers, employers and taxpayers, which is precisely why the Texas Association of Business and National Federation of Independent Business urged and supported my decision to reject the federal unemployment stimulus funds.

If Washington really wanted to help Texans, they would have sent us this money without strings attached like the Bush Administration did in 2002.

I have heard from thousands of Texans, both employed and unemployed, who agree that rejecting the unemployment stimulus funds was the right move for

See TEXAS Page 8



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OPINION

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

AAIA Predicts Consumer Backlash on "Cash for Clunkers"

Letter to the Editor:

As new car dealerships ramp up advertising to attract motorists to the showroom using "Cash for Clunkers" as an incentive, we anticipate a consumer backlash once reality replaces the hype and car owners realize that "Cash for Clunkers" is nothing more than a clever slogan for a program to spend

\$1 billion of our tax dollars to fund a government subsidized vehicle trade-in to help new car dealers sell cars. Consumers will soon learn that they are simply trading in their vehicle and will still have to jump through all of the hoops to qualify for and purchase a new vehicle.

The much heralded fuel efficiency and environmental benefits of purchasing a new vehicle could easily be achieved through better maintenance of an existing vehicle or trading up to a newer used vehicle. Any savings from improved miles

per gallon will be lost from the costs involved in destroying and disposing of the "clunkers." We continue to strongly oppose "Cash for Clunkers" because it prematurely destroys vehicles with many more years of useful life, denying consumers more affordable used vehicle options.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Schmatz
President & CEO
Automotive Aftermarket
Industry Association (AAIA)
301-654-6664



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

Dear Reader,

Thank you so much for reading my column. I appreciate it.

As you may or may not know, I have several newspapers covering these great communities: Benjamin, Childress, Estelline, Floydada, Gould, Okla., Hollis, Okla., Knox City, Lakeview, Lockney, Memphis, Munday, Post, Rochester and Wellington.

I know you want your newspaper to reflect your community and there are several ways you may be able to help in that endeavor.

With the amount of technology available to us today, it should be possible for nearly every event happening in your respective town to receive coverage. Not necessarily by us, but by you, the reader.

I'm asking those of you with digital cameras to take them with you to different events, take photos, get identification for said photos, and email it to us.

From Boy Scouts to family reunions - we want it all. We need it all in order to give you the product you deserve and show a true reflection of what is going on in your area.

Timeliness is key. We want you to get home after the event and get your photo, information, club news minutes, etc... to us while it's fresh on your mind. That will help us get it in the next issue and keep everybody happy.

Listed throughout this edition are contact numbers and email addresses. Let's begin a dialogue between reader and newspaper which will serve everyone and help us give you a better product.

As I've said many times, don't assume we know everything. We don't. It is important that the names are correct and the identification is in order. Also, be sure and tell us your name so that we can give you credit for your efforts.

For those of you who are in the routine of submitting news items and photos for publication, I applaud you. Some of you have been doing this for years and it's people like you who are the backbone of so much. It takes a consistent effort to keep doing what you do and I appreciate it.

The bottom line is this: The more information submitted to the local newspaper, the better that publication is going to be.

You have several sources to receive national and state news, but just one to obtain the local news you deserve. Please help us get that news to the public.

Sincerely,

Chris Blackburn

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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://thenevabastion.blogspot.com/>.

We Appreciate you, our readers!
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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 editor.

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Barack Obamas Soyent Green Rationing Rooms

By Carter Clews

The latest figures from James Carville's Democracy Corps polling firm cannot be good news for Barack Obama and his head-strong, headlong push for government-run socialized medicine: A full 54 percent of senior citizens oppose the scheme. And 40 percent oppose it "strongly."

Perhaps they have figured out what Obama is covering up and the mainstream media is refusing to reveal: "Obamacare" is the ultimate redistribution program. Only in this case, it's far worse than the mere "redistribution of wealth," candidate Obama proposed in his campaign.

With "Obamacare," the president proposes "redistributing the health" — from the old who have worked hard all of their lives to provide for their "Golden Years" to the younger members of the welfare culture who have come to believe that everything they receive from the hand of government is an "entitlement," and that universal health care should now be loaded onto the Gravy Train.

In short, the Obama government-run "health care" plan is actually a not-so-veiled attempt to take from those who have worked hard and — once again — give to those who have hardly worked.

Need proof? Asked where he would get the funds to provide free universal health care coverage for all 43 million uninsured Americans — including the full 40 percent of whom simply did not bother to work last year — he boasted that he would cut Medicare and Medicaid by more than \$500 billion, completely gutting those long-established programs.

Now, keep in mind that today, more than one-third of senior citizens depend on those two programs for vital — often life-sustaining — medical treatment. Within 30 years, as Baby Boomers continue to age, that number will double. And under the Obama program, the services they rely upon most will no longer exist.

At his recent press conference designed to push

his welfare healthcare program, Obama was forced to admit that under "Obamacare," he would appoint a panel of government-ordained "experts" to ration out health care to those they think deserve it most. Conceded the president, "And part of what I think government can do effectively is to be an honest broker in assessing and evaluating treatment options."

And who will Dr. Obama's "honest brokers" choose to let live — or die?

In an interview with the New York Times, Obama pulled no punches in pronouncing that his rationing police would have to take a long, hard look at "the chronically ill and those toward the end of their lives [who are] accounting for potentially 80 percent of the total health care bill out here." And that, he added, "certainly [is] true when it comes to Medicare and Medicaid, where the taxpayers are footing the bill and we have an obligation to get those costs under control."

Now, lest anyone think that the Obama plan would never, ever consign senior citizens to Soyent Green-type "dying rooms," consider what has occurred in the countries he most often cites as models for his health care rationing regime.

Dr. Karol Sikora, the former head of the World Health Organization Cancer Program and author of *The Economics of Cancer Care*, recently revealed that under the British national "health care" program there are 25,000 "unnecessary deaths" every year. "As a practicing oncologist," he disclosed, "I am forced to give patients older, cheaper medicines. The real cost of this penny-pinching is premature death for thousands of patients."

In Canada, according to Dr. David Gratzer, a Canadian physician, author, and senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, "More than 1.5 million Ontarians (or 12 percent of that province's population) can't find family physicians. Health officials in one Nova Scotia community actually resorted to a lottery to determine who'd get a doctor's appointment."

None of which bodes well for senior citizens already consigned by Mr. Obama to the tender mercies of the rationing police. But, actually, despite the horrors of Britain and Canada, the real model for "Obamacare" might be even worse.

In the nation of Zimbabwe several decades back, another highly popular, charismatic leader proposed government-mandated socialized medicine for what, at the time, was known as "The Breadbasket of Africa." After all, he reasoned, if they could provide food for an entire continent, they could certainly provide health care for their own people. A noble mission, indeed. Or, so it may have seemed.

Soon, according to the Oxford Journal's "Health Policy and Planning" monograph, "health care was free for people earning less than 150 Zimbabwe dollars (Zim\$) per month (US\$8.6). Fees were only charged at the level of the district hospital."

Sound like Utopia? Well, not quite. Here, according to Frank Donoghue, CEO of Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), is the situation in Zimbabwe today:

"How can he [the formerly charismatic Robert Mugabe] be proud of a country where we looked at a doctor's paycheck for the month — we held the pay stub in our hands — for 32 cents for a month's compensation?" According to PHR, in Zimbabwe today, "Since November (2008) all of Zimbabwe's public hospitals have closed. Mission hospitals are scarce, overcrowded, and lack basic resources like running water."

It's clear: socialized medicine — whether called "the public option," "national health care," or "Obamacare" — simply doesn't work.

And one is left to wonder: When — not if, when — the "redistribution of the health" in America descends to the level of Britain, Canada, or, yes, Zimbabwe, and the rationing police are called in to divvy up the scarcity, who will be the first to be sent to the "Soylent Green Rationing Rooms" in order to, in Obama's words, "get these costs under control"?

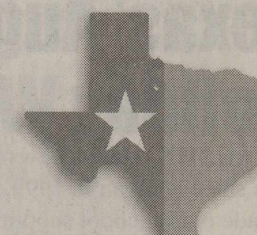
Perhaps the 54 percent of seniors who now oppose Mr. Obama's health care scheme have already figured out the answer to that chilling question.

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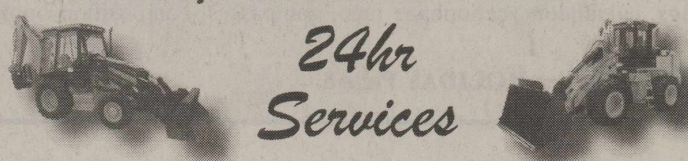
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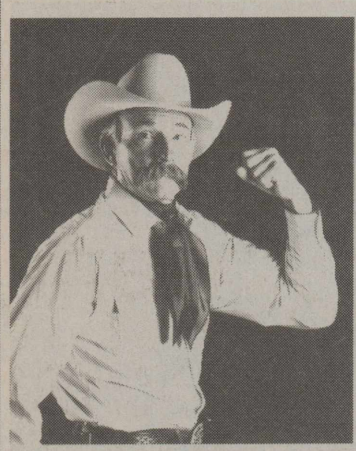
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ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black, DVM

THE VIRUS, FORMERLY KNOWN A SWINE FLU

When the Asian Flu hit the country in 2003, were people warned to stay away from Chinese restaurants and Japanese cars? When the West Nile virus was diagnosed in humans did the Health Department tell us to avoid going to Egypt? How 'bout small pox? Were there Dwarf Warnings posted? Does riding Tennessee Walkers give you a charley horse? Do you catch the swine flu by eating barbecued spare ribs?

The answer to all the aforementioned questions is NO.

So why has the demand for pork in supermarkets and restaurants plummeted? Because it is very easy for a logical but simple mind to say, "I've got the blues. I better quit eating blueberries!" Just connect the dots, they think. It's easy to explain to a child that the tooth fairy gives them teeth, the stork gives them a little sister, and smoking Regular instead of King Size will stunt their growth.

Truly, somewhere, sometime in a land far, far away, a human may have contracted the virus from a pig. But how many people that have been subsequently diagnosed with swine flu have been within ten miles of a pig in the last ten days, or ten years? People catch the virus by coming in contact with an infected human. From a person! That's right! Maybe someone you know, like a friend, relative, classmate or subpoena server, but not from giving CPR to a pig. You will not be exposed to the virus by hanging out with Miss Piggy, pork, bacon, chops, ham, hocks, ribs, bellies, pickled feet, University of Arkansas rooters, or an overbearing bore.

What does it matter, you say, if you're just playing it safe? Nothing, if you are also playing it safe by reducing your family's exposure to places where kids and people congregate like schools, malls, churches, picnics, Disneyland, Starbucks or the county jail.

But discontinuing your family's BLT's or ham and cheese, or pulled pork or Chile Verde, has no more effect on their chances of catching swine flu than giving them a haircut or getting a tattoo!

It is the Pork Producers misfortune that the illness was tagged with the name swine flu, because rumors ride in the Diamond Lane and facts putter along behind. The official name of this disease is the H ONE N ONE viral flu. I wish it were more catchy, maybe the Gopher flu, or the Ragweed flu, or the Spotted Owl flu. If it was, it might give us more incentive to eradicate the source!

The 501

by Hanaba Munn Welch

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

A cow for the taking? Too good to be true.

It all started when I waded into the popular social networking morass Facebook. Cyber friends quickly appeared wanting me to confirm they were my friends or for me to say I wanted to be their friends. Something like that. Shades of Valentine's Day in the first grade when we put our cards in a fancy box, and most people got a Valentine from everybody, but some did not. Anyway, messages appeared, including one from Sybil, who'd found a lost cow.

"This poor cow is a bit sad and needs a new home," she said, for all her Facebook friends to read. "Can you help the cow?"

Sybil mentioned her farm was in FarmVille, which sounded to me like it could very well be in Clay County, Texas, somewhere between Blue Grove and Petrolia.

Already in a herd-building mood myself and hoping the cow was real, I replied:

Sybil, are you kidding? I can believe the part about the cow, but where is FarmVille? Is it a place in some weird computer game based on farming? Or is it your family farm? Since when did you take up farming? Are you the Sybil I know? Does the cow have a brand? An ear tag? Surely she must belong to a neighbor. If not, I'll take her. Just tell me when to come take her off your hands."

Disclaimer:

If you find a lost cow, you don't really get to keep her or give her away. You take her to the sheriff, and he sells her from the courthouse steps. Something like that. Ask the

sheriff.

As for Sybil's cow, a caricature accompanied the lost cow message. The cow really did look sad. It was all too clever.

Sybil wrote me back immediately to keep me from showing up at her place with a stock trailer.

"Farmville is a game on Facebook," she explained. "You plant crops, harvest crops to make money, buy houses, barns, etc."

Sybil admitted she was addicted and said she never would have thought she could get so involved in farming, digital or not.

The next thing I knew I too was clicking on Facebook's fantasy FarmVille, signing up to farm.

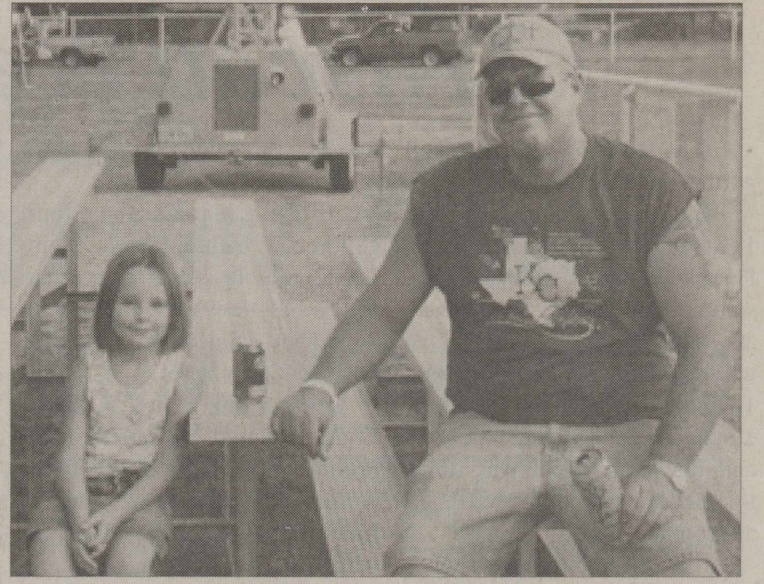
My first chore was to personalize the standard overalls-clad farmer image. You get to choose your gender, hairstyle, nose shape, stuff like that. Gray hair wasn't a choice; I chose maroon.

Next I harvested strawberries I hadn't planted. They made money. Nice. Click. I planted more strawberries in the same plot. Strawberries mature in four hours in FarmVille. And it doesn't hail there.

Then I decided be more ambitious and sow wheat. Click. Suddenly FarmVille was giving me an opportunity to plow more than strawberry profits into my wheat venture. Either PayPal or a credit card would do.

Pay money to plant a fictitious crop with no hope of making a real profit? That's worse than real farming.

I think I'll see if Sybil still has that cow.



Ernie Banks and "Boo" Pepper enjoy a cold drink before Boo dons her helmet for the race. (Photo by Jason Smart)



Modified lawnmowers take to the track Saturday night. (Photo by Jason Smart)



Non-wing topped Go Karts enjoy their heat laps. (Photo by Jason Smart)

Thanks For Reading!

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2006 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500HD LT BLACK, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC MODEL CODE: CC25943 STOCK: 30836, \$17,800	2006 DODGE CHARGER R/T HEMI, LEATHER, 40K, GULL WING DOORS, MUST SEE, \$17,279, STK#30885	2006 JEEP LIBERTY 2WD, BLACK, CLEAN, 51K, STK#30837, \$8,900	2006 MAZDA MIATA MX5 CONVERTIBLE, SPORTY, WHITE/BLACK, STK#30874, \$14,990	2008 DODGE RAM 2500 LARAMIE, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER MANUAL MODEL CODE: DH7H41 STOCK: 30835, \$15,785	2003 FORD SUPERCREW XLT TWO TONE, CLEAN, STK#103390, \$9,400	2008 DODGE RAM 3500 SLT COLOR: BRIGHT WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: D13H42, STOCK: 30785, \$22,997	2008 FORD F-150 COLOR: BRIGHT RED, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, STOCK: 307290, \$10,976	2002 CHEVY K1500 Z71 EXT. CAB, SILVERADO, STK#109904, \$8,990	2007 DODGE CHARGER ALL POWER, CLEAN, STK#30810, \$11,900	2006 GMC SIERRA 1500HD SLE1, COLOR: STEEL GRAY METALLIC, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, STOCK: 307498, \$18,866	2005 CHRYSLER SEBRING SXT ALL POWER, LOW MILES, CLEAN, STK#55644, \$6,990
2004 AUDI A6 QUATRO 2.7V6 AT, GRAPHITE LEATHER, SUNROOF, 4DR, 57K MILES, MUST SEE, \$13,528, STK#303088	2006 DODGE RAM 1500 ST WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER MANUAL, STOCK: 30849, \$12,362	2006 LAND ROVER LR3 LOADED, MUST SEE, 41K, STK#30884, \$24,600	2006 DODGE RAM 2500 ST COLOR: BRIGHT WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, STOCK: 30811, \$13,900	2003 DODGE RAM 3500 SLT COLOR: BRIGHT WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, STOCK: 30789A, \$19,400	2006 DODGE RAM 3500 SLT SILVER, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: D18H42, STOCK: 30842, \$21,500	2008 DODGE RAM 3500 LARAMIE, COLOR: BLACK, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: D18H42, STOCK: 30847, \$25,664	2008 FORD F-150 XLT COLOR: SILVER METALLIC, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, MODEL CODE: W12, STOCK: 30827, \$19,546	2009 FORD RANGER XL COLOR: OXFORD WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 4 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: R14, STOCK: 30841, \$15,185	2003 CHEVY Z71 LT 4X4, LEATHER, LOADED, BRIGHT RED, STK#30860, \$10,300	2007 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB 3500 DIESEL, SLT, LOW MILES, STK#30827, \$29,800	2006 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS LOADED, CLEAN, LOW MILES, STK#109035A, \$9,975
2006 DODGE DAKOTA ST SILVER, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: ND1L33, STOCK: 30843, \$7,775	2005 JAGUAR XJ6 BLACK, LEATHER, NICE, LOW MILES, 16K ACTUAL, STK#30885, \$22,789	1998 DODGE RAM 2500 CAMO, DRIVETRAIN: 10 CYLINDER UNSPECIFIED, STOCK: 30026, \$12,700	2005 MURANO AWD, CLEAN, LOADED, STK#30822A, \$13,900	2006 FORD CUTAWAY VAN GREAT SHAPE, RUNS EXCELLENT, CLEAN, 89K, STK#30883, \$12,300	2006 DODGE RAM 3500 COLOR: SILVER, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER MANUAL, STOCK: 30853, \$22,363	2007 FORD EXPEDITION XLT LEATHER, LOW MILES, 24K, STK#30850, \$22,500	2008 FORD F-150 KING RANCH, COLOR: BLACK, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, STOCK: 10993A, \$26,700	2003 CHEVY IMPALA SUPER CLEAN, ALL POWER, LOW MILES, 35K, STK#10267A, \$6,200	2008 FORD SUPER DUTY F-350 DRW, COLOR: OXFORD WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, MODEL CODE: F37, STOCK: 30797, \$22,600	2008 DODGE RAM MEGA CAB 3500 DIESEL, SLT, BLACK, LOW MILES, 22K, STK#30885, \$37,990	2004 TOYOTA TACOMA CREW CAB BRIGHT RED, SPOTLESS, ALL POWER, LOW MILES, STK#10986A, \$16,700
2008 FORD F250 CREW CAB 4X4 F44 AT, 6 DISC, 33K MILES, SILVER, GREY CLOTH, NONE Nicer, \$35,339, STK#109248	2003 JAGUAR X-TYPE SUPER NICE, 73K, PRICED RIGHT, STK#30851, \$7,972	2006 LINCOLN MARK LT CREW CAB SUPER NICE, 78K, STK#30875, \$17,980	2005 VOLKSWAGON BEETLE CONVERTIBLE YELLOW/BLACK, FUN RIDE, 37K, STK#30858A, \$13,600	2006 FORD FREESTYLE BLACK AND BEAUTIFUL, LOW MILES, LOADED, STK#30870, \$11,780	2007 DODGE RAM 3500 WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: D18H42, STOCK: 30796, \$25,875	2006 FORD F-150 XLT COLOR: GRAY, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER AUTOMATIC, MODEL CODE: W12, STOCK: 30848, \$16,972	2006 FORD F350 SUPERCREW DIESEL, 4X4, LOADED, LOW MILES, 59K, \$28,900	2005 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS SUNROOF, ALL POWER, STK#10964A, \$6,975	2006 DODGE RAM 2500 QUAD CAB DIESEL, 2WD, AUTO, STK#30810, \$14,900	2006 DODGE RAM MEGA CAB 2500 SLT BLACK, LOW MILES, 22K, STK#30865, \$37,990	2003 GMC K1500 SLE 4X4, SLT, CUSTOM WHEELS, NEFF BARS, SILVER BIRCH, STK#307498, \$19,700
2006 CHEVY IMPALA SILVER, V6, AT, 81K, CLOTH, NICE PRICED TO SELL, \$8,750, STK#30802A	2007 DODGE RAM 1500 ST WHITE, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: DR1H61, STOCK: 30840, \$9,970	2005 DODGE RAM 2500 BLACK, DRIVETRAIN: 8 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: DH7H42, STOCK: 30814, \$16,874	2008 FORD F150 SUPER CREW SUPER CLEAN, SUPER PRICE, STK#30729C, \$19,300	2006 FORD SUPER CREW XLT EXTRA NICE, LOW MILES, 17K, STK#30848, \$16,900	2007 DODGE RAM 3500 SLT BRILLIANT BLACK CRYSTAL PRL, DRIVETRAIN: 6 CYLINDER MANUAL, MODEL CODE: D18H41, STOCK: 30821, \$25,972	2008 FORD F350 FLATBED 4X4, XLT, DIESEL, NEW TIRES, NEW BED, STK#30871, \$28,900	2007 FORD F250 XLT SUPERCREW DIESEL, SUPER CLEAN, 77K, STK#109309A, \$25,900	2006 DODGE DAKOTA EXT. CAB STK#30843, \$9,300	2008 DODGE RAM 3500 DIESEL, DUALY, SLT, 63K MILES, WHITE, CLEAN, STK#30785, \$22,900	2003 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB 2500 SLT 4X4, STK#100341A, \$9,900	VERN SAYS: TRADE, WE NEED INVENTORY!

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Truscott News

It is still hot, still dry, still normal summer weather.

But even though 110 and 112 degrees have hit northwest Knox County several times this summer of 2009, on Sunday afternoon, July 26 with the temperature heading toward 102 degrees, within an hour clouds were shading the sun and the temperature was down to 100, and stayed under 102 all afternoon.

It's like in late winter when a warm day shows up and everyone thinks "spring is here". Occasionally, the clouds will drift across the sun in late July or it gets to be 10 pm and everything has cooled down to 90 something degrees and everyone says fall is coming.

Let's just hope El Nino and rain will come soon also.

Edith and Jim Cash attended the recent Ryder reunion sponsored by the Bill Jake Meyers family at Rhineland. The Ryder family in Knox County descended from a Henry Myers in London, England who was a blacksmith. On the 1871 United Kingdom census they lived on Street Village, Devon Blackawton, believed to have been in London, according to Gene Edd Ryder, researcher and descendant. He and his wife Rezia (Reyia) on the records, had 10 children.

Their eighth child, and also their eighth son, was Elijah Ryder, born January 26, 1841. Blackawton Devon England, who died March 4, 1918, in Gilliland, Knox Co., TX.

Elijah and Maria Matilda Williams were married December 25, 1864 in All Saints Church, Norfolk Square, Paddington,

London, England. She was born in Wales.

Elijah, Maria, and four children, including William "Will" Authur Ryder arrived at the Port of New York on the ship American Congress October, 1871.

A year later, Nov. 5, 1872, Elijah declared his intention of becoming a naturalized citizen of the United States in Muncie, Indiana. They stopped for a while in Pennsylvania before going to Indiana, according to one family report.

By 1877, the family was in Ft. Worth Texas. About this time was the last of the big Texas buffalo hunts, 1877-78, Elijah and his son Willie used to camp at Finney Springs near Gilliland to hunt buffalo.

Then the 1880 census shows the Ryders in Jacksboro, Jack County, Authur (Willie) Ryder was 12 years old and was a hired hand on the A.L. Ham Ranch there. He also took part in the cattle drives to Kansas.

Willie married Fannie Caledonia Green in 1891. As a child, Fannie had lived through Indian raids in Jack County. The Ryder and green families can to Knox County in 1892.

The son of Willie and Fannie will Edward Ryder, married Millie Myers of Truscott.

Gene Edd Ryder has written a detailed account of Ryder descendants of Henry Ryder in America. Around 150 of those descendants were at the recent reunion. Between the Wichitas by Edith Ryder Cash has more information about the Ryder Green families.

Haven't seen a report of all the Ryder kin who were in

WWII, but under one name or another, the Ryder family was well represented. One even reported meeting a Ryder cousin from England in Australia in WWII.

The Wichita-Brazos ice cream booth at the Knox City Watermelon Festival sold out again Saturday, July 25.

Speaking of the Museum, Elijah and son Willie Ryder have been listed at the museum as buffalo hunters who later came to live in Knox County.

So you have an ancestor who hunted buffalo in or out of Knox County, or who for any reason was in Knox County before it was organized in 1886? If so, let the museum know. It would be interesting to have a list of these early visitors. And if you don't share the information, the record will never show it!

Louis and Lula Baty enjoyed home made ice cream at the museum booth last Saturday. Geraldine Tomanek and Clara Brown helped at the booth.

The Kenneth Carrolls were in Lubbock recently to visit with their grandson, Colton, the son of Russell Carroll of Bellingham, Washington. Colton was visiting his Lubbock grandmother. Russell works for the USDA as an inspector of plants coming into the U.S., sort of a border patrol agent for the USDA. Bellingham is about 30 miles from the Canadian border.

Four cousins were having a great time when Barbara Horn got a news call. They had a really big box and were using it in all imaginable ways.

The cousins were Tim and Barbara's grandchildren, Breeana and Grace, and Dennis and Charlotte horn's grandchildren Taylor and Nathan.

Jack Horne is home from the hospital and doing fine.

Helen Tomanek of Wichita Falls spent Saturday afternoon visiting Geraldine and Edmund Tomanek.

Jack and Clara Brown got home last Sunday from their annual trip to Colorado.



Photos by Tamara Smart

Front row: Leona Burkham, Judy McCown Wyatt, Linda Large Hudson, Johnny Carver, Karen Clonts Michalik, Sue Egnebacher Stephens, Leonard Rhodes, Jacqueline Crownover Beesley, Mike Hewitt and Randy Hise. Second row: Leon Burkham, Rosie McElroy Ake, Gala Watkins, Sandy Park Hidden, Margaret Howell Goss, Carla Shelton Merton, Sandra (Pinkie) Woodward Young, Carol Sue Bateman Flecher, Hidden Anne Hoge Hinton, Don Hawkins and Betty Hodges Johnston. Those who attended but not pictured were Floyd Baker, Ronald Curd,

Ester Montalvo Plata, Nydia Montalvo Ruiz. The Class has only had one member that has passed away in 40 yrs. Marvin Flenniken. The class of 1969 made a donation to the Ex-Student Association in his name to apply towards the Scholarship Fund.

Knox City Watermelon Festival Horse Shoe Tournament Results

By Tamara Smart
After two games of "double elimination" horseshoes, the annual tournament (which was run by Jason Smart and Jack Sanders allowed for 14 teams to seek out the most honorable title of "best horseshoe thrower" in Knox County. The tourney lasted several hours in the hottest part of the day, but by 2:30, a winning team was able to claim their prize.

The winners are as follows:
1st place: Larry Joe Phillips Sr & Larry Joe Phillips Jr. (Vernon)
2nd place: Ski Demboski & Cody Sanders (Knox City)
3rd Place: Adam Rodriguez & JJ Moya (Crowell)

FARM SERVICE AGENCY Dates to Remember

According to John Rector, County Executive Director for the Knox County FSA Office, time is running short on several items of vital importance to local farmers and ranchers. They are as follows:

1. **August 3rd** - Final date to nominate someone by petition as a candidate for the 2009 County Committee Election. This year's election will be held in LAA - 3 (the old "C" community), which includes the towns of Rhineland, Munday and Goree. LAA - 3 is bounded on the west by FM-267, on the North by the Brazos River, and on the East and South by the county line. Petitions must be signed by the nominee and received in the county office by close of business August 3rd or postmarked by August 3rd.

Producers nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch, be qualified for committee work, and live in the LAA for which the election is being held.

2. **August 14th** - The final date to certify spring seeded crops. Failure to make a full farm acreage report will cause a loss of program benefits.

August 14th - The final date to sign up in the 2009 farm program and ACRE Program. There will be no extension of this date.

Signup and certification is by appointment - please call 940-658-3537.

If you have not already signed up and certified - please tend to this ASAP.

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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 Trimble, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
No Sunday Evening Service

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -

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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.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City

Gary A. Schnable, 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 Charles Gorantla • Deacon Ben Vasquez
Sunday 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 Charles Gorantla • Deacon Jim Novak
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 Trimble, 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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Classifieds Get Results!

House for Sale

For sale: 307 NE 2nd St. Knox City 2BR, 1 Ba, Large Spacious Corner Lot. 940-657-4146

Legal Notice

A sealed bid was received on the following property:

Parcel number #8543, Account 01100-00010-07033-000000 further described as being, All Lots in Block 79 Elandel Addition to the city of Truscott, Knox County, Texas. The Knox County Appraisal District, acting as trustee for the taxing units is offering this property for sealed bid to all interested parties. Sealed bids may be sent to Knox County Appraisal District, P.O. Box 47, Benjamin, Texas 79505, along with a cashiers check or money order for the amount of the sealed bid. Please put the parcel number on the outside of the envelope of the sealed bid. The taxing units, owners of the property, reserve the right to reject all bids. If your bid is rejected, your cashiers check or money order will be returned. Sealed bids will be opened and considered at least quarterly. For further information please contact the Knox County Appraisal District at the above address or phone: (940)459-3891.

Personal

Attractive Female Wanted for romance and possibly live on ranch with single young looking cowboy 62, call 580-662-2003. 8-6

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Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

That in accordance with section 30.05 Of the penal code of texas - (criminal trespass senate bill iii legislature), notice is hereby given that all lands of the W.T. Waggoner Estate are posted - save and except where written permission is given to come up on the same.

Gene w. Willingham
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- 902 South Central:** 3 BR, 1 Ba. Brick Home. CH/AC Fenced yard, covered patio, attached garage, carport. Open floor plan, good paint, ceramic tile floor, good carpeting. \$50,000
- Great Business Opportunity!** 323 North Central Avenue. Knox County Cleaners property. Includes machines and equipment! \$29,000
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United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
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2009 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall 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

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Photo by Tamara Smart

The concession stand workers at the track on Saturday night help raise money for the Knox City Softball Association.



Photo by Tamara Smart

Free swimming from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the City Pool provided a much needed relief from the heat for 251 people.

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Photo by Tamara Smart

The horseshoe tourney at the Fest at City Park started at 1 p.m. and went until the activities at the Park shut down for the year.

Thanks For Reading The Knox County News!

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Watermelon Festival Golf Tournament Results

Championship Flight:
 1st- McDonald, Roberts and Acree (60)
 2nd- Carter, Carter, and Carter (62)
 3rd- Thompson, Thigpen and Allen (62)
 1st Flight:
 1st- Hall, Hall, and Seaton (67)
 2nd- Maloney, Maloney and Sheedy (68)
 3rd- Smith, Dallas and Clint (68)



Photo by Jason Smart

Even at the evening events, temperatures exceeded 100 degrees. Everyone was looking for some cool refreshing relief from the heat, including this little cowboy.

Knox City Watermelon Festival Ranch Rodeo Results

By Tamara Smart

The two nights of the Watermelon Festivities brought people near and far to watch local cowboys representing their respective ranches duke it out with their cowboy skills. Friday night, the Rodeo grounds played host to 130 spectators; Saturday night brought in about 160 spectators (these numbers do not include participants in the rodeo). Twelve teams fought for the top prize of a locally stuck belt buckle on Friday, ten teams came

out on Saturday night.

After the two nights of competitions, first place was awarded to Redford Ranch Cowboys out of Benjamin Texas. Their 4 member team was awarded \$3500 as well as individual belt buckles which were made by Jimmy Barrientz (also out of Benjamin). Second place was awarded \$2500 to the Jim Tackitt Ranch of Seymour; third place winners, the Estrada Ranch of Knox City, won \$1500.

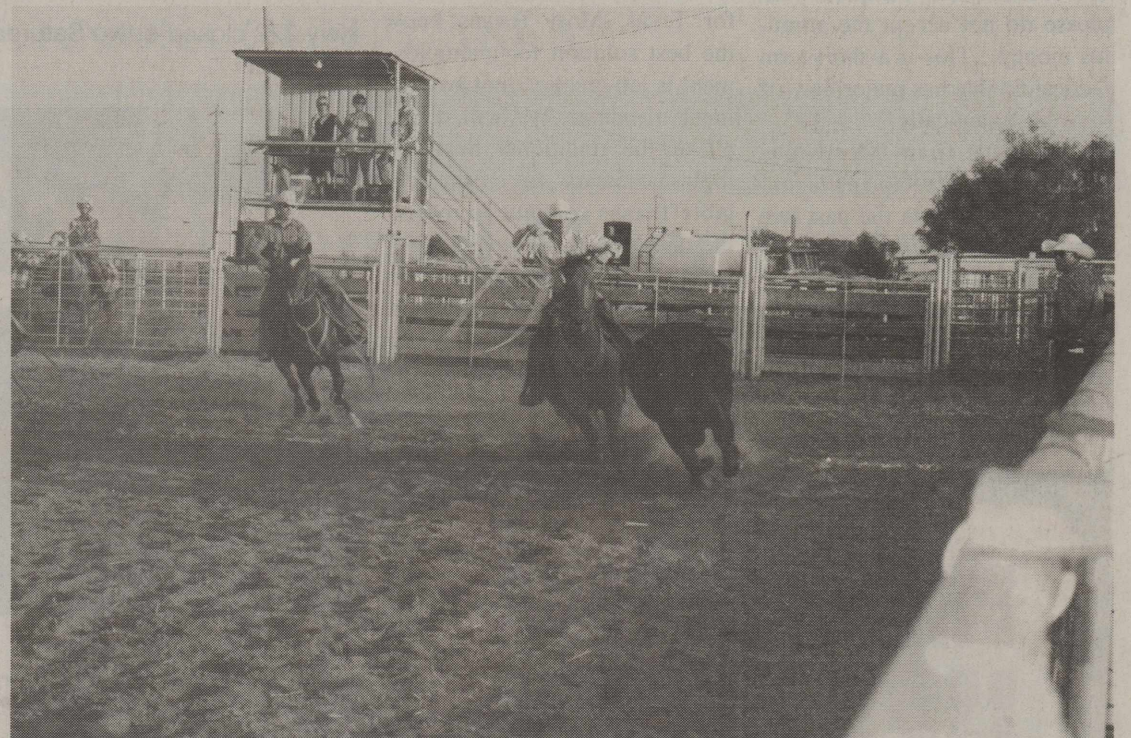


Photo by Jason Smart

The Knox City Watermelon Festival Ranch Rodeo was held at the rodeo arena. The Redford Ranch Cowboys of Benjamin won the competition.

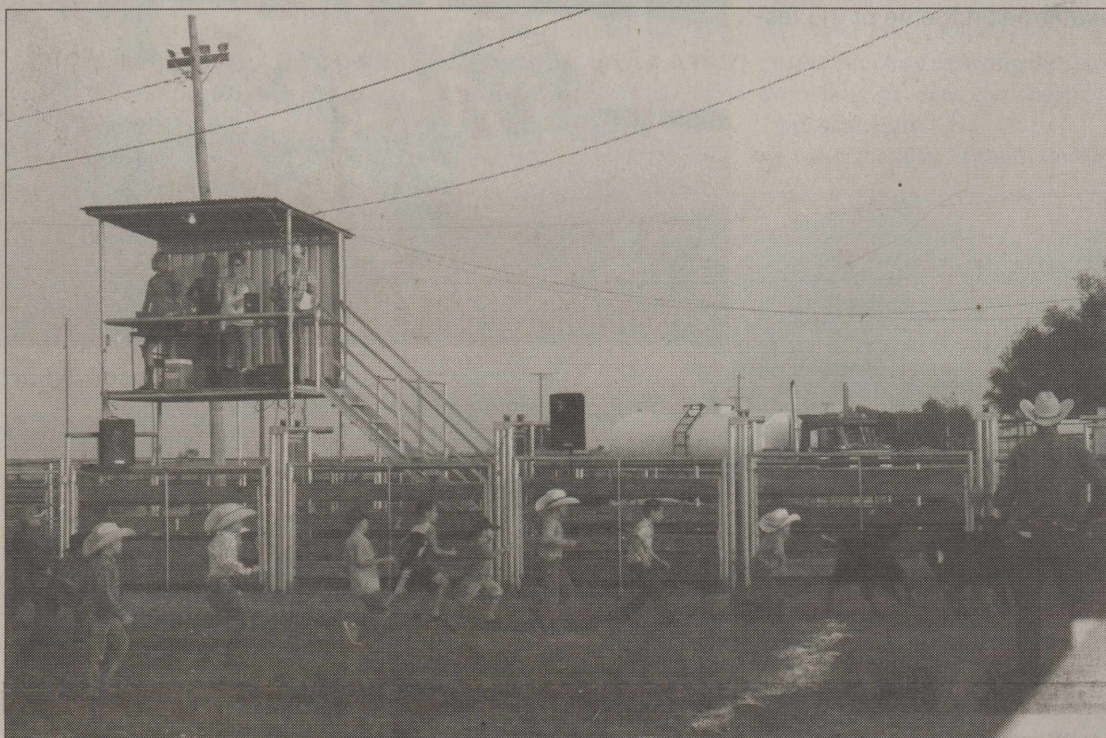


Photo by Tamara Smart

Youngsters under the age of 10 got to participate in the "calf scramble", an event where they try and catch a calf and remove a pink tie attached to its tail.

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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 following location:

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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 contract.

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 each bid.

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 By: s/ Jeff Stanfield
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Date: July 21, 2009

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TEXAS

Texas. Sam from Dallas wrote, "I have been out of work because of this economy and I implore you, please do not accept the stimulus money... This is a short-term tactical fix that has major flaws if viewed strategically."

Michelle from Tyler wrote, "I have been a recipient of unemployment within the past two years and our laws and requirements are more than adequate... to further burden our employers with more unemployment tax at some point in the future would be a huge mistake."

These Texans represent a

few of many who understand that our current unemployment system provides sufficient benefits to help unemployed Texans as they pursue employment.

The fact remains that qualified Texans who lose their jobs through no fault of their own will continue to receive unemployment benefits and job search assistance from a Texas Workforce Commission that stands ready to help.

My decision to reject strings-attached federal stimulus funds was the right choice for Texas. Most Texans know the best solution for unemployment is job creation, not government mandates. We will utilize all of the traditional financing tools necessary to ensure eligible Texans continue to receive the unemployment benefits they need while minimizing the burden on workers and employers, freeing them to create new jobs and lead our country into a more prosperous future.



Photo by Tamara Smart

Hwy 222 closed down Saturday morning as classic cars of all makes, models and years line the street.



Picture by Jason Smart

Bud Reynolds pulls a float honoring his wife and Knox City Chamber of Commerce's 2009 "Person of the Year", Sequoyah Reynolds, who served as Grand Marshall for the 21st Annual Donald Johnson Watermelon Festival.



Photo by Jason Smart

It's a helicopter...it's a tractor...it's a watermelon! What ever it is, it's a cool creation that hits with the Knox City tractor decorating trade as well as the watermelon theme of the festivities.



Photo by Jason Smart

Cody Propps throws candy from the "Pink" golf cart.



Photo by Jason Smart

Carl Brock drives his Studebaker through town in the Opening Parade to promote the 10th Annual Sizzling Summer Classic Car Show.



Photo by Jason Smart

In perfect tradition, three horsemen wearing KC jerseys and cowboy hats brought up the tail end of the parade.

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