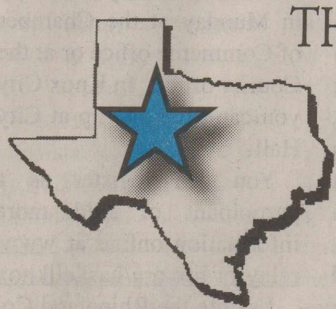


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THE

KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

10 PAGES PLUS INSERTS
VOLUME XXIX

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010

75 CENTS
NUMBER 56

Knox City Hounds are the Army Strong Team of the week



The Knox City Greyhounds were voted the State wide Army Strong Team of the week. This honor comes after they defeated Blanket 101-56 last Friday Night.

A Thankful Heart Community Thanksgiving dinner

Tamara Smart

A beautiful thing about living in a small community like the ones in Knox County is the family feeling one knows as they make their daily rounds. Be it at the grocery store, diving down the road, going to one of the local restaurants, getting gas or whatever they may be doing, there is always a friendly familiar face greeting them, asking about their health, or whatever other pleasantries that are acceptable at that moment in time. While some

may think that it is frustrating at times that a quick trip to Lawrence brothers can turn into a social hour; those same people in retrospect may find the love of their neighbors refreshing.

On Thursday Nov. 25, also known as Thanksgiving Day 2010, a groups of thankful people in the Knox Community have decided to cancel their traditional "family meal" and have opt to host a community Thanksgiving

See HEART on Page 9

County Commissioners attend Educational Conference in Vernon



VERNON- Knox county commissioners, Jimmy Urbanczyk, Johnny McCown, Dan Godsey, and Johnny Birkenfeld and Judge Travis Floyd attended the November 4, Rolling Plains County Commissioners Court Conference at the Texas AgriLIFE Research and Extension Center, said Lorrie Coop, county Extension agent.

Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service District III includes Archer, Baylor, Childress, Clay, Cottle, Dickens, Foard, Hardeman, Haskell, Jack, Kent, King, Knox, Montague, Motley, Palo Pinto, Parker, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise and Young counties.

"This conference provided a wealth of information for county commissioners," Agent Coop said. The conference agenda included AgriLIFE Updates, Dealing with the Unexpected (Natural Disasters), the Control of Feral Hogs, Tax Appraisal Caps, and Ad Valor Appraisal of Oil and Gas Mineral Interest. Legislative Updates from State Representatives Rick Hardcastle, and

David Farabee along with a Legislative Updates Affecting Counties. The conference also provided county commissioners an excellent opportunity for networking with their peers on the Rolling Plains and they received six (6) commissioners' continuing educational units. The November 4, conference was co-sponsored by Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service and the Continuing Education Department at Vernon College. For more information on statewide programs and services available through Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, please call the Knox county Extension office at 940-459-2651. Educational programs of the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting or program are encouraged to contact the Knox county Extension office.

This week, The Regional bound Greyhound team found out they had been voted the "Army Strong Team of the Week." This is a statewide honor for just 1 team in 6 man, after the big win for

the Hounds over #7 rated (and previously undefeated) Blanket Tigers. Coach Steele and the boys found out about this honor on Monday afternoon. Congrats to the staff and the boys for this

Honor. It shows how much we have come as a program and the heart this group of young men have shown. There if no better group of young men that deserve this honor.

Photo by Daveine Clark

Let's keep this great season going! Come out and lets support the Army Strong Team of The Week as they take on Walnut Spring at Early on Friday night.

Commissioners court met Nov. 8

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 8th day of November, 2010, there was conducted a REGULAR Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Knox County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Benjamin, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE COURT MET AT 1:30 P.M. 8th day of November, 2010. Present at the meeting were County Judge, Commissioner, Precinct No.1, Commissioner, Precinct No.2, Commissioner, Precinct No.3, Commissioner, Precinct No.4, County Clerk.

Knox County Judge Travis Floyd, called the Regular Meeting to order at

1:30 P.M. Commissioners Johnny Birkenfeld, Jimmy Urbanczyk, Dan Godsey, and Johnny McCown were present. Also attending were County Attorney Megan Suarez, County Clerk Annette Offutt, County Treasurer Rosie Ake, 911 Coordinator Pam Reed and Spike Brian. The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the office of the County Clerk October 6, 2010.

Judge Floyd introduced the new custodian Gilbert Navarez.

Mr. Navarez is filling the vacancy created when former custodian Maria Ham resigned.

There were no Public Comments.

Spike Brian was on hand representing several Munday farmers, who have an issue concerning the narrow road and the berms on the sides of CR 4721 East of the John Deere House.

Judge Floyd asked for a

motion to recess until 3:00 P.M. to allow members of the Court to attend funeral services for Jackie Young. The motion was made by Commissioner Birkenfeld with a second by Commissioner McCown all agreed. Court recessed.

Judge Floyd called the meeting back to order at 3:00 P.M.

Commissioner Birkenfeld made the motion to accept Kent Trainham's

Bids of \$200.00 each for Parcel #4362 and Parcel #7005 in the original Townsite town of Goree.

The Court agreed unanimously to meet Monday November 15, 2010 to canvass the votes for the November 2, 2010 General Election, consider placing a bid for a vehicle from the Sheriff's Office and Consider nomination to the Knox County Appraisal Board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Charles Griffith.

The Extension, Aging

Services Report, 911 Report, and Road and Bridge Report required no activity.

Pam Reed discussed the new Global Connect Emergency System.

Commissioner McCown made the motion to approve Financials, Budget and pay the bills for October, 2010; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Godsey, the motion passed five to zero.

There being no further business to come before the Court Commissioner Birkenfeld made the motion to adjourn seconded by Judge Floyd, all agreed. The meeting of the Court was ADJOURNED.

APPROVED this 13th of December, 2010

TRAVIS FLOYD
COUNTY JUDGE
ATTEST: COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK
OF
THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF
KNOX COUNTY,
TEXAS

Blood drive to be held Nov. 22

The Meek Blood Center bloodmobile will be at Knox County Hospital on Monday, Nov. 22 from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. This blood drive will take place the week of Thanksgiving, and a good turnout of donor will help increase the blood supply before a busy holiday weekend.

"There was a record turnout of forty-two donors at the blood drive in Knox County Hospital on September 23. I appreciate all of the support we received from donors in Knox

city and from the donors in the surrounding communities," said Frances Baker, donor recruiter. "Those who donated blood are then eligible to give blood again on Nov. 22."

Donors must be at least 17 years old (age 16 with parental consent) weigh a minimum of 120 lbs and be in good health. All donors must present a photo ID. Those who have eligibility questions may call the Meek Blood Center at 325-670-2798 or visit the website at www.meekbloodcenter.org.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Knox City Hounds! Greyhounds are playing in the Regional Football game this Friday. To send off the team appropriately, there will be a Pep Rally in the KC High School Gym at 12:30 on Friday afternoon, followed by school being dismissed at 1:00 p.m. Then at 7:30, the Greyhounds will take on Walnut Spring at Early. Come out and support your

The KCHS Junior class now has tickets for their Thanksgiving dinner, which will be held in November 13 from 5:30 to 7:30. Tickets are \$8/ adult and \$4/ child. You can get your ticket from any KCHS Junior or at the Front Office of the High School. The Knox County Retired

Teacher's Association will meet Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 2:30 p.m. at the O'Brien First Baptist Church. The meeting will be hosted by Billie Walker, a program will be presented by Knox County Ag Agent, Anthony Munoz, and all retired teachers are invited to attend. Christmas in November will be November 27 in downtown Knox City.



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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 a.m.
 No Sunday Evening Service

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -

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

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

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.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien

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 KYRP 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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God's Promises

Adrin Fletcher Munday Church of Christ View From The Pulpit.....

While the Creator formed our physical bodies to fit and be sustained in this world, those same bodies have but a limited lifetime. Accident, age, and disease ultimately bring death to each one. Yet, we have been blessed with creative and intelligent minds which seek to delay our inevitable end.

Most of you know that I have been affiliated with the efforts of the American Cancer Society Relay For Life efforts here in Knox County for several years.

It is time to start working on another Relay For Life effort.

The next Relay will take place in a cooperative effort with the good folks in Haskell County. The Haskell/Knox Relay for Life will be held on April 1, 2011 in Haskell at the Haskell Indian Football Stadium. The event is planned to start at 7 PM and run through the night till 7 AM on Saturday morning the 2nd.

Knox County is participating in this joint effort with hopes that the combined communities of Knox County and Haskell County can rotate hosting this event and thus not impact any one community adversely. You, here in Knox County, have proved to be

extraordinary supporters of our efforts in the past both in Munday and in Knox City. Now we have the chance to help Haskell County get fired up for the fight against Cancer.

Team Captains are needed to form local folks in Munday and Knox City into teams. If you are willing to serve as a team captain, contact Adrin Fletcher in Munday, Betty Johnston in Knox City, Stacia Leach in Haskell (940) 864-3448, or Luis Olivera in Haskell (940) 864-8577. Knox County Team Captains can turn in donations and funds collected to Adrin Fletcher or Joel Smith. Team Captain

meetings will be held once a month in Haskell and will not start until January. Local questions can be directed through Adrin for those in Knox Co.

Luminaria reservation forms are already available in Munday at the Chamber of Commerce office or at the Courier office. In Knox City you can pick one up at City Hall.

You can register as a participant or find more information online at www.relayforlife.org/haskellknox. I salute the Rhineland Co-Op Gin for being the first corporate sponsor for the 2011 Haskell/Knox Relay For Life.

Obituary

Victor Vasquez

Victor Del Torro Vasquez, Jr., 61 of El Campo, died on November 14, 2010. He was born on June 15, 1949 in Derby Tx. to the late Corina Del Torro Vasquez and Victor Vasquez, Sr. He was self employed.

He is survived by his father Victor Vasquez, Sr. of Knox City, wife Raquel Vasquez of El Campo, sons Dennis Wayne Vasquez and wife Joyce of Grand Prairie,

Melissa of El Campo, Ricky Maria of Arlington, Roman David Vasquez of El Campo, daughter Wendy Kayla Vasquez Arrambide and husband Marc of El Campo, 12 grandchildren, sisters Sylvia Espinosa and husband Johnny of Knox City, Mary Aguirre and husband Raymond of Abilene, Norma Jones and husband Alex of Wylie, brothers Joe Vasquez of Fort Worth, Bobby Vasquez and wife

of El Campo, Ricky Vasquez and wife Diane of Knox City, Ruben Vasquez and wife Mary of Knox City and Jamie Vasquez and wife Faby of Knox City.

He was preceded in death by his mother.

Funeral Services will be held at 10 am on Friday, November 19, 2010, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rhineland.

Burial will follow at the Knox City Cemetery under

the direction of Mansell-Smith Funeral Home, Knox City.

A Rosary will be recited at 7pm at Mansell Smith Funeral Home in Knox City on Thursday. Pallbearers are Victor Vasquez, III, Roman Vasquez, Gilbert Vela, Jr., Ray Perez, Daniel Garcia and Marc Arrambide

Memorials in memory of Victor Vasquez, Jr. may be made to Houston Hospice-El Campo.

Truscott News

We are supposed to have some rain this week. Readers should know when they see the paper whether it rained Monday or not.

Jackie H. Young passed away Nov. 4 at Benjamin. He was born September 8, 1932 at Truscott to Wayne and Carmen (Adock) Young. Funeral Services Monday, Nov. 8 were held at the Benjamin Memorial Building and attended by a great number of relatives and friends. Burial was at the Benjamin Cemetery.

Jackie spent the first several years of his life in Truscott, where his father was a barber. In the early 1940s the family moved to Benjamin.

There Jackie met Mary Jane Melton, daughter of Mr and Mrs. Homer T. Melton. They later married and she followed him to the Philippines where he was stationed by the Navy during the Korean War. After the War, he became

a Texas Game Warden and remained in that service until he retired.

Then, they moved back to Benjamin from Lubbock. Jackie was active in the Methodist Church there and in other local organizations.

He was survived by his wife, Mary Jane; two children, Jackie jr and Debbie of Baca Raton Florida; and grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Jackie was an important influence in the building of the Wichita Brazos museum He worked closely with his wife, who served as the chairman of the Knox County Historical Commission and Friends of the KCHD. Although Jackie himself held no office in Either organization, he frequently volunteered for fundraisers and to help build and maintain the building He served on many committees to promote the building, both in official and unofficial capacities. His behind the scenes work for the museum will be greatly missed.

Gordon and Irma Bell attended the funeral services at Crowell last week for Mrs. Mary Edna Knox, 92. Mrs. Knox's daughter, Bette Linda Bell, is married to Gordon's brother, Charlie Bell.

Edmund, Geraldine and Michael Tomanek attended the funeral of Mary Tomanek, widow of Jerry Tomanek on Friday at Seymour. Survivors are two daughters.

Kenneth Carroll said Sunday that they have no

news except that they have been enjoying sitting with the grandchildren.

Gordon and Irma Bell had weekend hunting visitors from Bryan, Texas. They were son Blake Bell and Chris Clarke, both Law Enforcement officers with the Bryan Police Department, and Chris is a Texas Ranger.

Joyce Williams spent Thursday and Friday night in Truscott. She attended Veterans Day events at Benjamin Thursday and intended to go back to Floydada on Friday morning, but the morning rain and the slick clay road away from the Jones ranch house made her decide to stay until the road dried out.

Jack and Clara Brown went to Wichita Falls on Friday She got new glasses and has retired the previous glasses which kept having a lens that fell out, and the previous glasses which were fine except for not being the correct prescription and having an earpiece held on by scotch tape.

Friday, Kay and Joe Tomanek of Boyd were in Truscott to attend Mary Tomanek's funeral. Saturday, Kay and mother-in-law, Geraldine Tomanek did a "ladies day out" shopping in Vernon.

Truscott is becoming something of a regional center for buying Wild Hogs. Jason Daniel is taking in around 100 wild hogs per day. Sellers are coming from quite a distance to unload their trapped catches, cool weather and better prices

have made the selling market better.

The Knox County Veteran's day event drew so many that those working the hamburger dinner at the Benjamin Memorial Center began to be afraid that they might run out of food. Profits from the meal went to support maintenance of the Knox County Veterans memorial site and help pay the cost of adding and help pay the cost of adding more veterans names to the wall every 5 years or so.

Visitors at the museum on Veterans Day included those who came to warm up while waiting for the program to begin and those who came in after eating at the Ex-Students Memorial center. Many were first time visitors.

Uniforms, medals, framed records of individual veterans services, and the veterans' albums were all on display. Especially interesting was the album about Gold Star veteran, Richard Albus, created by the Albus family.

It had letters written by Richard to his mother during WWII, letters she wrote and much more- including those letter written to the family about Richard after he was brought back to the United States for burial.

Not many years ago, people were asking when the shell of a building standing locked but unfinished would be reopened as a museum. It's finished. It's open. People come everyday. Knox County residents and passers-bys. Have you been?

The Knox County News

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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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COWPOKES • By Ace Reid

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"Ma, I know you jist spent \$3 gittin' yore hair fixed, but you don't want me to git my \$25 hat wet!"

SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

I hope everyone knows we have a new chamber director, Amy. I'm sure it will be as much of a pleasure to work with her as it has been to work with all the directors in the past.

Thanksgiving is around the corner and there has been a meal with all the trimmings planned at the Church of Christ Fellowship Hall on Thanksgiving Day for all those who would like to attend. If you have no family, are single, have parents or family out of town or your family is in need of togetherness, please come. The fliers will be out soon. You can find the phone numbers to call and give us your name and number so that we know you are going to attend. If you are homebound, please call the numbers listed and someone will take you your order. There will be a date and time for last calls so they will have enough food. Please call whether it's for you or someone you know. In this small community there is so much to be thankful for. Some of us have been here all our lives. We are truly a family.

News has come from El Campo. Victor Vasquez Jr. has had a turn for the worst, but we keep praying for God

to be with him and his wife, Raquel; and all their beautiful children and grandchildren.

There is a young little girl with a great personality whose name is Madison Neill who was on her way to Fort Worth Cooks Hospital to see her doctor about neck surgery. The process started in July. Her parents are Matt Meuth and Hope Neill, and a brother named Skyler. Hope all of her check-ups go well.

Visit with Danny Wainscott who says hopefully Cody will be coming home for a visit next week, more next week about all the reunions.

Wednesday I spent the day in Abilene and visited most of our people in the hospital. I got to see Alfredo Abila, Frank Garcia and Linda Olivia's mom. I didn't get to make it to see Danny Reese because I was so tired and my leg and back were tired. Please keep all of them in our prayers.

Thursday I visited with my girls and everyone else. I saw tom, Tonya Ledesma's dad, who is back in town recuperating from a left hand injury. He is ready to get back to work.

Today we received bad news from my sister. Her husband has gone into a coma. I don't know what

will happen in the next few hours, days or weeks, but he is at home. They live in El Campo.

Alfredo returned home from the hospital a little weak and tired but ok. His little ones were so excited to see their daddy home.

Janie and Moon are planning on leaving Sunday for a while. I believe God knows what's best and we will be prepared for what awaits us.

The results on Frank Garcia are that he has MS. That is all the info I have for right now.

Linda Abila's mom had a small stroke and will be transferred to the Hendrix rehab for therapy to get her back on her feet very soon.

This last weekend Danny Rios accompanied his daughter in celebration on her sweet sixteen along with lots of friends and family.

Knox City put the stomp on the other team at last week's playoff game. They have been due for a championship for a long time coming. This maybe their year. And the weather has even turned into good cool football weather.

Today is the Methodist Church bazaar and of course it's going to be crowded, with lots of great food, prizes and silent auctions.

Sunday morning and our fears have been met. My brother-in-law, Victor Vasquez Jr, has passed away to be with our Savior. My sister, Raquel has informed me that they will be here later in the week for his final resting place. Please pray for this family and us as we get through this hard time.

All the details of Victor's service (as of Sunday evening) was they have a rosary in Tuesday evening in El Campo and we travel his body here for services here at the Rhineland Church and then to the Knox City cemetery where he will be buried. The family will be staying with me.

I would also like to apologize to Ronnie and Quinn Guess on the moving story. I misunderstood and am really sorry. Hey, what else am I going to do without the little cowboys in our block? I love and enjoy watching them learn their first bike ride, and roping anything they see. We've got a great bunch of neighbors and friends.

Thank you guys, it's great to hear from you about my KC News.

Love you all
God Bless Our troops-
Sammie Ollfield



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.

If somebody steals your driver's license, credit cards, Social Security number and checkbook, you wait for the other shoe to drop. You hope they'll try to use of on the credit cards and get caught on the spot. You picture the cops slapping the handcuffs on with a nice loud click.

If they don't make use of your checks or credit cards, you realize they've decided simply to steal your identity. Unless they get a job and start paying into your Social Security account, you're in trouble.

I've never had anything stolen. I'm more of a loser. Once I lost all my credit cards on a city bus in Washington, D.C. I was going to church. When I arrived home in Texas a few weeks later, someone had mailed the cards back to me anonymously. They included a passage from the Bible. If you're going to lose your credit cards on public transportation in the Nation's capitol, the best time to do it is probably on Sunday morning.

Meanwhile, I'd reported all the cards as lost, JC Penney to Visa. But they didn't all get cancelled. For some of the cards a stipulation went into effect that my signature would have to be checked. That's how I remember it. Anyway, careless soul that I am, when I unexpectedly got all the original cards back, I didn't cull any. I just put them with the new ones I'd gotten to replace some of them. What a mess of cards I had.

Not too long after that, I bought a CD player and inadvertently handed the

clerk my cancelled Visa card.

"I have to confiscate this card," he said. "It's been stolen."

"No problem," I said. "That's one I lost and got back."

I then handed him my new Visa card. The transaction went through fine.

The name on both cards was "Hanaba Munn Noack." So, if the clerk thought the first card was stolen, who'd he think I stole it from? The other Hanaba Munn Noack? If he believed my lost and found story, he didn't show it. He just took the card. Company policy, I guess. Finders keepers.

Either way, I didn't protest. It was one way to rid myself of a card I shouldn't have kept in the first place.

Next, I got a letter from my bank scolding me for using the supposedly "stolen" card and asking me to pay \$50 toward the reward the bank had to pay for the recovery of the "stolen" card. No kidding.

When I asked the bank the total amount they had to pay, they told me \$55. I paid it all. That's what my father would have done.

That's my story. My cousin Lawrence's story:

In the days before automated gas pumps at service stations, the guy in line to pay in front of Lawrence handed the clerk a credit card. After a moment the clerk handed the card back saying, "I can't take this card. It's stolen."

My kind of clerk.

4-H News

By Hayden King

On October 12th, 4-H had their second meeting of the year with 10 members present. We elected our officers for the 2010 - 2011 year. They are: President - Brylee White, Vice President - Kate Baker, Reporter - Hayden King, Treasurer - McKenzie King, Secretary - Kayla Hunter, Photographer - Brogan White, and Safety Patrol Tipper - Brody White. Our program for our October meeting was Fire

Safety given by Anthony Adkins. He showed us his gear and the parts of a truck. We all learned a lot.

Any 4-Her that plans to show animals must attend Quality Counts on October 30th at the Munday Show Barn. For further information please contact Anthony Munoz.

The County Food show is coming up soon. The District Food Show will be in Vernon on November 13th. We also have Food Quiz Bowl and

the Food Challenge Team events coming up real soon. We are forming our teams at this moment. If you are interested in either, please contact club leader Amanda Adkins or either extension agent.

Our club has decided to do our local fundraiser in November. We will be selling raffle tickets for a Scentsy Basket valuing at a little more than 100.00. The 4-Hers will be going door to door selling the raffle

tickets for 5.00 apiece. The winner will be drawn at our December meeting. The winner will be contacted and also listed in the newspaper. The money we raise will help us with our T-Shirts and also the other community projects we want to do. We appreciate all the community support we get! Our goal is to make the best better!

If anyone is interested in 4-H, please contact Lorri Coop or Anthony Munoz at 940-459-2651.

Knox County Market Place

Help Wanted

Driver needed- Must have a Class A CDL and clean background. Oilfield experience is a plus. Benefits and Pay according to experience. Call Wendal at 940-256-2458

Experienced Operators needed for pipeline project. call 800-657-9190 and ask for Wade

The City of Knox City Administrator, Barbara E. Rector, gave notice of retirement to the Council with the effective date of April 30, 2011. The City is now accepting applications with resume for this position and will continue until the position is filled. The position requires management and public skills, with excellent finance and grant knowledge. More information can be obtained at City Hall, 902 E. Main or call 940-658-3313. EOE

Certified Nurses Aide position is currently available. Please apply in person at 605 S. Ave F, Knox City

City of Munday (Pop: 1500) is accepting applications for the position of Director of Public Works. Under the direction of the City Manager, responsibilities include management of water/waste water treatment distribution and collection systems as well as streets, parks, drainage, garbage, construction and any other areas assigned. Will direct, manage and supervise daily operations as well as develop a department budget. Should be familiar with TCEQ reporting and have good communication skills. Requirements: Strong leader able to supervise and motivate employees. TCEQ "C" Surface water and wastewater license preferred and must have a valid Texas driver's license. To apply, contact Dwayne Bearden, City Manager at (940) 422-

Pray for our troops!

4331. City of Munday is and EOE. Applications will be taken through December 10,2010.

The City of O'Brien is accepting applications for City Secretary position Call 940-657-4263 or 940-658-1144 for an application.

For Sale

For Sale: We have residential and commercial properties, farm/ranch lands for sale. We have buyers looking for land. Call Counts Real Estate (940)658-3390.

WacoPetro- Buying Knox & Haskell counties oil production, royalties, working interest, stripper wells, abandoned wells. 940-657-5526. 117 N. central, Knox City.

1998 Buick Regal G.S. 3800 supercharged V-6, Black, Grey Leather Interior, Loaded, Looks and Runs Great. First \$ 3200.00 Cash (940)657-5538

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.

Garage Sale

Yard Sale on Friday, Nov. 19. 1004 SE 3rd Street. Baby Clothes, Winter Boys Clothes, Changing Table and much more.

Legal Notice

Notice of Bid
The City of Munday will be accepting bids for the replacement of a roof on the City Hall building. For further information, contact Dwayne Bearden at (940) 422-4331. Bids will be taken until 5:00 p.m. November 23, 2010.

Find us on Facebook!

Legal Notice

The City of Benjamin will be accepting proposals for an audit of financial records to comply with the TxCDBG Program. Proposals will be accepted until November 9, 2010. Send proposals to the City of Benjamin, P.O. Box 286, Benjamin, TX 79505. The City of Benjamin reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Miscellaneous

Now buying pecans. Drop off station, Knox County Cleaners. \$.80 for #1 pecans.

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• Haskell Co. 805 AC., near Rule, 600 Ac. Cult. • 781 AC., near Rule, Tanks, Hunting • 654 AC., Irrigation Pivots, CONTRACT 290 AC. • 324 AC., 1/2 irrigated, 1/2 CRP • 300+ AC farmland. Irrigation and side roll and 165 ac. Some fenced. Two ground tanks, dove, quail, deer & turkey. Off Hwy 6- South of Rochester. Excellent for peanuts, wheat, cotton or cattle. • 434 acres, 160 cultivated, fenced, set of cattle pens, 2 tanks, on Hwy 84. Call for details

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Thanks for reading!

KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES MENUS FOR NOV. 22ND TO NOV. 26TH

Monday Nov. 22nd Spaghetti Salad Glazed Carrots Garlic Toast Banana Pudding	Wednesday Nov. 24th, 25th & 26th Closed
Tuesday Nov. 23rd Hamburgers/Cheese Slices Chips Pork & Beans Lettuce, Tomato, Onion & Pickles 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 can't be taken after 10 a.m. and need to be picked up after 11 a.m.. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

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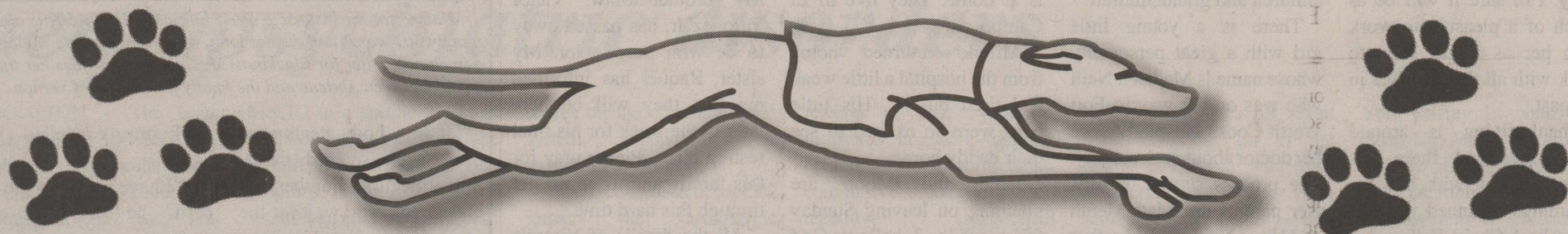
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center
Knox City, TX

2009 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches	Snow inches
10/25	54/85		
10/26	48/76		
10/27	44/75		
10/28	37/69		
10/29	34/74		
10/30	46/91		
10/31	54/92		
Total Rainfall for month		1.01	
2010 Rainfall (ytd)		36.03	6.6

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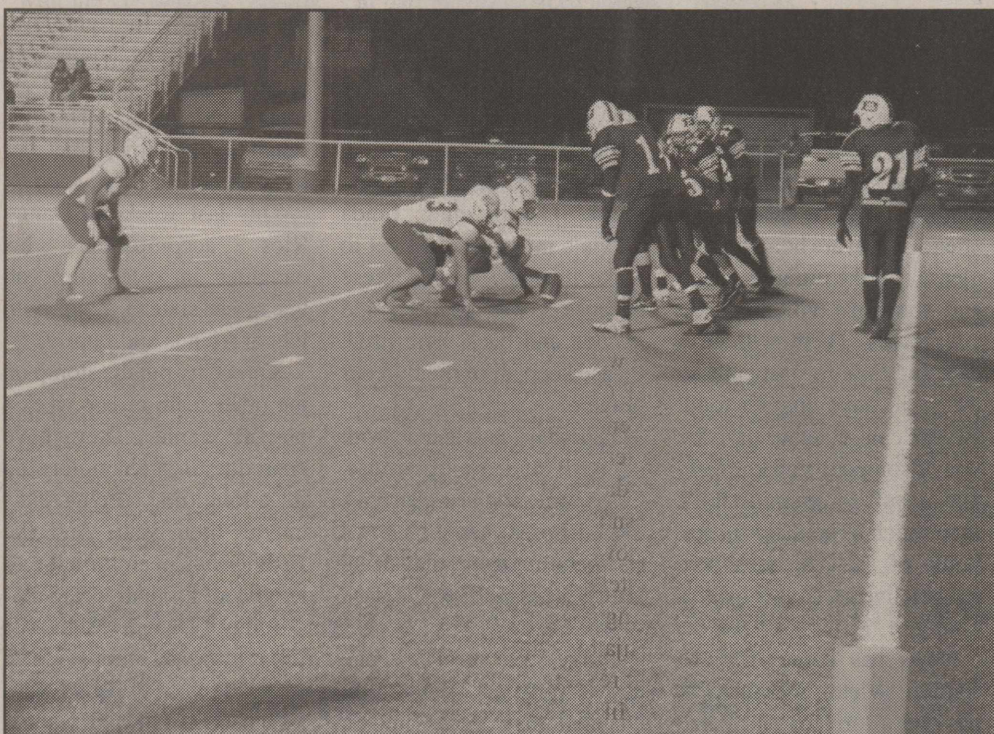
KNOX CITY SPORTS



Knox City Greyhounds beat Blanket, regional bound



The Hounds offense rushed through Blanket's defense with no problem last Friday night, as the Knox City fans cheered them on.



The Knox City Greyhounds line up on the three yard line, ready to make another amazing touchdown that led to a 101-56 victory in the Bi-District game. They are now going to Regionals on Friday night.

Jeff Stanfield

Wow- the thrashing the Hounds put on the Tigers last Friday was amazing. And they said that the outcome would be the other way around. The Hounds went into the game as 45-point underdogs; and left as 45-point winners.

It was all offense in the 1st with 6 minutes to go. After the first quarter, the score was 22-22. The first play of scrimmage, Ryan Ledesma took it to the house for a 8-0 lead. Then it was the Tigers turn. This went back and forth for a while. Then lights out after a turnover- it was

Marcell Lewis, the leading rusher for the Hounds with 15 carries for 285 yards and 6 Td's. Ledesma has 205 yds on 15 carries. The Hounds had over 600 yds of offense and scored over 100 points for the first time in school history.

The best part was the defense, which held the Tigers to 8 yards rushing. The Hounds did give up some passing yards, but in the 2nd quarter Knox City dominated the Tigers with physical play on both ends. Blake Jones ear-holed a poor Tiger, and I thought he would need a

Photo by Daveine Clark

backboard. The Tigers looked like they had just left a college all nighter as they went into the locker room. They were stumbling and limping and not wanting anymore.

The ironic thing is their coach before the game at a coaches meeting was told that Trent would purchase the trophy and the winner would pay them for the trophy. One of the assistance kept saying "so we will buy the trophy right"? He repeated this about 3 times. Well- guess what Louis Baty will pay for that trophy. Being tighter

than a Jewish banker he will be more than happy to pay for another one this week.

This was a complete victory for the Hounds; defense, big play's on both sides of the ball and complete domination from a physical stand point. The fans brought a lot of noise and the boys

showed they could respond to a big game.

The players of the week are the entire team. Big Hit is Blake Jones. On the defensive side of the ball Ledesma had 2 interceptions, Zach Shaver and Josh Schnable each had 1. Jarek Wilde scored a couple of times for the

Photo by Daveine Clark

Hounds and Schnable took it to pay dirt to seal the win in a 101-56 victory.

The Hounds will play Walnut Springs in Early on Friday at 7p.m.. Bring your noise and lets watch the Hounds move to the quarterfinals for Turkey weekend.

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Second place win for the Texas Drillers



Pictured L-R: Kaityne, Abby H. Manning, Ashley, Kristin (Back row) Alexia Jimenez, Amy Harrington, Reyna, Brook Jones, Maddie, Krista Mollie. Coached by Nick Jimenez The girls represented the "Age 10 and Under" grouping and were from Knox City, Haskell and Albany. (Courtesy Photo)

The Texas Drillers participated in the second Annual Toys for Tots "Toy Bash" 2010 in Abilene on Nov. 13 and 14.

The tournament consisted of teams from Abilene, San

Angelo, Clyde, Sweetwater and Brownwood.

The Drillers played 9 games and finished the tournament with a 7-2 record. Great job Drillers on your 2nd place win.

Lady Bulldogs begin their season

Tamara Smart

Last week, O'Brien Jr. High school Lady Bulldogs played in their first basketball tournament of the season at Jayton.

During the tourney, the Lady Bulldogs played two games. The first game was against Newholm:

- 1st quarter: O'B-1 New-8
- 2nd quarter: -O'B4New-6
- 3rs quarter: O'B-0 New-19
- 4th quarter: -O'B6New-6
- Final: O'B-11 New- 39

The high scorers of the game were Shailee Manning, Andrea Lynn, Leighton Pepper, MaKaylie Steele and Marlie Steele; all who had 2 points each.

Then the Lady Bulldogs played their second game versus Aspermont.

- 1st Quarter: O'B-7 Asper- 4
- 2nd Quarter: O'B-6 Asper- 0
- 3rd Quarter: O'B- 16 Asper- 4
- 4th Quarter: O'B- 5 Asper- 0
- Final: O'B- 34 Asper- 8

Leighton Pepper was the high scorer in the game with 10 points, followed by Shailee Manning with 8 points. Andrea Lynn scored 6 points and Kinsley Cox earned 5 points toward this victory.

The Lady Bulldogs walked away as the Consolation Champion of the tournament.

Their record is now 1 and 1.

District 6-1A Volleyball 2010 All- District Honors

- Most Valuable Player: Kristen Kuehler, Munday
- Newcomer of the Year: Emilea English, Aspermont
- Outstanding Defensive specialist: Shawntel Williams, Rotan
- Outstanding Setter: Devin McQueen, Rotan
- All District First Team: McKenzie Gilmore (Sr-Aspermont), Christine Graham (Sr. Aspermont), Lacey Peirce (Sr. Knox City), Makebra Collier (Jr. Munday), Pian Dilliard (Sr. Munday), Kandance Lowrance (Sr. Munday) Angela Johnson (Sr. Rotan), Bridget Williams (Soph. Sotan)

- All District Second Tema: Kim Mayen (Sr. Aspermont), Kelli Pitcock (Jr. Aspermont), Reagan Clark (Jr. Knox City), Chastity Tolson (Soph Knox City), Camille Ward (Sr. Knox City), Alyssa Moore (Jr. Munday), Ashley Wright (Sr. Rotan)

Honorable Mention: Whitney Collins (Sr. Knox City), Kylie Urbanczyk (Soph. Munday)

- Academic All-District: Megan Bradshaw (Sr. Aspermont), McKenzie Gilmore (Sr. Aspermont), Amelia English (fr. Aspermont), Destini Billington (Jr. Knox City), Cassidy Carter (Jr. Knox City) Rian Dillard (Sr. Munday Tiffany Werts (Sr. Munday), Katelyn Brown (Jr. Munday) Makebra Collier (Jr. Munday) Kristen Kuehler (Jr. Munday), Alyssa Moore (Jr. Munday) Corine Flanagan (Sr Rotan), Sabrina Garamillo (Sr. Rotan), Angela Johnson (Sr. Rotan) Davin McQueen (Sr. Rotan), Lauren McCall (Jr. Rotan), Hunter Nowlin (Jr. Rotan)

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BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

Talk about varied weather. We have had it this week-warm day, windy days, rainy days and cold days- all since Monday. Today (Sunday) has been cool but sunny and I think the next few days are to be pleasant. But don't count too much on it. It's all subject to change.

Not much mews on our ill friends. No late word on David Milson; but at last report, he was doing pretty well. Word from Sharon Patterson Bivens is that she too is feeling great. She is battling a malignancy but is optimistic that things are going to be o.k.

My great grandson, Dillon Keys, got to go home today from the hospital after being there for 13 days with a kidney problem. He's doing fine. Cannot return to school yet, but he is having teachers come to his house and tutor him. He lives in Amarillo.

Lorene Powers' son-in-law, Earl Stroup, is having some pretty serious problems. He is a fireman in Midland and has lost much of his lung capacity from smoke inhalation. He is having lots of breathing issues.

Ball News

The round-ball season is underway. Jr. High played Chillicothe on Thursday night. The girls won, but the boys lost by 1 point, I believe. That's a good start though and we know they will improve as the season progresses. High school gets under way with their basketball season on Tuesday as they take on Patton Springs here in Benjamin.

And much congratulations to the Greyhounds and Moguls as they have passed the first test in the play-offs. Munday took care of Roscoe on Thursday night, and Knox City literally "blanketed" Blanket.

Good going boys, and I hope next week our report is still good.

And the Cowboys FINALLY won another game. Don't know if it was the coaching change or what, but at this point in the season, we'll take a victory anyway we can and for any reason.

Here N' There

Judy Redwine of Crosbyton visited her brother, Bud

Conner on Thursday. She also attended the Veteran's Day Program held at 11:00 a.m. the program was very impressive and well attended. And the meal following was also attended by many and the food was delicious. It was a good day and a lot of planning and hard work went into making it the success it was.

I visited briefly with Jan Pollock on Monday. She told me her mom, Clodell Duke, is now residing in a nursing center in Iowa Park. She said physically she is doing fine, but a little memory problem, and they felt for her own good she would be better off if she wasn't along so much. Jan works and is away all day and Clodell was by herself several hours so this will be better as she is with people all day. She said at first she wasn't too happy about it but is now adjusting and is pretty content. (Clodell has been living with Jan since she left Benjamin.) I was glad to get that report on her.

Mike and Debbie Moorhouse attended the funeral of Jimmy Harlon on Munday on Saturday. I extend sympathy to the Harlan family. He had been ill for quite sometime.

Jane Gideon and I attended the wedding of Kelly Garcia and Frankie Stinnett in Haskell on Saturday.

Crystal Baldwin's friends and family met at Kathie and Jack's restaurant in Knox City Saturday night for a "little boy" baby shower. Lots of useful things were received and Chrystal will be ready when the big event takes place in early December.

Will Moorhouse, student at TSTI in Sweetwater, was home for a weekend visit with his parents, Mike and Debbie and other relatives and friends.

Anthony and Jessica Lamb attended the Seymour Playoff game in Sweetwater on Saturday night. Her brother is a Panther and Seymour also is still in the playoffs after winning on Saturday (I forgot who they played). Lana and Ronnie Hale and family also attended the game. Lane's son, Calton Caldwell, a Senior, is also on Seymour Varsity team. We hope they keep going too.

Just Jeff

Jeff Stanfield

I am reading a great book titled "George Washington". It makes me wonder if he was alive today would he be proud or ashamed of how this great country is going? I look back, and things have really changed since I was a kiddo 30 years ago. Some of the things have been for the good... and some not so much. I really am proud of Cody and Michael and Lisa Garcia for fighting for my family's freedom.

Both of my Grandpas served in the US Navy. Both where at Pearl Harbor and both came home as Hero's and where respected for all they gave. It sure has changed today. The war is back page news. Yet, we would rather find out who Lindsay Lohan is dating or what she is snorting, or if Brittany Spears is abusing her kids, or if Charlie Sheen is beating up some escort in New York.

I would like to tell all the Veterans how proud I am to be an American, and thank you for all you did. I hope my sons can write about how proud they were of us defeating the Japanese and Germans in World War 2. I am really worried that by that time we, will only be able to use the word Mohammed, and have to wash our feet 2 times a day. Why the heck do they not wash more than their feet? That is a mystery.

Speaking of being proud of their parents, Missy Eades decorated her Dad's grave with flags. Her display of patriotism shows exactly

what we as a country needs- more of our past. That is great Missy, your dad would be very proud of you!

Coach Steele told me a funny story last week. It seems the Steele's got hit by the stomach bug in Abilene. See Ol' Chuck was in KC when Marley called and said Melissa was heaving like a 18 year-old sailor on his first leave from the ship. So Chuck got a ride from the Howeth Taxi service and off he went to rescue the wife and girls. They had in the meantime got a hotel room, and mom was sleeping off a giant dose of phenegrin and the girls where munching on pizza. Well, around 10 p.m., the Steele's decided to make a run for the house. Good idea or bad idea? Picture this: Coach driving the VW Bug (in order to even get into it he has to push the seat back as far as it goes). And then somebody slams the hatchback shut, and hit's his big melon. That poor little car! Can you imagine the salesperson when Coach got into look at that car the first time.

They still use that as a sales pitch today, "This car right here is being driven by a football coach who is like 5 ft 19 inches and weighs almost as much as the engine, and the best part is it still gets 45 mpg. I also can imagine the people making bets at the hotel, "Shoot Bill, I bet you a cold beer that big Ol' boy ain't getting in that car". Or how about the people at the stop lights? I can hear it. "Man look at size of that guy

he is sitting in the backseat driving."

I heard a story that I thought was awful durn funny. It seems a couple had a son that was a special needs young adult. He was in his mid-twenties and was living by himself. His parents would come by a visit or call each day and take him to dinner most nights. Well, one day his mom gives him a call to see if he would like to join them for dinner that night. He uncharacteristically told them NO, he did not want them coming over and taking his troll. His mom said, "Well ok, I will call you in the morning." Next day, same answer about lunch. Well that night she decided they would go by and check on him and take him to eat. When they got to his apartment he would not answer the door, but told them through the door to go away saying: "You Will Not Take My Troll!!!" This really confused his mom so she told him to either open the door or she was calling the cops. He made them promise not to take his troll. It was his troll not anyone else's. So they agreed and he barely opened the door. The Dad gets his hand inside the door and barges it open. What they found inside really disturbed them. It seems all of his furniture had been stacked against his closet door, so you could not get it budge it. They could hear a noise from inside closet. They asked their son what is in there and he kept saying my troll! Dad finally gets past his son and starts unstacking the door to

the closet and gets it open. He finds a midget Jehovah Witness who is madder than a scalded ape. It seems he was walking door to door preaching his word. When the special needs person invited him in, and then panicked and thought he was a evil troll. The midget or dwarf (I have no clue what is the politically correct term for small Jehovah Witness) had been in the closet for 2 days. I bet he is not as gung ho to go door to door anymore.

I had the pleasure of sitting by Dusty Bradley at the Playoff game, you ever seen a man who has smoked 6 packs of cigarettes in one day, Dusty was pacing the stands like a crack addict up and down up and down. I am going to make it easy for you this week Dusty. We will be playing football Thanksgiving weekend, so sit back relax and enjoy Brandon's great year! If we can keep this Football season going R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company will be a great stock buy!!!

Citizen of the week is Colin Howeth he is the defensive coordinator for the Hounds and put together a great game plan in beating the undefeated Blanket Tigers. Colin has been with the Hounds for 10 years. He had a record of about 78-5 as the Jr. High coach. He is a great asset to our school and a big supporter of all Knox City students. Thanks Coach for all you have done for so many of the students.

God Bless America and God Bless All Of You!

New trends in holiday gift shopping lists

Family matters. So say retail experts as holiday shoppers begin to create their gift lists.

Indeed, retailer polls show shoppers are expected to curb spending on friends this season and spend more on family. And regardless if they will be giving tech-focused gifts or more traditional presents, shoppers are making sure their gifts are personal so they connect with loved ones.

"No matter who's on your list, going the extra mile to personalize gifts or selecting ones that speak to your special bond with the recipient, will make sure they're cherished for years to come," says Amy Myers, vice president of creative services for national gift retailer, Things Remembered.

Here are several popular gift trends that offer great options for personalization: Family Focused

With so many shoppers focusing on family, many stores are offering gifts that emphasize and celebrate special family bonds. For example, Things Remembered is anticipating its best-sellers will include such gifts as its new birthstone jewelry, which allows mom or grandma to showcase all the kids' birthstones, and its new

digital photo key chain, which displays 100 digital pictures of the family. Engraved gifts continue to be popular and personal, as the recipient always remembers who gave it to them. Charitable Spirits

Gifts that donate a portion of their proceeds to charities are always appreciated. While many charitable programs exist, experts recommend researching retailer programs that support a cause that's important to you or the recipient, before shopping. You'll feel joy knowing your gift is helping a cause that's important to you or your loved one.

Not Just Kids Stuff Children often don't remember who gave them each toy, but they'll remember sentimental gifts for a lifetime. Many givers are choosing non-toy gifts children can use or display for years, or those offering teachable lessons in fun ways. Gifts like engraved water globes or personalized, embroidered blankets can be enjoyed this season and passed to future generations. Piggy banks in fun styles are finding newfound popularity while offering lessons about saving and good ways to store holiday money from Granny.

Meaningful Tech

Tech tools are always at the top of lists, but haven't historically been very meaning-

ful. That's changing this year

See HOLIDAY on page 9

Thanks for reading!

Knox Family Wellness Clinic

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- General Illnesses Acute & Chronic.
- Texas Health Steps and Immunizations
- Minor Emergencies Suturing, Splinting, Casting
- IV Therapy for Hydration & Antibiotic Treatment.

knoxcountynews.com

Hallazgo de Nino (Child Find)

El Haskell-Knox Compartio el Arreglo del Servicio entra en actividades progresivas localizar, Identificar y evaluar a todos ninos que residen en los Distritos de Miembro que puede tener una incapacidad cubrio por los Individuos con el Acto de la Mejora de las Educacion de Incapacidades de 2004 (la IDEA) y, a causa de la inn-capacidad, necesita la educacion especial y los servicios relacionados. Estas actividades Le son llamadas a Nino el Hallazgo (Child Find). Las actividades del Hallazgo de nino aplican a no solo estudiantas en la escuela publica, pero a estudiantas en el colegio privado, inclusive escuelas religiosas y parroquiales ya estudiantas que son educados en la casa (home schooled). El Haskell- Knox SSA toma actualmente las acciones siguientes para localizar, indentificar y evaluar a todos ninos que resintro de los Distritos de Miembro que puede necesitar la educacion especial y losservicios relacionados:

- La notificacion Periodistica Local
- La distribucion de Folletos de Hallazgo de NinoLa Participacion con Nino Encuentra las Actividades en Caidas de Wichita, La Region he ESC IX y Abilene, la Region de ESC XIV
- Medios de Radion y television

Para informacion adicional usted puede llamar director de la Educacion Especial en 940-658-3587 o escribir al Haskell- Knox SSA, el Apartado de correos 159, la ciudad de Knox, Tejas, 79529

Haskell-Knox sirve los distritos de Miembro en Benjamin, Knox City-O'Brien, Munday, Rule y Paint Creek

Child Find

The Haskell-Knox Shared Service Arrangement engages in ongoing activities to locate, identify and evaluate all children who reside in the Member districts who may have a disability covered by the Individuals Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) and, because of the disability, need special education and related services. These activities are called Child Fin. Child Find activities apply to not only student in public school, but to students in private school, including religious and parochial schools and to student who are home schooled. The Haskell Knox SSA currently takes the following actions to locate, identify and evaluate all children residing within member districts who may need special education and related services.

- Local Newspaper Notification
- Distribution of Child Find Brochures
- Participation with Child Fin Activities in Wichita Falls, ESC Region IX and Abilene, ESC XIV
- Radio and Television Media

For additional Information you may call the Director of Special Education at (940) 658-3587 or write to Haskell Knox SSA, PO Box 159, Knox City, Texas 79529.

Haskell-Knox serves the member districts in Benjamin, Knox City-O'Brien, Munday, Rule and Paint Creek.

Veteran's Day Speech Winners of 2010

Skylin Ledesma (Knox City/O'Brien)

I would like to start off by giving you the definition of a Veteran. Veterans are ordinary people accomplishing extraordinary things; they are heroes, they're freedom fighters, and they are what makes us proud to be Americans.

Some have endured great hardships, separation from family and drastically altered lifestyles. Some have experienced the horrors of war. All sacrificed so that we could enjoy the freedoms we have today. We should all feel honored to be surrounded by these heroes.

The O'Brien sixth grade class was asked to interview a veteran and make a poster board about them. I knew the hero I wanted to interview. I'd been to his shop several times with my dad and I can't get enough of his stories. The poster I created is about not just a man, but one of many American heroes. His name is Mr. Glendale Large. Mr. Large was drafted into the Army June of 1968, four months before his 26th birthday. He served his time in the Vietnam War where he was stationed at Vietnam

DMZ. His rank was Spec 5. Mr. Large was part of the 5th infantry division. His group was called the Red Devils. His partners were Jimmy Garner, Charles Hardsey, Mike Romero, and Jerry Crawford. The Red Devils still keep in touch. Mr. Large has many medals. When asked about a memory, he smiles and says, "I have many memories, but the one that lives is the memory of making it home alive." Mr. Large goes on to tell me the story behind a black bag made of elephant hide known as the lucky bag. I put a puzzle look on my face. He smiles and explains that his two brothers, Billy Joe, Eddie Dam and himself all went to Vietnam with the black bag and they all made it home safely. As I walk around his shop a piece of cardboard with number written on it had been puzzled. He walks up with a smile knowing I want to hear the story behind the cardboard. He points to the cardboard and explains that he had written down the days he had to serve before he could come home. He marked the days as they went by I noticed all the days weren't marked out and asked why.

He explained that he had hurt his knee and was sent home early. Then explained how lucky he was because shortly after being sent home, his camp was taken over by North Vietnamese Soldier and many Americans were killed.

So if you're ever in Knox City, stop at Mr. Large's shop and listen to one of his stories. I bet you'll be back. I know I will. I would like to thank Mr. Large for all them great stories and for being a hero.

I would like to conclude with a scripture Mr. Large displays in his shop. John 15:13. **GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.**

Brent Allen Vanderpol (Benjamin)

In 1996, my dad went to Bosnia for 7 months. He was there to protect the Muslims for the Serbs when they seized the military after the Bosnia government fell and they committed genocide against the Muslim, but there was never any bombs exploding or bullets flying or no terrorist doing side road

bombing. No ambushing, but everyone had weapons. That's because when the government fell, the armories were opened up and average citizens went in them and got machine-guns, RPG, Ak 475.

"Weren't you scared," I ask.

"No" he said. "They were peaceful and besides they could have killed us any time they wanted. And there weren't thousands of American troops in Bosnia, either." There were only 4 other American soldiers in the area he was in and about 127 British and Canadian troops there with him. It was very peaceful except that one story he heard when a guy shot and RPG at his wife and missed and. Then the police fined him 5 marks and \$3.00 in American for disturbing the peace. It was very exciting for my dad to travel from America to Frankfurt Germany to Hungary then to Bosnia then going back to Hungary and from there to Ireland and finally America, where he saw his family for the first time in 7 months. Brent Vanderpol retired from the Army in 2003 having risen to the rank of Captain.

He now works for the Corp. of Engineers and has absolutely no regrets over joining the service.

Aiden Hunter (Munday)

There are heroes among us. Ordinary men and women who choose to do the extraordinary, laying their lives on the line for our country, our way of life, and even for you and me.

Each year we set aside a day to formally honor these brave men and women, our military veterans, so that their sacrifices may be honored and not forgotten.

My hero for Veteran's Day is my Great Uncle Jimmy Luther (J.L.) Hunter. During the Vietnam war, the US enacted the draft. J.L. knew that being drafted would result in service in the US Army probably with a rifle on his back. J.L. wasn't sure about serving in the Army, so he chose to join the Air Force hoping for the chance to fly. Sure enough, in the Air Force his dream of becoming a pilot became reality.

During his service to our country, he got a lot of experience, such as touring the U.S. going from on-training base to the other He

learned how to fly multiple planes, but he usually flew carriers such as the B-52. During the Vietnam War, J.L. refueled planes in the air and patrolled roads in Laos for trucks carrying enemy supplies. He gave instruction to bombers to shoot the enemy supply trucks he spotted in order to prevent them from reaching their destination and destructive purposes. Among his proudest moments was getting his wings pin; the pin shows that a soldier is certified to fly in wars. J.L. was quick to way that the scariest thing to him was being shot at by hundreds of tracer bullets, missiles that can find an enemy and almost follow them exactly. He also dreaded monsoon season, a period of terrible storms that can trash cities. Before leaving the Air Force, he achieved rank of Captain. J.L. is very proud to say he served our country and kept it safe.

Today we are thankful that he sacrificed time away from family and friends to protect us. We honor J.L.'s dedication and that of all our veterans today, and everyday. We cannot thank our veterans enough.

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OPINION



The Paperboy

Continued challenges of parenthood

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

My son Jackson is a bright boy. Since I know that, I demand he make grades which reflect his intelligence. I think all parents should do the same.

This seems to work although he's only in first grade. My wife and I figured if we placed high expectations on him early, he would eventually have high expectations himself. So far, so good, right?

The other day Jack, a first grader, made a silly mistake on a paper and made a 93. We've talked with him on several occasions about the importance of checking over his work, and when he does, the silly mistakes are caught. This was a case where he did not check his work.

I don't want you to think we are harsh on him when he gets sloppy. We are very positive and remind him that he is hurting himself by not checking work over before handing it in. We know if he gets into the routine now, it will become second nature for him.

Friday evening, Jackson started showing me his work when we came across the paper with the 93. He said, "Dad, I'm sorry and I wrote you a note on the back of the paper."

The note read:

"Dear Daddy - I'm sorry I made a grade in the 90s and I hope you can forgive me. Love, Jackson."

I was taken aback by the note. My initial reaction was, "Oh Lord, I'm putting too much pressure on the boy, and he's cracking at age 7."

My second thought was, "This is a preemptive strike, and he's attempting to deflect the fact he made a silly mistake by making me feel sorry for him."

I asked him, "Jack, did you check over the paper?"

He looked down and answered, "No sir."

So it turns out it was a preemptive strike to disguise his sloppiness, which reinforces the notion that he is bright. It also makes me question how ethical it is to put a guilt trip on old Daddy when the only thing old Daddy would have done is tell him to check his work closely, because when he doesn't, he hurts himself.

I told him I appreciated his thoughtfulness concerning my feelings on his grades and the next time he needs to write a note to himself reading:

"Dear Jackson - I'm sorry I made a grade in the 90s because if I would have looked over my work, I would have noticed that the word 'Are' does not work in place of the

word 'Our' and kept me from making a 100. Love, Jackson."

I guess my worry here is this: He was very close to calling my bluff. When I first read his note, I felt sorry for him, which was his intention. If you look at your relationship with your children as a chess match, I countered a pretty good move. I wonder what I'm in for down the road?

We know our children, and we pay attention and point out the various gifts or talents we notice. We then work to provide them an opportunity to develop those gifts. I figure that's part of our job as parents.

Parenting will always be a challenge, and I'm far from a perfect father. Sometimes I get sloppy and make mistakes. However, I've noticed I'm a better father when I go back and check myself on the decisions I make and the impact those decisions have. Sound familiar?

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

Ireland Shows No Time for Half Measures

By BILL WILSON

In Greek mythology, Cassandra was granted the gift of prophecy by Apollo, but because she refused to be his consort, the god punished her by making it so that nobody would believe her predictions.

Today, it appears that credit rating agencies have contracted a Cassandra syndrome. They have warned profligate nations, like Greece, Ireland, and the U.S., until they are blue in the face that they are spending too much. That their national debts are unsustainable. That unless drastic actions are taken to rein in unsustainable spending, dire consequences will follow.

Alas, the governments are not listening. They do not believe the Cassandra agencies.

Ireland is a perfect example where half measures have made little difference in the nation's fiscal outlook. Despite receiving praise when budget cuts were proposed over a year ago, the Irish government has largely not followed through with them. Its recent credit rating downgrade by S&P directly reflects the less-than-adequate cuts that have been made.

At the time, Ireland complained that S&P's downgrade had used an "extreme estimate" to calculate the size of its bank bailout. But, since then, Ireland has had to revise upward its estimate for recapitalizing Anglo-Irish Bank, now at €50 billion, as reported by the

Wall Street Journal.

This open-ended commitment amounts to bank losses being poured atop public debt. Fine Gael estimates that the bank bailouts in Ireland will eventually double the national debt. It is likely that the nation's debt will continue to grow to over 100 percent of GDP before the decade ends.

The budget situation overall has not improved much. After its budget peaked at €56.082 billion gross expenditures in 2008, Ireland has only cut down to a proposed €54.940 billion in 2010. It foresees keeping that level of spending indefinitely.

The nation's public pension system is largely considered to be one of its greatest accrued liabilities, at over €129 billion. But the only reforms to the public pension system thus far put forth in the 2010 budget are token ones: raising the retirement age to 66 from 65; and imposing a maximum retirement age of 70; pensions will be derived from a career average instead of final salary; and they're considering using their Consumer Price Index to calculate post-retirement increases.

The effect has been negligible. Ireland, despite all of its rhetoric of reforming the broken pension system, remains committed to a defined benefit scheme — even for new entrants. Overall, it has only cut about €1.2 billion from the budget, but its deficit is €13.718 billion. It foresees higher deficits until 2012.

Even then, the government only expects the deficit to drop because it thinks the economy will recover and revenues will rise, not because spending would be cut. In fact, overall spending won't be cut significantly in any upcoming budgets.

Overall, Ireland's debt has risen from a 25 percent share of GDP at the end of 2007 to 64.5 percent of its GDP at the end of 2009 at €75.2 billion.

All told, because it has done little more than freeze spending, and on top of that committed to a tremendous bank bailout, Ireland is still facing a worsening Greece-like crisis. Unfortunately, Ireland has not managed to substantially reduce its debt-and-deficit-to-GDP ratios.

This should be instructive across the pond here in Washington.

As the U.S. considers the preliminary findings of Barack Obama's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, it would do well to consider the Irish example, and consider listening to the Cassandra credit agencies. Moody's has warned the U.S. that if interest owed on the national debt rises to 18 to 20 percent of revenue, that our credit rating would be downgraded. As noted by Investor's Business Daily, that will be reached 2018 based on Congressional Budget Office estimates.

The deficit commission will do little to prevent that from happening, only propos-

ing cutting about \$15 billion a year in interest payments by 2018, which would still rise to \$696 billion that year. That's still above 18 percent of the revenue the CBO projects that year, \$3.83 trillion. This means that either the commission did not consider Moody's warning, which would be alarming, or they did consider it, but are okay with the credit rating being downgraded.

It gets worse. The commission will do nothing to balance the budget any time soon. In fact, it does not foresee a balanced budget until 2040. Frankly, we don't have thirty years to balance the budget.

Year-on-end, the \$13.7 trillion debt would continue to grow under the commission's proposal, surpassing 100 percent of GDP in just a few short years. To finance the debt, the Federal Reserve will print hundreds of billions of dollars, making it the top lender to the U.S. sometime in the not-so-distant future in 2011.

First and foremost, newly elected congressional Republicans must be committed to avoiding an Irish-like crisis. In order to do so, they must heed the warnings of the Cassandra credit rating agencies, before it is too late. That means when they present their budget proposal, it must take into account what Moody's has warned, and then tailor their proposal to avoiding the calamity prophesied.

Freshmen Republicans Should Maintain Independence

By KEVIN MOONEY

Attention incoming House and Senate Republicans.

You are well positioned deep inside enemy territory to operate as constitutional insurgents. This means you are not part of the club and must remain separate and distinct from your party's leadership in order to remain effective. Incoming House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell deserve the loyalty and respect of their newly elected members. Both leaders operated effectively and shrewdly against a far-left administration that has significant majorities in both houses of congress. Irresponsible, intrusive, costly legislative items were fought, and a few defeated, thanks to their principled stand.

But it is important to remember that a fair amount of daylight exists between the Republican leadership and tea party activists who are committed to the ideals of the founding period. The November 2nd vote was more of a rebuke to the Democrats and Team Obama than it was an endorsement of Republican majorities. In many respects, the tea party movement began as a rejoinder to big government Republicans who walked away from the 1994 revolution. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) has the right perspective here.

Although the media portrayed the government shutdowns in the 1990s as a victory of President Clinton, Republican majorities were re-elected in consecutive elections for the first time since the 1920s, Gingrich has observed. The party's conservative base was energized back then because it saw the shutdown as evidence Republicans were serious about controlling spending, he has explained to listeners at various speaking engagements.

Unlike their 1994 predecessors, the 2011 class of freshmen benefit can benefit the fresh experience of previous Republican majorities. Their initial curbs on spending that helped balance the budget and the successful push for welfare reform stand out as historical achievements. But after this initial success, too many GOP lawmakers became smitten with Washington, D.C. There is no sure way to resist the onset

of Potomac fever, but freshman Republicans should reach out to party members who have offered up serious, detailed anti-spending plans. The Republican Study Committee in the House is a good place to start. It has been a reliable incubator for small government initiatives that operates beyond the orbit of the party leadership.

Going forward, is also important to note that Rep. Boehner is opposed to term limits, which has become an article of faith for many constitutionalists. The presumptive House Speaker is certainly entitled to his view but there is no denying the strong correlation that exists between the time elected officials have in office and their unwillingness to control spending. Richard LaRossa, president and CEO, of the National Term Limits Coalition has put together a brilliant database on his site that tracks "Poster Children for Term Limits."

In the upper chamber, outgoing Sen. Jim Bunning (R-K.Y.) received a paucity of support from his own party members when he called for spending cuts to offset the costs of expanding unemployment insurance. This was an ever so modest proposal that was resisted by leaders in both parties.

But there some cause for encouragement looking ahead to 2011.

On November 3rd, Sen. McConnell in an interview with FOX News' Brett Baier spoke on increasing the national debt limit, "I think it will not be without some strings attached, if it happens, because they're going to have to seriously address spending and debt."

The idea here is to use the statutory limit on the national debt as leverage against additional spending. It would not be so easy for the U.S. Treasury to roll over debt as it comes due under this scenario.

The political establishment has already voiced its opposition.

"The government cannot function unless the debt ceiling is lifted," former Labor Secretary Robert Reich, moaned. "Ordinarily, it's automatic," he said, adding, "The public is in no mood for a government shutdown."

Here are a few more suggestions.

House Republicans should use their new majorities to

launch investigations into taxpayer funded groups that advance partisan political causes; yes that would be ACORN, known in full as the Association of Community Activists for Reform Now. Contrary to what has been widely reported the organization remains up and running under renamed affiliates. Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.), the ranking Republican on the House Oversight Committee has already produced some highly detailed reports.

The extra-constitutional power grabs of administrative agencies have gone unchecked and unchallenged for far too long; it's high time Congress asserted itself. The transgressions of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are well documented and serve as a good starting point. But the problem is much more widespread. The Obama Administration's use of so-called policy Czars should come in for scrutiny.

Matthew Spalding, a constitutional scholar with the Heritage Foundation, suggests that the problem here is not so much with czars per se but with the expansion of administrative capacities that raises larger questions about the separation of powers. The testimony he delivered before the Senate Judiciary Committee in 2009 is worth reviewing.

However offensive or alarming the activities of a particular czar may appear in the eyes of administration critics, Congress is ultimately responsible for vague and open-ended laws that allowed the federal bureaucracy to grow, he explained in an interview.

"There is a larger and broader constitutional question concerning this massive delegation of authority from Congress to the executive branch," Spalding said. "In many respects, the czars represent an attempt by recent administrations to control this bureaucracy. The question I would raise touches on whether or not Congress is massively delegating authority unconstitutionally in the first place."

Republicans ought to be realistic about what can actually be achieved between now and 2012. That doesn't mean they should accommodate bipartisan exercises that work against taxpayer interests. There is a real opportunity to ignite a constitutional revival.

Inhibitory neurons key to understanding neuropsychiatric disorders

HOUSTON – The brain works because 100 billion of its special nerve cells called neurons regulate trillions of connections that carry and process information. The behavior of each neuron is precisely determined by the proper function of many genes.

In 1999, Baylor College of Medicine (www.bcm.edu) researcher Dr. Huda Zoghbi (http://www.bcm.edu/genetics/index.cfm?pmid=11053), and her colleagues identified mutations in one of these genes called MECP2 as the culprit in a devastating neurological disorder called Rett syndrome (http://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/rett_syndrome.cfm). In new research in mice published in the current issue of the journal Nature (www.nature.com), Zoghbi and her colleagues demonstrate that the loss of the protein

MeCP2 in a special group of inhibitory nerve cells in the brain reproduces nearly all Rett syndrome features.

Children, mostly girls, born with Rett syndrome, appear normal at first, but stop or slow intellectual and motor development between three months and three years of age, losing speech, developing learning and gait problems. Some of their symptoms resemble those of autism.

These inhibitory (gamma-aminobutyric-acid [GABA]-ergic) neurons make up only 15 to 20 percent of the total number of neurons in the brain. Loss of MeCP2 causes a 30 to 40 percent reduction in the amount of GABA, the specific signaling chemical made by these neurons. This loss impairs how these neurons communicate with other neurons in the brain. These inhibitory neurons keep the

brakes on the communication system, enabling proper transfer of information.

"In effect, the lack of MeCP2 impairs the GABAergic neurons that are key regulators governing the transfer of information in the brain", said Dr. Hsiao-Tuan Chao (http://www.bcm.edu/labs/zoghbi/Lab_members_info/chao.html), an M.D./Ph.D student in Zoghbi's laboratory and first author of the report.

Chao made the discovery by developing a powerful new tool or mouse model that allowed researchers to remove MeCP2 from only the GABAergic neurons.

"We did this study thinking that perhaps all we would see was a few symptoms of Rett syndrome," said Chao. "Strikingly, we saw that removing MeCP2 solely from GABAergic neurons reproduced almost all the

features of Rett syndrome, including cognitive deficits, breathing difficulties, compulsive behavior, and repetitive stereotyped movements. The study tells us that MeCP2 is a key protein for the function of these neurons."

Once the authors determined that the key problem rested with the GABAergic neurons, they sought to find out how the lack of MeCP2 disturbed the function of these neurons. Chao discovered that losing MeCP2 caused the GABAergic neurons to release less of the neurotransmitter, GABA. This occurs because losing MeCP2 reduces the amount of the enzymes required for the production of GABA.

Intriguingly, prior studies showed that expression of these enzymes is also reduced in some patients with autism, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, said Chao.

"This tells us a lot about what is going on in the brains of people with Rett syndrome, autism or even schizophrenia," said Chao. "A child is born healthy. She starts to grow and then begins to lose developmental milestones. Communication between neurons is impaired, in part due to reduced signals from GABAergic neurons."

"This study taught us that an alteration in the signal from GABAergic neurons is sufficient to produce features of autism and other neuropsychiatric disorders," said Zoghbi, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and director of the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute at Texas Children's Hospital.

Others who took part in this work include Hongmei Chen, Rodney C. Samaco, Mingshan Xue, Maria Chahrouh, Jong

Yoo, Jeffrey L. Neul, Hui-Chen Lu, Jeffrey L. Noebels and Christian Rosenmund, all of BCM, John L.R. Rubenstein of University of California in San Francisco, Marc Ekker of University of Ottawa in Ontario, and Shiao-ching Gong and Nathaniel Heintz of The Rockefeller University in New York.

Funding for this work came from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the Simons Foundation, the Rett Syndrome Research Trust, the Intellectual and Developmental Disability Research Centers, the International Rett Syndrome Foundation, Autism Speaks, the National Institute of Mental Health, Baylor Research Advocates for Student Scientists and McNair Fellowships.

Accessories Swap and Brunch to benefit Cancer Services Network

ABILENE, Texas – Royal Estates of Abilene will host an Accessories Swap and Brunch benefiting Cancer Services Network. Swap Parties are the latest way to update your wardrobe without buying new things. The Accessories Swap is a way to take items you have finished with and put them back into circulation.

This concept is incorporated by Cancer Services Network. CSN receives donations of gently worn wigs, hats and scarves for use by cancer patients.

Festivities are scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 20, 2010 at Royal Estates located at 6565 Central Park

Boulevard. Attendees are asked to bring three items to swap such as jewelry, scarves, and belts. Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased at Royal Estates, The Arrangement, Michael Joseph's and Surprises. Tickets will also be available at the door. Other activities include a silent auction, demonstrations on the use of accessories in your wardrobe and make up techniques.

"Our goal is to generate community support for Cancer Services Network, an organization that helps and gives hope to so many people fighting cancer." Said Audrey Thompson, Marketing Director at Royal Estates.

Proceeds from this event will be used for financial assistance for underserved cancer patients.

Cancer Services Network provides financial and emotional support to underserved cancer patients and their families in a 19-county service area. The mission of Cancer Services is to raise the level of hope for cancer patients by providing educational sessions, support groups and financial assistance for those who qualify for: emergency funds, insurance assistance (COBRA), prescriptions, nutritional supplements, cancer-related medical supplies, and transportation.

Conservation Loans available to Texas Farmers and Ranchers

Vernon, TX, November 8- Kelley R. Boone, Farm Loan Manager with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), reminds farmers and ranchers that the agency will make and guarantee Conservation Loans (CL) to producers who want to promote conservation on their land as well as conserve the country's natural resources.

Many farmers who need and want to implement conservation measures on their land do not have the "up front" funds available to implement these practices. "I encourage producers who want to conserve natural resources and need a source of financing to implement conservation measures to apply for credit through this

program," said Boone. "It is a great opportunity for producers to remain good stewards of the land," he said.

Producers can apply for conservation loans to improve or implement conservation practices on their land, as long as the practice is approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCRS).

According to Boone, producers who do not currently have an existing conservation plan should visit NCRS to develop one prior to requesting Conservation Loan Program assistance.

Examples of conservation practices include the installation of conservation structures, establishment

of forest cover, installation of water conservation measures, establishment or improvement of permanent pastures, implementation of manure management and the adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques and technologies.

Direct CLs are available at your local FSA office with loan limits up to \$300,000. Guaranteed CLs with limits up to \$1,119,000 are available from lenders who participate in FSA's guaranteed loan program.

For more information on the CL program, contact Wilbarger County FSA office at 940-553-4394 ext 2, or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

FBC Knox City schedules revival

Knox city First Baptist Church has scheduled a revival beginning Nov 28 and going through Dec 1.

Jerry Vincent Jr., who is in his tenth year of Ministry at Roby First Baptist Church, will be bringing the messages

each night.

Raymond Nichols of Knox City First Baptist church will be leading the choir, with special music by the choir as well as from others in the local area.

You are invited to make

plans to attend any or all services. Sunday morning worship will be at 11 a.m. and the evening worship will begin at 6 p.m. Monday night through Wednesday night, the services will begin at 7 p.m.

View your paper online
knoxcountynews.com

Thank You

Thanks to the active military and veterans, and the families and friends who came to honor them, to make our annual Veteran's Day Program a success. Thanks to all the faithful volunteers who prepared and served the delicious meal, and to those who contributed services, supplies and monetary donations.

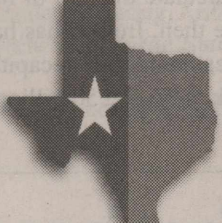
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The Special Education Program for Children with Disabilities provides services for children ages birth through 21. If you are aware of a child who is suspected of having a disability, please contact Haskell-Knox Coop (940)658-3587 or Region IX Education Service Center (940) 322-6928, (940) 322-8297 or (800) 375-8297 for information about screening and evaluation at no cost.



EDUCACION ESPECIAL CHILD FIND

El programa de Educacion Especial para ninos con incapacidades ofrece servicios para ninos recién nacidos hasta la edad de 21 años. Si usted sabe de un niño que quizás tendrá una incapacidad, favor de ponerse en contacto con Haskell-Knox Coop (940) 658-3587 a Region IX Education Service Center (940) 322-6928, (940) 322-8297 o (800) 375-8297 para obtener informacion sobre estos servicios. Estos servicios son gratis.



Increasing agricultural commodity prices cause some concerns

COLLEGE STATION -- Although the recent surge in agricultural commodity prices has caused some concern about a potential increase in food costs, an overall increase likely will be "modest," according to economists with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

"Commodity prices reached record or near-record highs in 2008, but weakened in 2009 and most of 2010," said Jose G. Pena, AgriLife Extension economist-management at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Uvalde. "Food prices increased in 2008 just as the U.S. was entering into what many economists describe as the worst recession since the Great Depression."

Pena and other AgriLife Extension economists recently assessed the effect rising farm commodity prices might have on retail food prices and whether those increases would result in increases similar to those experienced in and beyond 2008.

"Farm commodity prices fell sharply in 2009 and 2010 after reaching record levels in 2008," Pena said. "However, food prices continued to rise in 2009 and 2010 even as farm commodity prices returned to 2007 levels."

Pena said the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently forecasted the consumer-price index for food will rise between 0.5 percent and 1.5 percent this year and between 2 percent to 3 percent for 2011.

"From 1990 to 2006 the average annual food price increase was 4 percent and the increase in 2010 will be the smallest since 1992," he said. "While prices for basic commodities like corn and wheat are higher than they were in 2007, they remain well below the record highs of 2008."

Pena said adverse weather, a weaker U.S. dollar,

increased exports, higher crude-oil prices and heavy commodity contract buying by speculative investor funds have contributed to increasing commodity prices.

"Although the agricultural producer is sometimes vilified because of the increasing price of agricultural commodities, the lion's share of that increase is due to factors beyond the producer's control," he said. "USDA data shows farmers get less than 20 cents of every dollar spent on food. So the majority of the increase comes from the elevation of production and post-production costs, including the costs of energy, labor, advertising, packaging and transportation."

He added, however, that producers do receive a higher percentage for foods consumed closer to their raw form, such as fresh fruits and vegetables, as opposed to processed food items, such as baked goods and cereal products.

"Still, on average, a 50-percent increase in the price received by the farmer results in only a 10-percent percent increase in the retail cost of food," Pena said. "The recent upward movement in commodities pricing is expected to have little immediate effect on the prices of basic food items."

He said consumers should expect to see a modest price increase in meat, poultry and dairy products in 2011, as well as an increase in grain prices due to temporarily tighter grain supplies.

"We're seeing commodity price increases across the board, but are looking at a situation relating to U.S. stocks of wheat, corn and soybeans," said Dr. Mark Welch, an AgriLife Extension economist at Texas A&M University in College Station who specializes in grain marketing. Welch said quantities of

these grain commodities were all reduced in the recent Supply and Demand Estimates released by the USDA.

"We already expected a further reduction in the estimate of the U.S. corn supply, but the cut in the soybean estimate was a surprise," he said.

He said, however, that the worldwide supply of these grains is in good shape with carry-over stocks above their 20-year average, but there is a "pipeline" problem affecting their short-term supply in the U.S.

"The reduction in U.S. corn and soybean supplies can be offset by production in and exportation from other countries, but there is some concern about whether there will be adequate stock to comfortably carry the U.S. consumer over until we get more," he said. "With lower grain production, as the supply tightens the prices will increase - certainly at least in the short term."

"There also was a small reduction in the wheat estimate, but that may be offset by increased production in Argentina, Australia and elsewhere. Plus, we'll need to wait and see what happens with the upcoming Russian wheat harvest."

There also has been a reduction in another significant agricultural commodity, beef cattle, said Dr. David Anderson, AgriLife Extension livestock economist. Anderson said cattle numbers will be fewer over the next decade, but the price of corn will dictate the level and spread in calf prices.

"I think we will continue seeing beef production and cattle numbers drop off in the next couple of years," he said. "We are forecast to produce 25.4 billion pounds of beef in 2011 versus 25.9 billion pounds in 2010. That will lead to increases in price,

but it also depends on corn prices and (their effect on) calf prices."

Anderson said the first quarter of 2010 resulted in the least amount of beef supplies since 1997, after factoring out exports, and he expects that during each quarter through 2012 the beef supply will continue to decline.

"Overall, beef demand has been hurt by the recession, but has been strong due to consumers 'trading down' to stretch their income," he said. "That's led to more grinding of specific cuts of beef - chucks and rounds - to take advantage of the hamburger demand."

He added, however, that cull cattle have also been fetching premium prices as a result of the demand for ground beef, and that export markets also continue to grow and show strength, with Vietnam emerging as a top customer for U.S. beef exports, in 2009.

"What I'm suggesting is that booming exports tighten domestic beef supplies even more and should lead to higher cattle prices for the next couple of years," Anderson said. "Supplies keep cutting back because we're not making enough money to build herds back."

Generally, however, the economists agreed that in spite of the commodity increases and the possibility of slightly higher food prices in the future, American consumers can still expect to have adequate supplies of the best and safest food in the world at the lowest overall cost.

HOLIDAY

torically been very meaningful. That's changing this year with the introduction of personalized Things Remembered are offering gifts such as LED Flashlights and USB Pens that allow givers to add names, holiday wishes and personal messages right on the products. On-the-Go

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ties with gifts that make things easier. Consider a pretty mirrored compact for a busy mom to carry in the diaper bag or a custom flash drive for that business traveler to store files from the road.

For more personalized gift ideas, visit www.ThingsRemembered.com.

"Though we all have the year's 'it' gifts on our wish lists, we ultimately want gifts we can use and remember long after the season has passed," says Myers.

HEART

dinner, complete with turkey, dressing and all the trimmings. All people are invited; families, widows/widowers, singles, married couples, sick, healthy, rich and poor- All members of the Knox family.

There will be meals served onsite, but delivery and

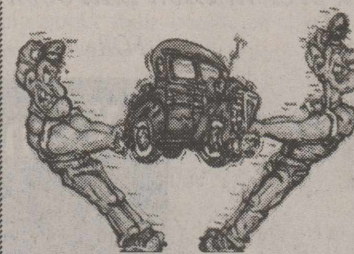
carryout are also available. The cost is nothing- this is just an act of love from one neighbor to another.

If you are interested in partaking in this meal, please RSVP by Nov 22 to one of the following numbers:

657-3772, 657-5001 or 658-1465.

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**PUC Docket No. 38551
Notice of Joint Petition of Ethicon and AEP Texas North Company Pursuant to Public Utility Commission of Texas Substantive Rules 25.342 and 25.343**

On August 12, 2010, Ethicon and AEP Texas North Company (TNC) (the Joint Petitioners) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) requesting approval to permit TNC to lease, and operate and maintain, certain delivery infrastructure facilities to Ethicon in connection with Ethicon's manufacturing facility and Ethicon's proposed wind generation project. As part of the proposed leased delivery facilities, TNC proposes to construct a 4,500 foot distribution line to connect Ethicon's wind generation project to serve a portion of Ethicon's electric needs. Ethicon is located in the city of San Angelo and is engaged in the business of manufacturing medical products. TNC is the transmission and distribution provider certificated by the Commission to serve San Angelo. The Joint Petitioners further request that the Commission (1) waive the requirement under the Commission's substantive rule 25.343(f)(4) that Ethicon must have continuously leased the distribution facilities since September 1, 2000, to qualify as a facilities rental customer; and (2) pursuant to a written agreement between TNC and Ethicon, waive the 2011 expiration date contained in TNC's current tariff as it would pertain to a lease agreement between TNC and Ethicon, which would permit TNC and Ethicon to enter into a 25-year lease whereby TNC leases and operates and maintains the distribution facilities necessary to delivery electricity from Ethicon's manufacturing facility from Ethicon's off-site proposed wind generation project and TNC's delivery system. Ethicon and retail electric providers that serve Ethicon will be affected by this application.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings, PUC Docket No. 38551, *Joint Petition of Ethicon and AEP Texas North Company Pursuant to PUC Subst. R. 25.342 and 25.343*, should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline of **December 22, 2010** has been imposed by the Commission. Ten copies of a request to intervene or a request for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326 and should reference Docket No. 38551. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission of Texas at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

Protect your identity and money this holiday season

The holidays can be a wonderful time for shoppers who enjoy bargain hunting or admiring festive window displays. But it can also be prime hunting season for identity thieves.

According to a recent report from Javelin, the number of identity fraud victims in the United States jumped in 2009 by 12 percent from the previous year to 11.1 million adults - the highest increase since the survey was first conducted in 2003.

"Whether shopping online or in stores, all consumers need to be vigilant," says Shelley Solheim, Director of Financial Education at Capital One. "By taking a few simple steps, shoppers can help protect themselves both online and at the mall, and safeguard their personal information from identity thieves."

To protect consumers during the holiday shopping season, the experts at Capital One are offering these simple tips.

At the Mall

No matter where you shop, be careful during the hectic holiday season.

* Be aware of your surroundings: Be conscious of other shoppers standing nearby when you are making purchases. Identity thieves have been known to copy credit card information or take pictures of cards on their cell phones.

Be vigilant in cyberspace, especially when shopping on a Web site that's new to you.

* Only use secure sites: When you're asked to provide payment information, the beginning of a Web site's URL address should change from http to https, indicating that the purchase is encrypted or secured.

* Consider how you'll pay: Credit cards generally are a safe option because they allow buyers to receive credit from the issuer if the product isn't delivered. Don't ever send cash or use a money-wiring service because you'll have no recourse if something goes wrong.

* Use caution with social

media: Retailers increasingly use social media to promote deals and disseminate coupons. But scammers also use these sites, often masquerading as a friend to deliver malicious links that allow hackers to steal personal information. Be suspicious of any message or promotion you did not sign up to receive, and instead of following links, go directly to a store's Web site.

If you are a victim of identity theft, make sure to report it immediately to one of the three credit reporting agencies - TransUnion, Experian or Equifax - and file a police report.

For more tips and advice on preventing and reporting identity theft, visit money.wise.org.

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THANK YOU
We are truly blessed, and thankful to each and all of our friends and families for your prayers, cards, calls, wonderful food, beautiful flowers, donations and visits. We also want to thank you for your encouragement and concern. The love we have experienced from each of you is certainly a gift from God, and sincerely appreciated.
The Family of Jackie Young

Thanksgiving top day for cooking fires

Thanksgiving remains the leading day for cooking fires, with three times as many cooking fires as an average day. That's according to statistics by the nonprofit [National Fire Protection Association](http://www.nfpa.org) (NFPA), which also found that cooking equipment fires are still the leading cause of U.S. home fires and fire injuries, and the third leading cause of fire deaths. On Thanksgiving 2008, U.S. fire departments responded to 1,300 home cooking fires compared to 420 such fires on an average day.

"Thanksgiving is a holiday of feasting, but it's also a day of intense cooking, when stovetops and ovens are working

overtime," says Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of communications. "These culinary activities bring an increased risk of fire particularly when people are trying to prepare several dishes while entertaining friends and family."

According to NFPA, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 154,700 home structure fires involving cooking equipment between 2004 and 2008. These fires caused an average of 460 civilian deaths, 4,850 reported civilian fire injuries, and \$724 million in direct property damage. Overall, these incidents accounted for two of every five (41%) reported home fires, 17% of

home fire deaths, more than one-third (37%) of home fire injuries, and 11% of the direct property damage resulting from home fires. Three of every five people (59%) injured in a cooking fire were hurt when they tried to fight the fire themselves.

Unfortunately, little progress has been made in reducing deaths from home cooking fire. The average of 460 deaths per year in 2004-2008 was only 7% lower than the 500 per year in 1980-1984. Meanwhile, fire rates among other types of home fires have steadily declined.

Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in cooking equipment fires.

Ranges or cooktops were involved in the majority (59%) of home cooking fire incidents; ovens accounted for 16%. Clothing was the item first ignited in less than 1% of these fires, but these incidents accounted 15% of the cooking fire deaths.

Cook with caution using these tips:

- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly,

remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels, or curtains — away from your stovetop.

If you have a cooking fire:

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother

small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.

- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

NFPA is a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. Visit NFPA's website at <http://www.nfpa.org>

USDA Announces Partnership with DOE

WASHINGTON — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced today a partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy to help rural homeowners lower energy costs by making cost-effective improvements to their homes. Named the Rural Economic Development Energy Efficiency (REDEE) effort, the USDA-DOE partnership is part of a government-wide "Recovery Through Retrofit" initiative announced by Vice President Biden and several cabinet secretaries earlier today.

"This effort will expand green jobs opportunities and boost energy savings by improving home energy efficiency," said Vilsack. "USDA's Rural Development programs are a perfect vehicle for supporting energy efficiency for housing, businesses, farms and utilities."

The upfront costs of energy improvements often stop homeowners from investing in these cost-effective home upgrades. To help them, USDA Rural Development is promoting REDEE, which combines the efforts and funding of the Rural Development's Utilities, Housing and Business program areas.

REDEE will focus on stimulating the energy efficiency improvement market in rural America with the tools created by the "Recovery Through Retrofit" effort. REDEE also builds upon the work that Rural Development

has done in providing funding and support for improving the energy efficiency of single and multi-family housing, businesses, farms, and utilities.

USDA Rural Development has joined with the Department of Energy's Home Energy Score team to market energy efficiency efforts in South Carolina, Indiana, Virginia, and Texas. USDA will also promote the Department of Energy's scoring tool, and use USDA funding for energy efficiency improvements to the homes of rural residents. Trained and certified contractors will use a newly developed energy software tool to generate a report that includes:

- A Home Energy Score between 1 and 10, which will give consumers easy to understand information about their home's current efficiency level and how it compares to other homes in the area.
- An estimate of how much money could be saved by making energy upgrades and a personalized list of recommended improvements.
- These recommendations are ranked according to payback period — how quickly a homeowner can recover the cost of their investment.

Contractors will collect all of the information they need to generate the score, and recommendations within a one-hour home walk-through. Qualified rural homeowners would apply for existing Rural Development energy

efficiency program funding. The Department of Energy is planning to test the Home Energy Score through a pilot program in select regions.

The eleven Departments and Agencies involved in the "Recovery Through Retrofit" effort are continuing their commitment to strengthen the home energy efficiency improvement industry. The Federal Government is working with industry, academia, training providers, small businesses, and other partners to launch these new tools, programs and efforts to ensure their success. The Obama Administration will continue to support the growing home energy improvement market through interagency collaboration and by leveraging existing resources.

Through its Rural Development mission area, USDA administers and manages more than 40 housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a network of 6,100 employees located in the nation's capital and nearly 500 state and local offices. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers, and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America. Rural Development has an existing portfolio of more than \$142 billion in loans and loan guarantees.

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