

THE **KNOX COUNTY NEWS**

VOL. XXX NO. 249 THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2011 75CENTS

Knox County Hospital Employees 'Walk Across Texas'

Employees of Knox County Hospital District joined together in three teams to 'Walk Across Texas'. The 895 miles walked across this great state(not literally, of course) began on May 2nd and ended on June 5th with the team of Captain Crunch and the Cereal Killers being first to meet (and exceed) the goal. The project was an effort to promote the healthy habit of exercising on a regular basis. Team members paid an entry fee of \$10.00 each and the winning team donated the proceeds to 'Giving Jessie a Hand' in honor of Jessie Dena who is awaiting a kidney transplant. Nurse Practitioner Jamie Caldwell organized the project and envisions a county-wide Walk Across Texas in the future. Healthy habits translate into improved overall health and this project encourages individuals to develop the



habit of exercising on a regular basis. The winning team of Capitan Crunch and The Cereal Killers included: Stephen Kuehler, Abby Dudensing, Cassidy Brown, Jeanne Viray, Rommel Quevedo, Kyle Bibb, Tonya Lewis, Rickie Myers, Diana Dena, Jara Collins, Lupe Perez, and Dr. Shirley Barretto. Total miles walked: 945.64

TEAM 2 consisted of Jamie Benham, Haley Morrow, Lupe Bejar, Kimberly Myers, Jo Brown, Sheila Kuehler, Dr. Ezekiel Duke, Dan Offutt, Lissa Myers, Cheryl Sciba, Raquel Decker, and Linda Abila. Total miles walked: 875. The Most Likely to Have a Heart Attack Team included: Sue Marion, Amanda Bibb, **WALK** continued on page 11

Appreciation Dinner for local public servants

All KC residents are urged to come out to the Knox City Park, July 1 at 7:00 and show support & appreciation for the Knox City Volunteer Fire Department, as well as local EMS, Sheriff's Department, 911, Highway Patrol & Game Warden employees!!! These are among the many different people that have been crucial in the ongoing war against the wildfires threatening & destroying our area for over a month now & we would like to take an evening to honor them with a Brisket Dinner, so that we all may take the opportunity to shake their hands & say THANKS!!! The Fire Department is a nonprofit organization made up of volunteers who have given up their family time as well as time at their jobs to come out & fight for our safety! **APPRECIATION continued on page 11**

The Current Burn Ban in Haskell and Knox Counties Prohibits ANY and ALL Fireworks. Violators of this ban will be prosecuted.

CORRECTION: The Division I Texas Six Man All-Star Game previously announced at Lowry Field in Lubbock has been moved because of construction. The new venue will be at Frenship Stadium in Wolforth, just outside Lubbock. The game time is still set at 7:30 p.m. This is the game that local C.H. Underwood will be inducted into the 6-man Coaches Hall of Fame and that recent KCHS graduate, Zach Shaver, will be participating.

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GOD'S PROMISES

Bro. Jerry Vincent, FBC Knox City

"I Am Not Ashamed"

II Timothy 1:12

"Nevertheless I am not ashamed" Needless to say, each one of us, from time to time, are reluctant to witness. For a Christian, we should not be, but none of us are perfect.

In this twelfth verse, Paul is saying, "I am not ashamed." I also believe I can say without hesitation, that "I am not ashamed." But still,

there are times when I should speak up and don't. If you are honest, I think you will have to say the same thing. Still being totally honest, I can say that I am not ashamed to speak for Jesus.

As Paul said, and I know I can say, "He is able to keep that which I have committed (entrusted) unto him against that day." I heard about a man's conversation with another man at Bud's recently. The other man said, "I don't know if I'll go to Heaven; I sure hope so." The

first man replied, "I don't have to hope; I know I'm going to Heaven when I die." How did he know? Because the Word says it! This Christian man did not pursue the conversation further, because the Word also says, "The natural man does not understand spiritual things."

Exactly what is the "that" Paul is talking about? His faith in Christ. "Against that day." What day? Judgment Day. The day Jesus returns to receive His own.

I like the phrase Paul used, "and am persuaded." He is simply saying, "I am sure; I know for a fact; it's settled." Jesus is mine and someday he is coming for me.

Now, Paul is saying, "I have committed my all against that day. My whole life points toward that day." Can you join me in saying that we live all our lives in expectancy of that day? Sure, I am looking forward to that day. I am ready to go. Saying that, it reminds me of the little "funny" we all have probably heard:

The preacher was shouting at the end of the service, "Everybody who wants to go to Heaven, stand up!" Everyone except one little boy stood to their feet. The preacher asked him, "Son, don't you want to go to Heaven some day when you die?" The little boy replied, "Oh, yes Sir, I want to go to Heaven when I die, but I thought you were getting up a load to leave right now!" I think we are all a little like that; ready, but willing to "wait our turn."

John 10:27-28 says, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and

I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

What a tremendous promise. I believe Jesus is saying in verse 28, "Our eternal life can never be taken away from us, and it is a fact that God's hand is more powerful than that of the enemy."

John 14:1-6 says, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself: that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto Him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me."

This is such a promising and beautiful Scripture which is consistently used, especially at funerals.

In verse 5, Thomas states the practical, "Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?" Then, in verse 6, Jesus assures him that he (Jesus) is the way, the truth and the life. How precious, simple and practical. We who know Him; know all we need to know. He will take care of the rest. As I am constantly saying, "We need to examine our lives daily and keep our lives focused upon Him, our Savior."

The Knox County News

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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.

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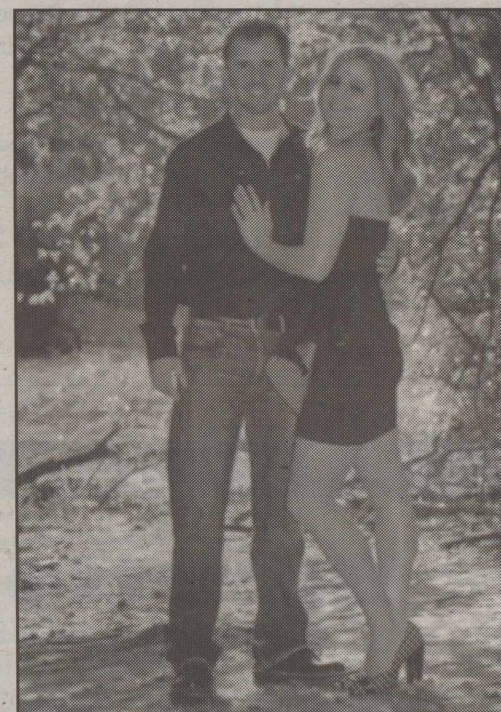
The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

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.



Schur, Stanfield to wed

Charlie and Julie Schur of Knox City announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jessy Karel Schur, to Andy Shaver, son of Jeff and Michelle Stanfield and Richard Shaver.

The couple will exchange wedding vows at 5 p.m., October 8, 2011 at the First United Methodist Church in Knox City with Preacher Tex Cox officiating.

Miss Schur is a graduate of Knox City High School. She graduated from Lubbock Cosmetology College as a licensed Esthetician, and is currently working at Dillard's as a skincare specialist.

Shaver also graduated from Knox City High School and just recently graduated from Texas Tech University with a Bachelors Degree in education. He is currently working for the Hillcrest Country Club.

Miss Schur is the granddaughter of Janice Browning of Vernon and the late Kenneth Browning and Patsy and Charles Donges of Vernon and the late Charles V. Schur.

Shaver is the grandson of R.A. and Jinx Shaver of Rochester, Charles Pierce of Haskell and Danny and Sharon Hudson of Benjamin.

OBITUARIES

Harry Elwood Hackney

Harry Elwood Hackney was born July 31, 1917 in Bosque Co, Texas to Clyde and Eva Hackney. He departed this life on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at the age of 93 in Settler's Ridge Nursing Home, Celina, TX.

The Hackney family moved to Knox County when Elwood was very young. He graduated from Sunset High School. There he met and married Bonnie Nell Rowan. They were long time members of the Knox City Church of Christ where Elwood served as an elder. They farmed in Haskell County until they retired in 1977. Elwood was an avid hunter, fisherman and golfer. He loved playing any type of game.

Elwood was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Bonnie Hackney; his sister, Lillian Hester; his niece, Kay Johnson and his son, Joe Hackney.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda Hackney, of Celina; his son, Jim Hackney and wife, Sue, of Fort Worth; daughter-in-law, Hazel Hackney, of Celina and three grandchildren: Todd Hackney of South Dakota, Talanda Dorsey and husband Tommy of Fort Worth and Marla Hackney/Young and husband, Nick, of Celina and Joe's adopted son, John Pitts. He is also survived by 5 great grandchildren: Sean, Suzy, Mason, Shelby and Lyric.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, June 22, at 10:00 am at the Heritage Church of Christ in Fort Worth, Texas. The committal service will be held Thursday, June 23, at 2:00 pm at the Knox City Church of Christ in lieu of a graveside service. He will be buried in Knox City Cemetery.

Alvin "Ray" Speck

Alvin "Ray" Speck, 79, born June 17, 1932, passed away Friday, June 17, 2011 at his home in Knox City. Services will be held Monday, June 20, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at Knox City Foursquare Church with Paul Chambers and Gary Schnable officiating. Burial will be at the Rochester Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes. The family will receive visitors at the Smith Family Funeral Home in Knox City on Sunday evening, June 19 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ray was born in Haskell County to Alvin David Speck and Thelma Strickland Speck. He worked in the oilfield as a young man. Later, he was a building contractor and a retired farmer/rancher. He was also a caregiver, caring for many of his family members throughout the years.

Ray is survived by his wife of 34 years, Jo Karen Singleton Speck; his little

precious dog, Heidi; two sons; David Ray and his wife Beverly, Danny and wife Sherry; one daughter, Carol Speck Judiscak and husband Joe; two step-daughters, Rhonda and Angie; 5 grandchildren; Elisha,

Jeremy, Kyle, Adam and Ty; six great-grandchildren; one brother-in-law, Tom Singleton and wife Peggy; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Ray will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Knox County Aging Services

Menus For June 27th To July 1st

Monday June 27th

Steak Fingers/Gravy
Buttered Potatoes
Green Beans
Hot Rolls
Fruit Cups

Tuesday June 28th

Chicken/Rice Casserole
Salad

Mixed Vegetables
Garlic Toast
Fruit Crunch

Wednesday June 29th

Meat Loaf
Pinto Beans
Spoon Tomato Salad
Cornbread
Cookies

Thursday, June 30th

Hamburgers/Cheese Slices

Lettuce/Tomato

Chips

Jello/Fruit

Friday, July 1st

Grilled Chicken Salad
Pickled Beets
Crackers
Dessert

New Serving Time Is 12
Noon (In Knox City Only)
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Jerry Vincent, Pastor
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Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.
FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – Knox City

Timothy Trimble, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00
a.m.

No Sunday Evening Service

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP –

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Tex Cox, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00
p.m. Wednesday Prayer Warriors 6:00 p.m.

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

Kevin Neslon, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m., Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.
Sunday Mornings on KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.

WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Rob Harrison, Pastor

Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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Sammie's Knox City Corner and Final thoughts

By Sammie Offield

Monday started out with a helicopter going to the hospital for a medical airlift. I don't have any of the details, but maybe later.

I realize that my readers depend on my city news regularly, but I have to apologize again that my sources were apparently unreliable. You can be assured that in the future there will not be any more of that. I will get the facts from the horses mouth, of that you can be sure.

Billy Ray Morrow seems to be coming along fine. Hopefully he will get the help he needs in the near future.

Everyone had a great time downtown at the KC Variety Store Grand Opening. It is great to see this

new asset in our community and they are still open to advise of what some of the things the locals need. Everyone who entered at the Grand Opening was greeted with a smile, a hotdog and a drink. I hope everyone embraces this store, because it will be up to our community using this facility to keep it going. If you haven't stopped by, go in and take a look. It's so clean! That alone is a HUGE plus in my book. I bet if they don't have an item that you need, that they would be willing to get it for you.

This next week, Imalda Bernal, from O'Brien, will be traveling to see her new granddaughter, born to Sandra and her husband, Dallas. They are excited to get to be there for a wonderful

event. The baby came with no problem at all- weighing at 8lbs, 3oz. Both momma and baby are doing great. Imalda will return home in a few days. Hopefully, Sandra and the girls will come later for a month's stay in O'Brien as the great-grandmother will be there to meet the new baby.

Ray Penman is doing good awaiting a surgical appointment to remove the problem. These are the details I got from Ray's daughter, Lindsay. May God get them through the next steps in Ray's medical future.

Angela, Janice and Dewayne Bradford's daughter, has returned to Texas to deliver her first baby (Janice and Dewayne's first grandchild). She is doing good.

This weekend, Eddie

and I traveled to Grandbury to a grandson's wedding. It was a wonderful trip and we had a great time. Glad to have returned home safely. Thanks be to God.

This week we also prepared for the funeral of Ray Speck, father of David, Danny and Carol, at the Foursquare Church. We pray that God lead and help with the loss of their loved one. Ray was a great man and left his kids, grandkids, and great-grandchildren with lots of good memories and stories to be told about him. Out prayers and deepest sympathies are with the family at this time.

It looked like the events this weekend went very well. I am sorry we missed all of it, but I am sure everyone had lots of fun.

Shelia Overmyer gave a great report on her baby niece. She had a new valve put in her heart and is doing great. The doctor gave reports and hopefully with God's blessings she will continue progressing.

Vacation Bible School starts next week. It will be hosted at the Foursquare Church every evening starting on the 26th. Come have

lots of fun for all ages.

Sunday was Father's day, and there are many wonderful Father's in the areas that are great blessings. They will always shine in their children's eyes. Thanks God for all the Daddies and all the blessings and memories that come with them.

**God Bless our Troops
and each of us
Sammie**

Knox County Market Place

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3 bed, 1 bath Brick House for sale. 309 S. Ave H. Knox City. 2 car garage. Big front and back yards. Central Heat and air. Freshly painted and renovated. Stove and dishwasher included. \$50,000. Call 979-200-1623 for more details.

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Stonewall Memorial Hospital in Aspermont, Texas, is looking for a Licensed Psycho-Therapist/ Counselor (LMSW, LCSW, LPC, LPCi), and a Mental Health Technician for their outpatient gero-psych program. If interested, call Sherry Nixon, RN

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Lost & Found

Found. Heart shaped necklace medallion. Found it in the vacuum at the carwash about 2 months ago. Medallion has a father's day of death inscribed on back. Please call Lisa at 658-3130 to identify and repossess item. Must be able to be specific about day of death or inscription on front in order to claim.

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2011 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
06/13	71/108	
06/14	79/109	
06/15	68/105	
06/16	79/108	
06/17	82/112	
06/18	82/111	
06/19	79/112	

Total Rainfall for month .15
2011 Rainfall (ytd) 2.22

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A special thanks to Karen Stiewert, FNDC, Dr. Shirley Sanchez Barretto, Jamie Benham and all of the staff of Knox County Hospital for all of their care, comfort and compassion during my illness and hospitalization. A special thanks to all of those for their many acts of kindness and generosity shown to me and my family

during this time. Your prayer, cards, calls, and visits will not be forgotten. There are too many of you to list, without fear of leaving someone out; however, you know who you are and may God bless each and every one of you! At times like this, one realizes the true meaning of FRIENDS.

Carolyn McDaniel, LVN

Kid's Cooking Camp – July 21

Texas AgriLife Extension - Knox and Haskell Counties will be sponsoring a "Cooking Camp" on Thursday - July 21, 2011. The one day camp will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. and will be held at the Perry Patton Community Center (131 W. Cisco) in Munday, TX.

Youth ages 8 - 11 may attend the camp which will focus on Food Preparation, Nutrition, and Healthy Lifestyles. A variety of hands-on activities will be conducted throughout the day to teach participants basic food preparation skills, general nutrition, and actions to implement to insure a healthy lifestyle.

Cost of the camp is \$15.00 per participant and includes workshop supplies, lunch, snacks, games, and door prizes. To attend, youth must pre-register and pay the registration fee by Friday - July 8. The camp is limited to the first 25 registered. To register contact the Knox County or Haskell County

- Texas AgriLife Extension Office at one of the following:

Knox County Extension Office
100 W. Cedar
Benjamin, TX 79505
(940) 459-2651

Haskell County Extension Office
101 S. Avenue D
Haskell, TX 79521
(940) 864-2546

For more information about the "Cooking Camp" contact the Knox or Haskell County Extension Office at one of the numbers listed

above.

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

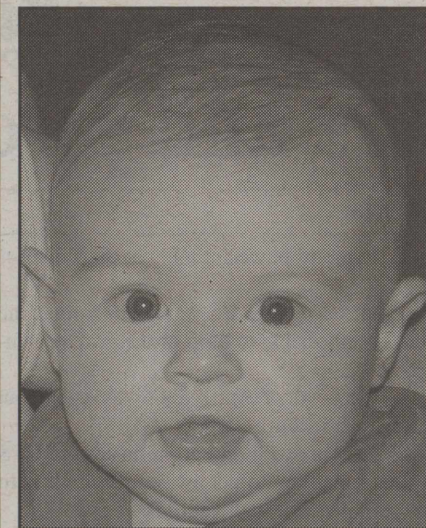
Alzheimer's Support Group Meeting – June 27

The Haskell County Alzheimer's Support Group will meet on **Monday, June 27** at the Haskell County Extension Office located at 101 S. Avenue D in Haskell. The one hour meeting will begin at **3:00 p.m.** Caregivers, family members and friends of individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia, should consider attending this meeting that is open to anyone in Haskell County or the surrounding area.

The support group meets the 4th Monday of every month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The monthly meetings offer a confidential environment

where participants can share their concerns, support each other, and learn ways to cope with the challenges associated with long-term caregiving.



Look
Who's
New

Braden
Allen

Kevin and Tamara Urbanczyk are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Braden Allen. Braden was born on March 2, 2011 at 5:23am. He weighed 8 lbs. 8.8 oz and measured 22 inches long. Proud grandparents are Marsha and Kerry Quade of Knox City, Mark McGaughey of Knox City, Kevin Urbanczyk, Sr of Goree, and Julie and Wayne Keeling of Lubbock. Great-Grandparents are Pansy Hines of Lubbock, Peggy McGaughey of Knox City, and Byron and Shirley Gass of Goree. Braden was also welcomed home by many excited aunts, uncles, and cousins.

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Sponsored by: Knox, Baylor and Haskell County Farm Bureaus

When: Monday, June 27, 2011
Meal 6:00 pm - Meeting 7:00 pm

Where: Perry Patton Community Center
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(Next door to the Capital Farm Credit office)

Hamburger
Meal Provided
at 6:00 PM

Please RSVP to:
Melissa at Baylor
County Farm Bureau
Office - 940-889-3119

Topics Covered:

- * Types of Driver Licenses required on Texas Farm Vehicles
- * Qualifications of Drivers
- * Inspection, Repair and Maintenance
- * Texas Motor Carrier Registration
- * Farm Registration
- * Weight Law
- * Slow Moving Vehicles
- * Implement of Husbandry - Width Exception
- * Seat Belts - Farm Vehicles
- * Commercial Vehicle Identification Markings
- * Hours of Service of Drivers
- * Hazardous Material
- * Tarp Law
- * Safety Chains
- * Lighting and Brake Requirements
- * Cylindrical Hay Bale Permit-Width
- * Oversize Permits

Seminar conducted by
Sgt. Robert Wilson
and CVE troopers from
the Wichita Falls District.



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For the July 6th issue only

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Thursday
June 30TH 5PM

Editorial
Friday
July 1ST 4PM

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THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS



OPINION

The Paperboy

Spy flies and bird drones may be a scary proposition

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Our government has some pretty powerful tools at their disposal.

I don't want to alarm you, but before long, perhaps within the next year, it will be virtually impossible to drop of the grid, or simply disappear.

Now I'm not suggesting you need, or even want to disappear, but it's nice to have that option, or freedom.

From facial recognition software to flying drone insects to GPS phones, about the only way remaining to get away from it all is to leave everything behind, get a disguise and walk off.

According to the New York Times this week, the U.S. military is busy developing the next generation of drones. They are the size of birds and insects.

Unmanned drones have become a mainstay for the military on the border. They are used for surveillance, to carry weapons or both. They are much less expensive than manned aircraft and there is no risk to the pilot, whom is ground-based.

The indoor flight lab at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base is home to drones which are designed to replicate the flight mechanics of moths, hawks and other insects. "We're looking at how you hide in plain sight," said Greg Parker, an aerospace engineer.

Over in Afghanistan, U.S. Marines are getting to use blimp-like spy balloons that float from a tether 15,000 feet above the ground in Sangin in Helmand Province. The balloon can transmit live video from up to 20 miles away. It is hampering the insurgents' efforts in

planting homemade bombs.

The Pentagon has approximately 7,000 aerial drones. There were less than 50 a decade ago. And many more are on the way. The Air Force is training more remote pilots, 350 in 2011, than fighter and bomber pilots combined.

"It's a growth market," said Ashton B. Carter, the Pentagon's chief weapons buyer.

And they're paying off. According to the Times article, the Central Intelligence Agency spied on Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan by video transmitted from a new bat-winged stealth drone, the RQ-170 Sentinel. More than 1,900 insurgents in Pakistan's tribal areas have been killed by American drones since 2006.

One other major factor in using the drones is they save human lives.

Beyond the drones, "spy flies" and "birds" are on the horizon. "Flapping wing" technology is being developed and scientists say robotic insects will be able to use sensors and microcameras to detect enemies, nuclear weapons or victims in rubble. And of course, these drones will be able to spy on us.

So when do the apocalyptic nightmares begin? When will our sophisticated engineering and technology get the better of us?

If you're a science fiction fan, it's when the machines start controlling the machines instead of humans. It will happen when artificial intelligence takes root. Of course, these things won't happen overnight, it will take years.

What's that you say? We're too smart to ever let computers take over? They will have to.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the hours the Air Force devotes to flying missions for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance have gone up 3,100 percent, most from increased operations of drones. Every day, the Air Force must process almost 1,500 hours of full-motion video and another 1,500 still images from drones on around-the-clock combat air patrols.

The pressures on humans to keep up with demand in realtime will eventually give way to computers. Soon the military to the new "Gorgon Stare" technology that can capture live video of an entire city. It that requires 2,000 analysts to process the data feeds from a single drone, compared with 19 analysts per drone today. Simple to see why humans will not be able to manage the kind of technology we're producing.

I'd feel better if I knew we had a fail safe. If there was a plug we could pull on the chance that machines will get a mind of their own.

No doubt some of you probably think I'm overreacting. Maybe I am. But, it seems our technology is increasing so rapidly, we don't even know what we have or where it's headed. One thing is for sure, you send a "spy fly" into my house and my wife is going to cost the government a chunk. She's a deadeye with a fly swatter.

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

School Choice Answer to American Competitiveness Woes

By REBEKAN RAST

Siemens, the German engineering group, is having difficulty filling job openings in the U.S.

With an unemployment rate of 9.1 percent, how is that possible?

Eric Spiegel, chief executive in the U.S. for Siemens, said in an interview with Financial Times that, "There's a mismatch between the jobs that are available, at least in our portfolio, and the people that we see out there. There is a shortage (of workers with the right skills.)"

For contrast, the article goes on to say that a Volkswagen plant had 85,000 applicants for 2,000 jobs at its new plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

America spends far more on education than most other nations, so why is its workforce lagging behind? There are jobs to be had, but the industries hiring say the knowledge, education and performance levels needed for these jobs aren't being found in the U.S.

While the Obama Administration and Department of Labor tout that more job training and government intervention would solve this problem, why not fix the problem at its roots — America's current education system.

One simple and cost effective way to do so is to allow students

and parents to choose what school they attend and what kind of education they want to receive. And that is exactly what many states are doing during this time of budget cuts and fiscal restraint. In fact, over the past five years, the number of states that have enacted school choice programs has doubled.

One particular school choice program that is gaining in popularity is the tax credit program, now adopted by nine states. Currently, 123,544 students are enrolled in scholarship tax credit programs throughout the nation.

This type of program allows taxpayers to donate their own money towards a scholarship for a particular school or they can send their own child to a school of their choice. As a result, taxpayers and corporations most often receive a state income tax credit—though it is different for each state depending on tax codes.

The benefits of such a scholarship tax credit program are already being felt by some states. Florida's Tax Credit Scholarship Program (FTC), one of the largest private school scholarship programs in the nation, has been so successful that the academic performance of students who remain in public schools has increased.

"This type of program keeps decisions in the private sector and it increases involvement in the local school sector," says Adam B. Schaeffer, Cato Institute's policy analyst for the Center for Educa-

tional Freedom. "It respects the rights of taxpayers."

More states are favoring tax credit programs over other forms of school choice, like voucher programs, because there are far fewer regulations and restrictions on a tax credit program, Schaeffer says. "No credit program has ever been overturned by courts, while voucher programs have."

If students and parents are given the right to choose their education path from an early age, their successes will someday carry into the workforce. Internationally companies like Siemens might not have the hiring issues they are having now.

"A tax credit program gives parents the freedom to use their own tax dollars to send their children to whichever school they think is best," says Bill Wilson, president of Americans for Limited Government (ALG). "This kind of program removes the government bureaucracy and puts education back into the hands of the students and their parents, which will only benefit our future generations."

America cannot afford to spend additional money on job training programs. Since the hefty cost of the public education system is already assumed by taxpayers, state lawmakers and school districts need to work to make it a worthy investment.

A country as advanced and wealthy as America should produce only the best and the brightest.

Fad diets may not lead to successful weight loss

HOUSTON -- Fad diets come and go with the seasons, but according to a Baylor College of Medicine dietitian, they may do more harm than good.

"Any diet that selectively eliminates whole groups of foods creates a nutrient hole that's hard to fill," said Roberta Anding (<http://www.bcm.edu/pediatrics/sportsmedicine/index.cfm?pmid=17417>), a registered dietitian at BCM.

Detoxification diets such as colon cleanses and juice fasts are trendy right now, Anding said, but they could have a negative effect on the body.

"If you don't have a correct source of protein you'll lose muscle mass," she said.

Low carbohydrate diets are always in season in some form.

"For some people with type 2 diabetes, reducing carbs is good, but taking it to zero grams per day is totally different," Anding said.

Eliminating carbohydrates starves the body of essential "nutrient heroes" such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains. These foods contain invaluable phytonutrients.

Not all nutrition fads are harmful, however. According to Anding, who is also a spokesperson for the American Dietetic Association, a rising craze in the Houston area and elsewhere are meals-to-go restaurants

such as My Fit Foods, Balance Meals to Go and several others.

"It's a dressed up grown up version of fast food for people who don't know how to portion food or are too busy to cook and they want something healthy and fast," she said.

Anding said another healthy way to lose weight is to follow the government's new MyPlate plan at meal times. The plan can be found at www.myplate.gov. The MyPlate plan recommends filling half your dinner plate with fruits and vegetables, along with a fourth of a plate of grains and a fourth of a plate of lean protein.

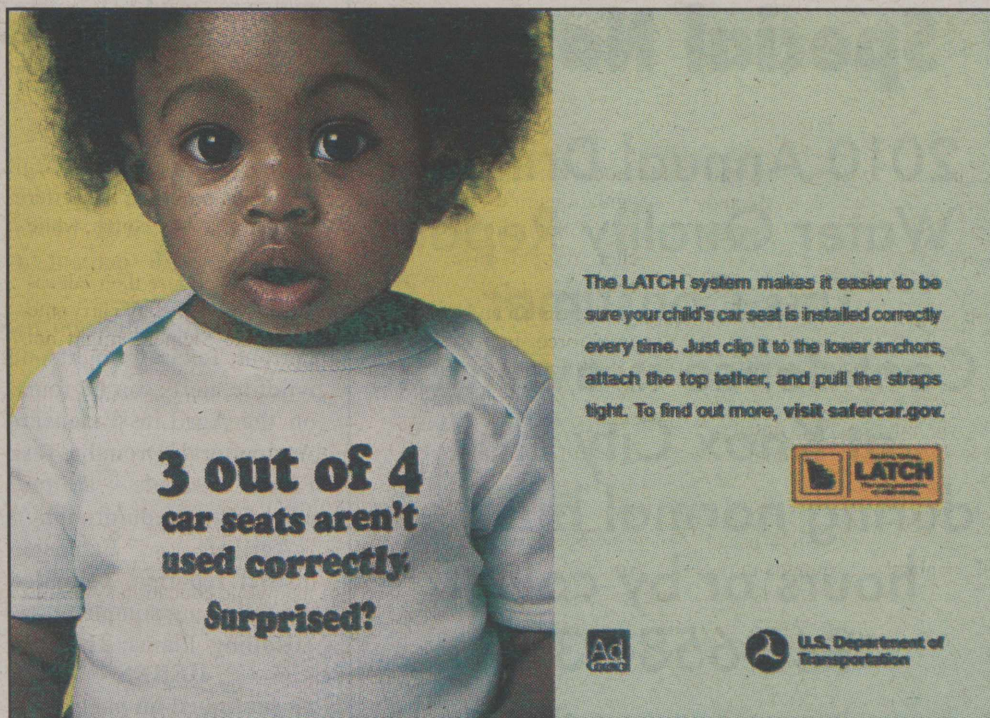
"The new plate design focuses on plant-based foods, because we know that the more produce you eat the better," Anding said.

Exercise is another key to weight management success.

"You have to find time to be physically active; you can't do nothing and expect long term results. Human bodies are meant to move," she said.

Pedometers can be a helpful tool, said Anding. "Try for 10,000 steps a day. Every mile you walk, run or jog is about 100 calories."

Whether it's for health or weight loss, Anding says a well-balanced diet and regular exercise are the keys to long-term results.



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Looking Ahead

The Knox City annual community Vacation Bible School is planned for June 26th- 30th. This year's theme will be "Superhero Training Camp", and will be held at the Foursquare Church in Knox City each

evening from 6-8.

First Baptist Church of Knox City will reopen "His Kids" and "Teen Time" again this summer. June 21-August 9, "His Kids" will meet in the basement from 10:00 AM-Noon on Tuesdays.

"Teen Time" will meet in the basement from 10:00 AM-Noon on Thursdays from June 23-August 11. Kids from pre-k and up are invited to come for fun, devotions and crafts. For further information you may call the FBC KC at 657-3141.

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With hay and water supplies dwindling, producers continue to cull herds

By: Robert Burns

COLLEGE STATION — With the ongoing drought, livestock producers throughout the state continued to cull herds or liquidate them entirely, according to reports from Texas AgriLife Extension Service personnel.

"Ranchers are being forced to sell off cattle or invest in more acreage for grazing," said Ryan Martin, AgriLife Extension agent for Motley County, northeast of Lubbock. "With no grazing, no hay supply and supplemental feed prices rising, ranchers have no choice but to sell off or downsize their herds. Residents are saying this is the worst drought they have ever been through."

Greg Jones, AgriLife Extension agent for Garza County, southeast of Lubbock, said producers in his area are "pretty well stocked for drought conditions because they

happen regularly in our area."

Still, Garza County ranchers are actively culling. Jones recently held a meeting to assist ranchers in reducing herd numbers, adjusting stocking rates and alternative feeding programs during drought.

"Most of them have dealt with this before," Jones said. "It's just a little longer and more drawn out this time."

Hay stocks were dwindling across the state, though the reports from some areas, such as East Texas and the Coastal Bend, seemed direr than others.

"As we go another week without any measurable rains and above normal temperatures, forage conditions continue to deteriorate under normal grazing pressure," said Lee Dudley, AgriLife Extension agent for Panola County, east of Tyler. "Many producers have already culled once

and are now looking to cull deeper into their herds as they are running out of standing grass."

"We are in an extreme drought throughout most of the county," said Clint Perkins, AgriLife Extension agent for Wood County, about 100 miles east of Dallas.

"Pastures and hay meadows are in bad condition. Feed prices for dairy producers are on the increase. Producers are talking about a serious cull of herd size if rainfall does not come."

"Time is running out for larger producers to produce enough hay to meet their needs if rains don't come soon," said Mark Currie, AgriLife Extension agent for Polk County, east of Huntsville. "Hay purchases will likely be very costly with a high trucking bill, which will force increased culling of herds."

"Karnes County has moved into Stage 4 drought and desperately needs moisture," said J.D. Folbre, AgriLife Extension agent for Karnes County, southeast of San Antonio. "Sorghum and cotton crops still have a chance if moderate rainfall is received. The hay crop looks like it will be 60 percent to 70 percent of normal."

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force website at <http://agrilife.tamu.edu/drought/>.

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

Rolling Plains: Hot, dry
HERDS

continued on page 11

Special Notice:
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Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

I'm not gonna say a thing about the weather today. No need in it. It's just like it has been for weeks. Hot and Dry.

It's been a pretty busy weekend with everything going on and everyone wanting to take part in some or all of the events. The Knox County Adventure Days "happenings" proved to be quite successful. Lots of folks enjoyed the towns and the goings on in Munday and Knox City plus enjoying a hamburger lunch to benefit the four fire departments in the county on Saturday at noon. The burgers, drinks, chips, and desserts were great and it was such a good time to visit. Everyone seemed to really enjoy everything.

Sympathy today to the family of Ray Speck who passed away on Friday. He had been in failing health for a while. His funeral was today in Knox city.

Mike Young received word Saturday that his step-grandson was missing in Lake Texoma. The young man, 12 years old, was fishing with some friends when his line got tangled up and in an attempt to get it loose, he got too far out in the water and lost his footing and went under. After 19 hours, his body was recovered around noon on Sunday. The boy lived at Gainesville. Of course, we extend sympathy to his family. Funeral services are pending at this time.

Here N There

Lorene Powers spent last week with her daughter and family and with friends in Midland.

Debbie Clower spent the weekend with her sister and family and her son Michael and his wife in the Dallas area.

Jackie Jr. and Cindy young of Round Rock and Debbie Neil of Boca Raton, Florida, were here for the weekend to visit their mom, Mary Jane Young. They also came for the wedding of Cody Wainscott and Cassie Lyles on Saturday. Debbie remained for an extended visit with her mom. Saturday was her birthday so they helped her celebrate.

The Wainscott-Lyles wedding on Saturday was beautiful and well attended. No way to tell who all from Benjamin was there but there were certainly was a bunch- and a good crowd at the reception too. The young couple are now on their honeymoon and will reside in Temple when they return.

Jessica Moorhouse of Abilene was here on Friday night and joined the rest of her family for a dinner honoring their dad (and granddad), Mike, for Father's Day.

The Keep Benjamin Beautiful group has begun

to select the Yard of the Month again. May's winner was Corrine Parrish and the winner for June is Teresa and Mark Kuehler. That's an honor anytime but they really deserve recognition as hot and dry as it has been. It's a lot of work, and quite costly to keep anything pretty the way things have been. Congratulations to these folks.

The musical over at the Knox County Aging Center

on the second Tuesday of the month has proved to be a pretty good deal. It's a good place to hear lots of good music, visit friends, and enjoy a potluck meal. It's just a good place to enjoy some good entertainment.

Jan and Fred Carver had a houseful during the weekend for the wedding of Cody and Cassie. Visiting were Jerry Don and Barbara Anderson of Hewitt, Dennis and Evelyn

Anderson of Abilene, John and Patty Carver of Taft, Darren and Brandi Eschle and Madison of Flower Mound, Gary, Stasia and Ryan Antilley of Wingate, Callie and Ryder Antilley and Justin Laird of Winters, Ricky, Heather, Bella and Ashburn Carver of Abilene, Dorothy Carver of Knox City, Jacy, Jara, Talon, and Lexie Collins of Munday, and Tyler Collins and a friend, Kelly, of Lubbock.

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Truscott News

By Clara Brown

The weather at Truscott has been windy, hot, dry and it looks as though it will stay that way for a while.

Kenneth Carroll said he could give the local rain report for the last several months in only one word: "zero".

Geraldine Tomanek says she was telling her brother, Ken Myslik, about how bad the drought here is. He hadn't seen anything on TV or in the Illinois papers about it, so she sent him some of the stories from the Wichita Falls paper.

He said the stories were interesting, but there has been nothing in his area about how dry Texas is right now.

It is a little cool early in the morning, but the wind turns hot, hits over 100 degrees by midday, and stays hot over night.

Maybe it will rain this coming week. If it doesn't we maybe in a fix as the Indians at Mesa Verde who suffered a 15 year drought and finally let the country.

Jack Brown was thinking of that drought lately when he asked the question, "if we had to move, where would we go?"

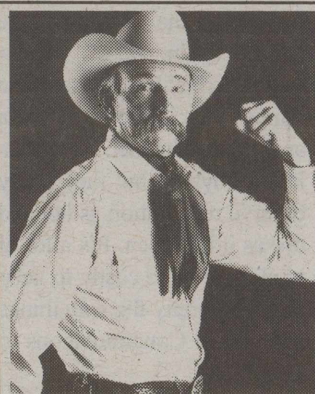
That is a good question. It would be a long journey from

the Wichita River Country to a place with water. We heard that all the cattle sales that people around here ship to are receiving record number of sales due to poor water and grass conditions.

Folks are beginning to get practice at the art of getting a cow out of the boggy edge of a dirt tank. They may be doing that more and more. If anyone needs to know how the experts go about that task, read page 71-72 on Between the Wichittas.

Geraldine, Irma Bell and Clara Brown helped keep the museum at Benjamin open Saturday as part of the Knox County Adventure Days program. Another part of the program was a bus tour of Southern Knox County in the morning and Northern Knox County in the afternoon. Yes, the tours were in an air-conditioned bus.

Ruth Lowrance attended a RCHA Cutting Horse contest at the Tongue River Ranch on Saturday, June 18. Lowrance Ranch had entries out of Gun Powder that did well, including Louie, ridden by David Baxter, which won the open and scored 74- the highest score of the event.



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black,
DVM

THE SNEAK ATTACK

There is more than one definition for pasture roping, as Carter pointed out to me. It was during calving season. He and his wife were making the 5 pm heifer check. They were in the pickup driving through the calving pasture and noted a good size critter in the process of calving. They had seen it earlier. She'd been at it several hours and seemed to be tuckered out.

His wife's suggestion that it might be wiser to try and push the cow to the calving corral flew in like a mosquito by his ear but he swatted it away! Carter prided himself on his 'sneaking prowess.'

"I believe I can do a good 'pasture sneak' on her. Even out here in the open."

She rolled her eyes. He cautioned her to be still.

He had no chains and handles with him. "We could go back and get them," said his wife. He swatted away her wisdom, "That would take ten minutes! And I could've done snuck up on her by then!"

He chose instead to use the 30 foot team roping rope soft-lay coiled up in the bed of the pickup. To her skeptical eye, he made what he later called "A perfect sneak," up to the resting heifer. And it was impressive, especially when you realized it was a good 100 yards! She never moved. He looked back at his wife and gave her a thumbs up. He put the loop on one of the calf's feet and was trying to wind a half-hitch on the other foot.

During the process the heifer kept throwing her head to see what was going on. Carter leaned forward and put a little pressure on her so she would stay down. It didn't work. She rose from the spot like a Trident missile and hit top speed in two leaps! Twenty feet of rope burned through Carter's paws as he sat there! As luck would have it, and it sometimes does, the half hitch came tight...around his arm, and he was jerked to his feet faster than you can say, "W-A-T-E-R-S-K-I-E-R!"

For the first few yards he maintained his TRACK STAR status, then went into a tumbling routine worthy of any GYMNAST. At one point he performed a FIGURE SKATER triple axel, a HIGH DIVER half-gainer, a SKATE BOARDER triple misty flip, and finished the last twenty yards leaping brush, irrigation pipe, a cut bank, and an abandoned harrow like a HURDLER with his tail on fire!

Thank goodness the cow was slowing down when she leaped through the turned-over round bale feeder and finally tripped on a buried hot-wire fence that surrounded the compost heap.

"Mother!" he cried from the wreckage, "Mother, come dally this rope around somethin'! I don't want to waste this good sneak! I might make a tee-shirt out of it!"

His wife swerved in with the pickup and jumped out! Carter was untangling the hitches off his longest arm. She tied the rope hard and fast to the bumper ball and, with her at the wheel and him at the back, on foot, they cajoled the cow the last 20 yards to the corrals.

After examining the damage, he discovered some parts missing. "Mother, reckon you could go back to the pasture and see if you can find my hat and my left boot?"

She looked at him, "Why don't you just sneak on down there and find it yourself."



"Moves Camp a Lot" is one translation I've heard for Naudah, Comanche name of Cynthia Ann Parker, white captive-turned-Comanche, mother of Chief Quanah Parker, wife of Peta Nocona.

It could be my name.

Naudah had a teepee to manage and presumably a horse or two in the mix. I've got a camp trailer and an SUV. Naudah no doubt looked for level ground when she set up camp. Me too. Changes in seasons and the migrations of buffalo herds dictated the Comanche itinerary. Sounds romantic.

For me it's usually a work conference that bids me camp somewhere to avoid paying for a motel. Add "cheap" to my name.

This week it's Denton. Next week? Adobe Walls. If you don't know about Adobe Walls, look it up. (I'm going to look it up myself before I get there.)

Anyway, yesterday evening at twilight as I navigated a paved road near an artificial lake, pre-historic connections took hold. I was using ancient campsite-finding skills. A nomadic ancestor seemed to be with me in spirit -- maybe my great-grandfather, who was always pulling up stakes and loading everything in the wagon to move to another place to disrupt whichever daughter's courtship didn't suit him. (No daughter's courtship ever suited him.) Or maybe it was a forbear from a distant land farther back in time. Maybe Siberia. I've always thought my eyes have something of a Siberian slant.

Last night they both squinted as daylight faded. I peered though dollar store

glasses, trying to follow the squiggly roads on the park map marked with many site numbers.

It's too easy to find a campsite in broad daylight. Wait until dark if you want a challenge. And be sure the chosen space requires backing. Pull-throughs are for sissies.

Last night, during the site search, I remembered a story my grandmother once told me. She and my tuberculosis-stricken grandfather were on their way from Texas to New Mexico in hopes the climate change would cure his illness. They could have taken the train, but they drove a team instead to be in the fresh air.

One night they stopped to camp near a stream. They had just settled in nicely when someone came along and advised them to move because they could be hit by a flashflood. So my poor grandmother had to get the animals back in their harnesses and move the wagon to higher ground. Nothing's worse than having to relocate once you've found a perfect site.

As I left the park this morning, I told the office crew I'd taken space 166. They told me they'd just rented it to campers who'd just arrived and were headed that way. Oops. That's what can happen if you register late and don't do everything necessary to properly nail down your spot.

In the end, the new folks gave up their claim to 166, bless them, and "Moves Camp a Lot" got to stay put in the perfect campsite.

Who could have predicted there'd be a skunk?

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WALK continued from page 1

Phillip Smith, Brandon Gray, Logan Morrow, Trisha Shaver, Ronnie Brown, Linda Hearn, Kristie Patterson, Mary Serrato, Michelle Barrientez, and Crystal Wallace. Total miles walked: 685.1

T-shirts were presented to each participant and the following awards were

given:

Rickie Myers – Most Miles Walked (199.2)

Ronnie Brown – Saving the Sidewalks of Munday

A donation account has been set up for Jessie Dena at the First National Bank in Munday. Jessie has made it to the top of the transplant list. To be a candidate for

this procedure there must be sufficient money set aside for the medication he will need to help retard rejection of the kidney after surgery. Should you need further information, please contact Pat Gonzales at 940.657.3210 or 657.3732 or 'Giving Jessie a Hand', P.O. Box 600, Knox City, Texas 79529.

APPRECIATION continued from page 1

Their funds come mostly from contributions made at their various fundraisers throughout the year & these recent fires have exhausted those funds tremendously, as well as damage done to their equipment. So in an effort to lend a hand to

them, each plate will cost \$5 & all proceeds will go directly to the Knox City Volunteer Fire Department. Any other donations can also be made there or at City Hall. So once again, please come out to the park Friday July 1 and show your

support to these workers in a relaxing, family oriented atmosphere where there will also be a swim party following the meal from 8:00 - 10:00. Thanks & Hope to see you all there!!!!

HERDS continued from page 8

and windy weather persisted across the region. All aspects of agriculture were suffering. Wildfire danger continued to be very high. The wheat harvest was finished, with lower-than-normal yields reported. Both irrigated and dryland cotton producers continued to plant. Alfalfa producers were heavily irrigating due to lack of moisture. Hay prices were up due to increased input prices and high demand. Pastures were in poor to very poor condition. Ranchers were being forced to sell off cattle or invest in more acreage for grazing. Some

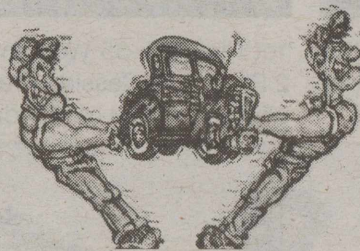
producers who hadn't culled herds had to haul water in for cattle.

Panhandle: The weather remained extremely hot, dry and windy, and the danger of wildfire remained high. Soil-moisture levels were very short in most counties. Corn and cotton were struggling with high winds and daytime

temperatures above 100 degrees. Most farmers with irrigation were pumping continuously on all crops just trying to keep up with evaporation losses. Rangeland and pasture conditions were very poor. Livestock producers continued supplemental feeding. Some producers were dispersing herds.

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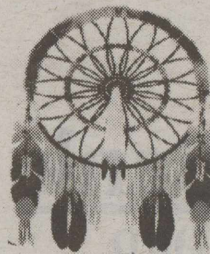
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Adventure Days 5K Fun Run Winners and Results

Adventure Days 5K Fun Run/Walk sponsored by Knox City Chamber of Commerce was held on Saturday, June 18. Besides local entries there were also runners who participated from Aspermont, Munday, Possum Kingdom

Lake and O'Brien. The Knox city chamber of Commerce wishes to extend special sentiments of gratitude toward the Knox City Country Club for the use of their facility, Knox County EMS for their

presence at the event, and Coach Steele and Joe Nelson for their help in setting the course and running off the event. Pictured are the winners of each division in the run/walk event.



1st Place in the 14 and under age group went to Josiah Coplen of Aspermont.



1st Place for 15-35 Men was Zeke Duke of Knox City, 2nd Place was Logan Morrow of Knox City, and 3rd Place was Sammy Hernandez of Munday.



1st Place for 36-50 Men was Greg Oliver of Knox City.

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1st Place for 51 and up Men was Jim McKenzie of Possum Kingdom Lake.



1st Place 15-35 Women as Darian Leija from Munday, 2 Place was Cassidy Brown of Knox City and 3rd Place was Jenny Sue of Munday, just 1 second behind.



1st Place for 36-50 Women was Jami Wilde of Knox City and 2nd Place was Cheryl Nelson of O'Brien.

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8 PAGES

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CHILDRESS - House for Sale 706 Ave I SE Childress, Texas 4BR/2 bath brick with fireplace, wood floors, 1.5 city lots, 600sf shop, and a storage building. E-mail Russell Graves(russell@russellgraves.com) for more information. Seller is a licensed real estate agent. (TFN)

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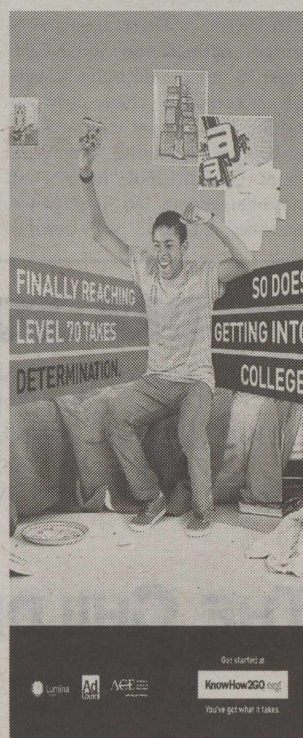
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- June 18 Whispers of Hope Show, Wichita Falls
- July 16Versatility Show, Vernon (Buckle Show)
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- September 17TX-OK Fair, Wichita Falls
- October 16..... Horse Expo Show, Wichita Falls

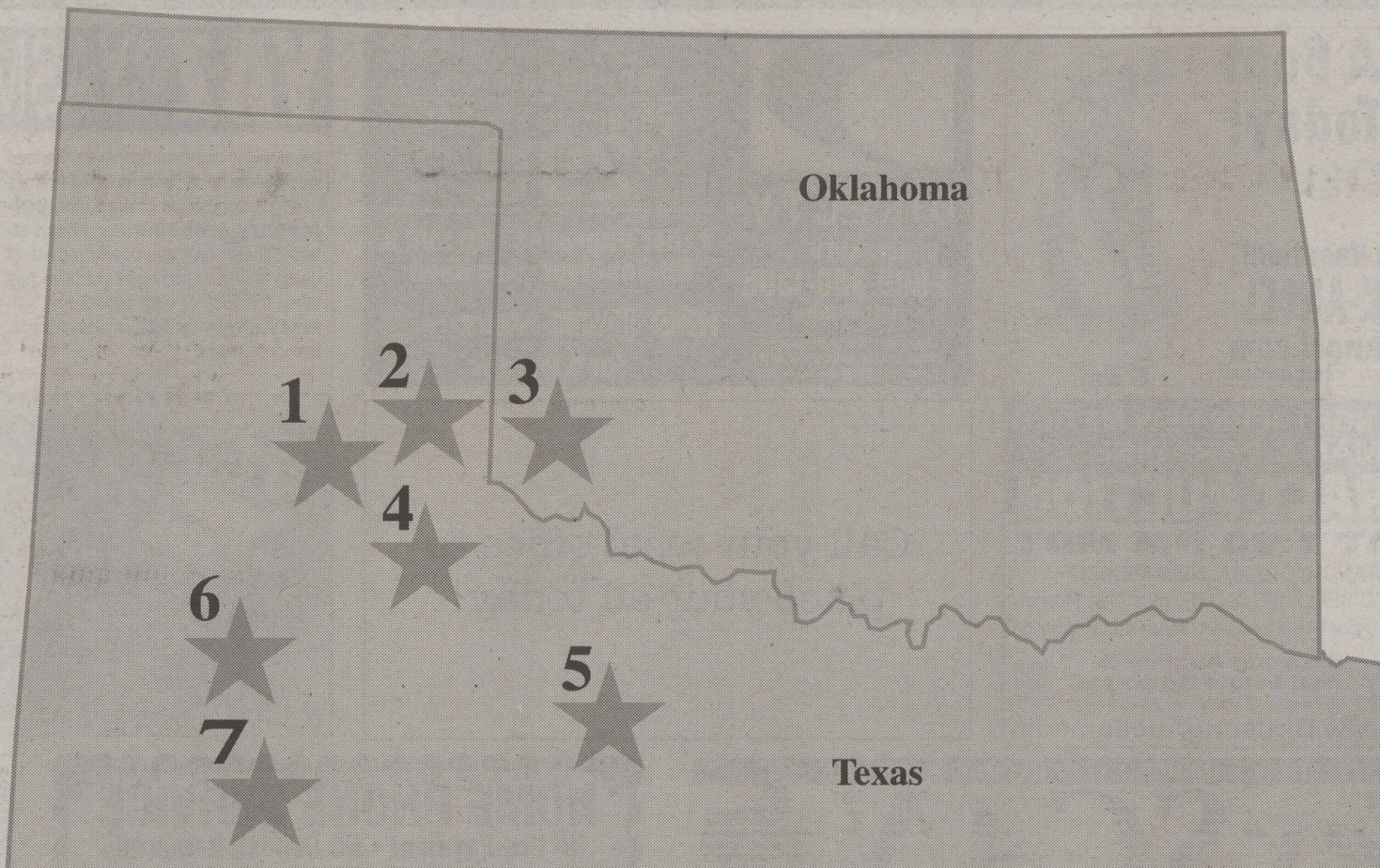
All shows are single-judged shows.
\$50 ALL DAY FEE* or **\$6/class** for TABHSA members
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* One horse/one individual combo
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Register 8am / Show 9am
Riding classes will not start before 11am

16 Awards at each show:
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Breed association point approval:
APHA, PTHA, AHC, and others. Check with your association.

ljones@childressisd.net or exa@srcaccess.net



1. Hall Count Herald 2. Wellington Leader 3. The Hollis News
4. The Childress Index 5. The Knox County News
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