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# KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

## Man Perpetrates Liberty Church of God in on local kids

Last week, a man in an older model blue Chevrolet was reportedly trying to coax young children into his vehicle with the use of a puppy in Haskell. Rumors said this same man was seen in Munday, Knox

no reports of such an individual, although the Haskell police did put out an APV on this character. If anyone sees this activity or the man with

City and Seymour. Local po- in such activities, they should lice in those three towns got immediately try and get the tag numbers on the vehicle and call the police. In the mean time, parents are urged to pre-warn their children of "stranger danger" and to the puppy involving himself watch out for this perpetrator.

## New Direction to come to the FBC of Knox City



Tamara Smart

On Sept. 12, the First Baptist Church of Knox City will host New Direction Ministries during their morning worship. New Direction Ministries is a quartet out of Cleveland, Texas who travels the country to sing God's praise and worship. Singing traditional to Middle of the Road Southern Gospel Music along with Bro. Darren Smith preaching biblical truths from the uncompromised word of God, New Direction is sure to provide a

This family group made of brothers, Jim Smith and Darren Smith, along with their wives, Teresa (Jim's wife) and Donna (Bro. Darren's wife) have been in the ministry for over 30 years. It was their parents, Walter and Amy Smith, who started years ago singing and traveling throughout the vicinity that has given these men the desire to serve the Lord to their fullest potential. The family even had their own local 'gospel singing'

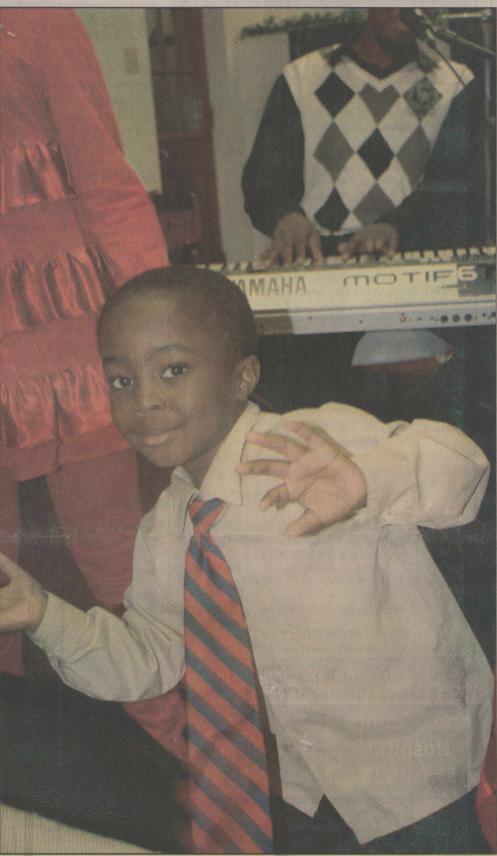
radio program on the local radio station in Cleveland, Texas several years ago, according to their website.

The Gorup has a goal of bringing excitement for revivals, giving testimony and letting people know that they have brothers and sisters in Christ and are not alone.

After the service, the Church will have a brisket

For more information, call the FBC of Knox City at 657-3141.

# **Christ Celebrates 85 years**



Liberty Church in Christ Celebrates 85 years of Worship

Tamara Smart

Christ held their celebration for the 85th anniversary this past weekend. With performances by the youth, dancing and singing from the gathering of people, the church was alive with worship. A group from Dallas invited to worship and learn

lead the praise on Saturday Liberty Church of God in night causing every worshiper to get on their feet, clap their hands, in some cases, dance feverishly to praise His name.

The Liberty Church of God in Christ is a community church where everyone is

#### **Photo by Tamara Smart**

anytime their doors are open. As a Pentecostal setting, they are known for their fun-filled praise style. They meet on Mondays for a pastoral lesson, and Sundays. For more information call Patricia Young or Pastor Ward.

For pictures of the event, see page 8.

## Blossom s Boutique

Jill Kilgore/owner, stylist, nail tech 111 N. Central, Knox City, Texas 940-657-4011



Tuesday through Saturday 9-5 Hair, nails, men's cuts, waxing. **Featuring Paul** Mitchell products



and services



As the recent tropical storm "Hermine" Floods the Southeast borders of Texas, the eye of the storm just misses Knox County, and although the 6-8 predicted inches did not come, the storm still provides for a much needed rain.

**Photo by Tamara Smart** 

Ranchers in the Knox County area can attend a free Cattlemen's Field Day hosted by the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TS-CRA). The field day will take place Thursday, Sept. 9 at the Wooden Nickel Activity Center in Knox City, Texas.

Knox City First Baptist is on the Horizon. Start-

Church will host singing group, "New Direction" on Sunday, Sept. 12 during their morning service. All are invited to attend.

Foursquare Church is hosting the Prophetic and teaching ministry of Bill and Ida Ford on Sept. 26-

O'Brien Homecoming

10, O'brien graduates and all O'brien exes are invited for food, fun, and much more. A further planning meeting to be held next Tuesday, Sept. 14, at Kathy and Jacks at 6, and will meet weekly until Homecoming takes place- we want and need your input.

ing on Oct. 8 through the



"Home Town Service You Deserve!"

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## KC AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City

Jerry Vincent, 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

No Sunday Evening Service

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -

**Knox City** Tex Cox, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Warriors 6:00 p.m. 'Discovering God's Word' radio broadcast Sunday mornings on AM

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.

Mens Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am. Wednesday Morning

1400 The River 8:20 - 8:50 a.m.

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH BILINGUAL- Knox City Father Charles Gorantla • Deacon Ben Vasquez Sunday Mass at Noon

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 5 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 10:30 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.

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.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien

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

> MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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**Knox County** Hospital 657-3535

O'Brien Co-op Gin 658-3631

#### Sheriff's Report

Pursuant to you open records request, here is a list of those arrested within the indicated time and processed through the Knox County Jail: Aug. 17 through Sept. 6

Dockins, Jermaine 8/17/10 MTR/ Duty on Striking

Unattended Vehicle (M-B) **Knox County** 

DeLosRios, Alfred Injury to Disabled (F-2) **Knox County** 

Sturgeon, Laramey 8/19/10 Assault with BI/ Family Violence (F-3) **Baylor County** 

Castorena, Gilbert 8/19/10 DWI, 1st (M-B) **Knox County** 

Gibson, Garland

8/20/10 Theft (M-B) **Knox County** 

Swearengin, Randy 8/21/10 Public Intoxication (M-C) DWI 1st (M-B) Resist Arrest (M-A) **Foard County** 

Dayton, Michael DWLI (M-B) Felon is Poss. Of a Firearm (F-3)**Foard County** 

Shelton, Christopher 8/23/10 Possession of Marijuana (M-**Knox County** 

Thomas, Corey Possession of Marijuana (M-**Knox County** 

Telles, Michelle

8/23/10 Possession of Marijuana (M-B) **Knox County** 

Rivera, Bernardo 8/24/10 Immigration hold Foard County

Barton, Michael 8/25/10 Possession CS (SJF) **Knox County** 

Hernandez, Mauricio 8/29/10 Theft Dallas County warrant

Lana, Aniseto 8/29/10 Public Intoxication (M-C) **Baylor County** 

Hebel, Rowdy 8/29/10 Possession CS (SJF) **Baylor County** 

Kettle, Linda Sue 9/2/10 Intoxication Assault x 2 Bexar County warrants

**Foard County** Diaz, Guillermo 9/3/10 TBC (M-B)

**Baylor County** 

Johnson, Jerry Bob 9/4/10 Open Container (M-C) Knox

Morgan, Lacy Mossession of Marijuana (M-B) Possession of CS (M-B) **Baylor County** 

Schlegel, Roger Possession of Marijuana (M-Possession of CS (SJF) **Baylor County** 

-Dean Homstad, Sheriff

## Making teens aware of 'sexting' dangers

HOUSTON - Note- sexually for today's teens and includes a form of flirting known as "sexting" that can have unwanted and even dangerous outcomes, according to an expert on teen sexual health at Baylor College of Medicine.

passing has gone electronic messages and photographs over a cell phone. Teens also use social media sites like Facebook and Myspace as well as instant messaging to communicate things of a sexual nature.

Teens and adolescents are urged not to engage in this Sexting refers to sending behavior, said Dr. Peggy

Baylor Teen Health Clinic. Sexting should become

a routine part of parents' conversation with their children about sexual health, along with topics like sexually transmitted infections and condom use, Smith said. Parents need to convey that sexting, of a vehicle, Smith said.

explicit text Smith, director of the although sent as a private message to someone, may not remain private and can have consequences on future college and job searches.

Internet and cell phone use should be monitored by parents, just as they monitor their children's use

## Acne free doesn't mean clear skin

blemish or acne clears it may leave behind a not-sofriendly reminder in the form of a scar or discoloration. These may be treated with lasers and fading creams, but dermatologists at Baylor

the best ways to handle the problem.

Markus said skin tone and how a blemish is treated can contribute to what type of mark is left behind, which

HOUSTON - Once a College of Medicine say is why prevention is the prevention and time are first step to keeping the skin clear, said Dr. Ramsey Markus, assistant professor of dermatology and director of the Laser Center at BCM.

If more than just regular washing is needed to control acne, some topical or oral medications can be given. Markus also uses laser or light therapies to target the glands that are responsible for developing blemishes.

For more information visit www.bcm.edu/dermatology/.



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## The Knox County News

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**CHRISTOPHER BLACKBURN** Publisher

TAMARA SMART Reporter Sports Writer Advertising Manager

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Knox County News welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number to allow verification. Please keep letters to a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for any reason and to reject letters for publication for any reason. Letters deemed libelous and/or not for the public good will be rejected. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Knox County News

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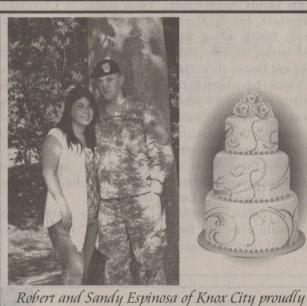
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly orrected upon being brought to the attention of the editor.

KCN OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Closed Thursday • Friday • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.



announce the engagement of their daughter Ashley Espinosa to Private Nicholas Johnson, son of Michael and April Johnson of Rule. Their wedding date is set for December 31, 2010.



**COWPOKES**® By Ace Reid



"They said God ain't makin' anymore land! Wul, if he messed up on the rest of it like He did this, I don't blame Him!'



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## 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.

please stand up?

Anyone who watched television in the old days remembers "To Tell the Truth." Three people sat in chairs and answered questions about themselves. All three were supposed to be the same person; two were impostors. Contestants tried to guess which person was for real. We all guessed. Sometimes it wasn't easy.

At the end of the show came the moment of truth. One of the three would start to stand and would hesitate. Then the real one would stand. Usually that's how it went. But no matter whether one, two or all three started to stand, only the real one ultimately rose as truth personified, standing tall. The two imposters were justly exposed, despite their best efforts to deceive. Sometimes they were pretty good. It was all in fun anyway.

But there's nothing funny about the word "plasma." Which is it? A package of blood, a cutting torch or a television? I'd like to know.

When a word has three disparate meanings, it seems to me like two of them must be imposters.

For most of my life, plasma was something that worked almost as well as real blood if you needed a transfusion. It just didn't come in types. Here's to a "plasma screen" uses cells

By the way, blood plasma was a steadfast noun with no adjectival aspirations. Or so we all thought.

Then along came plasma cutting torches and plasma televisions.

OK. It's not the first time a noun has managed to shed its restraints and add descriptive theft.

Will the real Mr. Plasma talents to an ever-growing resume. But why would the word go so far a field as to lend itself to two different items that traditionally have had nothing to do with blood? So I looked it up in the dictionary. And I still

> I did learn that plasma is the colorless part of blood.

> Plasma is also an ionized gas of sorts, and it's translucent dark green quartz.

Hmmm. If the teacher calls on you and you don't know the answer, just guess "plasma." You'll have a chance of being

Furthermore, plasma can also mean"cytoplasm" or "protoplasm." If scientists want to use "plasma" as a catchall term for a couple of kinds of plasm, why not? They probably need a break from having to be so specific all the

But when it comes to plasma televisions and plasma cutting torches, give me a break. I'm ready for somebody to stand up and either end the charade or explain it. "To Tell the Truth" has gone over 30 minutes.

The answer?

Forget blood. It's a gas,

Disclaimer: I figured it out without access to the Internet. So I could be wrong.

But my dictionary says containing a gas plasma (presumably the ionized definition) to create colors. Plasma torches probably also rely on plasma gas - maybe the same gas that makes the cuttingedge TV screens work.

Truth. Sometimes it's a

I was hoping for identity



#### LABOR DAY 2010

"A good day's work is a good day's work."

Labor Day 2010 finds us with our head down, shoulders to the wheel, noses to the grindstone and 10% unemployment.

The high unemployment is not because we don't know how to work, we do! The proof is our high productivity per capita. Today we are getting the same job done as before, but with less people. Our country still has the work ethic that brought the working class Europeans and Asians to our shores. It's what still draws immigrants to America. Mexican illegals don't come here because of free health care, unemployment benefits, or a welfare system, they come here to work!

America's democratic republic encourages capitalism and entrepreneurship which invest in growth which is achieved by putting workers to work. European nations, primarily socialist leaning governments, discourage individual achievement, in trade for government care for the masses. It reaches its extreme when the government finally concedes they have spent themselves into bankruptcy and collapse like Russia after the Cold War and Greece last spring.

It is pointed out regularly in the news that in contrast to the struggling workers in the private sector, government workers are increasing in numbers, wealth and security. Our neighbor to the south has always had a class system; the ricos (rich), the government workers, and the peones. The core of the Mexican middle class are the government employees. It appears to me it is the same in many developing countries like China and India. The governments are afraid to trust the people ... the workers.

America has gotten itself in financial trouble with the combination of well-meaning irresponsible politicians and bankers who wouldn't stand up to them. We continue to try and spend ourselves out of debt by increasing the worker's

Our greatest saving grace is that we as a people know how to work. Generations before us have pulled themselves out of the doldrums of worldwide conflict, natural disasters, invasions and floundering politicians.

Somehow, when we crash and burn we always seem to come back stronger and better; personally, as a people, and as a nation. That history is where I turn to for inspiration. That and the backbone and perseverance that I see every day in my fellow workers.

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## Knox County Market Place

#### **Help Wanted**

Brazos Valley Care home is accepting applications for: LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES REGISTERED NURSES. Full and Part-time positions available. Apply in person or call Sandra Logsdon, DON for more information. 605 S. Ave F. Knox City, Texas 79529 (940) 658-3543.

Penman Services Ltd is accepting applications for convenience store manager. Apply in person at Penman's corporate office at 609 East Main.

Lake Creek Golf Club, Munday Texas seeks responsible and motivated person for the for the position of greens keeper. Experience with operation and maintenance of light farm equipment preferred. Mail application to P.O. Box 747, Munday, TX 76371 or call 940-2562324. Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Knox County Sheriff's office is currently accepting applications for the position of Jailer/dispatcher. Applicants must be willing to work shift work including weekends and holidays. Must have the ability to maintain satisfactory attendance and punctuality standards and perform other duties as assigned. Must have a high school diploma or GED or possess a current jailer license by TCLEOSE. This is a high-energy position with being a fast learner a plus. Benefits include holidays, vacation, and supplemented medical insurance. Knox County is an equal opportunity employer. For further information, call the Knox County Sheriffs office at 940-459-2211, or come by 104 south Stewart, Benjamin for an application. Position will remain open until properly filled.

For Sale

For Sale: WE have residential and

lands for sale. We have buyers looking for land. Call Counts Real Estate tax rate by .17229

For sale: Used International Harvester Deep freezer & Westinghouse Refrigerator. Run well. \$50 each. For more Information call (817) 454-7658 and ask for David.

For sale: 80 acre irrigated Costal Bermuda Grass farm. Located in NW Haskell County. Reasonable priced. 940-742-4367.

#### For Lease

Hunting Lease First time Lease- Deer, Turkey, Hog,

Quail, Dove, Electricity, 300 acres. For information call 940-658-3092 or 940-658-3807 or (cell) 940-256-

#### **House For Sale**

4 bedroom, 2 bath in Rochester on Corner lot. Living room, dining room, pool room. Fenced in Yard. Low price. The Call 940-743-3452 and ask for Bobby for more information.

3 Bedroom, 1 bath house for sale by owner. Needs work. Call 657-3196 after 3 pm

House for sale. 3 bed, 3 bath, brick house on 10 acres. Country setting. Irrigated Coastal. Shop. Barn and 940-743-3333 or 940-207-

#### **Public Notice**

Notice Of Public Meeting To adopt the city of Benjamin's 2010 - 2011 budget

And the 2010 effective tax rate The city of Benjamin will hold a public meeting on Wednesday September 8th, 2010 at 12:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to adopt the city of benjamins' budget and to

6792.) **HEALTH SERVICES Pediatrics LVN** needed immediately to provide one on one care for medically fragile children in Knox City.

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commercial properties, farm/ranch set the effective tax rate of 0.63807 Which has decreased from last years

**Public Notice** 

Notice Of Public Meeting The north central texas municipal

Will hold a public meeting on September 14th, at 7:00 p.m. At 135 north Munday avenue at Munday

The purpose of this meeting is to adopt the 2010 effective tax rate of .10 Per 100 dollars of value which decreased from last years tax rate by 0.08 Per 100 dollar value.

#### **Public Notice**

Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit Borderline Operating Corp., PO Box 1327, Graham, Texas 76450 is

applying to the Railroad commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive The applicant proposes to inject fluid

into the Tennehill, Spike Box "A" Well number 2. The proposed injection well is located 11 miles NW of Knox City in the Little Giant (Tannehill) in Knox County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2565 to 2590 feet. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27

of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas National Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rues of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from individuals who can show that they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any

aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within 15 days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-

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If you would like to place your classified under the Knox County Market Place Please Call 940-657-3142

#### KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES MENUS FOR SEPT. 13<sup>TH</sup>TO SEPT. 17<sup>TH</sup>

**Monday Sept.13th** Salsbury Steak/Gravy Rice Steamed Broccoli Hot Rolls Fruit Crunch

**Tuesday Sept. 14th** Chicken Alfredo Carrot/Raisin Salad Blackeyed Peas Garlic Toast Cake

#### Wednesday Sept. 15th

Sliced Ham Pinto Beans Turnip Greens Cornbread Fruit Salad

Thursday, Sept. 16th BBQ On A Bun Cole Slaw Chips

Jello/Fruit

Friday, Sept. 17th Fish/Tartar Sauce Macaroni & Cheese Cucumber/Onion Salad Hush Puppies Dessert

New serving time is 12 noon (in Knox City only). Alternate desserts for diabetics.

Please call in your orders by 10 A.M. to 657-3618. Orders cant be taken after 10 A.M. And need to be picked up after 11

## **Private schools meeting** on Sept. 20

Attention: Benjamin, City/O'Brien Knox Munday Consolidated, Consolidated, Paint Creek and Rule Independent school districts' representatives from private schools and/ representatives parents of parentally-placed private school children with disabilities:

You are invited to meet with the Haskell- Knox shared Service arrangement (H-KSSA) for special education under IDEA, 2004 representatives on September 20 at 10 a.m. in the board room of the Haskell-Knox Shared Service Arrangement Building located at 201 North East 2nd Street, Knox City Texas, 79529.

In the 2010-2011 school year, the Independent School Districts of Benjamin, Knox City/O'Brien Consolidated, Munday Consolidated, Paint Creek and Rule which form the H-KSSA to provide the Special Education supports and services to the eligible students within their district will consult with Private School Representative located within the member districts' boundaries. Any private school (including home school locate in the boundaries of any member

districts) is advised of this upcoming meeting to discuss needs and assessments for the provision of Special Education supports or services for those individuals

H-KSSA will use a portion of the Federal monies that it receives under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 2004) for participation by Private Schools' children disabilities in any member of the District's Special Education services. Private Schools' students identified as individuals with disabilities, and who are 5 to 21 years of age, may be entitled to be considered for participation in the districts special education services on a more limited basis. H-KSSA will hold this meeting for current need the private schools are facing in providing services to their students with IDEA. part B eligibility.

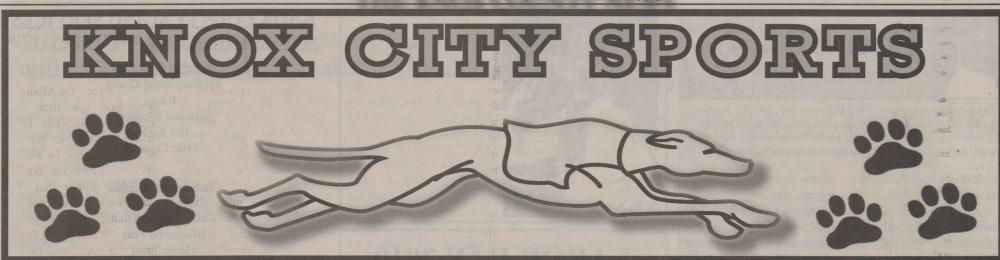
Presently, ther are no known Private Schools that are located within any of the member districts' LEA boundaries. If anyone is aware, otherwise, please contact Jeanne Snyder, executive director of the Education Special H-KSSA at 940-658-3587 or snyderj@westex.net.

Shop locally first! Shop Knox County!



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

2009 Weekly Weather Report			
Date	Temperature (F)	Rainfall	Snow
	Low / High	inches	inche
8/30	74/99		
8/31	74/97	.67	
9/01	72/98	.47	
9/02	68/99	.76	
9/03	62/81	.01	
9/04	57/85		
9/05	60/96		
	Total Rainfall for month	1.24	
100000	2010 Rainfall (ytd)	29.75	6.6





Whitney Collins goes in for a quick save as her fellow Houndettes look on.

**Photo by Daveine Clark** 

## Hounds JV Defeat Ira

By Jeff Stanfield

The JV Hounds put it on Ira 19-18 Led by the big plays of Josh Schnable and big defensive plays of Ty Baker to stay undefeated.

The JV consisting of freshman, sophomores and a few juniors, took on a JV with 5 seniors and came away with a big win.

The Hounds used timely defense and a big stop by Heath Ham to overcome a late Touchdown by Ira. Tylynn Eaton scored in the last minute to push the Hounds to a 2-0 record

These boys are the future and it is looking very bright for the hounds in 2011 and



The Greyhounds rush the field to take on Ira on Friday night. **Photo by Michelle Stanfield** 

## Hound varsity takes on no. 3 ranked Ira

By Jeff Stanfield

When you play a good football team, the #3 ranked team in the state, Ira, you cannot fumble, throw interceptions, and miss tackles. When you do that, you get beat 71-30. That is what the results were. The the way they finished.

the game, we stopped them behind the line of The Hounds received the kick off, 3 and out. Ira then scored 5 plays later...13-0, Bulldogs. They kicked off the Hounds' punt 4 plays later. This was kinda the theme for the 1st quarter. Then the Hounds finally made a good defensive play, but an inadvertant whistle nullified a fumble return by Jarek Wilde for a TD. Then the nail was placed in the coffin. Instead of a 13-8 ballgame, the Bulldogs 2 plays later went to pay dirt for a 19-0 lead.

The Hounds had many opportunities to crawl back into the game. In the second half, after a Ryan Ledesma to Brandon Bradley TD pass, we had the score at 51-31.

That is when the wheels came off. The Hounds got intercepted in the end zone twice, failed to punch it in from inside the 5 yard line one other time, with

5 minutes left in the game. Then Ira ran an interception back for a TD, and another interception turns into a long run for TD. It was an ugly night but was actually a whole lot closer than the final score showed.

The #3 team whipped Hounds started out about the Hounds, but they knew they had been in a fight. The first play of Sometimes you learn more from a loss than a win. We had lots of open scrimmage, but forgot to receivers we missed. We wrap up. The result was had interceptions, tons of missed tackles, blocks and too many penalties. That is why we have non-District games, so we can be prepared for District games. These Hounds will win lots of games this year but so will

Ira was led in rushing by Lance Morrison who had 345 yards on 22 carries. This young man is a Sophomore but he plays like a Senior. The Hounds were led by Ryan Ledesma with 198 yards, and Brandon Bradley with 3 catches for 77 yards and a TD. Jarek Wilde chipped in 2 TDs and Marcell Lewis had 1 TD.

The offensive Player of the Week is Ryan Ledesma and he had Hit of the Week also. The coaching staff declined a defensive Player of the Week. I guess when you give up a 71 point loss, that is a durn good reason.

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Stanfield's

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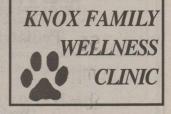
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# BENJAMIN

Labor Day 2010 has come and gone- What was it for you? A day of labor ot a day of rest? For me, a little of both but an enjoyable one-Spent a good bit of the day watching the MDA telethon and being thankful for my own family's good health. Always aware that we never know what will happen from one day to the next.

Sounds like we may have some rain coming our way thanks to the hurricane that's "brewing". We can take the rain and pray that there will be no real damage from it.

#### Here 'N There

Seems to be a pretty slow week, news wise. It could be that I am just not aware of things that are happening. Mary Powell and her

granddaughter and family of Iowa Park were Sunday guests of Patti and Will Kendrick.

Word for Bo Milson is that she and her son, David are both doing good. So, you remember, had a fall at David's home and though she didn't break any bones, she did have a bunch of sore places as a result. But she's doing much better and said David is doing great. Is having his chemo but no real bad side effects and I understand he has just one more treatment to go. That's such a wonderful and encouraging report.

Erika Homes came home Tuesday night after a 4 day stay at HMC in Abilene. She was taken by ambulance on Saturday night with a stomach problem which turned out to be a colon infection. She is still pretty weak, but watching her diet and doing better each day. Another bit of good news.

Jack Young is to have a biopsy on Wednesday to determin just what type of treatment will be used for his problem. He's still in Houston but 7. Come join us for a great was able to come back to the Metroplex during the Young weekend reunion. All of Jacks family that was able was at the get together held at a brother (Butch's) home. And according to those who were there, everyone had a wonderful time. Benjamin folks attending were: Dutch and Imagean Young, Deann Lamb, Anthony and Jessica Lamb, Seth Kuehler, Ricky and Kaitlyn Acevedo, Sheila and Stephen Keulher, Will and Kinsey and Aaron and Sydney Kuehler.

I had a good visit on Saturday night with Parker and Janice Johnson New. They were down here for the Gilliland Homecoming they live down in the Hill Country (I can't remember where). We really didn't get our visit out and look forward to the Homecoming so we can

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The annual open house and PTO picnic was this evening (Monday) at school. The Open House preceded the Picnic. This always gives the parents and teachers along with the students an opportunity to visit and know more about the school's goings on. This year's president is Bob Acree, Secretary/treasurer is Karen Bouchardt. The annual PTO sponsored fall festival was set for October 30. This is the big fund raiser for the organization and many projects have been funded by it.

Ned and Susan Jones attended Susan's mom's family (Haynies) reunion in Irving during the weekend. Susan said two aunts were there and a number of cousins and she really enjoyed seeing them all.

Will Moorhouse was home after a weekend at TSTI in Sweetwater. He is liking it (so Far) but being there only a week, he is still getting acquainted.

There's a new baby in our family, Weston Michael was born on Sept. 1 and is the son of Liz and Nathan Herring and Baby brother to Taylor. I'm sure all of the family will do their share of helping raise him.

And the Mustangs suffered a loss on Friday night to the hands of Paint creek. Our team had some injuries probably will be able to go again on Friday night. We

hope so. Don't forget the museum garage sale Saturday in Munday. Go by, brose, maybe shop a little, have a burger and help a wonderful cause. And the revival at the First Baptist Church here beginning Sunday morning, with services each night at tie of worship.

HOSPITAL DISTRICT

#### Just Jeff

What a weekend! We had a full house for the dove opener. We had people from five different states here. I always forget how much food we go through. Michelle and the ladies make it look easier than it really is. The cool weather and rain made it a little slower than usual.

Around Knox City, we painted the volleyballs and footballs for this year's squads. It was a typical night; paint, someone drive through the helmets, then rain. Next time we need rain, we just need a paint night on Main Street.

What the heck is wrong with people? Paris Hilton gets arrested for the 100th time it seems. This young (insert whatever you like) has had life handed to her. She has had more opportunities than most of us will ever see. Yet her latest

screw up may have prison time involved. She has been bailed out more than a 'cheap boat'. I'll bet she will not get much sympathy in the 'big

I went to Walmart again. I know, shoot me. I would love to just walk around with a video camera. I just love the mixture of all races surrounded by Chinese-made products. Remember when it was American-made? I guess it still is, since China owns America.

I found something very amusing. I was in a 7-11 store, and a rather large woman (ok, she was the size of a small car) getting a kingsized Snicker Bar and a diet Coke. "Lady, have a regular Snicker and a real Coke". Do they have a 'big and tall' for Midgets? Are fat people warmer in the winter? I'm

Getting to have a senior in the house is a great thing in one way and sad in another. am really gonna miss the Team Meeting and the Movie or Football Game on Thursday night at home. I will miss seeing Austin and all of his mischief and, of course, Brandon and his simple smile. Sometimes we seem to forget the important things and put way too much emphasis on things that are not near so important. As the song that says ,'You're Gonna Miss This When It's Gone', I sure will.

This time of year is my favorite. It is when the house gets a splash of yellow and orange, lots of fall flowers, and soon pumpkins will arrive. The 'dog days' of summer are behind us, and I sure am ready for a crisp, cool autumn night.

Around Knox City, school

is in full force. On Monday nights you can hear the band rehearsing. The kids are already hard to get up and we only have 14 weeks until Christmas break I heard a rumor that the Policemen and Firemen were going to play a football game for the Scholarship Fund during the open week of the football season.

Terry Utley and Randy Smith have put together a heck of a Hog Operation U.S. Show, pigs at the Smith's farm north of Knox City. If you are looking for a show hog for this year you cannot do much better than local stock. They have been producing quality swine and the results show each year.

Terry Utley is my Citizen of the Week. He volunteers a ton of his own time for the youth in the area and is a City Council member.

O'Brien Homecoming is on the Horizon. Starting on October 8 through the 10, O'brien graduates and all O'brien exes are invited for food, fun, and much more. A further planning meeting to be held next Tuesday, Sept 14, at Kathy and Jacks at 6:00, and will meet weekly until Homecoming takes place- we want and need your input!

## **Legal Notice**

DATED September 2, 2010, and issued pursuant to a judgment decree of the District Court of Knox County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court, I have on September 2, 2010, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in October, 2010, the same being the 5th day of October, 2010, at the courthouse door of said County, in the Cit of Benjamin, between the hours of 10:00 o'clock a.m. and 4:00 o'clock p.m. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Knox and the Sate of Texas, to-wit:

Styling, Defendants and Property Description 8821 Knox County Appraisal District v. Agueda Espinosa a/k/a Aqueda

Espinosa and Billy Lerma a/k/a/ Billy Ray Lerma Lot 8, Block 53, Original Town site of City of Knox City Lot 7, and the West ½ of Lot 8, Block 59, Original Townsite of Knox

8959 Knox County Appraisal District v. Leon W. Ward a/k/a Leon Ward and Gene L. Ward a/k/a Gene Ward Lot 4, Block 10, Original Townsite to the City of Knox City

8976 County Appraisal District v. Mollie Collins a/k/a/ Mollie Roderick Lots 10, 11 & 12, Block 133, Original Townsite to the Town of

8985 Knox County Appraisal District v. Alex Espinosa and Office of General Attorney (In Rem Only)

All Lots of Block 10, Chapman Addition to the City of Knox City, corner of North 3rd and Ave H

9176 Knox County Appraisal District v. Pedro Castillo, Juanita Castillo, Antonio Diaz and M.M. Booe Lienholder (In Rem Only) Lot 1, Block 51, Lee Addition, City of Munday Lots 2 and 3, Block 51, Lee Addition, City of Munday Lot 12, Block 55, Lee Addition, City of Munday

The west 120' of the South 100' of Block 41, R.P. Munday Addition, City of Munday 9204 Knox County Appraisal District v. Donnie Hise, Melissa Wilson,

> Rem) and Joe Abernathy (In Rem) A 56' x 200' tract of land, more or mess, out of the South ½ or the North ½ of the East ½ of Block 36, j.t. lee Addition, City of

Jason Paul Ramirez, Danny Lynn Ramirez, Randy Abernathy (In

9217 Knox County Appraisal District v. Jimmy Earl Dockins A 132' x 200' tract of land, more or less, out of Block 2, Reeves and Musser Addition, City of Munday

9228 Knox County Appraisal District v. G.W. Halford Lots 1 and 2, Block 5, Original Townsite of the Town of Vera

9229 Knox County Appraisal District v. Hugh H. Jones, Mary Adelaide Bush, LP Jones, Jr., John Ed Jones and Gertrude Curtis Jones The North ½ of Lot 4, Block 5, Original Townsite of the Town of

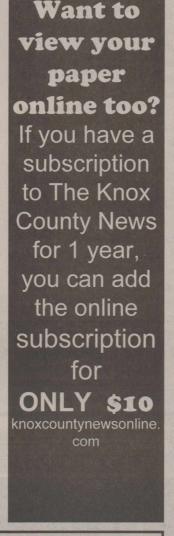
9230 Knox County Apprasial District v. Lura Cornell 09CKITT Henderson & Erickson, Section 67, Block 13, H & TC Survey, A-111, 0.003327, R.I.

> Knox County Appraisal District v. George C. Gray The East ½ of Lot 5 and the East ½ of Lot 6, Block 125, Reeves and Musser Addition, City of Munday

Or upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion thereof to satisfy said judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest and costs of suit and sale; subject, however, to the right of redemption, the defendants or any person having interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the period of time and in the manner provided by law, and subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interest therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest thereon and costs of suit and sale, and the proceeds of said sale to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

DATED September 2, 2010 at Benjamin Texas

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#### USDA seeks applications from producers to conduct renewable energy feasibility studies

September 7, 2010 Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the availability of funding under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) to conduct feasibility studies renewable energy systems for agriculture producers and rural small businesses.

"Renewable" energy production represents a promising revenue source for America's producers while meeting the nation's need for new sources of renewable energy," Vilsack said. "These grants will help encourage the development of viable renewable energy projects across the nation and help small business owners, farmers, ranchers and agriculture producers conduct feasibility studies that identify renewable energy opportunities."

"We're pleased to offer this grant availability to those who are interested in identifying projects that will

WASHINGTON, save money and conserve per study and can be up to energy," said Paco Valentin, Texas State Director of USDA Rural Development. "As we continue to find ways to make America more energy independent, the program this grant supports will become more and more important."

> Eligible feasibility studies for renewable energy systems include projects that will produce energy from wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydro power and hydrogenbased sources. The energy to be produced includes heat, electricity or fuel. For all projects, the system must be located in a rural area, must be technically feasible and must be owned by the applicant. More information is available by visiting <a href="http://">http://</a> www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP ReapGrants.html.

Under this notice, USDA is making \$3 million available to conduct feasibility studies. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis, limited to \$50,000

25% of total eligible project costs. deadline is October 5, 2010. The funding announced the Food, Conservation and physiologist and forage Energy Act of 2008. More agronomist information on how to apply has been working with the August 6, 2010 Federal the Texas Foundation Seed Register, page 47525

administers and manages hibiscus breeding project. more than 40 housing, businesses. communities, residents. farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America.RuralDevelopment has an existing portfolio of more than \$142 billion in loans and loan guarantees.

## AgriLife Research hibiscus breeder comes up with the blue

The application Malinowski is seeing blue, and he is very excited.

Forfouryears, Malinowski, today is authorized under an AgriLife Research plant in for funding is available in collaborators Steve Brown of and Dr. William Pinchak and USDA, through its Rural Shane Martin with AgriLife Development mission area, Research on a winter-hardy

The project was first business and community a private hobby of the infrastructure and facility inventors and became a part programs through a national of the strategic plan of the network of 6,100 employees Texas AgriLife Research located in the nation's capital and Extension Center at and 500 state and local Vernon in 2009. The flower offices. These programs are commercialization is a part designed to improve the of the research on noneconomic stability of rural traditional or under-utilized crops that have value because of drought tolerance.

> Malinowski's breeding goal has been to create a blue-flowering winter-hardy hibiscus.

"A blue pigment does not exist in this species, thus hybridizers have not been successful so far in creating a plant with blue flowers," he said. "There are a couple of recently introduced cultivars with plum and lavender flower color."

But now Malinowski has managed to breed a flower with the illusive color. He and his collaborators have created a number of lines with unique flower and foliage shape and color. The new hibiscus hybrids range in color from white through different shades of pink, lavender, bluish, red and

VERNON -- Dr. Dariusz magenta tones, and some of them have combinations of two or even three colors.

One line has dark maroon foliage with moderately big. white flowers that blend into a pink center with darker veins, Malinowski said. Flower size of these hybrids from miniature varies blooms 2 inches in diameter to the size of dinner plates, about 12 inches in diameter.

Malinowski has been using these cultivars in his breeding project for several generations. This year, they finally had one plant bloom with almost blue flowers, a significant breakthrough in efforts to create a blue hibiscus cultivar.

"It took four years of work and more than 1,000 crosses among three winterhardy hibiscus species to achieve this goal of creating an almost-blue flowering hibiscus hybrid," he said. The new hybrid is not perfect yet, Malinowski said.

"The flowers get a fantastic blue hue in shade, but in full sunlight they are still plumlavender-bluish," he said.

Brown said it is important to note that in the world of ornamentals, "blue" is interpreted to have a wide range of hues. Most ornamental blues have a purple or lavender more

"There are very few true blue flowers in any ornamental cultivar," he said. "Although I would call this flower 'almost blue' as Dariusz has, there is no question that this development is unique in known hardy hibiscus color

"My expectation is that we will see more vibrant colors in next year's F1s (cultivars) using this line as a parent," Brown said.

Malinowski said he will use this plant as a parent in his breeding project this summer, with the goal to stabilize the blue color in full sunlight and increase flower size from the current 7 inches to the "magic" 12inch diameter.

Breeding of ornamental plants is not the major research area of Malinowski, but he said he enjoys new challenges and the benefits of combining his private hobby with business.

"I never thought I would be an expert in breeding winter-hardy hibiscus," he said. "The knowledge I have gained during the past few years of intensive work on hardy hibiscus helps me reach most of the breeding objectives in a relatively short time."

What is next? Malinowski and his collaborators have a new challenge - to create an orange flowering hardy hibiscus.

This goal seems to be even more difficult, but not impossible, Malinowski said. It will require hybridization with a distantly related hibiscus species, which has shades of orange flowers. The researchers hope that with the help of molecular genetic tools they will be able to meet this objective.

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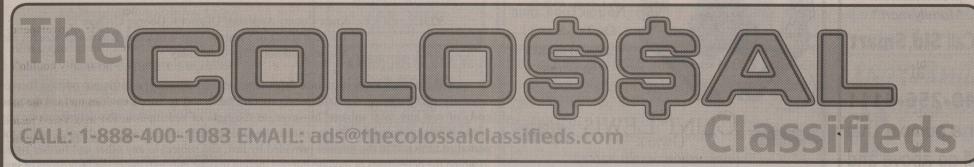
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# **OPINION**



## The Paperboy

## We need balance

#### By CHRIS BLACKBURN

What is the best outcome for the November midterm elections: the GOP winning the house and the Senate being split 50-50.

In my opinion, there are several reasons this would be good for the country.

1. BALANCE OF POWER: The Democrats have had power for three years (two years in the White House, four years in the House and three years in the Senate) with no improvement. Quite the contrary. The Republicans had control of Congress a few years back and did poorly. Obviously, when one party has too much power, the country suffers.

2. ECONOMIC UPSWING: The economy would improve immediately because Congress would slow spending and businesses would shift into more of an expansion mode. With the government spending like Paris Hilton and passing the buck to taxpayers and businesses, those that are making money are keeping it and no one is hiring.

3. A TEAM WITH EXPERIENCE: A resounding win in November might send a loud enough message to the White House to make President Obama a little more moderate in his approach to the economy. Obama's biggest economic error was the team he built led by Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner. The guy is a moron, and he may be the best on the bunch. Why Obama chose to pick his people from universities instead of the business world is beyond me. There's a huge difference between school and the real world and with no experience in business, why on earth

did he go with these duds? He needs to start fresh.

4. POLITICAL STYMIES ARE GOOD: It may seem like nothing gets done when neither party is in control when in fact, there is much more compromise and what does get done is usually cheaper on the tax payer (because of less pork) and more beneficial to Americans.

5. CONTROL OF THE BORDER: Neither Bush nor Obama have made wise decisions concerning the border and illegal immigrants. It's simple, we have laws on the books on how to become a U.S. citizen. ENFORCE THE LAWS! Shut the border down and force those wanting to be Americans to go through the proper channels.

Last week I was asked if I thought Obama could be reelected.

"Of course he can," I replied.

I received a puzzled look because the person asking obviously though he could not be reelected.

If the Republicans take the House and narrow the gap in the Senate or make it a 50-50 spit, then the chances of Obama getting reelected improve drastically.

Those newbies running for Congress are running on the issues I've mentioned above. If their victories improve the country simply because our government has moved toward the center, Obama can claim his leadership and communication skills led to bipartisanship and improved the country.

The political parties are masters of the spin and Obama has more charisma than anyone on the right ... at least the names that are thrown out there now.

Seriously, pretend it's 2012 and things are humming. President Obama can claim ending one war and maybe two, an improved economy, border security, etc... All of the sudden, his resume starts looking pretty good. All he has to do is hold off Hilary Clinton in the primary and he's the nominee.

If he faces a dud Republican in the general election, he's probably reelected. The familiar names from the GOP rumored to be considering a run - Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich, Rudy Giuliani, etc. - would not be able to unseat Obama.

Now, if someone like Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal decides to run for the White House, then it might be a horse race. Jindal showed a lot of brains and grit during the BP oil disaster and he could be formidable.

The reality is Obama's policies have not helped this country. He's had the advantage of his party in full control and they have not produced. Blame Bush? That doesn't fly anymore. Most know Speaker Nancy Pelosi has had the House since 2006 and things have gone down hill since. Likewise, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has had the Senate since 2007.

The Democrats had it all and instead of pulling the country out of a recession, their policies have done nothing to improve the economic outlook. This country needs balance and hopefully, we've finally learned that lesson.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

## Other Opinions

## Corporations Fail in America

#### By REBEHAH RAST

The government's answers to America's problems are to spend and tax.

It is easy to see the results of those tactics: less productivity, limited competition, fewer jobs and a sinking economy.

These negative results not only affect individual citizens, but America's corporations as well.

America's corporate tax rate sits as the second highest in the world at 35 percent; second only to Japan, which is currently in the process of lowering its tax rate.

Though individual taxpayers might not be bothered that corporations in the U.S. face such a high tax rate — in fact, many might be in support of it as some corporations that conduct business internationally pay different rates. But the truth is, the corporate tax rate should be of concern to all American citizens

After all, who do you think corporations pass their taxes on to?

"The corporate tax doesn't tax corporations, but taxes people. The corporations pass them down," says Bill Thomas, former Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the tax law writing committee of the House of Representatives.

That alone should make people think that America's corporate tax rate should be cut. Not only are citizens picking up the costs, but having a high corporate rate makes America much less competitive compared to all other countries.

America tacks on a tax on products that come in and out of the U.S. Most other coun-

tries subsidize or have an allowance for their products so they aren't double taxed.

"We are at a disadvantage with every country with whom we import/export," former Chairman Thomas says.

Because America's tax system includes a form of double taxation on products, consumers are often faced with a choice: if you see a German product on the shelf for \$5 and the same American product on the shelf for \$7, which one are you more likely to purchase?

"The effect is double taxation," says Johanna Schneider, executive director of external relations for the Business Roundtable. "You have to level the playing field, compete head to head on products."

Of the 187 corporations at Business Roundtable, more than 95 percent of them conduct business overseas. America would do best to follow the corporate taxation models of other countries so it can be a viable competitor in today's world.

But instead, Congress passed a new tax package for multinational corporations. This legislation diminishes the actions in the tax code available for U.S. businesses abroad, therefore not allowing them to minimize their tax burden.

"It denies the ability of U.S. organizations to take tax credits," Schneider says. "This reduces the returns to the U.S."

Congress wanted to ensure that corporations pay their fair share of taxes into the treasury, but instead they are punishing these businesses.

"The goal of all policy makers is to make the U.S. competitive, yet one of the most uncompetitive laws is the corporate tax," Sch-

neider notes. "U.S. companies are penalized for bringing money back into the U.S."

The international tax code is complicated and confusing, much like the U.S. tax code. Thanks to recent action by Congress, this new law on multinational corporations will make it even more complicated.

"They are trying to get money out of multinational corporations," says former Chairman Thomas. "If they start taking too much then it is not advantageous to the U.S., but detrimental to the U.S."

By taxing corporations in the U.S. at a higher rate it effectively impacts investment in the country. Schneider says that upwards of 50 percent of revenues in the U.S. come from outside the country. Furthermore, 90 to 95 percent of customers in the world are outside the U.S., she goes on to say.

If the U.S. takes on the highest corporate tax rate in the world, it will be detrimental to the growth, employment and the economy of the country.

"There is a real penalty on investments being done in the U.S.," says Alan Viard, resident scholar with American Enterprise Institute (AEI). "We are really behind the curve on this when our solution is higher taxes."

Many countries around the world have lowered their rates from an average of 38 to 27 percent from 1992 to 2006. Under President Reagan, the U.S. corporate tax rate went from 46 to 34 percent, which greatly helped America's competitive positioning. But in 1993, President Clinton bumped the U.S. corporate tax rate back up to 35 percent, while other countries around the world were working to lower their tax rates.

"The corporate tax rate is harming competition," says Scott A. Hodge, president of The Tax Foundation. "It should be moved from its current rate which is 35 percent to 20 percent."

Viard notes that America's high corporate tax rate doesn't help with the current high levels of unemployment either.

"It won't bring jobs home to the U.S.," he says.

Former Chairman Thomas adds, "If you want to encourage and influence behavior you put credits and tax cuts on it."

Like personal income taxes, the more people have to pay, the less likely they are to invest or save. Corporations work the same way.

America's leadership needs to decide if the country is going to dive off the cliff economically or take a few steps back and work to encourage growth and business investments back into the system. America is soon becoming the country with the highest corporate tax in the world. This will do nothing but stop corporations from doing business in America, meaning less revenue, jobs, competition

There is an urgent need for growth in America. If done effectively, a restructuring of the corporate tax laws in the U.S. would bring growth, sustainability, investment and jobs.

America has seen the ineffectiveness of "Obamanomics." Maybe it's time for "Reaganomics" to make a comeback. President Reagan was the last to lower the corporate tax rate in 1986. It is one tax law out of many that deserves to be revamped.

## A "Recovery In Name Only"

#### By HOWARD RICH

To the eight million Americans who have lost their jobs during the "Great Recession," the so-called recovery our nation is currently experiencing hasn't been very "stimulating."

In fact it's been downright depressing — and conditions are not likely to improve anytime soon.

With virtually all economic indicators retreating and a barrage of job-killing tax hikes scheduled to take effect in 2011, a dreaded "double-dip" recession is imminent — despite repeated assurances to the contrary from the administration of President Barack Obama. Also with trillions of taxpayer dollars still being spent, lent, pledged and printed in the name of supporting this phantom "recovery," government continues to amass a debt so large that its interest payments alone will consume more than a third of federal income tax revenue by 2015.

Far from preventing an economic collapse, the costly federal interventionist policies of Obama and former President George W. Bush have sown the seeds for a larger, longer economic downturn — mirroring the failed "government-first" approach of the 1930s that managed to turn a recession into full-blown depression.

Just as government cannot tax and spend its way out of bad economic times (then or now), the Obama administration is discovering that it can't talk its way out of them either — although that hasn't stopped the authors of "Obamanomics"

from attempting to do so.

A year ago U.S. Federa

A year ago U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke declared that the U.S. recession was over — a sentiment that was echoed by Obama's top economic advisor in December of 2009. In April of this year, Obama's other top economist said that there would be no "double-dip" recession, comments which prompted a flurry of rosy rhetoric from the White House.

"We can say beyond a shadow of a doubt today we are headed in the right direction," Obama said during a speech back in May. "All those tough steps we took, they're working, despite all the naysayers who were predicting failure a year ago."

Around this time, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden also predicted a "Summer of Recovery" in which the U.S. economy would create "between 250,000 jobs a month and 500,000 jobs a month."

Clearly, that hasn't happened — nor is it going to happen. The official U.S. unemployment rate remains stuck at just under 10 percent, while the broader "underemployment rate" is stuck at 16.5 percent. Neither rate has moved for months, although both are about to start moving again — albeit in the wrong direction.

Last month, the U.S. economic growth rate for the second quarter was revised downward from 2.4 percent to 1.6 percent — with roughly the same anemic rate of growth predicted for the third quarter. Meanwhile existing home sales plunged by 27.2 percent — the largest one-month decline

ever — and new home sales fell by 12.4 percent to their lowest level ever.

Just as it did in 1929, the U.S. government is on the verge of turning a recession into a depression by virtue of its costly excess interventionism. In 1930, a year after the stock market collapsed, the U.S. unemployment rate stood at 8.7 percent. In 1932 — after an ill-conceived government tariff, massive public works program and the largest tax hike in American history — the unemployment rate had nearly tripled to 23.6 percent. Six years later — after the implementation of Franklin Roosevelt's "New Deal" — it was still at 19 percent.

Also, let's not forget government's starring role in the years leading up to this crisis — a decade of overspending and politically-correct lending practices that pumped trillions of dollars into mortgages for people who simply couldn't afford them.

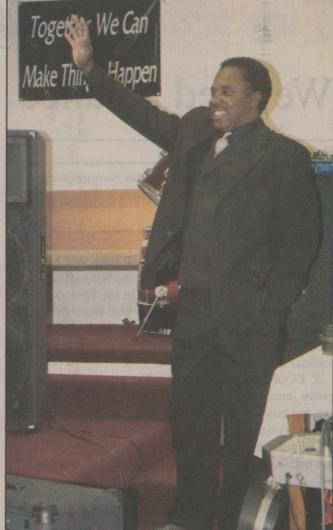
Amazingly Obama and his allies still cannot read the handwriting on the wall, as just a few weeks ago Vice-President Biden reiterated that there was "no doubt we're moving in the right direction" economically.

Despite the rhetoric of "recovery," America's economic hole is clearly getting deeper — and the only way out is a return to the free market, limited government principles on which our nation was founded.

Let's hope our elected officials realize that before it is too

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Photos by Tamara Smar

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