



THE

# KNOX COUNTY NEWS

VOL. XXIX NO. 61

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2011

75CENTS



A scene that Wyman Meinzer, a Benjamin resident and professor at Texas Tech University, happened upon recently. The sights horrified him and lead him to write the following editorial starting on page 2 about the privileges of the second amendment and the reasons why there are anti-gun groups, which are trying to vote against that right.

Photo By Wyman Meinzer



Sue Stephens, Clyde Day, the late Mrs. Roy Day, Sr. and Romaine Day Stubbs stand next to the first well drilled in Stonewall county in the early 1950s. That well stands on the property of what is known as the Katz Field Project run by Kinder Morgan. The Katz Field Project provides various jobs throughout the communities of Knox County, not just as employees of Kinder Morgan, but through contracted companies like Key Energy Services, Jeremy Eaton Backhoe Services, Mesquite Tools, Basic Energy, and much more. Katz Field is using a method of extracting oil from the massive wealth under the surface of the West Texas landscape by injecting Co2 in a pattern toward a main well. Recently, the project hit a mile stone as the Co2 injection finally commenced. See additional photos on 11.

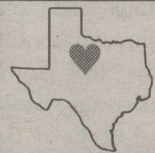
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## God's Promises

### Your Witness

One of the most asked questions I get as a Pastor is, "Tex, I know I am supposed to be out telling other people about Jesus, and I want to.....I just don't know how!! How can I witness to others?"

Recently, a brother Melesha and I met during our prison ministry time sent us a

letter filled with proverbs he is developing through bible study. One of my favorites is: "God sees us walking in Victory."

He used Ephesians 2:10 as his inspiration for this quote "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Tex Cox translation: "The good works, witness, actions, etc are **IN YOU** through Christ.....**USE WHAT IS IN YOUR HAND!!**" In other words, **BE YOURSELF**.

Hey! How easy is that? Let Christ Jesus come out through **YOUR** personality, hobbies, work, time, etc. Quit trying to be the preacher you see on T.V., or the

preacher in the pulpit at your church, or your Aunt Rose or Uncle Johnny.....**BE YOURSELF**. Jesus needs **YOU!**

I can remember back when my Dad and I started our insurance agency years ago --- Dad had already enjoyed a very successful career as an insurance salesman (I always just knew that man could sell a snow cone to an Eskimo) --- he was trying to train me on how to go out and make a sale. His wise words were, "Tex, don't go out dressed in a three piece suit to talk to the farmers or oil field guys and don't go out in your blue jeans to a bunch of lawyers!"

You see, God uses me to minister to a certain group of people --- maybe you are more comfortable around another group --- Billy Graham to another, etc. etc. (I'm not saying you **CAN'T**

or won't sometimes minister outside your "group") --- **use what is in your hand!** God is willing to take you right where you are and begin using you for His Glory!

Another thing I have noticed is that people worry all the time that they might "mess up" when they witness to someone and somehow lead them astray. All the more reason to be yourself! Amen? Don't try to get all theological will people! When the opportunity arises, be prepared to tell them how Jesus changed **YOUR** life. Don't stand there pointing out all their sin, and their unworthiness, and "how you are going to hell without Jesus" and all that mumbo-jumbo --- tell them about **how much God loves them** and then show them through your own personal testimony!

Maybe you are sitting here reading this today and you are wondering, "Gee, I never thought of that....I wonder what **MY** testimony is?"

Good thinking! Take a minute or two and write it out. Do you remember what was going on in your life at the time of your salvation? What made you finally decide to turn your life over to the Lord? What has God rescued you from since that time? How has He been Mighty in your life?

Write it out so you can have it on your heart. Be prepared. Ask God to reveal to you someone to share your testimony with --- **USE WHAT IS IN YOUR HAND!!!!**

Amen! Now, go get 'em tiger!

**Remember --- YOU ARE BLESSED!!!!**

## 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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### KCN OFFICE HOURS

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

## Hunting Etiquette

### Wyman Meinzer

I developed an interest for hunting in 1955, at the age of 5 years, after my dad, the late Pate Meinzer, presented me with a beautiful Daisy BB gun. Wow what a defining moment that was for a little guy growing up on a big ranch in Knox county. With sparrows and other small critters available at every turn I spent every penny I could muster on BBs, practicing my shooting skills almost every day.

Some of my greatest hunting memories occurred in those early years as I graduated from the little Daisy to my first shotgun, a Stevens single shot in 1959 and then to my first "big gun" with the purchase of a 30-30 Marlin at the age of 14.

Because cowboy wages

were a bit slim I could never afford lots of ammo for the shotgun and 30-30 so I shot sparingly but tried to be productive with each round fired. Of course, being a young boy I splurged on occasion and shot too much and was known to do a goofy thing or two when hunting. It is the way of adolescence but most of us grow out of this childish state and move on to a higher level of consciousness.

I do not hunt as often as I used to nor do I really want to. At age 60 I have seen and taken a lot of game, probably more than I deserve but I continue to love the outdoors and shoot almost daily, sort of like a golfer always trying to improve his score. Shooting is a way of life for me and even if I do not hunt

as often as I did years ago I still appreciate the feel of a fine firearm in my hands, the cold winter wind on my face and the smell of gun grease from a freshly cleaned rifle or shotgun. In other words, I cherish my right to own a firearm and also try and be a role model for hunters and nonhunters alike, setting an example that will never give the anti-hunting and anti second amendment fraternity a reason to say, "that guy is the reason Americans should not own guns or have the right to hunt".

Today I saw a reason why gun owning Americans are in a constant battle to maintain our constitutional right to keep and bear arms. And today I saw a reason why too many people are listening

See **HUNTING** on Page 12

## Just Jeff

### Jeff Stanfield

Some things to ponder as we began the new year: Is Osama Bin Laden the world champion at 'Hide and Seek'? How can a Congress and Senate with an approval rating less than Jessica Simpson's IQ get their leaders re-elected? How can Jerry Jones smile and frown with 15 lbs of plastic stretched across 75-year-old bones? Why would anyone read what I write? And better than that, why would anyone actually take it serious? Why would a woman who wears flip flops everyday, need 97 pairs of shoes. Who in the hell ate the first oyster and why?

How come a weatherman can predict the weather right 15% of the time and gets to keep his job? Why does everyone in this great country have equal rights except white, middle class, heterosexual men? How come a man marries a woman hoping she will never change and a woman marries a man hoping he will change?

How can we put a man on

the moon but not on Rosie O'Donnell?

ccWhy does regular TV stink so bad? (Remember Mash, Bonanza, Andy Griffin and Archie Bunker, today we have Dancing With the Stars, or some show about crap that only people under 24 like and lets face it people under 24 still have social lives- and watching TV is not part of it. Most of the good shows on TV are either sports or on the History channel or some other non major network. I would bet money that in Knox City that Fox News and the weather channel would be on the top 5 of what is watched.

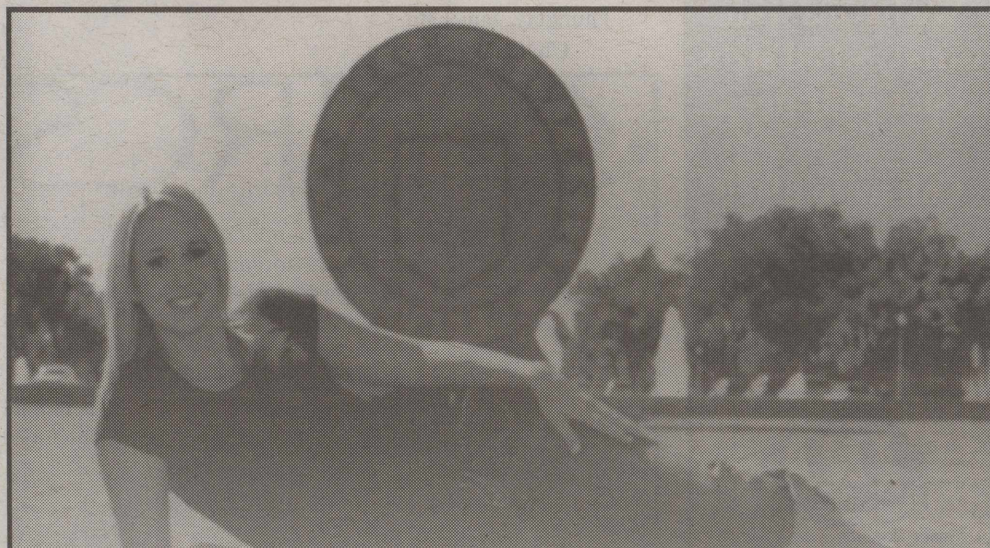
The beginning of 2011, I sit and wonder the changes that will happen in the next 10 years. Cable TV is done, telephone done, remember the CD ( that thing that the Ipod replaced) done. Blue Ray will replace Cable and computer downloads of your favorite shows, e-mail and computers will replace newspapers. The US Mail, the granddaddy of

things to kiss goodbye, will be long gone seeing as they have lost more money than Obama has given away. I hate it- but you wait- in 2020 the US mail will be a very small part of our world. Most all bills will be e-mailed to you and you will pay by online bill pay or debit card. Because guess what else is history? Yep, you guessed it, writing a check. When you stop writing checks, and sending payments in by checks NO need for the US Mail.

Just think it has taken us 225 years for our government to find a way to lose money with the US Mail, heck Fed EX and UPS are running strong, but our leaders cannot make money with the mail.

Another thing we will be seeing gone, is peace and quiet. Imagine- everywhere you go a phone, with a GPS so someone can see where you are at all times. Instant Internet, e-mail and data at your disposal at all times. Thank God we will be living in Knox City, the only

See JEFF on Page 12



Daughter of Bobby and Patsy Day of Lubbock; niece of Romain Stubbs of Knox City; and granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Roy Day Sr. celebrate the graduation of Natalie Glen Day from Texas Tech. Romain attended a reception dinner party at the Day's home after the graduation on Dec. 18, 2010.

## KC AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – Knox City

Jerry Vincent, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – Knox City

Timothy Trimble, Pastor

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 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 KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.

### WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Rob Harrison, Pastor

Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

### MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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## SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

### Sammie Oilfield

Heavy hearts lay on lots of families as they lost loved ones to their Father in Heaven in the recent weeks. It is very hard to live with out the young Greg Urbanczyk and Tamara Strickland who were laid to rest. Remember, our lives are borrowed and we never know when our Father is going to call us home. Alfredo Abila is doing better, with a little progress

everyday. Phyllis Gaston is also showing improvement in her health trials, as is Norman Tolson who is showing the signs of answered prayers with their continued progress. Today is Thursday and information on Danny Reece is that he has had a bad spell and was airlifted to Abilene; more details as I soon as I have some. This has been one of the

hardest and longest have had since 1964 in our family and knowing that everyone is so close that they are like family in one way or another, to comfort each other through the testing of the holidays is always like trying to comfort family. My chosen daughter called me on Tuesday to let me know her best friend had lost her son on Monday night to cancer, leaving 2

small children and a wife in San Antonio. I can only imagine how they feel. Our prayers may reach them and provide some comfort while enduring the pain of losing a loved one. Raquel Vasquez has come home to spend time with her mother, her in-laws, and us before she returns home after New Years. Also visiting Mrs. Rodriguez was David Bradford and his girlfriend

and baby girl. They had a wonderful New Year's get together. Alfredo has since been moved to the seventh floor for recovery and to start his chemo sometime soon. It was great to visit with one of the Denton's family at Bud's Café. It is great to get

to help visitors learn about our community and get a smile out of them, Ashley and Nick Johnson's wedding went great. May they have all the blessings from God as they start their new life together and are safe wherever they make their home. **See SAMMIE on Page 1**

## KNOX COUNTY AGING SERVICES MENUS FOR JAN. 10<sup>TH</sup> TO JAN. 14<sup>TH</sup>

**Monday Jan. 10th**  
Meatballs/Macaroni Salad  
Glazed Carrots  
Sliced Bread  
Fruit

Baked Potato  
Crackers  
Fruit Crunch

**Tuesday Jan. 11th**  
Chicken Strips/Gravy  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Hot Rolls  
Cake

**Friday, Jan. 14th**  
Hamburger Steak/Gravy  
Okra & Tomatoes  
Blackeyed Peas  
Biscuit  
Banana Pudding

**Wednesday Jan. 12th**  
Bbq On A Bun  
Tater Tors  
Cole Slaw  
Cobbler

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.

**Thursday, Jan. 13th**  
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# Knox County Market Place

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### 2010 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
11/22	46/84	
11/23	35/68	
11/24	47/84	
11/25	23/58	
11/26	18/58	
11/27	21/65	
11/28	33/69	
Total Rainfall for month		0.40
2010 Rainfall (ytd)		36.43

# BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

## Gladene Green

Well, we had a little cold "snap" during the New Year's Weekend-thermometers over here showed a low of 13 degrees on Sunday morning. But hopefully a warm up is on the way. At least we don't have any wind (so far) today (Monday).

I hope everyone's 2011 has gotten off to a good start. So far, so good for me. Didn't see it officially arrive, but I did see the ball drop at 11:00 p.m. in N.Y. City (So I guess I helped

them all celebrate!) And I had my black-eyed peas on Saturday, so, of course, I am expecting a year of good luck.

School is back in full swing today after a 2 week Christmas break. Think Everyone was ready and now it's the beginning of stock show season and all the other late winter and spring events that eventually end in graduation 2011. These next few months will pass so fast.

No news to speak of

concerning the ill of the community dean Lamb spent a couple of days in a Wichita Falls hospital for some minor surgery- she's home now and doing great.

Betty Bohannon said their son-in-law, Craig Howell, who lives in Nebraska has had a pretty hard time since undergoing knee surgery on December 21. He was released, but had to return to the hospital to relieve a blood clot. And is still in a lot of pain but did seem a little better this weekend, according to reports from

his wife, Bonnie. We ask our prayers for this family and pray his progress back to good health continues.

## Here 'N There

Dillon Keys of Amarillo and a friend, Daniel Martinez of Childress, spent the weekend with Mike and Debbie Moorhouse. Dillon will stay here for a while as he continues to recuperate for his recent kidney problem.

Valerie, Sydney, and Lexie Mendoza spent part of their Christmas vacation with their dad, Carlos and family in Abilene.

Dutch and Imagean Young are in Wichita Falls today for Dutch to keep a doctors appointment.

We're proud of one "our" kids who is attending school in Knox City. Blake Jones, and junior in high school, had been named to the All Region 6-man football team. Blake made the team in both offense and defense.

We congratulate Blake on his accomplishment. His parents are Kemp and Becky and his very proud grandparents are Linda and Charles Griffith and Ned and Susan Jones.

Mike Young has moved a mobile home to Benjamin. He had it moved on the lot owned by Wanda West, which are north of where I live. He hasn't got it ready for occupancy, but is working toward it and it should be ready to move into before too many more days. I know he's ready to get in it.

Doris Bufkin said she and Sonny had a very good Christmas. All their family except their daughter-in-law, Lori, who was ill. Other visiting and enjoying a good time were Mike Bufkin and Josh of Crowell, Joe Bufkin of Texas Tech, Debbie Goforth of Halton City, Ashley Bufkin of Dallas, Megan Goforth of

M.U. and Michele Brown, Emily and Kelsey who live here in Benjamin.

Jan and Fred Carver had their usual crowd during the holidays. That's Stasia and Gary Antilley of Wingate, Kallie and Justin Laird and Ryder of Winters, Jacy and Jara Collins and family of Munday Tyler Collins of Lubbock, Dorothy Carver of Knox City, Ricky Carver and family of Abilene, Cody Wainscott of Knox City, Tammy, Mike, and Cassie Lyles of Benjamin. Granddaughter, Bella Carver, spent a week with Jan and Fred. Jan said they had a great time. Bella lives in Abilene.

Visiting Row and Susan White and family during Christmas were Josh and Amy White of Bryan, Jessica White and Omar Khateeb of El Paso and Chas White, Ava and Mitch of Plano.

## Knox County Livestock Show is just around the corner

In just a few weekends the youth of Knox County 4-H and F.F.A. programs will be filling up the newly renovated Munday Events Center to exhibit their livestock projects. The annual Knox County Junior Livestock Show is set for Friday, January 21 and Saturday, January 22. The public is invited and encouraged to come support the youth of Knox County as they show case their animals for every one to see. A con-

cession stand will be available, so come and enjoy the show.

### Friday, January 21

8:00 a.m. - Begin Weighing Lambs, Goats, and Swine  
4:00 p.m. - Begin Weighing Broilers and Rabbits  
5:00 p.m. - Market Broiler Show followed by Rabbit Show  
6:00 p.m. - Market Lamb Show followed by Market Goat Show

### Saturday, January 22

8:00 a.m. - Market Swine Show  
10:00 a.m. - Steers in Place  
12:00 p.m. - Market Steer Show

Premium Auction will take place one hour after steer show

Broiler/Rabbit Judge - Ed Blankenship

Lamb/Goat/Swine/Steer Judge - Kevin Thomas

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VERNON - WICHITA FALLS

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2011 Spring  
Registration

Vernon Registration

Wichita Falls Registration

January 11

January 12 & 13

See schedule for registration times

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IV Therapy for Hydration & Antibiotic Treatment.



# The Paperboy

## Predicting 2011

By **CHRIS BLACKBURN**

More than a decade ago I wrote a column on wild predictions for the coming decade. I recall one of the predictions centered on terrorist attacks in New York City. Specifically, the Statue of Liberty being destroyed.

I remember thinking how preposterous the notion was. Nine months later and that prediction was eerily close. Had the Statue of Liberty been on the terrorists' list that day instead of the World Trade Center, then we'd probably be without that national treasure.

Here's hoping this decade is quieter than the last for the home front.

Speaking of predictions, I have a few of my own for the next decade and an opinion which follows:

\* I predict Sarah Palin will announce a run for president. At that point, regardless if it's for 2012, 2016 or 2020, Democrats from coast-to-coast will let out their roaring approval. In other words, Palin would not be a good choice and would likely get stomped in the primary or, should she win that, should get throttled in the general election.

• I predict Miley Cyrus will fall off the deep end and be

the butt of many a joke. I like Miley, but let's face it, she's a childhood star whose coming into her own and needs to establish .... blah, blah, blah. Miley will suffer the same fate as Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan and a boatload of others. However, America loves a comeback story so she'll shine again one day.

• I predict Americans will see inflation and skyrocketing interest rates. I'm not really going out on a limb here, am I? You have to pay the fiddler sometime. That, or learn to speak Chinese.

• I predict the end of the movie theater as we know it. I think we are closing in on a day when new releases will be available at home. Technology has already dictated how we watch movies and there will be money to be made by such a venture. I just wonder if the government will want to bail out movie theaters?

• I predict scientists will find life on planets outside of our solar system. Or perhaps life will find us. Anyhow, I hope they're friendly!

• I predict some good old rock songs will be made into hip-hop songs and make more money than they did originally. I know it's obvious, but I need to be correct on some of these.

• I predict more people will move to rural America leaving some cities to wilt. With technology, there has never been a better time to move back "home" or get away from it all. Professionals can live and work in rural America and take advantage of a lower cost of living and less traffic.

• I predict that the number of Independents and Libertarians will grow in the U.S. as a result of the influence of the Tea Party. Most Americans are pretty put out with both political parties, and I honestly think that's a good thing. Respect and loyalty must be earned and neither party has done that over the past four years.

So there they are, my predictions for the next decade. They are based on very little fact and should be considered silly. Unless of course they all come true and if that's the case, remind me and I'll do this professionally (which might not be a bad thing).

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

## Natural Gas Development Should be Considered as an Alternative to Obama's "Renewable" Agenda

By **KEVIN MOONEY**

With the demise of "cap and trade" legislation, the Obama Administration has shrewdly pivoted in the direction of renewable mandates that emphasize solar and wind technology as a sop to green groups. Looking ahead, in 2011, newly elected Republican lawmakers are well positioned to advance energy policies that better exploit America's homegrown resources and lower consumer costs. They should also press the House leadership to highlight and expose federal initiatives that will most likely boost electricity prices.

The so-called "Solar Energy Development" program that targets six western states (Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah), which was set in motion earlier this month, should be subjected to congressional scrutiny come January. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Secretary of Energy Steven Chu both claim the program will create jobs over the long term.

"Our country has incredible renewable resources, innovative entrepreneurs, a skilled

workforce, and manufacturing know-how," Secretary Chu declared in a press release. "It's time to harness these resources and lead in the global clean energy economy. Today's announcement is part of an integrated strategy to cultivate the entire innovation chain to create the jobs of the 21st century economy and to put America on a sustainable energy path."

However, an analysis of state level public policy measures that include renewable standards and other green schemes concludes that consumers will lose out under Team Obama's solar energy program.

The U.S. states that already have renewable electricity mandates of some kind have electricity prices that are 40 percent higher than those that do not, Dan Simmons, director of state affairs for the Institute of Energy Research (IER) explained in an interview.

"Where states get their electricity is the key to the price of electricity as in the sources of electricity generation," he said. "13 of the 15 states that have the cheapest electricity in this nation either get a majority of electricity from coal or get a majority of their electricity

from hydro-electric power — and the problem here is that we're not building new coal or new hydro electric power — at least large hydroelectric power in the U.S. and that is a problem for electricity prices going forward."

Nevertheless, the new solar program is needed so policy makers can meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and other federal laws such as Endangered Species Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Clean Air Act, administration officials have argued.

But there is another way to balance out legitimate environment concerns with growing energy needs, Rep. William Cassidy (R-La.), points out. America's substantial supplies of natural gas deserve greater consideration in the new congress, he has suggested. Cassidy, who was recently appointed to serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee, also says the business enterprises attached to the natural gas industry could help reignite the nation's manufacturing base and encourage foreign investment into the U.S.

"Let's start moving toward a natural gas economy," he said in an interview. "It is a domestic energy supply with proven reserves available in an area of the world where we have the rule of law. Right now we have a 40 year supply and the only reason we don't go out and find more gas is because we have such a backlog. This is a clean fuel, which works well for Louisiana and the nation as a whole."

Despite the demise of "cap and trade," it is evident that administration officials remain committed to anti-energy policies that restrict and restrain the development of cheap and affordable natural resources. Moreover, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is set to unleash expansive greenhouse gas regulations.

Up until now, self-described environmentalists have had the upper hand over free market activists. This could change in 2011 if shrewd, forward-looking lawmakers such as Rep. Cassidy find greater expression for their proposals.

## Kerens students suffer Ag setback

By Oliver Sheehan  
Corsicana Daily Sun

For the second time in two years, Kerens students have suffered losses in their agricultural department, with four goats perishing in a fire just before Thanksgiving, and the school being left without a barn.

The fire, which was first noticed around 5:00 a.m. on November 18, engulfed the barn, which is situated just west of the high school. It comes just two years after wild dogs ravaged kid's goats and pigs in the same location.

The incident is a major setback to students in Kerens, with the school district now having nowhere to store animals for the remainder of the school year, said agricultural teacher Brad Atkeisson.

"Two years ago we had some dogs get in and they killed some goats and pigs. We had just moved in so we are unlucky with goats," Atkeisson said.

"I talked with the superintendent and our goal is to rebuild. At the moment we are going through the process with

the insurance, but it is likely we will not have another one until the next school year.

"We are short on facilities and unfortunately we had about \$15,000 worth of equipment in there. From the department's point that is the biggest loss, from the kids point that is the place to keep their animals."

The fire is thought to have started as a result of a heat lamp being knocked over, but this comes as no consolation to Atkeisson or his students, with facilities and classes now being restricted until the barn can be rebuilt.

"Obviously it is a blow to them that they have lost these animals. We have some students that have animals at their homes. As far as teaching tools we won't be able to do some of the hands on stuff that we have done in the past so that is pretty difficult on the kids," explained Atkeisson.

"It is pretty unfortunate how it has worked out. Our program had really begun to expand. We have got a lot of kids involved in all these aspects and it is just

a pity that we keep having these setbacks."

One student who lost his goat in the fire, 12-year-old Spencer Edmonds, has decided not to dwell on the incident. He had been tending to his goat, Sam, this year, spending an hour every day at the barn.

"Now I am going to get a pig, I don't know where I will put it," said Edmonds.

Atkeisson said that in one way the department was blessed, as it accommodates for a lot more animals post-Thanksgiving. Either way, he says, they will try to carry on as normal. Edmonds is the son of Shea Edmonds and the grandson of Romain and the late Jack Stubbs of Knox City.

"In our department we cover all kinds of aspects so we will keep going with that. We are a pretty tough breed you could say," added Atkeisson.

"I hate it for the kids, it is very frustrating. I feel like we fought and pushed to get these things going and the school has supported us, so it's real frustration from that point."

## Bottle Bombs becoming popular in Odessa

FYI - This was sent by the MISD chief of police this morning to MISD staff Straight from Davidson County Sheriff's office: Kids are putting Drano, tin foil, and a little water in soda bottles and capping it up - leaving it on lawns. When you go to pick up the trash, and the bottle is shaken just a little - in about 30 seconds or less it builds up a gas and explodes with enough force

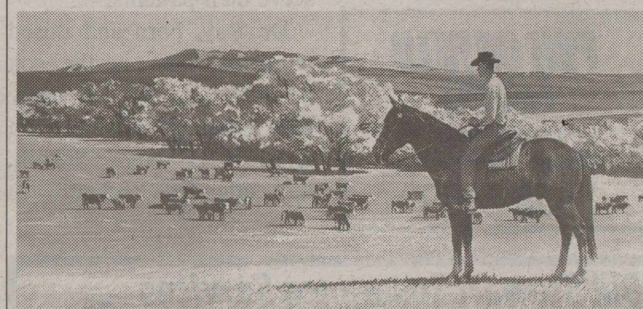
to remove some of your extremities. The liquid that comes out is boiling hot as well. Don't pick up any plastic bottles that may be lying in your yards or in the gutter, etc. Pay attention for the following factors:

1. A plastic bottle with a cap.
2. A little Drano.
3. A little water..
4. A small piece of foil.
5. Disturb it by moving it;

and BOOM!! No fingers left and other serious effects to your face, eyes, etc. People are finding these "bombs" in mailboxes and in their yards, just waiting for you to pick it up intending to put it in the trash. But, you'll never make it!!! It takes about 30 seconds to blow after you move the thing. For more information visit the website: <http://www.snopes.com/crime/warnings/bottlebomb.asp>

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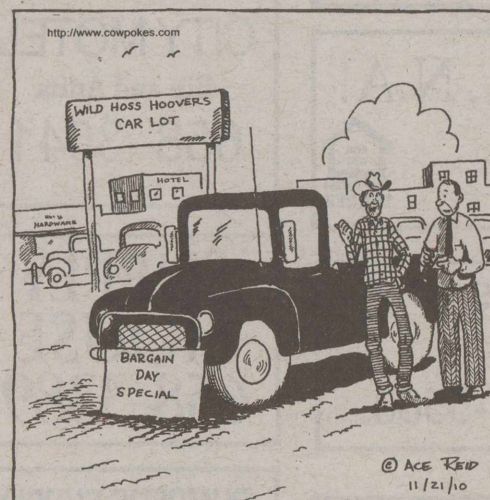
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By Ace Reid



"I'll take this one...except for the windshield wiper. My banker told me not to spend money on foolish extras."

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As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, along with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievement in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

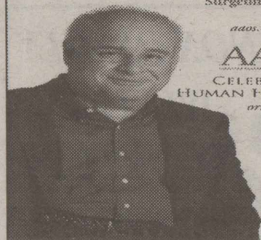
Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its retelling here has been well worth while.

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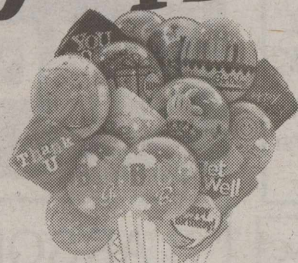
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# Dr. Ray's office welcomes two new Dentists

by Caron Yates, Haskell Free Press

In addition to a new year, January will be bringing changes to the Haskell dentistry practice of Dr. Cliff Ray.

For the past twenty-five years, Dr. Ray has served the dental needs of this multi-county area. Dr. Ray began his dental career, when in July 1986, he bought the practice of Dr. Ed Harris, here in Haskell. He was a recent graduate of the University of Texas Health and Science Center's Dental School.

While equipped with the dental skills needed, Dr. Ray says he was somewhat inexperienced with running a business. Fortunately, along with the practice, came two faithful and experienced employees, Phyllis Klose and Dawn Rodela, which have remained a part of the team throughout the twenty-five years. In addition, employees Tammy Campbell, Paula Garcia, Gina Meinzer, Terri Rodriguez, Jeanette Rodriguez and Kim Rodriguez have come on board to work together to serve their patients.

Dr. Ray, born and raised in Knox City, is the son of Susie and the late Jerry Ray. After graduating from Knox City High School, he attended school in

Oklahoma and earned a lab and x-ray degree. He then attended and graduated from Abilene Christian University while working at several area hospitals in their lab and x-ray departments.

His general dentistry practice has grown to include oral surgeries performed at Stamford Hospital, and dental care for the Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center, as well as for Sagebrush Living Center. Throughout the years, he has also donated time to county schools for student dental screenings.

Dr. Ray is excited about the addition of two new dentists, who will be joining his practice.

Dr. Robert Moon, along with his wife Krista and

daughter Adler Jo will soon arrive in Haskell. Both were raised in small farming communities in Eastern Washington, much like Haskell. They consider faith an important standard, that they value in their everyday lives.

Dr. Moon graduated from dental school at Case Western in Cleveland, Ohio, in May 2010. He says, "The experience we had there, reinforced our desire to get back to a small town where it's a lot quieter."

Dr. Moon began working for a neighbor at the age of nine, and continued working for the gentleman through high school as a machine operator and manager. Having a passion for hunting and fishing, he worked his way through college as a professional guide on hunting trips. After completing college, he spent three years farming in the summer months and running a hunting guide service during the winter months.

As for the rest of the story, Dr. Moon says, "I entered dental school and truly love the profession. I enjoy the satisfaction of helping people."

Dr. Shane Schmidt and his family will be arriving in Haskell in August. He and his wife Traci have a four year old daughter named Liriel and a two year old son named Brysen.

Dr. Schmidt was raised in Washington State and went to college in his home town. He grew up hunting, fishing, waterskiing and working on his dad's construction sites, where he learned the craft of concrete work.

He also attended dental school at Case Western in Cleveland, Ohio, graduating in 2010. Dr. Schmidt says, "I value what blue collar families do to strengthen our country and what faith does to strengthen our communities. Although life has taken some interesting turns to bring me to Haskell, my desire is to gain the trust of this community through hard work and honesty."

Dr. Ray feels these two men are a very positive addition to the practice, as well as to the community. He says, "Because of the trust and confidence shown in me, the practice has grown to a point where additional help is needed." While he plans to continue in the practice, the changes being made will allow him time to pursue other interests as well, including volunteer and medical mission work, and traveling. He also looks forward to more time with his family, wife Chi Chi and daughters Amanda and Brittany.

Dr. Ray says, "Dr. Schmidt and Dr. Moon will bring to the practice the latest techniques and procedures. At some later point, other services such as cosmetic, implants or orthodontics may be added."

"My biggest concern has always been that my patients are receiving the best care possible. I believe Dr. Moon and Dr. Schmidt feel the same, and will work hard to provide that care," says Ray.

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## Knox City featured in regional guide

Knox City is one of 40 communities in the region featured in the 2011 Texas Midwest Guide. Local advertisers participating on Knox City's pages include Citizens Bank and Penman Service.

The 2011 Texas Midwest Guide, now in circulation, is a marketing project of Texas Midwest Community Network. This year's guide is the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual publication that showcases quality of life and points of interest in the region.

Each year the Texas Midwest Guide includes community information, attractions, recreation, lodging and much more information about the Texas Midwest region. Distribution of 70,000 copies goes to Texas Travel Information Centers along the State's borders as well as to chambers of commerce, CVBs, hotels & motels and advertisers throughout the region.

An online turn-the-page version of the guide is at the web address [texasmidwestguide.org](http://texasmidwestguide.org). All websites on community pages and ad spaces have hot links from the online guide.

For more information about Texas Midwest Community Network, visit the website [www.texasmidwest.org](http://www.texasmidwest.org)

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# 2011 TEXAS MIDWEST GUIDE

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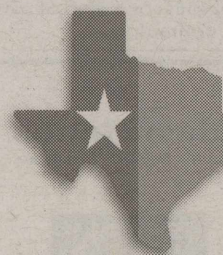
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## Fire burns pasture North of Kinder Morgan Katz Field

**Tamara Smart**

This past weekend, on January 2, 2011, the KCVFD responded to two fires which broke out a pasture just south of the front of the Kinder Morgan main office that sits at the entrance to the field. While nothing at the Kinder Morgan was injured, and only a pasture on the highway in front of the Katz Field was touched by the fire, the fire did cause a bit of panic among several members of the community.

The fire department responded to first fire took a little over 2 hours to contain. This fire had a suspicious appearance to the firefighters who responded, because of the proximity of the fire to the highway.

The second fire was called in at 10:00 p.m., a little over 2 hours after the first fire occurred, and was caused by some kindling under the initial fire embers.

A fire on Thursday north

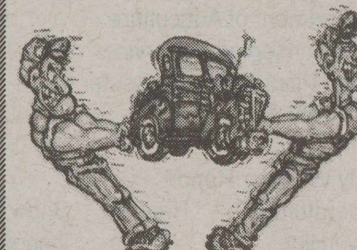
of A-Team Construction on HWY 222 was thought to be caused by a discarded cigarette, as an eyewitness reported to have seen a cigarette cast from a vehicle just a few minutes before the blaze. This fire ravaged through 30-40 yards of brush.

It is strongly advised to those people of Knox, Haskell, and surrounding counties to mind the burn ban, which is still effective in all these counties. As of now, the fires that have plagued this area haven't hurt anything of extreme significance; it is only a matter of time if individuals do not respect the burn ban. Something as small as a shed cigarette can easily become a roaring blaze in a matter of minutes. This could jeopardize people's homes and livelihoods.

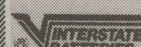
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## LOOKING AHEAD

The Texas Department of State Health Services Knox City Immunization Clinic will be held on Thursday, January 6, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Vaccinations for children and adults will be available including Hepatitis A, Pneumococcal conjugate, polio, MMR, HIB, Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussus, Hepatitis B, HPV, meningitis, zoster, influenza and chickenpox. For information about

immunizations, call the Texas Department of Health office at 40-552-8770.

The Knox County Stock Show is scheduled to take place on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 21 and 22. It will take place at the Munday Show Barn in Munday.

The Haskell/Knox Relay for Life will be on April 1 at Indian Field in Haskell from 7PM until 7AM.



## ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black, DVM

### THE CATFISH INSTITUTE

Several years ago I made a commercial for the Catfish Institute. Their office was in Belzoni, Mississippi. The commercial concluded, "...just write in care of Miz June. That's B-E-L-Z-O-N-I. You learned to spell Mississippi in grade school!"

I have spent most of my life in the mountain west so trout has been my primary fish source. But I come from deep Oklahoma roots and, from my youth, I have been a frequent visitor to my Okie farmer kinfolks. Each one had a pond stocked with bass and catfish. Catfish almost tastes like meat, whereas trout tastes like fish.

Anybody who lives in the S.E.C., South East College Football Conference, appreciates that catfish beats country ham and red-eye gravy as the supper of choice, most of the time. Catfish is to the south what chile is to the southwest, brisket is to Texas, crabs to the Chesapeake Bay, pizza to middle-school soccer moms, and porridge is to Minnesota.

Catfish on the menu still flourishes but the local catfish farmer's market is in decline for the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year. Reason: Cheaper imported catfish primarily from Asia. Sound familiar? Just ask the three sheepherders still in the United States, or ask an American Lumberjack if you can find one, or a shoemaker or steelworker.

America is still capable of supplying all our catfish needs but raising them is now being "outsourced". The Catfish Institute blames higher grain prices as a factor, but I'm guessing even if soybeans and corn dropped to less than a dollar and the USDA and EPA removed all the catfish regulations, the Mong, Vietnamese and Chinese could still furnish it cheaper! The Institute is pushing for a mandatory "Country of Origin" labeling law. It seems to be having a dampening effect on our Mexican beef imports.

But if Miz June called me and said, "Bax, what can we do to compete with foreign catfish farmers?" I would point to the most successful "value added" (which means you can charge more) program that I know; Certified Angus Beef. On a private sector level look at Dole Pineapple, Diamond Walnuts, Omaha Beef, Washington Apples, Idaho Potatoes, French Toast, Belgian waffles and why are Florida Oranges worth more than Edmonton Oranges or Milwaukee Oranges?

Distinguish your product from imports with name brands like: "Cajun Catfish, raised on Zydeco music!"

"The Crimson Catfish, each granted an honorary degree from University of Alabama!" Talk about a school of fish!

"Bentonville Catfish, with the WalMart Seal of Approval!"

How 'bout "Mississippi River Baptized Catfish, sprinkled for Catholics and dunked for Baptists!"

Right now I'm getting hungry for some good ol' catfish cookies, or a dish of catfish ice cream... with red eye gravy, of course!



## The 501

by Hanaba Munn Welch

How quickly the lavish holiday season turns into the season to repent from the holidays and to try to lose extra pounds gained from Christmas dinner, New Year's hors d'oeuvres and eggnog.

At our house, we almost got ahead of ourselves and started the repenting early, like on Christmas Day.

If you plan to have company and a fabulous meal on Christmas, you should buy the food ahead of time. I knew that.

I just didn't think about it until 9:27 p.m. Christmas Eve. By then, all grocery stores had closed.

Steaks were on our menu. That doesn't mean they were in the freezer or the fridge. Phooey. They weren't even on the hoof in the backyard, since we had opted to spend the holidays at our in-town residence rather than our rural one. We were stuck with limited wild game and fowl choices - squirrel, dove, raccoon. I'm not sure raccoon counts.

It wasn't like our refrigerator was empty. We had an array of salad dressings, two kinds of pickles, a few slices of cheese and a few less of lunchmeat. In the pantry, we had hominy, instant brown rice, pinto beans, flour, sugar, brown sugar and not much else of use.

Allsup's convenience store to the rescue. There I bought five cans of name-brand chili and asked the Hispanic woman in front of me in line if I could cook beans in a hurry. She shared her fast bean recipe with me. She was there for fuel but was also desperate for pimientos for potato salad. Allsup's had no pimientos. I did.

Three minutes later she was in front of our house,

graciously accepting the pimientos as I again thanked her for the bean-cooking advice. It was a Christmas moment, sort of.

Next, son Ryan's girlfriend to the rescue.

Although Kristin had been warned of the food shortage, she headed our way anyway from her own family gathering in Llano, where there had been plenty of food, including superfluous prime rib. Her original plan was to grab the prime rib, but her uncle got it. So she rounded up slices of ham and turkey, a couple of turkey wings and some beautiful rolls. Not bad. Our daughter Rachel came through with potatoes and salad, and I scraped together enough ingredients to bake a pumpkin pie - my first with deep wrinkles. Maybe all my substitutions gave it that Shar-Pei puppy look, but it was good.

The beans were an edible side dish. They made us thankful for Kristin's willingness to secure and transport leftovers from her generous family.

Me, I was left to contemplate my almost total dependence on the supermarket and to remember the time my grandmother fried and served me the cottontail she'd just blasted with her .410. I also remembered the fried chicken my friend Sue's grandmother served us for supper. We'd watched her wring its neck 30 minutes before the meal.

I'd put that generation up against any hunter-gatherer group.

We've come a long way since then.

## PROTECT YOUR HERITAGE



Do your part, don't let a wildfire start.



## NRCS

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

### 2009 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F)	Rainfall inches	Snow inches
	Low / High		
12/27	26/55		
12/28	25/57		
12/29	47/72		
12/30	51/75		
12/31	34/58		
01/01	14/40		
01/02	8/53		
Total Rainfall for month		1.01	
2010 Rainfall (ytd)		36.03	6.6

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Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

#### CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Lubbock

Contract 6221-75-001 for TOTAL REST AREA MAINTENANCE, OPERATIONS AND REPAIR in CROSBY County, etc will be opened on February 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State

Office for an estimate of \$3,936,000.00.

All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference for

Contract 6221-75-001 to be held on January 25, 2011 at 2:00 pm at the  
150 EAST RIVERSIDE DR, ROOM 1B.1, AUSTIN TX.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 35192

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#### Dist/Div Office(s)

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Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771  
Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.



(Top) First Pumpjack in Stonewell County.  
(Right) First well in the 1950s.

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## SAMMIE

home. We will sure miss Ashley in Knox City.

Monday morning and I have had no other words on any of our sick, but I will hopefully have more on

them next week. As I write my column, everyday news changes in our community and in our individual lives and in our individual lives receive news and touch base with some. I will

continuously add to my column, I just ask that you bear with me.

May God Bless our troops and each one of us.

THANKS FOR READING

## Just follow the money

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MUNDAY - HASKELL  
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## Abnormally dry areas expand northward

COLLEGE STATION -- Most of Texas continued to experience a drier-than-normal winter.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor's (<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>) report of Nov. 30, those parts of the state that were either experiencing abnormally dry or moderate drought conditions expanded both northward and southward in the last week.

On Nov. 23, the abnormally dry areas were confined to counties south of U.S. Interstate 20, and much of extreme South Texas was considered normal. A week later, the abnormally dry areas spread as far north as Wichita Falls and Lubbock, and as far south as McAllen and Harlingen. Also, the number of counties in Southwest and Southeast Texas considered to be in a moderate drought expanded.

The dry conditions were hardest on livestock grazing, but small grains were also suffering, according to Texas AgriLife Extension Service personnel. Cotton producers in the South Plains and Rolling Plains took advantage of the dry weather to finish up harvesting.

"Extremely dry conditions continued to take their toll on dryland small grains such as wheat and oats," said Marcel Valdez, AgriLife Extension agent in Zavala County, southwest of San Antonio. "Some livestock producers reported that some supplemental feeding of livestock began this week. Some producers are also contemplating some light selling-off decisions to reduce grazing pressure on native range and pastures and reduce supplemental feed costs."

"Conditions continue to be dry," said Dale Rankin, AgriLife Extension agent in

Live Oak County, north of Corpus Christi. "Producers have started feeding hay and most of the forage is brown from frost and cold weather. Only a small amount of winter pastures have been planted due to the lack of moisture."

"Conditions are still extremely dry, and oats need rain in the worst way," said Joe Taylor, AgriLife Extension agent in Atascosa County, about 20 miles south of San Antonio. "Some producers are saying they are losing their stands to the dry weather. Pasture conditions are also very dry and vulnerable as a fire hazard."

"It's dry with no prospects of rain," said Neal Alexander, AgriLife Extension agent for San Saba County, south of Brownwood. "What few calves have been turned out on the early small grains are now being shipped to grazing out of the county."

## HUNTING

to and believing the drivel spouted by the anti hunting groups across Texas and the whole of America.

Without going into gory details just allow me the privilege to say that there are ways to dispose of your quarry and there are ways not to dispose of them. I will let the accompanying photograph

describe my personal sentiments and the sentiments of others who have observed this appalling sight.

Whoever decided to make this narcissistic statement of adolescent machismo please remember that as someone who hunts and/or owns firearms, you are a role model for those who might someday be the deciding

vote as to whether you, your children and grandchildren will ever own a gun or hunt again. Show your game some dignity and think of those individuals who would rather not be forced to see the results of your night of running and gunning. Be respectful and be responsible.

Have a Prosperous and Happy New Year!

## JEFF

place on God's green earth where a cell phone does not work. The funny thing is my phone will not work anywhere within 2 miles of town, but KVRP will work anywhere. We where driving down Pikes Peak 4 years ago, and i turned on the radio and by God, guess what? KVRP. Sometime I think we live in a Black Hole with cell service, that will be

changing as the Knox City city council has signed a contract with US cellular and we will be getting a new tower very shortly.

I love this town and I love most of the people here, I have had some people ask me what ugly people did you refer to with pretty kids in last weeks paper? Hey, if you go the doctor and he tells you that

you are fat and you tell him you want a second opinion and he says ok you are ugly too. Well then maybe that is you! Hey seriously if you have kids, Give them a hug and tell them you love them. Life is short so go live it. God Bless You. Remember there are 2 kinds of people in this world: Texans, and the rest who wish they were!!