

THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

VOL. XXIX NO. 69

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2011

75CENTS

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX5-DIGIT 79505
KNOX COUNTY, DISTRICT
PO BOX 196
BENJAMIN, TX 79505-0196

The Big Country Music Revue debuts this Saturday

Tamara Smart

On Saturday, March 12, 2011, Rule, Texas will officially become the home to the Big Country Review, as the debut of the show opens. This show comes to fruition after many months of dreaming, scheming, working hard, and creation by several integral figures. Jerry and Carol Burke are the founding power behind the idea, which was put into action when the couple bought the old Methodist church in Rule, and began to renovate the building to have the best sound system, proficient musical

instruments, and an inviting atmosphere for performers and spectators.

When they walked into the building, their vision was to bring a musical revue to the Big Country. Jerry spoke about "seeing so much talent in the area, but not having a place to showcase it." Jerry himself is a very talented man. Jerry is a skilled harmonica player, can sing, dance and ventriloquist. The couple envisioned having local people who have practiced many hours while undergoing the strenuous band activities

See Review on page 12

Knox City Hires New City Administrator



The Roberts Family

On February 16, the City Council met in a special meeting. At this meeting Chad Roberts was hired as the new City Administrator to replace Barbara Rector after her retirement on April 30, 2011. Chad's first day at the office was March 1st.

See Administrator on page 12

Daylight Savings Time

THE CLOCKS SPRING FORWARD ON SUNDAY MORNING AT 2 A.M. Don't accidentally be late for church on Sunday morning!

General Elections Deadline

The last day to file as a candidate for the General City Elections is March 14. Contact your local City Hall for details.

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Extended Hours - Now Open from 5 a.m. - 11 a.m.



Don't Mess with Texas scholarship deadline March 28

AUSTIN, Texas - Texas high school seniors have until March 28 to apply for the Don't Mess with Texas scholarship.

The 8th annual scholarship is sponsored by Dow Chemical Company in partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful. The first-place winner will receive \$3,000. The second- and third-place winners will receive \$1,000 each. Don't Mess with

Texas is the litter prevention campaign of the Texas Department of Transportation.

The scholarship is one of TxDOT's efforts to generate more youth involvement in Don't Mess with Texas, since research shows that age is the number-one predictor of littering behavior, with Texans ages 16-34 littering the most.

Any Texas high school

senior who will attend a two- or four-year Texas college or university can apply. For the essay prompt, application, rules, and background information, visit <http://dontmesswithtexas.org/programs/scholarship/>. Winners will be notified in April.

2011 marks the 25th anniversary of the Don't Mess with Texas campaign.

The Knox County News

P.O. Box 188
110 N. Central
Knox City, Texas 79529
940-657-3142
FAX 940-658-3228
kcnews@valornet.com

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MEMBER —

Texas Press Association • West Texas Press Association

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Knox County & O'Brien: \$26/Year
Within Texas: \$28/Year
All others: \$30/Year

**CHRISTOPHER
BLACKBURN**
Publisher

TAMARA SMART
Reporter
Sports Writer
Advertising Manager

DEADLINES — The deadline to submit news and advertising is 4 p.m. on Fridays. Exceptions may be granted only by permission from the Editor.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

SUBMISSION POLICY

The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements.

PHOTO SUBMISSION POLICY

The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

NOTICE

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

KCN OFFICE HOURS

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

Sheriff Report

Pursuant to your open records request, here is a list of those arrested within the indicated time period and processed through the Knox County Jail:

February 4, 2011 though March 1, 2011

Hardiman, Christina

2/17/11
TBC (M-B)
Knox County
(Arrested in Fort Worth)

McCrary, Tiffany

2/18/11
Assault (M-A)
Knox County

Delgado, Peni

2/19/11

MTAG/ Child Endangering (F-#)
Baylor County

Welch, Macedonia M.

2/22/11
Terroristic Threat (M-A)
Foard County

Jackson, Lauro Jr.

2/22/11
Theft of Service (F-3)
Knox County
Arrested in Amarillo

Juarez, Rita

2/23/11
MTAG/Possession of Marijuana (F-2)
Knox County
Arrested in El Paso

Carroll, Tommy Martin

2/26/11
Aggregated Robbery (F-1)
Burglary of Habitation (F-2)
Knox County
Arrested in Georgia

McKnight, Jolene D.

2/26/11
MTAG/Poss. of Controlled Substance (SJF)
Knox County

Ware, Brian Glenn

2/28/11
MTR/ Possess Chemicals w/ intent to manufacture (F-2)
Knox County

-Submitted by Dean Homstad,
Knox County Sheriff

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You from the bottom of this family's heart, and also from the bottom

of mine. Without the support of our community and all our prayers, the families that we as a community support during their hard times would struggle

that much more. Thanks again; you are so appreciated.

Thank you
Sammie Offield

West Texas Guar Board Meeting Noon, March 17 Wooden Nickel

Anyone interested in planting Guar should attend. Discussion of contracts concerning payments for this following year.

Lunch will be served

Obituary



THOMAS BARTON
Thomas "T.W." Barton, 93, of Rochester, went to be with

his Lord and Savior March 7, 2011. A Funeral Service will be 10:30am, Friday, March 11, 2011 at the Foursquare Church, Knox City. Burial will follow in the Rochester Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Home. Viewing will be Wednesday and Thursday in Knox City. A viewing was held in Rochester on Tuesday.

T.W. was born April 23, 1917 in Tarrant County, to the late T.M. Barton and Mary Ann Dowd Barton. On January 26, 1936, he married

Vera Strickland, she preceded him in death January 4, 1975. He later married Modelle Manley-Ballard on April 18, 1980. He attended the Foursquare Church in Knox City. T.W. was a lifelong farmer. He loved his family, especially his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Vera, brothers L.W. Barton, T.B. Barton, sisters Edith Greer, Addie Hawkins, and Lorena Vance.

T.W. is survived by his wife Modelle Barton of

Rochester, daughter Sandra Chambers and husband Paul of Knox City, grandchildren Paula Carter and husband Tracy of Knox City, Kimberly Goodwin and husband Jesse of Troutman, NC, Kristi King and husband Chris of Knox City, Jodi Elizabeth Chambers of Cornelius, NC, great grandchildren Jordan Carter, Cassidy Carter, and Zachary Carter of Knox City, Austin King and Ethan King of Knox City, Luke Goodwin of Truthman, NC, nieces nephews and a host of dear friends.

Truscott News

Clara Brown

It hasn't rained, but we have had some cloudy days.

Funeral services were held last Thursday afternoon, March 3, 2011 at the Gilliland Baptist Church for Alan Ray Baty of Burkburnett, son of Louis Lee Baty and Lula (Scott) Baty of Gilliland. Other survivors include a daughter, Chloe, and two brothers, Steve and Louis Lee and their families.

Burial was in the Gilliland Cemetery.

Alan was the grandson of Ray and Mary (Ilseng)

Baty of Gilliland. The Baty family came to Gilliland in 1920 when Mrs. Alice Baty moved here with her four sons, L.B. "Bounce", Ray "Punch", Hollie and Turner.

Mary Ilseng's father, Peter Ilseng, came from Norway to Texas in 1868. Her mother, Cecilie Olson, arrived from Norway to Galveston in about 1886.

Alan's mother's parents were Ruel and Emma Scott f Crowell.

A family meal was served at the Gilliland community center before the services.

A number of those attending the services were seated outside as it was nice weather and the church was filled early.

The Baty family has

farmed at Gilliland for over 80 years. Alan grew up helping on the farm or worked farm related business all his life. He was a graduate of Texas A&M.

The family of Norma Lee Lowry would like to express a sincere thank you for the love and prayers sent her way during her illness and passing. Perhaps you sent food, a card, flowers and said a kind word. With deep appreciation we say thank you for your kindness.

A special thank you to the Haskell First United Methodist Church for letting us have Mom's service in our beautiful church. Also a special thank you to the Methodist ladies for a delicious lunch that was prepared and served to our family. A very special you to Pastor Tom Long for delivering a beautiful celebration of Mom's life. A sincere thank you to Nelda, Ember, Bethany and Jan for the beautiful uplifting music. A big thank you to Allison Kate for reading Mawmaw's favorite poem. A sincere thank you to Mesa Springs and Staff of Abilene and Country Elegance and staff of Stamford for the wonderful care that our loved one received. Norma Lowry was a kind, sweet, loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Her caring, giving Christian spirit will be missed by all her knew her.

With Deep appreciation, may the lord bless each of you sincerely,

*Danny, Vickie, Cody, Michele, Bethany, Allison, and Dylan
Josselet
Rodney, Ember, Cutter and Harley Medford*

The family of Alan Ray Baty would like to express our deepest appreciation for your thoughts, prayers, flowers, and food during the unexpected loss of our son and brother. Your kindness and generosity during this time will always be remembered.

Thank You,

Louis and Lula Baty
Steve and Vera Baty
Louis Lee and Sheri Baty

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE!

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.

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 Offield

On Monday evening last week, things were quiet around town. I spent the afternoon at Bud's Café trying to regroup. Bud is trying to start a Monday Steak Night, to go along with his regular Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening steak nights. This surely will bring in new faces that want a nice meal with good company, along with lots of regulars to the café coming in and out all day long.

Ester Grindstaff is still in Abilene doing the best as possible. My source says it is getting very hard for her and it doesn't look good. Maybe God will intervene- Our prayers are with her and her family.

WI woke up on Thursday morning to wonderful rain showers. It smelled so good outside and the rain was so well needed for our farmers and all our yards.

My neighbors, Ken and Elise Lawson have both passed

away to go home together with our Father in Heaven. They will be missed. They were great friends and neighbors. I can remember them all the way back to when they ran a hardware store. It was always so much fun to visit with them when you caught them out in the yard or downtown. I can only imagine how hard it is for their family, but the comfort of the memories may help in this hard time.

Sandra Chambers maybe returning home this week from spending time with Kim, Jessie and the baby. Kim had minor surgery and is doing good. I know Sandra was a great help to have around. Prayers to God for Kim's speedy recovery.

Well, Spring Break is right around the corner and I'm sure all the kids will be ready to have a break from school and especially the teachers. I'm sure it has been a long time coming, with all the stocks shows and such. But all that is done for

this year, and now they can look forward to the best part of the year- when school is out! It gets pretty rough at the end of the year sometimes.

If you will look around in the stores, I finally got the jars out to collect money for Brandon Grimsley's family's financial expenses while he is awaiting a kidney transplant.

I heard from Peggy Grindstaff who had some stints put into her heart. But she informed me that she feels much better and is recovering well.

Quinn and Roni Gass may still be moving after the school year is over. They are great neighbors, and it's hard to see anyone leave, but they are young and the opportunity is out there. It's great to take hold of those opportunities while you are still young and able. Quinn had a great recovery for his leg and doing great. He is back at work so that was a blessing from God.

We will be having a Chamber of Commerce Banquet pretty soon. I wonder who will be awarded our Citizen of the Year for 2010. I know who ever they pick will be happy and will have surely earned the award. Sometimes I wish that certain people would be recognized while they are living so that they know how much they are appreciated and admired for all their efforts in our community. I know there is nothing more enjoyable to be acknowledged for what you have accomplished.

If you run into James Stafford, you will see that he is still going strong and is enjoying life. He is awaiting a heart transplant, but until then, he is not missing out on much, and taking one day at a time with a great smile, ready to greet you or any stranger in town. I always love seeing him.

Monday morning, the news was about Robert Magana's

grandmother from O'Brien has passed away. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Also, remember the families in Crowell in your prayers. These families lost one of their students to a tragic death, and two others are on life support. Remember their classmates and all other who have been

touched by this tragedy.

I am sorry that I missed the column last week, but I think I pretty well covered the last two weeks of news in this week. I was ill last week, am doing better this week, and will keep on going.

God Bless our Troops, Students and all of us.

Knox County Aging Services

Menus For March 14th To March 18th

Monday March 14th
Hamburger Casserole
Carrot/Raisin Salad
Sliced Bread
Fruit Cups

Potato Salad
Blackeyed Peas
Garlic Toast
Jello/Fruit

Tuesday March 15th
Chef Salad
Baked Potato
Crackers
Carrot Cake

Friday, March 18th
Sub Sandwices
Lettuce & Tomato
Chips
Dessert

Wednesday March 16th
Pork Chops/Rice
Salad
Pinto Beans
Cornbread
Cookies

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

Please call in your orders by 10 a.m. to 657-3618.

Orders cant be taken after 10 a.m. And need to be picked up after 11 a.m.

Thursday, March 17th
Bbq Chicken

Knox County Market Place



Munday location of our 40 year drug free, smoke free established 51 store stable restaurant chain hiring management with a yearly base pay of \$30,000 plus bonus potential and up to \$10.00 hourly for restaurant experienced cooks and team members. Call Lisa at home office for a pre-screen interview: **940-549-5041**

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.

Help Wanted

CNAS & LVNS: Seeking FULL TIME LVN, and FULL TIME or PART TIME CNAS. Requires State License or certification. Competitive salary and benefits available for full time employees. EOE. For more information, please call (940) 864-8537, or apply in person at Haskell Healthcare Center, 1504 No First Street, Haskell

COOK: Immediate OPENING! Must be able to prepare meals for special diets. Experience preferred. Other kitchen duties. EOE/MFHV Apply in person, Mon-Fri 9 am to 5pm. Haskell Healthcare

Buying Live WILD HOGS



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For Rent

ROCHESTER - For Rent: Two travel trailer lots in Rochester. 30 and 50 amps. Electric and water paid. \$200 per month. 940-743-3497.

Legal Notice

The City of Knox City CDC Type-B board will hold a public hearing at

Classifieds get results!

City Hall, 902 E. Main Street on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This hearing will cover the downtown building lease for the Knox City Variety Store.

Thanks for reading!

CNAS

FULL TIME & PRN openings for individuals with State Certification. We offer a competitive salary and benefits available for full time employees. EOE For more information place call (940) 864-8537, or apply in person.

**HASKELL
HEALTH CARE
CENTER
1504 No First St
Haskell**



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

2010 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F)		Rainfall inches
	Low	High	
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

TDA Applicator Testing, March 23

Testing for Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) pesticide applicator licenses will be held at the Wichita County Extension office beginning at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23, 2011. This testing will be for all classes of TDA pesticide applicator licenses: Private, Commercial, and Non-Commercial. **Pre-registration is required.** Call TDA at (214) 631-0265 to pre-register.

Commercial and Non-Commercial Pesticide applicator licenses require successful completion of three exams – General, Laws & Regulations, and subject area. There is no charge for taking the General and Laws & Regulations exams. Subject area exams cost \$24 each, and

the fee must be paid by check or money order. Subject areas include: Field Crop Pest Control, Weed & Brush Control in Pasture & Rangeland, Ornamental & Turf Pest Control, Right-of-Way Pest Control, Aerial, Vector (mosquito), and Aquatic Plant & Animal Pest Control. A complete listing of subject area exams can be obtained by calling the TDA regional office at (214) 631-0265. Study materials for Commercial and Non-Commercial applicator exams can be purchased through the Texas AgriLife Extension website: www.aes.tamu.edu.

Persons seeking to acquire a Private Pesticide Applicator's license must attend a Private Applicator training prior to the test

date. The Wichita County Extension office will hold a Private Applicator training on Tuesday, March 22, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Wichita County Extension office. Pre-registration is required and study materials cost \$20. Contact the Wichita County Extension office at (940) 716-8610 or your local county extension office for more information. The Wichita County Extension office is located on the second floor of the County Courthouse Annex at 600 Scott Street (corner of 6th and Scott streets) in downtown Wichita Falls.

The next date for General pesticide applicator testing in Wichita Falls will be May 25, 2011, and will be held in Wichita Falls the fourth Wednesday of ev-

ery other month throughout 2011. A complete list of all regularly scheduled TDA Pesticide Applicator Exam dates can be found on the TDA website at www.TexasAgriculture.gov. Private Applicator training and testing dates are also scheduled periodically by local County AgriLife Extension offices.

Persons seeking to acquire a license for indoor termite/pest control or any other category covered by the Structural Pest Control Service must contact the SPCS at (866) 918-4481. For information go to the SPCS website at www.tda.state.tx.us/spcs. Please note that exams for Structural Pest Control Service licenses are NOT currently being offered in Wichita Falls.

TxDot to hold public meeting, March 24

CHILDRESS – The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will host a public meeting on March 24, 2011 at the Knox City City Hall, 902 East Main in Knox City. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of this public meeting is to discuss the plans for a sidewalk project in Knox City. A phase of this project will also include concrete paving on SH 222 one block east and west of SH 6 and on SH 6 one block north and south of SH 222, and the intersection. The proposed construction sequence will be discussed due to it being a major impact on businesses during this phase of construction.

The public meeting will be

conducted in English, and the Knox City City Hall is handicap accessible. Any request for language interpreters or other special needs should be made at least two days prior to the public meeting by contacting Barbara Seal, Public Information Officer at (940) 937-7288, or Gary Mizer, Munday Area Engineer, at (940) 422-4350. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Any comments following the public meeting may be submitted in writing to Terry Keener, Childress District Engineer or Marty Smith, Director of Transportation Planning and Development at, 7599 US 287, Childress, Texas 79201.

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KNOX CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL BANQUET

CELEBRATING ENERGY RELATED BUSINESSES

THE 2010 RECIPIENT OF THE E. HOB SMITH
PERSON OF THE YEAR WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

AT THE WOODEN NICKLE 6:30 PM
TICKETS \$15

DOOR PRIZES!

ESTATE AUCTION

COMBINATION OF TWO ESTATES

The Estate of Winters Matthews of Munday

Selling contents of home

DATE: Saturday, March 12th LOCATION: 131 L. STREET, MUNDAY, TX

STARTING @ 10:00 A.M. PREVIEW @ 9:00A.M. (ONE HR BEFORE AUCTION)

Beautiful antique dresser, Oak pedestal table, Glass front china hutch, 3 BR suits, Benchcraft sofa, Lazy Boy recliner, Lift chair recliner, Tell City LR tables, Town Square Glider, Bentwood rocker, file cabinet, figurines, 2 Amer Fostoria pcs, China serving pcs, Silverware, dishes, pots & pans, corning ware, sm appliances, Refrigerator, Washer/Dryer, Chest deep freezer, Misc: Old watches, Mogul annuals, sew machine, several shelves, and lots more!

The Estate of "Friendly" Fred Pepper of Knox City
will be included in at the above location on March 12th.

Will be selling a LARGE collection of tools, yard & lawn equipment. Many are lightly used.

Craftsman LTS 2000 19.5hp 42" cut lawn tractor used one season, Craftsman GT 5000 25hp Vtwin —Strong tractor 48" deck, Box blade & De- thatcher for riding mower, Murry 15.5hp 42" deck, Swisher Shredder 48" cut 12.5 Briggs near new, Craftsman Self Propelled Leaf Vacuum/Mulcher near new, New Craftsman Snow/Grader Blad for Lawn Tractor, and lots, lots of sockets, screwdrivers, wrenches, etc

ROYCE W. MILLER, AUCTIONEER, TX11840

www.garnettauctions.com

940.553.1685 800.687.1296 1801 Cumberland, Vernon, TX
& 608 W Morris, Seymour, TX

****NO BUYER'S PREMIUM**** Announcements made sale day takes precedence

Check the website for directions, listing and pictures

We will take left bids all day on Friday and up until the time the auction starts on Saturday.

Sign up for email notices for auctions on the website We do not share or sell our list.



The Paperboy

All in a day's work

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Do you know why God rested on the seventh day? Because he got finished with his work.

I don't know about you, but I don't get finished. Do we ever? Or does the list of things to do continue to grow until we leave unfinished business when we die?

I keep a running list of daily tasks and lately it seems for every item I mark off, I put two in its place.

I prioritize my list so the things on the bottom have usually been there awhile. For instance, I have an item on my list referring to cleaning out the garage ... that has been on there for months. It may be a couple more months before I get that one scratched off.

So, to feel more productive, or to be more exact, to show myself how productive I actually am, I have modified my list system. I now have a master list which I build my daily list off of.

Now I can knock off my daily list guilt-free ... until I take a look at the master list and see how much I really have to do. It's a vicious cycle.

Watching Charlie Sheen's meltdown has been interesting.

On one hand, I think Sheen is just doing what stars are programmed to do: Take any and all publicity and spin it and weave it until it goes away.

On the other hand, I look at Sheen as another Hollywood disaster headed to the abyss.

But, as we've learned through watching the stars, everyone in Hollywood has a second chance, third chance, fourth chance, etc... All they have to do is remain alive and eventually get their feet back on the ground.

Robert Downy, Jr., who is regarded as one of the best American actors, is a prime example of how someone can get their life back on track. However, it took him years to figure it out and get over his addiction problems.

As most of you know, I'm not a big fan of Hollywood or the dream world many of our stars live in, but I do feel for the families. Watching Martin Sheen struggle with the issues his son is going through is difficult. It's the same as what some go through locally, but when it happens to stars, everyone knows it and many lampoon it.

I expect if Sheen can stay alive, he'll be back on top in a few years. Once he's through with the limelight, or the limelight is through with him, perhaps he'll get the help he needs and stay off the radar for awhile. Then he can start taking baby steps back to the top.

It won't be easy however. The man is burning bridges like a crazed arsonist so beyond getting his mind right, he's going to have to do a lot of mending. Then again it's Hollywood, we've seen it time and time again.

There is a study out claiming children think food tastes better if they have cartoon characters on the packaging.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania tested the influence this marketing has on children. They had 80 kids,

ages 4 to 6, look at one of four boxes of a "new" cereal created for the experiment. The cereals were called Healthy Bits and Sugar Bits. One box of each type had a cartoon character on the front, and one of each type didn't.

Cartoon penguins Mumble and Gloria from the movie Happy Feet were used on the packages.

The boxes were filled with a relatively healthy kids' cereal sold at natural-food stores. The kids were told the names of the cereals before the taste test. They all tasted the same cereal, but they saw and sampled from only one type of box. Then they were asked to rate the taste on a scale of 1 to 5.

The findings, reported in the March issue of Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine:

·Kids who ate the cereal with the penguin characters on the box reported liking it better than kids who ate the cereal without the characters.

·The cereal's name had an influence on taste perception, too. When there was no character on the boxes, the children rated Healthy Bits cereal better-tasting than those who sampled Sugar Bits.

·Kids who ate Sugar Bits without the character on the box gave it the lowest rating.

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

There's Always a Plan B

By REBEKAH RAST

A "Plan B" is put in place as a backup, a form of insurance in case "Plan A" doesn't work out.

A Plan B is valuable when taking a cross-country road trip and you happen to hit road construction and can't get through. A Plan B is handy when trying a new recipe for the first time where you'll be serving guests — just in case the meal doesn't turn out as planned.

But a Plan B in case the dollar continues to weaken or collapse? That's exactly what 13 states are working on, and their idea is not original to America's past.

In fact, the state of Utah is taking implementation of this Plan B very seriously. What is the plan? It would recognize gold and silver coins issued by the federal government as legal currency in the state. The Utah bill passed the House March 4 and now waits to

be voted on by the Senate.

Though this legislation and others are mainly symbolic at this point, since the U.S. no longer mints gold and silver coins, the state's message is clear: there is a sense of uneasiness and insecurity in America's current monetary system and it doesn't hurt to have a Plan B ready to go just in case.

In February, South Carolina politicians attempted similar legislation in case the Federal Reserve collapses and hyper-inflation ensues.

Similar bills were introduced in Georgia and Virginia. A Yahoo! News article reported that, "A bill in Georgia would require all debts to the state be paid in pre-1965 gold and silver coins. The Virginia proposal would let the state print its own money."

Neither of these bills made it to a vote, but it is clear that states are worried that the American dollar may not survive in this weak

economy.

As states strike out on their own to create a backup for America's struggling dollar, is it even a possibility for gold and silver to enter back into the monetary system?

Debunking all consideration of the idea, Ben Bernanke said the precious metals will not be making a comeback. A Fox News article quoted him as saying, "It did deliver price stability over long periods of time, but over shorter periods of time it caused wide swings in prices related to changes in demand or supply of gold."

The gold standard held strong in the U.S. from 1873 to 1933. In 1933, the United States went off the gold standard per President Franklin Roosevelt's plan to fight what became known as the Great Depression.

By taking America off the gold standard, the Federal Reserve could hold onto more of the gold supply and thus inflate the paper

money supply.

The U.S. held the value of gold at \$35 per ounce until President Richard Nixon in 1971 announced that dollars would no longer be converted to gold at a fixed value, which brought the gold standard to an end in the U.S.

Ever since the fall of the gold standard, the paper supply of money has been inflated to adjust to market trends and has now led state leaders to fear that the entire monetary system might come crashing down.

If ever there was time to implement a Plan B, it is now.

Imagine if America were on a gold system now.

With an exchange rate of \$1,437.20 per ounce of gold, the gold and silver monetary system sounds like a good Plan B.



Monday morning, many residents of Knox City awoke to no water pressure in their houses or businesses. A water line that runs parallel to South Central in Knox City cracked due to a shift in the earth. The water pumps had to be shut down for an estimated four hours while City crews worked on the problem. Luckily, no contamination to the water system resulted because of the leak. The new City Administrator, Chad Roberts, said he thought the shift in the earth was due to the lack of rain in the past few months.

Photo by Jason Smart

JUST JEFF

By Jeff Stanfield

This has been a tough week for our neighbors in Crowell, They had a tragic accident that claimed a young man's life and critically injured 3 more. This is not the kind of stuff that I usually write about. But, it is what life sometimes throws us.

We read about it or hear about it each day somewhere, but rarely in our own backyard. These young adults were hanging out with our kids, and running and jumping with them in Jayton at a track meet Friday night... and less than 24 hours later their lives either changed or ended. Why? I guess I just never have ever understood why we lose young people.

God has a plan for us all, that I do see, but I have never understood why. This really bothered me after the Jr. High track meet Monday night as I began to think about the parents and friends of the kids involved, about

the granddad's and mom's and what the young man may have done with his life had it not been cut so short.

So many things we take for granted, gone in a instant. I guess my message is this: never take God for granted, always tell your kids you love them, and enjoy watching the little things they do; like running a race, jumping or even playing a stupid video game, because it can be gone in a second.

Life will throw us all curves some good and some bad. But, in the end, as long as you are getting an "at bat" then you are still participating in this crazy life we have.

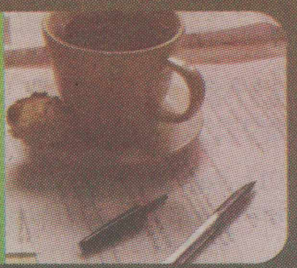
May God Bless Crowell Texas and the families and friends of these kids; these good people will need lots of prayers so please remember them.

"Your uneducated Redneck neighbor"
Jeff Stanfield

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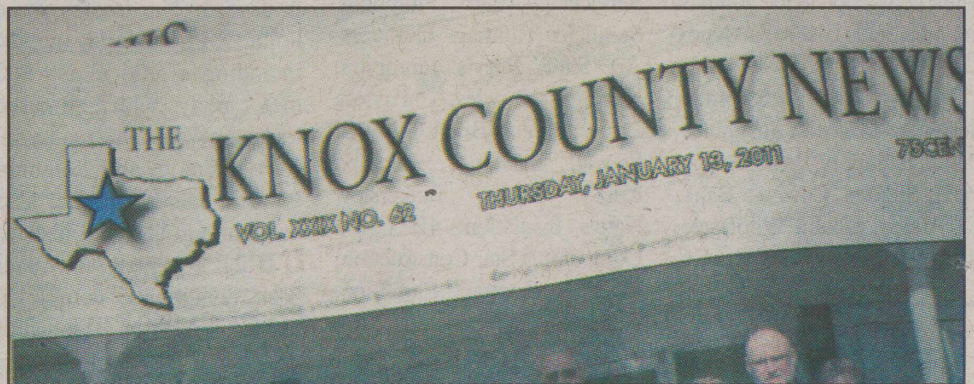
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This year the Knox City Youth will have another opportunity to hone their baseball skills on the Little League Field next to the Knox City High School. The schedule of games will be printed in an upcoming issue of the Knox County News.

O'Brien Lady Bulldogs first Track meet results

The Lady Bulldogs had their first track meet last week in Jayton. The Ladies came home with several metals, including a gold in the 800 meter relay, which featured Essence Ward, Andrea Lynn, Jordyn Eaton, and Leighton Pepper. Caitlyn Baxter also brought a gold metal back to O'Brien for her 200 meter dash, which she completed in 31.47 seconds. The rest of the results are as follows:

Field Events:
 Discus: 4th Marlie Steele 58'7 3/4", 6th Jordyn Eaton 57'9 3/4"
 Triple Jump: 2nd Andrea Lynn 28' 5 1/2"
 Shot Put: 3rd Leighton Pepper 28' 9 1/2", 4th Joanna

Trevino 27' 1"

Running Events:
 2400 M. Run: 4th Shailee Manning 11:44.50

Sprint Relay: 2nd Essence Ward, Andrea Lynn, Jordyn Eaton, Leighton Pepper :57.4

800 M. Relay: 1st Essence Ward, Andrea Lynn, Jordyn Eaton, Leighton Pepper 2:04.23

300 M. Hurdles: 4th Andrea Lynn 1:02.59

1200 M. Run: 5th Shailee Manning 5:17.77

200 M. Dash: 1st Caitlyn Baxter 31.47

1600 M. Relay: 6th Ariel Ruiz, Essence Ward, Moriah Schnable, Jordyn Eaton 5:11



Zach Shaver awaits a pitch from the opposing team. The KC Greyhound Baseball team has opened the season opens with victories, most recently beating Northside 20-10. The next game will be at home against Roby.

Photo by Michelle Stanfield

Knox City High relays

On March 11, 2011, the Knox City High School will host the "Knox City High School Relays. The Meet will begin at 1:00 in the weight room, with a "scratch meeting". The field events are scheduled to begin at 2:30, featuring the triple jump to be held at the south end of the football field; the shot put event, which will take place at the north end of the foot ball field; the discuss throwing, taking place on the east side of the field; the long jump, which

will be at the northwest end of the field; and the high jump event, located at the south end of the football field.

At 3:00 p.m. the 3200 meter run. Fifteen minutes after the completion of the last field event (estimated to be around 6:00), the running events will start. The following runs will then be held: 400 M Relay, 800 M Run, 100 M Hurdles, 110 M Hurdles, 100 M Dash, 800 M Relay, 400 M Dash, 300 M Hurdles, 200 M Dash, 1600 M Run, 1600 M Relay.

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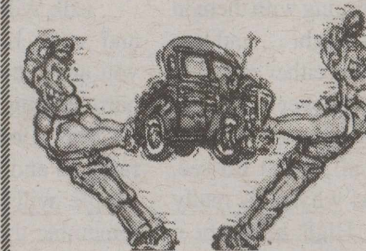


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Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Here it is another workweek beginning. And sounds like we have wind promised for at least a couple of days. Just hope we don't have any fires. Those of a few days ago were horrible and as dry as it is, should one start, it would be devastating.

So good to report that as far as I know, we have no one on our sick list this week. Weldon Gideon is home and doing quite well. Does have an appointment with his regular Wichita Fall doctor on Wednesday, but that's routine. And hopefully, he will get a good report.

The kids, teachers, and parents are looking forward to spring break next week. Several have plans to be away for a couple days while others will just enjoy not having to get up early for a few days. Think some will be off to the Houston Stock Show.

Here 'N There

Corrine Parrish feels very fortunate and very blessed today after having a wreck at the intersection here in town Friday around 2 p.m.

A pickup hit her and totally demolished the front end of her car. A young lady from Fort Worth was driving the pickup and other than them both being shaken up, neither was hurt. Just "banged up" a little. Corrine said on Sunday, her shoulder was sort of sore, but no real problem at all. Just exactly how that happened is not real clear to me, but just on of those things that seemed very unavoidable. The best part, of course, is that no severe injuries occurred.

Another day on Saturday for Little Dribblers and their fans when everyone "took off" for Leuders. We had some teams that won all of their games and some didn't fare so well, but all had a good time.

Several from Benjamin attended the funeral of Alan Baty at Gilliland last Thursday. Among those attending were Carol and Dick Dickson, Donnie Ryder, Shannon Propps, Jan Carver, Kim Moore, James and Stacia Propps, Jane Gideon, Buddy and Janice

Tolson, Beverly and Willie Strickland, Chloe Baty, Steven and Sheila Kuehler, and Gladene Green.

Several of Alan's classmates and other school acquaintances were here and thought the circumstances of their being here were sad, it was good to see and visit with many of them.

Debi and Mike Moorhouse and grandson, Dillon, were in Dallas for the weekend for a visit with her cousin, Gwen and her husband, and also Dillon's aunt Nera Ridgeway and her husband, Bob and Dale Green. Dale, who is Van's brother, is suffering from MS and Debi said his condition is getting worse all the time. Such sad news.

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Benjamin Mustang Track

The 2011 Mustang track all-stars have been announced.

The Knox County News sends their best of wishes to the following participants in the 2011 track season:

Jr. High:

Katelin Brown
Alyssa Casillas
Ryan Heard
Marisol Ledesma
Elias Nevarez
Kyra Salas
Gilda Solis
Kelsey Brown

Sydney Mendoza
Tristan Salas

High School:
Matthew Acree
Jonathan Rainwater
Tyler Kinnibrugh
Cody Propps

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Good fungi might prove even better for plant, human health

COLLEGE STATION — Researchers have come closer to understanding how a common fungus “makes its living in the soil,” which could lead to its possible “career change” as a therapeutic agent for plant and human health.

That’s according to Dr. Charles Kenerley, Texas AgriLife Research plant pathologist, and a team of scientists from the U.S., India and France, whose study on *Trichoderma virens* is in February’s *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

T. virens already enjoy a good reputation in the plant world. The fungi is found throughout the world in all types of soil, Kenerley explained.

“We started working with this organism because it has what we would call biological control activity,” he added. “They are used either as seed treatment, as a foliar spray, or in the mixtures of potting soil at nurseries (to help control disease).”

Because they are mycoparasites, *T. virens* attack other, less desirable fungi that can harm roots and foliage of plants, he added. Colonization of plant roots by *T. virens* also prompts the plant to produce defense responses to fight off pathogenic fungi.

As a bonus, when no pathogens are loitering, *T. virens* enhance the growth of plants, he added.

“These fungi are very diversified organisms that have various roles in ecology,” Kenerley said, “so agriculture has adopted them for use in biocontrol or growth promotion. *T. virens* will colonize most agricultural crops including

corn, cotton, sorghum and alfalfa, as well as woody plants and numerous other nursery plants.”

Anything good enough to fight off disease and encourage growth might have more to offer, the scientists reasoned, so they looked deeper.

Sure enough, Kenerley noted, *T. virens* also produce antibiotics and short chains of amino acids called peptaibols. Amino acids — because they string together to form protein — are like the cinder blocks of all living things.

In this study, the researchers found two classes of peptaibols that contain more than 70 components that had never been described.

“What is also exciting is that the 11- and 14-amino acid peptaibols have great diversity. The chemists I work with have been able to identify 52 different forms of this 11-amino acid peptaibol,” Kenerley said. “When you have so many different forms, you have now a suite of compounds that you can test (for potential uses).”

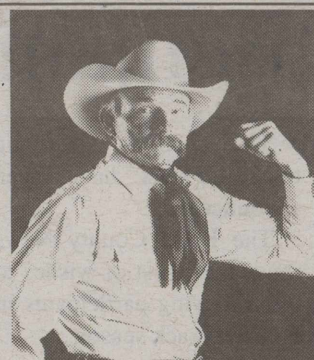
Sorting out that diversity to determine any specific uses for each of the 52 forms is something the team continues to pursue.

“Some might be interesting for use in plant science and some might be looked at by the pharmaceutical industry for human uses,” he said.

The researcher said finding potential uses for the compounds will not be easy.

“The biggest challenge is not only in selection of the most appropriate form, but then how do you gear

See FUNGI on page 11



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE by Baxter Black, DVM

FOOD SAFETY ACT

What will the Food Safety Modernization Act, if put into effect, do to Ms. Obama’s backyard garden? Congress has taken up the issue of food safety because of the headline-grabbing occurrences of, primarily bacterial, outbreaks of disease in fresh meat and produce. With the exception of eggs, most *E. coli* and *Salmonella* outbreaks are a result of human or animal contamination in the growing or processing of the product. This is the reason that organically grown produce is especially vulnerable. Unable to use chemical fertilizer, pesticides, or insecticides, organic growers must make an extra effort to reduce organisms carried by using manure fertilizer, invasive insects and vermin.

I have a garden. I battle many of tomato’s natural adversaries! I appreciate how difficult it must be for a gardener to ward off the tomato worms, hungry caterpillars, beetles, grasshoppers, bugs, birds and rodents by hand, to keep it “organic.” I use early season Sevin and pyrethrums because I’m lazy, I guess, or just don’t have the time. Besides, I get healthier tomatoes and more of them!

So what would the Food Safety bill have to do with Ms. Obama’s garden? Would she be allowed to take her tomatoes, lettuce and celery down to the Saturday morning Farmer’s Market? Or serve them in a salad to guests of the White House? I expect the bill would limit her options. An FDA spokesman said the Food Safety bill could actually “kill the very farmers they are trying to help.”

Amendments that place lesser restrictions on smaller producers have been discussed to reduce their paperwork burden. But, does that make the product safer than blueberries from Chile and avocados from Mexico? I don’t think so. Congress is trying to avoid eliminating the availability of home-grown fresh meat and produce to consumers with the new law. Sometimes politics enters in and skews the science. Some amendments discussed even want to inflict laws based on where the food is sold or how much the farmer earns, which has nothing to do with food safety!

Under the Food Safety bill, will local co-ops, local producers, and Ms. Obama be required to place warning labels on their radishes and zucchini? If she serves it to the French Ambassador will she have to give a short announcement at the table like a flight attendant, “Ladies and Gentlemen, Joe and I will be serving you this afternoon, please give us your attention. Eating of the legally unrestricted fresh food in front of you, none of which has been grown or processed or approved by the Food Safety Act, can result in distention, nausea and uncontrollable evacuation. Eat at our own risk. This room has several exits, please take note of the one nearest you. In case of a universal attack, emesis bags will fall from the ceiling...”

All of us in agriculture are concerned with these food-carried, usually ‘operator error,’ disease outbreaks, whether it stems from a packing-plant contamination of ground beef, field contamination by fruit pickers, or fertilizer contaminated home-grown cabbage. However, regardless of any laws passed, the risk of eating fresh

See BAX on page 11



The 501

by
Hanaba Munn Welch

Our grandson’s first soccer game was last week. I missed it. From what I hear, he sort of missed it too. He was there, but he wasn’t. His heart just wasn’t in the game. Nor was his head. He likes sports, but he walked off the field at one point. Oh well.

Since I’ve never had children, I’m not sure what the rule is for how parents should handle a youngster’s reluctance to play with the team. Do you let them out of their contract? I think a lot depends on how much you paid for the shoes. He’s not quitting.

Some of my friends have told me that some of their grandchildren have shown more interest in kicking gopher mounds than the soccer ball. Maybe that’s how it goes sometimes if you’re only 4 and easily distracted by things like clouds and gopher mounds.

When I was just 4, nobody had heard of soccer. School started with the first grade back then, and so did any semblance of organized sports, which happened at recess if it happened at all. You didn’t need special shoes, you didn’t have a uniform, and team rosters were fluid, meaning we lined up to be chosen for each game according to our abilities. The kids always chosen last knew they were bad. They couldn’t opt out. We needed them to have enough to play. Their only choice was to excel at other stuff. Butch, for instance, who didn’t live up to his tough-sounding name, checked hefty tomes out of the library. Not only did he read them, but he

also talked about them, which made him even more likely to get chosen last. He ended up teaching college somewhere.

But forget school. Back to age 4.

If you lived in the country, you played with kids at hand — siblings or whoever lived nearby. For only-child me, stuck right in the middle of a square mile, playmates came and went often. They belonged to the transient families that moved in and out of our farm worker house — families that arrived in old cars that had seen better days. Families that left the same way. I remember a pickup that had a quilt for upholstery. One car had a radiator ornament that glowed orange. That car looked regal after dark when it moved along our road.

Most of the time we had enough kids to play baseball or something, but we weren’t organized. All the good playing spaces were planted in something that didn’t need to get damaged by us anyway.

So we just played. We hauled stuff and each other in my little red wagon. We ran around barefooted and always got stickers in our feet. We kicked gopher mounds.

OK, really I don’t remember specifically that we kicked gopher mounds. More likely we dug into them and sifted the soft dirt between our fingers and figured out how to flood gopher tunnels with a water hose.

Soccer? We just didn’t know what we were missing.

BAX

risk of eating fresh food will always be there. In the future I can envision genetically modified foods or antibiotics that will resist, contain, or even prevent bacterial or fungal contamination in the growing process, and someday the government will get wise and require irradiation of fresh meat and produce that is marketed to the public. But, for now, I will continue to grow my tomatoes and jalapeños, and I wouldn't be afraid to eat out of Ms. Obama's garden either. It's hard to beat home-grown!

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FUNGI

the organism to produce more of what you want rather than the whole suite of its compounds," Kenerley said. "There's probably an ecological reason the fungus produces a diversity of these compounds. I'm sure it has to do with survival in the soil, and its interaction with other organisms and plant roots.

"The compounds are not necessarily there for our benefit, but we would like to use these compounds in different applications," he added.

While Kenerley's team is considering agricultural uses for the peptaibols, others are considering pharmaceutical uses for treating tumors in humans or perhaps their ability to work against harmful bacteria, fungi and viruses, he said.

"You can see that they would have great potential

if they have therapeutic value but are not harmful to the hosts — the hosts being humans," Kenerley added.

The scientist said once researchers understand how the peptaibols are produced by the fungus, the fungus could be potentially modified to produce only the part needed for a specific use.

"If we can demonstrate a cheap way to make these, the specific form desired could be synthesized," he said. "The problem right now is there are so many forms of these peptaibols, you really don't know which one to go after. We need to figure out 'do I need a combination of these things? or really do I only need to make one or two?'"

Kenerley's team is working with chemists in France to determine which peptaibols to select for continued work.

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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 and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

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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.

**St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Sausage Dinner**

Also serving fried chicken

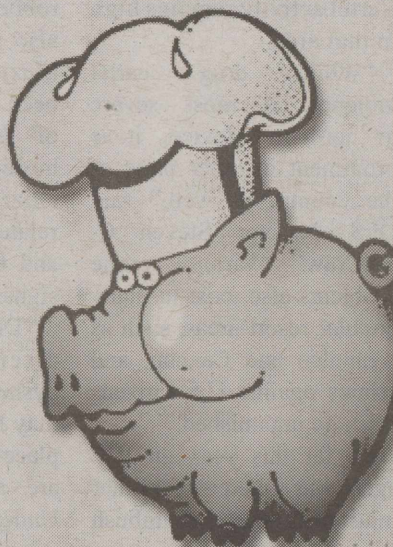
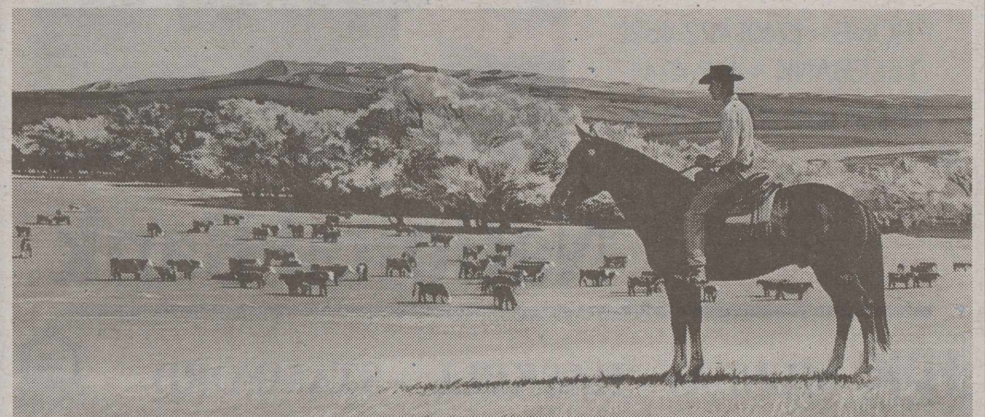
Sunday, March 20

at the Knights of Columbus Hall Rhineland, Texas

Serving Time: 11:00 a.m. - 1:30

*Adults & Take Outs - \$10.00
& Children (12 & under) - \$5.00*

*Bulk Sausage \$3.00 per lb.
Call John @ (940) 422-4561 or
Billie @ (940) 422-4993.
Breakfast Sausage is also available
Pick-up orders at
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FOREST SERVICE**
The Texas A&M University System
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ADMINISTRATOR

Chad's family has found a home in Knox City and will be moving here on March 6th, his wife Vickie along with children Bryson (13), Logan (9) and Kylee (5). They will start to school at the KC/

O'Brien CISD school system and finish out their school year.

Chad was born and raised in Haskell, currently moving here from Arkansas. Chad was in law enforcement for

over twelve years, he holds a master peace officer license. So you could very well see him in the police department cars.

Come by the City Hall and met Chad.

of high school, continuing to hone their musical sense on their respective instruments in order to show off the talent at the review.

There is a saying "if you build it, they will come", and come, they have. The last month, there has been several people audition, as well as a schlew of individuals come forward and donate their time and talent in the renovation/sound system installation at the old church building. Lana Ness of Aspermont dedicated her musical ability to become the music director of the show.

REVIEW

After all this, the curtain is about to (figuratively) go up, and the show will begin at 6:00 p.m., featuring acts like "Prickly Pear", a country style band out of Merkle, who will bring a trio of an accordion, a fiddle and a guitar to the stage.

Also, the onlookers of the Revue will get to enjoy a ventriloquist act (by Jerry Burke), several vocal contributions (by Jeanie Delaney from Haskell, Donna Hill from Hamlin, George Kirkland from Hamlin, Tamara Smart from O'Brien/Knox City, Denis Higgins from Haskell,

Danielle Benavides and Alexys from Hamlin, Pam Reither from Stamford, Lana Ness and Donna Hill from Hamlin, Paul Matta from Abilene, Charlie Tomlinson from Sagerton, to name a few), an Elvis impersonator named Danny Lankford from Rule, and an extremely well chosen house band to back them all up.

On the program; "Good old Country songs on the first half, and after the break, [the revue has scheduled] some God and Country songs." During the intermission, a table will be set up with a snack and beverage selection.

Sometimes you just need a loan

Sometimes you just need a loan. Your daughter Debbie is getting married. Your son Toby needs a new Tuba. Let's face it. Families cost money. Things come up that you had no way of predicting. We make personal loans for occasions like this to people who have good credit. So next time you find yourself connected to the unexpected, stop in and see us about a personal loan. Subject to credit approval.



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MUNDAY - HASKELL - STAMFORD



DPS discourages Spring Break travel to Mexico

The Texas Department of Public Safety is urging Spring Breakers to avoid traveling to Mexico because of continued violence — and reminding boaters to stay on the U.S. side of Falcon Lake.

Falcon Lake has been the scene of several robberies and a U.S. citizen's murder, and DPS is again warning boaters to steer clear of the Mexican side of the lake. Cartel activity remains high in that area.

"While drug cartel violence is most severe in northern Mexico, it is prominent in other parts of the country as well," said DPS Director Steven C. McCraw. "Various crime problems also exist in many popular resort areas, such as Acapulco and Cancun, and crimes against U.S. citizens often go unpunished."

So far this year, an ICE agent was killed and another injured in a suspected ambush

near San Luis Potosi February 15. Two El Paso teens were gunned down February 5 in Ciudad Juarez. In January, a Texas missionary was shot in the head when she and her husband ran an illegal road block in Nuevo Leon.

In addition to U.S. citizens killed so far this year, preliminary figures show as many as 65 Americans were killed in Mexico in 2010. Kidnapping, sexual assault, robbery and carjacking also are threats in parts of Mexico. Suspects have not been prosecuted in many of the cases. Meanwhile, more than 30,000 Mexican citizens have died in drug-related violence since 2006, and the violence shows no signs of abating.

"Drug violence has not discriminated—innocent bystanders and people who may have been in the wrong place at the wrong time are among the casualties. Underestimating the

violence in Mexico would be a mistake for parents and students," said McCraw. "Our safety message is simple: avoid traveling to Mexico during Spring Break and stay alive."

DPS acknowledges that many travel to Mexico without incident, but the risks cannot be ignored. Travelers are encouraged to carefully research any planned trips.

Travelers should always check the U.S. State Department website for the most up-to-date information related to security issues in Mexico. (See http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_970.html or http://mexico.usembassy.gov/eng/eacs_MexicoSecurityUpdate.html.)

U.S. citizens living or traveling in Mexico are urged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through their website at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS!