

# THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS

VOL. XXX NO. 253

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2011

75CENTS

\*\*\*\*\*  
KNOX COUNTY, DISTRICT  
PO BOX 196  
BENJAMIN, TX 79505-0196

## Pearce & Meinzer – true Texas heroes



Hero Hall of Fame Inductee, Wyman Meinzer



Hero Hall of Fame Inductee, Louis M Pearce

**By Mary Allyce**  
**Courtesy of the Bandera County Courier**

The Frontier Times Museum Texas Heroes Hall of Fame Class of 2011, leads off on the National Day

of the American Cowboy, Saturday, July 23, with two men who illustrate the depth and breadth of the term "Texas American cowboy."

Wyman Meinzer literally illustrates Texas through

striking photography, earning him the title of the only "State Photographer of Texas."

Meinzer was raised on the 27,000 acre League Ranch on the rolling plains of Texas. "The Texas plains region

was largely unexplored until I started filming there," he said. His career has since taken him from one end of the state to another. "I love

**TEXAS HEROES**

**continued on page 11**

### Local 4-H'er Wins Scholarship

College Station – Cody Propps, Knox County 4-H'er and member of the Benjamin 4-H Club, was recently awarded a \$10,000 2011 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship sponsored by the Richard Wallrath Educational Foundation. He is the son of James and Stacia Propps.

The scholarship was one of 249 totaling almost \$2.1 million awarded by the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation during the 2011 Opportunity Awards

**Propps**

**continued on page 7**

### The Response

*"Praying & Fasting for Our Nation in Crisis"*

Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> @ Knox City Foursquare Church

**Time:** 11AM – 1:30PM

*We will join our nation in humbly seeking God's face in prayer about our natural disasters, our national debt, terrorism, the family breakdown & for a return to a close relationship with God!*

### LOOKING AHEAD

July 27th and 28th, at 1:30 p.m. Knox City Athletic Physicals will be given at the Knox City Clinic. Anybody participating in Athletics at KCHS or O'Brien Jr. High need to get their physical. Boys will be checked on Wednesday, girls on Thursday.

July 29-30 the 23rd Annual Donald Johnson Memorial Watermelon Festival will take place. Friday night will consist of the parade down Main Street and downtown as

### LOOKING AHEAD

**continued on page 7**



## SEYMOUR MEDICAL SUPPLY

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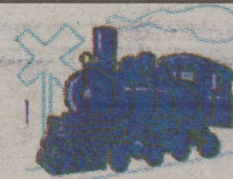


## Burrito Express

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# GOD'S PROMISES

Busy Bees  
By **Tex Cox, Tex Cox Ministries**

2011 has been an extremely busy year for many of us. Sometimes I honestly think Melesha and I spend more time in the car than we do at home! Ha!

Whether it is off to prison

ministry, delivering someone to the doctor, taking food and other items to someone, going to a conference, visiting family, or just taking the kids for a quick "get-away", one of the things that I have noticed in all our travel, is you cannot (or shouldn't) let yourself get so busy that you miss your

"alone time" with God! After all, we spend time with those we love, amen?

If you think about it, you can spend good quality time with God without having to "shut yourself off in your prayer closet." As a matter of fact, most of my quality time with Him isn't in the

closet! When I am spending time with my wife and kids, I do it right in the middle of whatever is going on at the moment. And trust me, when you have a wife and four kids.....whew! Chaos happens! Yet, some of our closest moments as a family are also our loudest!

I can also say this: I never start off my morning by saying, "My most dear, wonderful, heavenly Melesha....." Nope, I just say, "Hey Dear!", and then start my conversation with her. I don't sit around giving her a laundry list of items I need or things I need her to do for me (most of the time...haha) --- I VISIT with her and SHARE my thoughts and my day with

her.

It's called fellowship! Amen?

This is how we fellowship with God! Most mornings, I start off with, "Good morning God!" or, "Thanks for the sleep! What have You got in store for me today?"

There are times when I end with a "In Jesus' Name, Amen", but most of the time I just keep an open line and talk to Him all day long --- even in the chaos! I don't close down "my line" because I know He never closes down His! And at night, when it's time to finally close my eyes and go to sleep....well, I tell God goodnight! "Thanks for the day and for helping me make it....goodnight! Love

ya!"

Amen, or Oh Me?

So, with all that said, we ought not to be too busy for God no matter how busy we are in our lives! For some of us, if we spent as little time with our mate as we do with God, they would have left us a long time ago! Thankfully, God is always with us --- never to leave us or forsake us. Get the religion out of your relationship with God and start fellowshiping with Him. He loves you like you cannot imagine! He likes to hang out with you! When no one else in your life wants to hear what you have to say.... God does!!!

Remember- YOU ARE BLESSED!!

## 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 —

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### 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.

## Cancer Support Group offered by Cancer Services Network

ABILENE, Texas – Cancer Services Network will offer a six-week educational support group for

those interested in learning to live beyond a diagnosis of cancer. Sessions are set for 5:30 to

7:00 p.m. Thursdays beginning August 18, 2011 at the Hinds Square Classroom located at 100 Chestnut, Suite 112. Cancer Services Network is an agency of the United Way of Abilene.

This group is designed for patients, caregivers, family and friends affected by cancer in anyway. In a supportive and interactive environment, this group will focus on the practical, emotional and physical as-

pects of living with cancer. Topics will vary each week. Week 1: Telling your Story; Week 2: Dealing with Emotions, Thoughts and Feelings; Week 3: Using Spirituality to Cope with a Cancer Diagnosis; Week 4: Communicating with your Family and Loved Ones; Week 5: Communicating with your Medical Team; and Week 6: Coping with the Side Effects of Cancer Treatment.

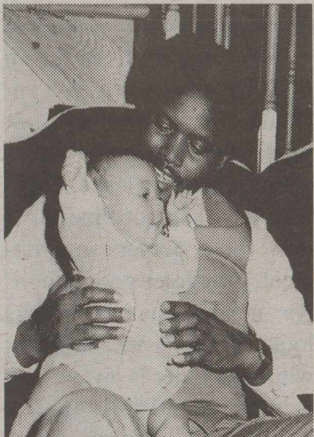
Aimee Colley, LMSW, social worker at Cancer Services Network, will facilitate the groups. Colley has fourteen years' experience in the area of oncology. There is no charge associated with the support groups. Register by calling

(325) 672-0040 or via e-mail [acolley@cancerservicesnetwork.org](mailto:acolley@cancerservicesnetwork.org). This program is made possible by a grant from the Discretionary Grant Cycle of the Community Foundation of Abilene.

Cancer Services Network is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that provides emotional and financial support to underserved cancer patients and their families in a 19-county area of West Central Texas, including: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor and Throckmorton.

PRAY FOR RAIN!

## OBITUARY



**Charles Alexander Watson**

On July 16, 2011 the Lord came and called another one of his angels home.

On January 15, 1947 a baby boy named Charles Alexander Watson was born to Ammie Jo and Charles Watson in Knox City, Texas. He was the second oldest out of 14 children. He attended McWard School then went on to graduate from Knox City High School. After graduation, he attended Cisco College. Mr. Watson was a member of the US Air

Force for several years, after which he moved to Canada and played Pro Football. He also met and married Marria. The couple was blessed with 4 wonderful children. Mr. Watson leaves behind his wife, Marria; 3 of his children, 6 grandkids, 7 sisters and 6 brothers.

Some of those who survive Charles are: Marie and Vernadean of Abilene; Adina and Rena of Knox City; Mona of Keline; Maryanne of Wichita Falls;

Neice of Denton; Robert of Munday; William of Knox City; Bo Johnson of Bridgeport; Ray Flye of Amarillo; Jerry of New Jersey.

He is proceeded in death by both parents, one sister, Joanne Brown and 1 daughter.

A private memory service will be held on Saturday July 23, 2011 at 1 p.m. Burial will be in Canada on Monday.

THANKS FOR READING!

### A SHORT STORY ABOUT A HARD CURVE AND A HOME RUN.

Carol Truncale's story isn't just about how she prevailed through a severe childhood case of scoliosis, or curvature of the spine. It's about what she did when she grew up.

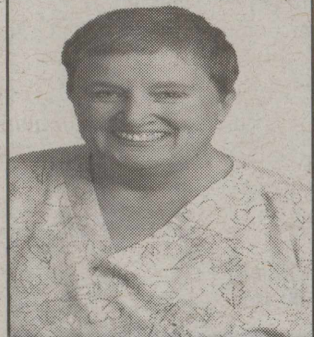
She became a nurse—a decision inspired by the support and dedication she received from her own medical team during her long years of treatment and successful recovery.

Carol Truncale's story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know: don't give up, and remember to give back. If Carol's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

aaos.org/5years

AAOS  
CELEBRATING  
HUMAN HEALING  
orthoinfo.org



## Knox County Aging Services

Menus For July 25<sup>th</sup> To July 29<sup>nd</sup>

### Monday July 25

Hamburger/pasta casserole  
Salad  
Peas

Sliced Bread  
Fruit Cups

### Tuesday July 26

Baked Chicken  
Corn salad

Sliced carrots  
Wheat roll

### Wednesday July 27

Meatloaf  
Pinto Beans

Turnip Greens  
Cornbread

Brownie

### Thursday July 28

Chicken Spaghetti  
Salad

Garlic Toast  
Fruit Crunch

### Friday July 29

Hamburgers  
French Fries

Lettuce, tomato, onion and  
pickle  
Dessert

New serving time is 12  
noon (Knox City only)

Alternate desserts for  
diabetics

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

Orders cannot be taken  
after 10 a.m. and need to  
be picked up after 11 a.m.

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Knox County News

## Sizzling Summer Sale



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Selected

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more jewelry has been added

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Closed Sunday and Holidays

## 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 11 a.m.

### 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 6 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 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

This week has been great. All has been quiet except the Youth Baseball got to play in Sweetwater. They lost their first three games, but won the consolation game on Sunday. They were tired when they returned home, but very happy that they finished the entire season out.

I visited with Glenna Huff for a little while the other day. She says Danny Reece is doing great. He has more month of physical therapy for his hip, and continues to progress nicely.

Alfredo Abila is still recovering. Because of all the chemo, his strength is very

weak; yet, he is looking a lot better.

It was wonderful to ride around town to find a small group of kids who had set up a lemonade stand! It has been so hot, and this is such a wonderful project for the kids to do. They were so excited when I stopped to buy a cup. They said "thank you" and "have a good day" and were so polite!

George Cross and Ida Kay were happy to celebrate their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. That's a great accomplishment and they have a wonderful family.

Some of the yards in town are looking so pretty,

but I can understand when you don't have a water well to keep up you yard, because City Water can get really expensive when it's as dry and hot as its been this summer. We continue to not only pray to God for RAIN, but pray for the patience to wait for the rain.

As for me, I am working on getting my golf game back up to par. Now I know what I have been missing, because I enjoy the game so much. I still have to be careful not to overdo it. The back surgery can only take so much, but if I had to do it all over again, it was worth the wait for me to get back in the "swing" of

things

D.J. Dykes seems to be coming along good from the broken leg. Jill says she still comes and gets her hair done and is recovering well.

Bell Rodgers from Rochester took a nasty fall and broke a couple of places in her back pelvis and ribs. She spent 3 weeks in Wichita Falls hospital and returned home on Thursday (I think). She will begin her physical therapy at home three times a week. May God bless her and see her through her recovery.

Nelle Mae Watson and Kathy were in church on Sunday and both doing very

good for their health problems. Tim Watson is still doing treatment and all praying for a miracle and a speedy recovery.

Chris and Kristi King returned home for another weekend with still another trip ahead of them for a permanent place of work and to shop for a home in the process of everything else. They are trying hard to get it all done.

Mr. and Mrs. Burkham must be out of town on a vacation trip. I saw them last week with their travel trailer getting ready to leave. Hope they have a great time, or if it is for a doctors appointment, play for a good report. As neighbors, we always look after each others homes while the other is away. That is one reason that Knox City

See SAMMIE  
on page 8

## Knox County Market Place

### For Rent

701 ROBINS. RULE. BRICK. 3 BEDROOM/ 1 3/4 BATH. DEN. CENTRAL HEAT/AIR. DOUBLE CARPORT. \$500mo. \$400 deposit REFERENCES REQUIRED. 940 863-4191

605 SIXTH AVE. ROCHESTER. BRICK 3 BEDROOM OPEN LIVING/DINING/KITCHEN. LAUNDRY ROOM. CARPORT. \$500mo. \$400 deposit. REFERENCES REQUIRED. 940 863-4191.

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We pay above minimum wage and offer a pay raise when you ServSafe certify.  
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609 Corothers in Rochester. 2 bedrooms (possible 3 bedroom), 1 bath. Fenced in backyard, corner lot, cellar. Comes with refrigerator, stove and dishwasher. New carpet, new floor. Hook-ups for washer/dryer. Central Heat and Air. \$425 per month, \$350 deposit. Call Michael at 325-668-4865 for more details.

### Help Wanted

Knox County is accepting applications for Extension Secretary. This position requires good computer skills and proficiency in Microsoft Office. Must have good organization skills, communication skills, and possess good people skills. Applicants must be able to work hours other than 8:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. Applicants must have valid Driver's License and MUST pass an extensive background check. Applications may be picked up at the Courthouse in Benjamin in the Extension Office or the Judge's Office. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 PM on July 27, 2011.

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE positions available. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave F. Knox City

LVN, CHARGE NURSE positions available. Please Apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave F. Knox City

### Legal Notice

Helen Farabee Centers has an opening on its nine-member volunteer Board of Trustees for Place 4 - representing Baylor, Haskell and Knox Counties.

Helen Farabee Centers is a not-for-profit public agency providing community based services to persons with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Centers serve over 2,700 individuals every month through more than 30 service sites located within the Centers' 19-county catchment area of North Central Texas.

If you have an interest in guiding a healthcare system that is vital to your community and if you can donate approximately 8 hours a month to Board of Trustee activities, please request further information from one of the following entities:

Helen Farabee Centers  
Jan West 940-397-3102  
Baylor County Courthouse Honorable Linda Rogers 940-889-3553  
Haskell County Courthouse Honorable David C. Davis 940-864-2851  
Knox County Courthouse Honorable Travis Floyd 940-459-2191

### Legal Notice

#### Bid Notice

The City of Benjamin will open sealed bids at 12 noon, on August 4, 2011 at City Hall, Po Box 286, Benjamin TX 79505 for the grazing rights on 46.5 acres known as the dump ground for a 5 year lease period. Call 940-459-3131 for further information. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Counts Real Estate  
David Counts, Broker  
Marla Hawkins, Agent Patsy Gonzales, Agent  
102 North Ave. A (940)658-3390  
Knox City, Texas

### CHECK OUT OUR NEW LISTINGS!

4BR, 2B Brick home. Large utility room, fireplace, more...Gorgeous home! Gorgeous yard! \$128,000

3 BR, 2B frame home. Custom paint, great floorplan, Covered patio, GREAT Yard! \$50,000 \$45,000

4BR, 3B Brick home. Quiet Neighborhood! \$65,000

5 BR, 4.5 B Rustic Split level home located on 1.7+/- Acres. Lots of space, indoor spa pool, private country living! \$135,000

Check our web site for more properties...  
[www.countsrealestate.net](http://www.countsrealestate.net)



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

### 2011 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F)		Rainfall inches
	Low	High	
07/11	78	103	
07/12	77	105	
07/13	83	107	
07/14	76	106	
07/15	78	108	
07/16	80	107	
07/17	78	104	

Total Rainfall for month  
2011 Rainfall (ytd) 2.22

## Notice to Eligible Voters of the Wichita Brazos Soil and Water Conservation District No. 544

To all eligible voters in the above named Conservation District as described under the provisions of V.T.C.A., Agriculture Code, Chapter 201, who hold title to farm and ranch lands lying within Subdivision No. 3, whose general area is the southwest corner of Knox County, south of the Brazos Rivr and west of a line from Rhineland to Gillespie and Thorp, and intend to run as a

candidate for the office of Director of District No. 544, notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of V.C.T.A Agriculture Code, Section 201.073 and rules adopted by said district, that candidates must file a written notice of candidacy with said district during established business hours in the month of August at the USDA Service Center located at 3950 FM

1292.

Qualified voters of the above named Soil and Water Conservation District will assemble at 3950 FM 1292 at 9 a.m. on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011, then and there to elect a candidate owning land within said subdivision to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of said soil and water conservation district.

## USDA Authorizes Emergency Haying of CRP Acres

**Knox City, Texas – July 15, 2011** - In response to drought conditions, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) authorized emergency haying use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for 73 Texas counties.

The following counties are approved for emergency CRP haying: Armstrong, Bailey, Baylor, Borden, Briscoe, Callahan, Carson, Castro, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collingsworth, Concho, Cottle, Crosby, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Duval, Ellis, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Gaines, Garza, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hill, Hidalgo, Hockley, Howard, Jones, Kent, King, Kinney, Knox, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lynn, Martin, Maverick, Medina, Mitchell, Motley, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Pecos, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Starr, Stonewall, Swisher, Taylor, Terrell, Terry, Tom Green, Uvalde, Wheeler, Wilbarger and Yoakum Counties. Haying authorization will end on August 31, 2011.

"Eligible producers who are interested in emergency haying of CRP must request approval before haying eligible acreage," said Knox County CED, John Rector. "It is also important for producers to obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service that includes haying requirements," he said.

Upon approval of emergency haying, producers must leave

at least 50 percent of each field or contiguous field unharmed for wildlife. For those counties that are eligible for emergency haying and grazing, the same CRP acreage cannot be both hayed and/or grazed at the same time. For example, if 50 percent of

a field or contiguous field is hayed, the remaining unharmed 50 percent cannot be grazed; it must remain unharmed and ungrazed for wildlife.

In addition, participants are limited to one hay cutting and are not permitted to sell any of

the hay. There will be a 25 percent CRP payment reduction depending on the number of acres actually hayed.

To take advantage of the emergency haying provisions, authorized producers can use the CRP acreage for their own livestock or may grant another livestock producer use of the CRP acreage for the purpose of haying.

For more information on and to request approval for emergency haying of CRP acres contact the Knox County FSA office at 940-658-3537.



[www.deerfestwichitafalls.com](http://www.deerfestwichitafalls.com)

**July 30th from 9am-7pm**  
at the MPEC in Wichita Falls Vendors,  
live and silent auction  
Cutest Kid in Camo Contest  
[www.deerfestwichitafalls.com](http://www.deerfestwichitafalls.com)



**Talk to your neighbors, then talk to me.**

**Tom Bassett, Agent**

705 N Avenue E  
Haskell, TX 79521  
Bus: 940-864-3250

[tom.bassett.m8yb@statefarm.com](mailto:tom.bassett.m8yb@statefarm.com)

Mon-Fri 8:00am to 5:30pm

After Hours by Appointment

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**VERNON COLLEGE**  
VERNON - WICHITA FALLS

2011 Fall  
Registration

[www.vernoncollege.edu](http://www.vernoncollege.edu)

Campus Connect Registration

**Now - August 10**

Come see a Course Schedule Advisor (CSA) today!

Classes begin August 22

Register for Continuing Education classes at any time

Vernon College - The best connection you'll ever make!



**BENJAMIN ISD**  
Announces the

**PREKINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP 2011-2012**

**Starts Monday, August 1, 2011**

**Registration at Benjamin ISD Administration Office**  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**REGISTRO SE COMIENZA EN BENJAMIN**  
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# OPINION

## The Paperboy



### Who made America great?

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Who built America? There are several people who come to mind.

Of course our forefathers shaped the Republic and laid the foundation of government we still use today. However, individuals who took advantage of free markets and their own ingenuity should also be given credit.

Ben Franklin, a true renaissance man, is credited with several inventions including the lightning rod, bifocals and Franklin stove.

Franklin was a true genius and left his mark not only on the government, but also in advancing mankind.

Thomas Edison held over 1,000 patents in his lifetime. A few of his inventions include the phonograph, the motion picture camera, and a long-lasting, practical electric light bulb.

Alexander Graham Bell is best known for inventing the telephone. At a time when electricity was being harnessed in new ways, Bell was forced to defend 600 legal challenges on his inventions and won each time.

John Moses Browning invented the semi-automatic shotgun. Over 30 million firearms have been made based on his design.

Browning's inventions include the lever-action repeating rifle, semi-automatic shotgun, .22 caliber rifle, the Browning 1919 .30 caliber and M2 .50 caliber machine guns (MGs), and the Brown-

ing Automatic Rifle (BAR). Perhaps his most famous weapon, the BAR was adopted by the military and famously used by soldiers in World War I.

Willis Carrier invented the air conditioner. Step outside and tell me you can live without one.

Henry Ford invented the moving assembly line. Before his invention, it took days to assemble one automobile. As soon as his assembly line went into production, Ford's factory could produce a car every 93 minutes.

Charles Goodyear invented vulcanized rubber, which made it useable year-round.

Samuel Morse invented the telegraph and Morse Code, thus shrinking the globe.

Dr. Jonas Salk invented the Polio Vaccine. In 1955 there were 28,985 cases of polio in the U.S. and by 1957 that number had decreased to 5,894.

Orville & Wilbur Wright invented the airplane.

Look at what Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, and Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, have created. The two have revolutionized the computer industry and other digital equipment, changing the way the world communicates and does business.

When you look at what has been accomplished by individuals in this country, and how their inventions have advanced mankind and as a by-product, made us the richest country on the planet, you have to be amazed.

It's easy to see how the men mentioned here helped form the country. Their inventions and the evolution stemming from their inventions gave rise to cities, employed millions and made America great.

There is one thing which stands out concerning these individuals and how they were able to accomplish at such a high level. They did so with no help from the federal government.

That point has become lost on Americans as we depend more and more on the government to do our thinking for us.

It doesn't matter if it's the automobile or the computer, the government is not the creator nor does it foster ideas. It is up to individuals and companies to make a difference in advancement of technology because they can do so affordably.

We've come a very long way without the government needing to subsidize innovation. We'll probably continue to advance mankind if the government would save taxpayer money and allow those things to continue at their natural pace.

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

### The House That Debt Built (And Then Foreclosed On)

By REBECCA DIFEDE

With the economy falling to its knees beneath the titanic national debt, President Obama has recently decided to revisit the issue of the major housing crisis. Previously, he had only referred to the problems in the housing market in passing as "a concern", despite the millions of homes that have sunk into foreclosure during this recession. It seems that he has only just come up for air long enough to decide that to get re-elected he needs to look like he's doing something.

Following his Twitter Town Hall meeting, Obama began discussing his plans to help brighten the future of the otherwise dismal housing situation. According to an article in the Wall Street Journal, these so-called plans suggested "having taxpayer-owned mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac relax their rules for loans to investors", with the thinking that this would allow more people to take out loans and would begin to nibble away at the

housing inventory overload.

This idea would be really great if, say, this wasn't the exact thing that caused our recession in the first place. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were giving loans to pretty much anyone with empty pockets, and then when the time came to pay, well, the pockets were no less devoid of money. And now, after costing taxpayers over \$138 billion thus far, Obama is suggesting that we risk more of the country's money (that it doesn't have) by taking the loose lending standards and make them more relaxed. For this to happen, banks will pretty much have to give their associates bags of money, and have them fling it into the streets for passersby, holding a sign that says "Here you go, pay us back whenever!". I'm sure the upstanding citizens that borrow that money would be quick to return it.

Liberals would argue that the housing crisis wasn't caused by the fact that Fannie and Freddie gave away money to more people than The Price is Right, but rather the bi-partisan deregulation law pushed by Wall Street caused

the collapse. However, according to the report released by the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, (a committee which investigated all of the events surrounding the economic crash and interviewed over 700 witnesses), concluded that it was in fact "the collapse of the housing bubble—fueled by low interest rates, easy and available credit, scant regulation, and toxic mortgages" that caused the downfall of the economy.

Originally, President Obama had a plan to deal with the housing crisis which involved a mortgage assistance program known as the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) that promised to reduce the monthly payments of people who qualified. Over 2.7 million homeowners applied, hoping to get their interest rates lowered or loans extended. But because the criteria to be accepted into the program was so specific, only 1 in 4 households received any loan modifications through HAMP.

All in all, over 1.3 million people were disqualified from the program, and wasted count-

less taxpayer dollars to help only a small percentage of the at-risk population. The housing crisis is affecting millions of people, and the numbers are only going to grow until the Obama Administration stops trying to play sugar daddy with taxpayer money and let's the market hit bottom.

Though our President may believe he is trying to help these people, all he has really done is throw good money after bad in a blatant attempt to curry favor and win votes. In Obama's world throwing other people's money at a problem so he can appear to be caring is more important than actually standing aside and allowing the housing market to heal.

Unfortunately, with about 16 months until election day, his annual refocusing on housing is producing nothing more than the same faulty lending regulations that caused the problem in the first place. Hopefully, people will realize that you can't build a campaign out of failed promises, any more than you can build a house out of debt.

**Propps continued from page 1**

Ceremony June 13 in Rudder Theatre on the campus of Texas A&M University.

The scholarship recipients were selected from 400 who applied, said Jim Reeves, Executive Director for the Foundation which is the organization responsible for coordinating the program and for resource development for the Texas 4-H program. He said the scholarship application process began last January.

The Foundation's scholarship program has 50 donors including the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo, Fort Worth Stock Show Syndicate, Southwestern Exposition & Livestock Show, Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo, and the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show along with the Richard Wallrath Educational Foundation, individuals, corporations, foundations, producer associations, Texas AgriLife Extension Service professional associations, individual honorary funds and individual bequests.

Reeves said the donors

share the Foundation's vision of investing in the future of Texas youth by helping them pursue an education which in turn, should eventually benefit their communities, state, country and world.

The scholarships range from \$1,000-\$16,000.

"Scholarships are provided to assist 4-H members who will attend universities and colleges throughout the state," Reeves said. "The scholarship program is a celebration of achievement for 4-H members across Texas. It recognizes the development of qualities inherent to the Texas 4-H program -- personal responsibility, civic responsibility and leadership. The program

rewards hard work and dedication of young people involved in 4-H."

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation Opportunity Scholarship Program is the nation's largest 4-H scholarship program. It began as a single \$1,000 scholarship given by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in 1959.

The Opportunity Scholarship Program was a highlight of the 2011 Texas 4-H Roundup which was held mainly on the Texas A&M University Campus June 13 - 16.

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose members promote and support youth

development in leadership, vocational skills, social skills and citizenship. The Foundation's Board is a diverse group of 41 Trustees who share a common passion for improving the lives of Texas youth. Trustees work to secure private funding to support scholarships and programs for Texas 4-H youth.

**LOOKING AHEAD  
continued from page 1**

well as a street dance and inflatable bounce houses. Saturday will bring the annual fair in the Knox City Park starting at 9 a.m.. The festival will wind down Saturday evening with another Street Dance. Be there!



Cody Propps

## 23rd Annual Donald Johnson Memorial Seedless Watermelon Festival

**Knox City Chamber Of Commerce  
Invites you to City Park July 29-30**

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Chamber of Commerce office hours, are 10-3  
T-Th, during which you can but a shirt

**Unlimited Bracelets-** \$12/person \$50/5 family  
for unlimited rides and attractions on Saturday

### FRIDAY:

Some of the vendors will be open on Friday  
**7 p.m.** Parade through Downtown Knox City  
**7:30 p.m.** Street Dance Featuring KC  
Express (Classic Country), Horseshoes,  
Volleyball

Inflatables: 2 Bounce Houses, Bungee Run,  
20' Slide (dry)

### SATURDAY:

**9 A.M.** Booths open  
Inflatables, including 20' Water Slide until  
1 p.m.

**10 a.m.** Kiddie Train, Melon Money Drawing

**11 a.m.** Melon Games

**12 noon** Melon Money Drawing

**1 p.m.** Free Swim

**2 p.m.** Kiddie Train, Melon Money Drawing

**4 p.m.** Melon Money Drawing

**9 am until 5 p.m.** Attendees of the festival  
are welcomed to come on main stage and  
showcase their talents

**7 p.m.** Street Dance featuring The Swindlers  
(Texas Country)

# Huge Summer Sale

- ★ All Men's S/S shirts - **40% off**
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- ★ Boys E. Land Sizes 2-12 - **40% off original price**
- ★ All Children's Swimwear - **30% off (some 1/2 price)**
- ★ Select Alfred Dunner & Southern Lady - **25%-40% off**
- ★ All Regular Priced Shoes - Men's, Women's, Children's - **25% off**
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*Hurry in, Sale ends soon!*

## BLACKBURN'S

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**SAMMIE continued from page 4**

is such a great place to be.

Watermelon Festival is right around the corner and I hope everyone is getting ready because it is always lots of fun and... let's not forget... free swimming for the kids.

Looks like even with all the business that they are

getting, Mr. Dillon has still found time to sell the melons out of his fields. I'm sure onions and more will come later, because I know he always has a hearty crop of plants, flowers and hanging baskets.

This week, Melba Pharr welcomed her new grandbaby a little earlier than ex-

pected. Bith mom and baby are doing good.

Our fire department decided this year, after all the hard work the little ones did at Vacation Bible School, to give back some of that love by sending two of our kids to camp in Colorado for a week. Isn't that wonderful?

They are just such a great bunch of hard working guys and have a lot of great ladies to back them up.

The Golf Course in Knox City is looking very nice and push these days after a lot of hard work from Oscar Sanchez and some of the members of the Country Club. They are really enforcing the 90 across overs because if we don't, there won't be any grass left for the rain to save (when it does finally rain).

Please help keep our country club looking pretty. Everyone says it's the best looking one around and we are all very proud of it.

I haven't had any news from Wilma, but I believe no news is good news. May God bless her while she recovers.

This weeken, the ladies held a baby shower for Lynndy Moeller-Adams in Munday. Sylvia Vasquez said everything went well- now they just have to wait

for that precious baby boy to get here.

Dawn Wilson's daughter, Tabby, and her little girl are in Washington for a while visiting her father before she deploys to Afghanistan in August. I wish it would all stop before more of our troops are sent over there for their tour.

If you are needing a job with good references, be ready because lots of our kids will be college bound in just a few weeks- vacating their summer jobs here in town.

In Rochester, the talk is that Her's Steakhouse is closing, but the new owner of the Branding Iron Lodge is starting Steak nights on Friday and Saturday. Not quite set on the date and time- I'll have more details later.

May God Bless All of our Troops and Each of Us.  
-Sammie

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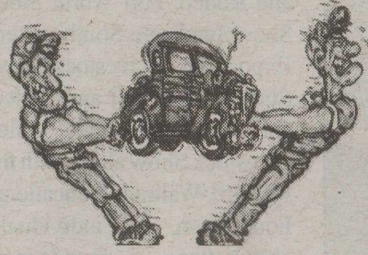
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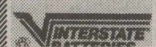

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# Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Good Monday morning to everyone- the week begins on another hot note with no relief in sight. It' become a way of life- that is dealing with the discomfort that comes with "hot and dry".

## Regarding our Ill

Jane Gideon was scheduled for surgery at 7:30 this morning at United Regional in Wichita Falls. We're anxious to hear from her and pray all goes well. If she does ok, she may just stay over-night in the hospital. But she will have to be very careful after she returns home. About 4 weeks of post-op care is needed before she can get back at her regular routine.

Chad Tolson remains in ICU, also at United Regional in Wichita Falls with more tests being made regularly to determine the cause of his problem. HE is in a medically induced coma for a few days- possibly will be brought out of it in a day or two if all goes well. He's off some of his medication and responding well to the lack of them, so hopefully things will begin to improve soon. We pray that be the case.

## Here N There

I talked to Tabby Golden on Saturday and she told me she will be leaving on August 14 for a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Tabby is a member of the National Guard. She will be a Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin for one month before her deployment and her stay in Afghanistan will be 11 months. Prior to leaving, there will be a going away party at TWU in Denton honoring those who are leaving for this service to their country. Tabby is a 2009 graduate of B.H.S.. and is the daughter of Dawn Wilson. She has a daughter, Lexie, who will be with her dad, Shawn Wilson and family and will start school here at Benjamin in the fall. Of course, our good wishes go with Tabby and we will all be anxious for her safe return home.

Janet and Gary Reed have received the "Yard of the Month" honor given by Keep Benjamin Beautiful organization. This award is for the month of July. As I said last time, as dry as it is, that's quite an accomplishment. I congratulate them for winning.

Jan Kilgore was honored by friends and co-workers last Tuesday as she "finished up" her work as "jack of all trades" at the museum. Jan has been working almost since the museum was merely a dream and has helped it grow into the facility it is now. A beautiful cake, tea, coffee were served to the guests in attendance. She says she still will volunteer and help out when she can. She will be missed and we certainly wish her well.

Betty Bohannon and daughter, Jamie, visited former resident Gaye Neal in a nursing facility in Thomas, Oklahoma recently. She said Gaye, though paralyzed on one side after a stroke, seemed very satisfied and was extremely happy to see them. She also said Gaye's husband, Larry, is doing o.k. He's tired, but very attentive to her and her needs. She said they may take a trip down this way and if they do, they hope to come through Benjamin, if only for a short time. It would be good to see them.

I saw Beth Donham on Sunday and she said they will go today to Ft. Worth for their daughter, Faith, to enter Cook's hospital for some surgery on her spine. Faith attends school here in Benjamin and her mother teaches math here. She is expected to be in the hospital about a week. Of course, we wish Faith well and will be glad when she gets back home.

Courtney Sherrard called on Sunday and said their daughter, Kaylee, has moved to Milsap, Texas. She has been living in the Denton area for a while. She's working with cutting horses and loves it. Courtney said

See BENJAMIN NEWS on page 11

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## Legal Notice

### Notice of Sale

The State of Texas County of Knox

By Virtue of an order of sale

DATED June 30, 2011, and issued pursuant to a judgment decree of the District Court of Knox County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter styled and numbered causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said court, I have on June 30, 2011, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in August 2011, the same being the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2011, at the Courthouse door of said County, in the City of Benjamin, between the hours of 10:00 o'clock a.m. and 4:00 o'clock p.m. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being in the County of Knox and the State of Texas, to wit:

Cause No.	Styling, defendants and property description
8888	Knox County Appraisal District v. Samuel Tyra a/k/a Sam Tyra a/k/a Samuel J. Tyra a/k/a/ Sambo Tyra, Brazos Valley Group, Jessie Carrasco and Karen Carrasco Lots 4, 5, &6, Block 36, Original Townsite of the City of Goree Lot 3, Block 9, Original Townsite to the City of Goree, Lots 1 and 2, Block 9, Original Townsite to the City of Goree
9235	Knox County Appraisal District v. James C. Naron All of lots 13 and 14, Block 55, J.T. Lee Addition, City of Munday
9236	Knox County Appraisal District v. Nicklus Yzaguirre The East ½ of Lot 6, and all of lots 7 and 8, Block 135, Reeves and Musser Addition, City of Munday
9315	Knox County Appraisal District v. Janie Fernandez and Felix Fernandez The West 108.7' of Lot 1 and the East 18.7 of Lot 2, Block 1, West Munday Addition, City of Munday
9371	Knox County Appraisal District v. Karen Harris a/k/a Karen Kay Harris A 74' x 140' tract of land, more or less, being as assessed as the East 25' of Lot 9 and the West 49' of Lot 10, Block 17, Davis Addition to the City of Knox City
7378	Knox County Appraisal District v. Gloria Sanchez a/k/a Gloria Salinas All of Lots 1 and 2, Block 20, Original Townsite to the City of Goree

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

Dated June 30, 2011, at Benjamin, Texas.

By Sheriff Dean Homstad

You may contact the Plaintiffs attorney at 325-672-4870.

## Graves film finalist in Texas Monthly contest

By RYAN MILLS

In Texas, cities and towns are more than just places on a map. They are part of who we are and how we define ourselves. Austin Film Festival & Texas Monthly challenged filmmakers to tell us about where they are from through film in 10 minutes or less.

Local photographer and filmmaker Russell Graves took notice and entered. His film is now among the finalists.

Graves' film "Where I'm From" is a 10-minute short about growing up in the country in Fannin County in northeast Texas.

Graves said last year's Texas Monthly contest gave him the idea.

"Last year I noticed all the entries were all about towns, mostly big places, but most were just towns and cities across the state," Graves said. "I didn't grow up in a town, I grew up in the country. So this film is about all those people who didn't grow up with a city limits address."

Graves' home address growing up was Route 1, Box 83B.

"That tells you nothing," Graves laughed. "In other words, no one would ever find it if you told them your

address. All that said was I didn't live in a town."

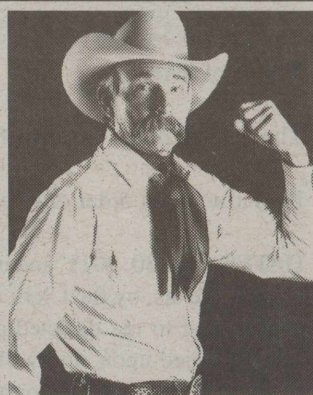
The winners in the contest are chosen in two ways - one is by popular vote by readers voting online and the other is by critics choice. There will be two winners from each method of voting.

Graves' film was shot over two days in mid-May and he said his attempt was difficult with a 10-minute time limit.

"What I really tried to do was put in context what it was like being raised the way I was raised," Graves said. "It was a simple lifestyle. I was 23 years old in Childress before I had more than three channels. We couldn't get anything but an antenna at home. That was before satellite TV and cable wasn't available to us. So I spent a lot of time outdoors. So that's what I really tried to impart in the film."

Graves did not use a traditional video camera to shoot his film. Instead he used a Canon Digital SLR camera which is a still shot camera which has the capability to shoot video. All the editing was done by Graves in his home.

Visit [www.texasmonthly.com/multimedia/filmcontest/2011](http://www.texasmonthly.com/multimedia/filmcontest/2011) where you can vote as well as view his film.



## ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE by Baxter Black, DVM

### DONKEY DRESSAGE

I was reminiscing with a group of Dexter breeders. A Michigan farmer named Lew said when he was a boy, his grandpa hired a mule man to clear some timber. It was raining like a cow pouring hot tea on a flat rock!

The mule man sat in his old Chevy coupe with his arm out the window holding onto his harnessed log-skipping mules, Bob and Jim. Bob got agitated. His mule logic could not understand why he, as the acknowledged smartest, cleverest, and most dexterous of the equids, was forced to stand in the rain, while the laziest, densest and most fragile of the primates sat in a car two feet away. Did he think mules were stupid?

The man enforced his dominance by popping Bob on the end of his nose! Bob took umbrage and responded by jerking back, dragging poor ol' Jim over the coupe, smashing the trunk, collapsing the rear window, flattening the roof, exploding the windshield and crushing the hood! We all agreed Bob had reaffirmed his place in the pecking order!

Rob, a Virginia farmer, took the baton and announced he was into Donkey Dressage. He explained that to truly appreciate it, one must understand the donkey attitude toward exertion...PACE YOURSELF. So rather than leap over the jumps at a high lope, you accrue points by walking through them at a comfortable pace pushing the horizontal poles over and walking around the water traps. The objective in each event is to do everything wrong! In pole bending you walk between the poles, knocking them over and not crossing the finish line. In the performance class you get points for stumbling, going the wrong direction, dragging the rider against the fence, and star gazing.

Donkey basketball has long been popular but can you imagine Clydesdale basketball? It would be like watching the NBA! It just wouldn't work.

So, I'll be watching for Rob's Donkey Dressage. Donkey hockey, Donkey water polo, maybe even donkey bulldogging! But...instead of bulls or steers, they would use something more suited for the donkey attitude. How 'bout tortoise dogging! Obviously, it wouldn't be a timed event.

[www.baxterblack.com](http://www.baxterblack.com)



Don't tread on me.

The slogan most often accompanies the image of a patriotic rattlesnake. Text and serpent sum up our national sentiment when somebody makes us mad.

Tangle with a red ant, and the same slogan comes to mind - at least to my mind. It came to my mind last week.

I didn't tread on the ant. Perhaps I should have, but I respect red ants, even if they are arch socialists. They keep fire ants at bay. I loathe fire ants. It's the same sort of affection I feel for all bugs that are not roaches.

The ant was in a field-turned-pasture. I myself was armed with herbicide - not pesticide. Wrong weapon.

I really didn't know I was standing in a red ant path. A mesquite tree had my attention. Red ant paths are as distinctive as cow trails in their own way - just less noticeable. You're not likely to see one until it's too late. Sharp pain.

If you're gonna be anywhere near red ants, don't wear Crocs.

Crocs, in case you're not up to snuff on leisure shoes, were originally designed as spongy spa shoes. When the Croc people bought out the original producers of the foam footwear, they named the first style "Beach."

Crocs will probably never name a style "Pasture." Nor should they. Nevertheless some of us Croc-wearers will wear Crocs virtually anywhere but to funerals and weddings.

Classic Crocs have more holes than Swiss cheese. Red ants view all Croc holes as

entry points. If you're hand-spraying mesquite trees where the red ants roam, it's risky to be afoot in Crocs.

The poor ant that bit me on the ring toe of my left foot must have gotten into a tight Croc spot from which he couldn't extricate himself. He looked the worse for wear when I removed him from my toe. More flattened than bulbous, I'd say.

Anyway, after that minor disaster I decided to go to Wednesday night church where there are no red ants, although I do remember once when a spotted salamander walked in the back door. It's a country church.

Unless you're going to a healing service, church isn't such a good place to be if you're suffering from an ant bite. There I sat, listening to verses about Jesus healing the sick. The longer I sat, the more the pain spread up my foot from my stricken toe.

Finally I took a leave of absence to get ice from my car.

The ice helped. As the pieces melted one by one, my shoe began to fill with water. Crocs don't hold much water because of all those holes. Some ran out on the carpet.

But I drew less attention than the Sunday morning when I swatted the wasp on my pew mate's head with her Sunday School teacher's manual. Got him.

Wouldn't this be a good story if a deadly little rattlesnake had crawled in my Croc just in time for mid-week snake handling?

Another time. Another church.

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**BENJAMIN NEWS** continued from page 9

she's working in Vernon now in the medical field and also loves her work.

Weekend guests of Debbie Clower and Sara were David and Carissa Clower of Plainview and Michael and Megan Clower of Bedford. Gloria West and Lorene Powers joined them for a lunch on Sunday.

Gene Gloria has been spending quite a bit of time with his dad at Bronte. He is having some health problems and Gene is there to help out when he can. I ask your prayers for them at this time.

Area quilters spent the weekend at Ranger Creek for a quilters Retreat. They reported a great weekend, lots of good fun and rest. Benjamin residents attending were Jan Carver, Carol Dickson and Pam Duke.

**Benjamin Grad Receives Honor**

Rhonda Whitten Sheldon, who lives in Sidney Iowa with her husband and children and teaches in a Sidney High School, recently received the honor of being named High School Teacher of the Year for Southwest Iowa.

This award, the Charles Lanken Award, was established by Mr. Lankin and given to teachers in rural area only and given to a teacher within a 60 mile radius of his home. This is the fourth year it has been given and recipients have to have been employed in the school district for at least 5 years. There are over 200 school districts in the area Rhonda was selected from.

Mr. Lankin attended a rural school and credited his teachers for his success. The winner of this award is determined by student and parent nominations and I congratulate Rhonda for this

achievement.

And as a 'side award' Rhonda received \$10,000 for her personal use (not for school) and her school district got \$2500.

Rhonda is a 1992 graduate of Benjamin High School and is the daughter of Jack and Judie Ryder Whitten. She is another Benjamin "kid" that has done well and we are all proud of her. Judie and her sister, Sue Oxford, were in Sidney for the presentation.

Note: I talked to Rhonda today, she was at her parents for a weeks' visit. She said she hoped to get over here one day and maybe see some of her friends.

everything about Texas," Meinzer enthused, "and I want to applaud all that defines Texas through my work."

"My theme of intent," he continued, "is to be on site at the greatest light." That theme finds him "chasing the light" sunrise to sunset and frequently sharing his knowledge and techniques with students in workshops.

Of his induction into the Texas Hall of Heroes, Meinzer said, "I never thought of ... an honor like this. It's beyond my wildest dreams and I just want to thank all who admire my work. I hope to continue to define and celebrate the great state of Texas

and its people through my photography."

Louis M. Pearce Jr.'s background in Texas business, ranching, as a cattleman, horseman and over 60 years involvement with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, more than qualifies him for Texas Hall of Heroes.

He exhibited cattle and cutting horses and bought his first bull for the family ranch in 1938. Following a stint in the Horse Cavalry

of the United States Army in World War II, he went to work in the family business, Texas Iron Works (TWI Corp.), later becoming president of Waukesha-Pearce Industries in 1947.

But the businessman never lost his Texas cowboy roots. Pearce credits a prize cutting horse with bringing him to the attention of the horse show committee in Houston in 1947. He calls his years of service there, "A labor of love for me."

During his tenure, the Fat Stock Show morphed into The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Pearce helped facilitate the move to the Houston Astrodome; served for 16 years as chairman of the horse show and president of the Livestock Show and Rodeo from 1967 to 1969; and helped provide millions of scholarship dollars for Texas youth.

**TEXAS HEROES**  
concluded on page 12

## Legal Notice

### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

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

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

Dist/Div: Lubbock

Contract 6230-53-001 for REMOVE AND REPLACE SPEED LIMIT SIGNS - WESTERN in LUBBOCK County, etc will be opened on August 10, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$1,367,385.39.

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

NPO: 37058

#### State Office

Constr./Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-416-2540

#### Dist/Div Office(s)

Lubbock District  
District Engineer  
135 Slaton  
Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771  
Phone: 806-745-4411

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



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TEXAS HEROES continued from page 11

Pearce continues his service on the board of directors and with the executive committee. The late artist, Jim Reno, modeled the cowboy in the bronze sculpture displayed in front of the Astrodome after Louis Pearce.

Pearce was inducted into the American Quarter Horse

Hall of Fame, the National Cutting Horse Hall of Fame and the Texas Cowboys Hall of Fame. He continues to take great pride in the fine herd of Brangus cattle on his ranches in Atascosa and Maverick counties.

"When it's all said and done," Pearce said, "I want

to be remembered as a cowboy."

Box seat tickets to the Ranch Rodeo and Dude Ranch Rodeo, held the evenings of Friday, July 22, and Saturday, July 23, at Mansfield Park, are available at the Frontier Times Museum, 510 13th Street. Telephone is 830-796-3864.

# Knox County 4-H Places in 4-H Golf Challenge



Golfers took to the links at the Meadowbrook Golf Course in Lubbock, Texas for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 4-H Golf Challenge. Last year was a pilot contest and it drew lots of interest and excitement. It drew so much interest that this year there was a South Region held in College Station and a North Region which was held in Lubbock. This year's golf challenge doubled in size and numbers bringing in golfers from around the state. Intermediate and senior aged 4-Hers took part in golfing and learning opportunities related to sports nutrition, golf rules and etiquette, and turf grass/golf course management. Ryder Dillard and Matthew Acree were the golfers from

Knox County and joining them was Brandon Robertson from Stamford. For the golf challenge, participants played on 3 person teams in which they had to play 18 holes of golf as a best ball scramble. While playing, golfers had to answer different scenario questions that pertained from anything related to turf management problems to golf etiquette rules. After finishing their rounds, participants had to take a 25 question test as a team, in which questions were also related to golf etiquette rules and sports nutrition. Points from the test and golf rounds were combined to get a final score. Awards were given to the Top 3 placing

teams, as well as Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin. Dillard, Acree, and Robertson ended the day 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Overall with a score of 63. Congratulations to Ryder Dillard, Matthew Acree, and Brandon Robertson on a great round of golf. Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting or program are encouraged to contact the Knox County AgriLife Extension office at (940) 459-2651.



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