

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

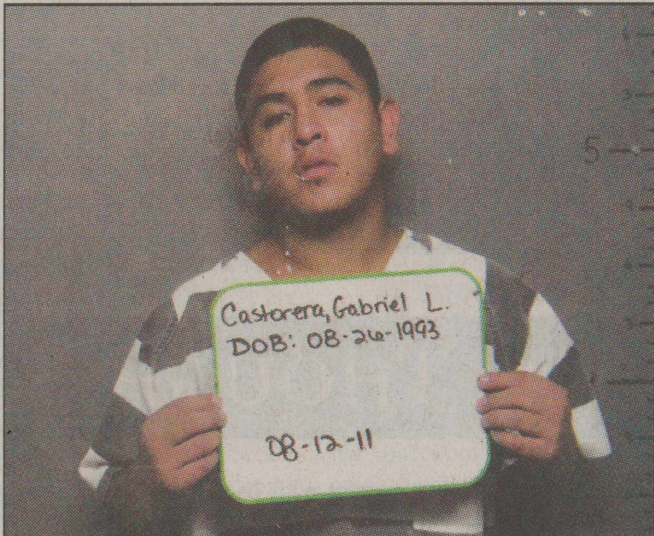
Proudly Serving
The Knox County Area
Since 1981
Volume XXX Number 26

KNOX COUNTY NEWS

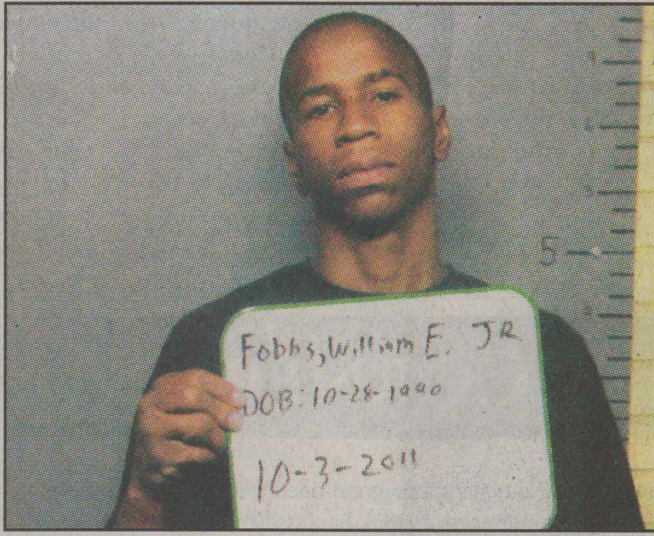
8 Pages
Plus Inserts
75 Cents

NEWS FOR KNOX COUNTY AND KNOX, TEXAS - THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2012

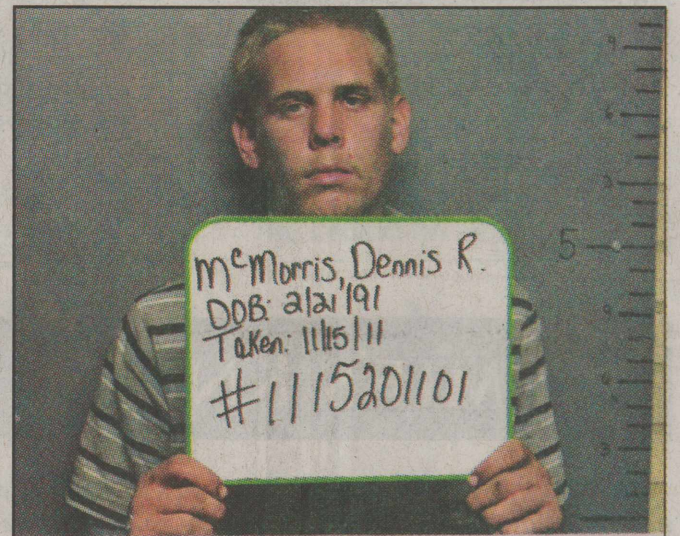
Escapees Adventure Short Lived



GABRIEL CASTORINA



WILLIAM FOBBS



DENNIS MCMORRIS

Three inmates decided to make a run on the last day of 2011 and local and area law enforcement made their hiatus very brief.

The inmates were able to overpower a jailer and escape from the Knox County Jail in Benjamin at approximately 8 p.m. New Year's Eve, according to Knox County officials.

Those escaping were Gabriel Lamar Castorina, of Haskell, William Earl Fobbs, of Seymour and Dennis Ryan

McMorris.

According to officials, the Texas Department of Public Safety, as well as surrounding county and municipal agencies, aided local law enforcement and all three were apprehended within the municipality of Benjamin by 9 p.m. the same night.

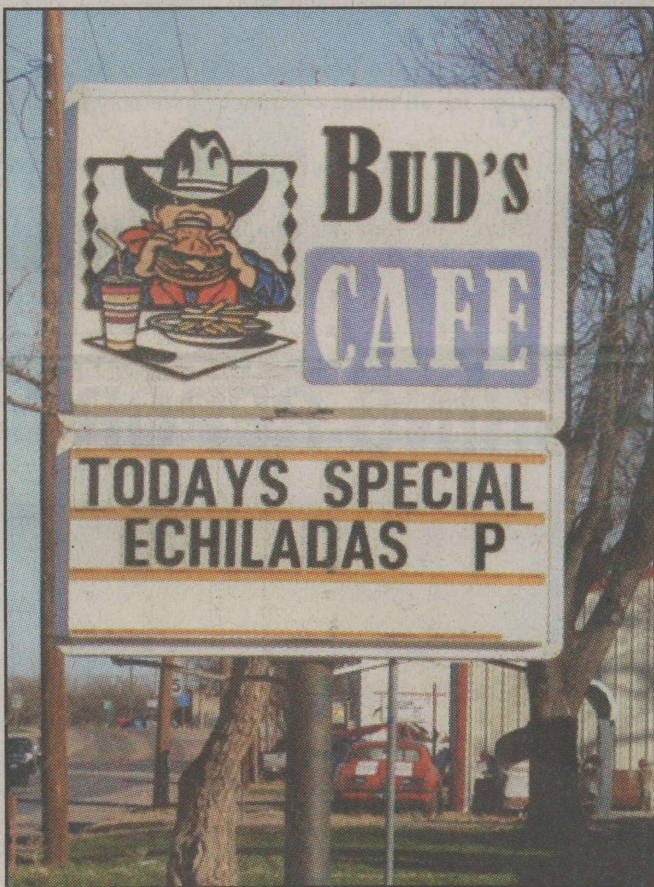
Castorina, an 18-year-old hispanic male, is being held on sexual assault of a child, aggravated assault, assault with

a deadly weapon, unauthorized use of a vehicle, and two counts of arson. His bonds total \$150,000.00.

Fobbs, a 21-year-old black male, is held on aggravated robbery and motion to adjudicate aggravated robbery. His bonds total \$210,000.00.

McMorris, a 20-year-old white male, is being held on indecency with a child/sexual contact. His bonds are \$25,000.00.

Bud's now healed from accident



Photos By Sherry Reid

Soon the barriers will be gone and Bud's Café will have a new look since an accident a few weeks ago altered the front wall.

LOOKING AHEAD

Big Country Adult Education Co-Op is still offering free GED Classes in the Haskell/Knox County area. The classes will be offered Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Haskell Elementary Computer Lab from 4-7 p.m. The classes will begin again Tuesday, January 3, at 4 p.m. Please bring your driver's license or photo ID and social security card with you. If you have workbooks from last year, bring them also. These classes are free and space is limited.

DECEMBER ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP MEETING CANCELLED. The support group will resume their regular 4th Monday meetings on Monday, January 23rd - 3 p.m. at the Haskell County Extension Office located at 101 S. Avenue D in Haskell.

Caregivers, family members and friends of individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia, should consider attending these meetings that are open to anyone in Haskell County or the surrounding area. 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 care giving.

See **LOOKING AHEAD** on page 8

Gonzales, Thompson, Tolson and Burnett appointed to Appraisal Board

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF KNOX
Be it REMEMBERED on the 12th day of December, 2011, there was conducted a REGULAR Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Knox County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Benjamin, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same. The Court met at: 1:30 p.m., 12th Day of December, 2011.

Knox County Judge Travis Floyd, called the Regular Meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Commissioners Urbanczyk, Birkenfeld, Griffith and McCowan were present. Also attending were, County & District Deputy Clerk Lisa Cypert, County Treasurer Rosie Ake, Cheryl Daniel Aging Services Director, Pam Reed, Nicki Ledsama, 911 Director,

County Extension Agent Lorrie Coop, County Attorney Lina Trevino, County Sheriff Dean Homstad, County Tax assessor Mitzi Welch. The Court considered the following matters posted and filed for Record in the office of the County Clerk December 12, 2011. Guests were Jason Young, and Debra Goodheer from Jerry Love CPA, LLC.

Commissioner Urbanczyk made the motion seconded by Commissioner Birkenfeld to approve the minutes of the Regular Session held November 11, 2011. The motion passed five to zero.

Next the Commissioner heard from Jerry Love CPA LLC on the yearly audit report. Motion by Commissioner Urbanczyk and seconded by Commissioner Griffith to approve the yearly audit. All approved 5-0.

Motion made by Commissioner

Griffith seconded by Commissioner McCowan to add appraisal retirement fund to County Retirement fund all approved 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Birkenfeld and seconded by Commissioner Griffith to bring off the table the bids on metal bridge on CR 3605. Motion made to rescind the original bid request and reissue a new one.

Commissioner McCowan made the motion to go into Executive Session to consider and discuss Consider Personnel Matters. Commissioner Griffith seconded the motion, all agreed.

Judge Floyd Called the Regular Session back to order; Commissioner Birkenfeld made the motion seconded by Commissioner Griffith.

1. Motion made by Commissioner See **COMMISSIONERS** on page 8

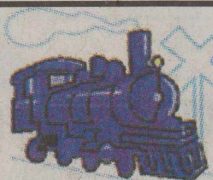


SEYMOUR MEDICAL SUPPLY

"Home Town Service You Deserve!"

110 W. REIMAN • SEYMOUR, TEXAS 76380 • 24 HOURS A DAY/7 DAYS A WEEK • 940-889-6060 • 1-866-889-1076

HARDEMAN • FOARD • WILBARGER
WICHITA • KING • KNOX • BAYLOR • ARCHER
HASKELL • THROCKMORTON • YOUNG



Burrito Express

201 East Main Street • Knox City, TX 79529
(940) 657-4323 *(940) 657-5568* *(940)657-5516*

Open from 5:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. NOW Serving Lunch from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



GOD'S PROMISES

Cracked Pots or God Pots?

By Pastor Tex Cox

Abundant Life Church Knox City, Texas

God has called you for a purpose! Amen? Your entire life, God has been forming you and molding you - shaping you into what He has called you to be. Do you know what the most important purpose God has planned for each and every one of us?

"To love the Lord your God with all your heart...and to love your neighbor as yourself."

Can I ask you a question?

If you were ever presented with a situation in which the entirety of your life was simply to worship God...would you be content? If God was the only contact and/or relationship you had in your life...would He be enough?

Tough questions! Yet, this is what God seeks after in you more than anything else! He wants a **relationship** with you! He wants to be your **"all in all."** Your **everything**. He wants to be what floats your boat!

You are the apple of His eye and He loves you! I heard Dave Duell say it like this one time, **"God loves you, and there is nothing you can do about it!"**

Brothers and sisters, there are times in our lives that we need to allow God to reshape us and remold us. There are times where we have to **let go of ourselves** and allow God to bring us to the path He has in store for us - step by step - process by process.

Do you want to be complete? God has

set you apart! He has a plan for you! He has a purpose for you!

God created you **perfect**. When you were created in your Mother's womb - you were perfect! Satan is continually trying to destroy what God has made and God is continually trying to keep you in His perfect plan for your life.

We need to focus on Him and trust Him more than we trust what we can see, taste, touch, hear, and smell!

God wants, *"That above all things you will prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers."*

God wants to fix the cracks and bring you back to the perfect creation He had in mind from the very beginning. He is constantly reminding us that He loves us and

has plans for us. Even those who don't hear Him, God is speaking.

Come back to the Potter's Hands. Allow Him to mold you and shape you!

When is the last time you did something for the first time? When is the last time you turned your life over to God - not just for salvation - but for **ALL** that God has planned for you!? Too often than not, life gets in the way and makes us a cracked pot.

God makes perfect pots. The question is - **do you want to be a cracked pot, or a God pot?** God has plans for you! He loves you! In Him, you can become more and more like Him.

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

SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

Monday, 12-26-11 My guys are all doing great. Jin Reid started his little project of repairing the front part of Bud's Café after the freaky accident, but thank God there were no injuries to anyone. It got a little chilly in the front part, but they managed to keep all their customers happy.

Linsey Abila is making great progress every day. She came home on Friday and her family was so happy to have her home. Especially her little angel, Emily. She missed her on so much she was really happy. We are so thankful to God for her great recovery.

Looks like Christmas is over and all our little ones were so happy to have had time with Santa and hopefully got some of the stuff they asked for. Of course some families stayed to enjoy bringing in the new year with some of their loved ones. I really don't blame them, cause I had a full house too and more than one Christmas this year and it was great.

Well, between all this I forgot Cody Pack's going away party. I know they're just moving to Abilene but they will be dearly missed. Hope they come back to visit off and on. About the time we get used to them and they become like family, they have to leave. But the good thing is you have to make a choice to move up in life and take it while you're young. Cody & Shonna, we will miss you. I know Eric & Sandra will miss you as neighbors.

Diana Casillas' mother has settled in the Brazos Valley Care Home and Diana is happy about her care. Of course she spends a lot of time with her and that is a great joy. She

has her bad days and her good ones, but that's normal when they've experienced serious health difficulties. God, please bless the caregivers and the patients.

Our deepest condolences to the young family from Benjamin who lost their loved one. He will be dearly missed as a husband, father, grandfather and great friend.

Friday morning, Roy Rodriguez was admitted to the hospital with complications, then transferred to Abilene later in the day. He is still having some difficulties and is at Hendrix Medical Center. I have no idea for how long, but I spoke to him today, Sunday, and he sounded a little down, but hopefully they'll find the problem. Please keep him in your prayers.

Also, Delbert Hayes was also hospitalized for a day or so. Pam Reed said he will probably be home in a day or so.

I never found out who was air lifted out of Knox City last week, but I did take the time to pray for whoever it was.

I got to visit with one of the Denton family members from Houston over the holiday. She always takes the time to come see me and lets me know how much she enjoys my column and looks forward to knowing what's going on in Knox City. I hear that from all the people that love reading Knox City news.

The Chamber girls have all gotten ready to return home and didn't get to visit with any of them because of the nasty viruses that were going around Knox City. They really took a toll on lots of families here. We need to pray that they all returned home safely and back to start another new year.

I have not had any contact with Dionisia Estrada lately, but hopefully now that the holidays are over and the new year starts, things will be so much better. Continue to pray for her complete recovery.

Today at church, I had a conversation with a friend and if you use our Knox County Clinic here you have known Diana as one of your nurses. Her husband is having to have a foot amputated from below the knee because of diabetic problems. He has been on dialysis for some time now. She's been a great nurse and I would like to show our help and support by making contributions to this family when you see the collection jars in businesses here. Diana is the sole support now and must miss work from time to time to take her husband to the doctor. Needless to say, they need our prayers. Give as generously as you can.

As I sit here and think about all the things that have happened, we may also have jars out for the Roy Rodriguez family in the near future. We don't ask for millions, just every contribution, no matter the amount, adds up and makes a difference.

Every week I read the promises of God and we know there is a reason for all things even though we may not understand.

Monday morning, Jan. 2nd and all is well today. A little cool, but that's okay.

May God bless our troops and each one of us.
Sammie

Knox County Arrest Report

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

December 6th, 2011 through December 27th 2011

Miller, Kimberly D., 12/6/11, DWI 1st, (M-A) Knox County

Ruiz, Jonathan Scott, 12/8/11, Stalking, (F-3) Knox County

Gutierrez, Misty, 12/9/11, Evading Arrest w/Vehicle (SJF) Foard County

Stewart, Geoff W., 12/10/11, Evading Arrest W/Previous Conviction (SJF) Foard County

Estrada, April D, 12/12/11, MTR: Possess Marijuana (M-B) Taylor County Warrant

Wisdom, Walter Jacob, 12/1/11, Burglary of Habitation (F-2) Knox County (Arrested in Wichita Falls, Tx)

Malone, Billy Joe, 9/20/11, Evading Arrest W/Vehicle (F-3, Knox County.) Arrested in Haskell County.

Ramos, Anthony, 12/15/11, Criminal Trespass, (M-B) Knox County

Deer, Stevie Lee, 12/19/11, Judgement NISI/Possess Cocaine (F-2) Knox County (Arrested in Midland County, Tx)

Dean W. Homstad, Sheriff, Knox County

DAVID'S FISHING REPORT



Stamford Lake
12/31/11

Water Clarity: Stained
Water Temperature: 44.5 degrees

Fishing was good after the warm days we've had and it being the day before our next cold front. We caught 8 bass that averaged about 4.25 lbs. each. They were caught on white crank-bait and white chattering bucktail. Our two biggest fish were 8.25 and 6.75 lbs. Crappie were good around boat docks and in the back of coves. Bluecat were fair on rod and reel.

God Bless and Good Fishin'

The Knox County News

"Since 1971, Knox County's Oldest Established Newspaper"

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

USPS 903-920

POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to The Knox County News, P.O. Box 188, Knox City, TX 79529. Published weekly, 110 North Central, Knox City, Knox County, Texas. Periodicals postage paid at Post Office, Knox City, Texas 79529.

MEMBER — Texas Press Association 2011
• West Texas Press Association

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

CHRISTOPHER
BLACKBURN
Publisher

SHERRY REID
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.

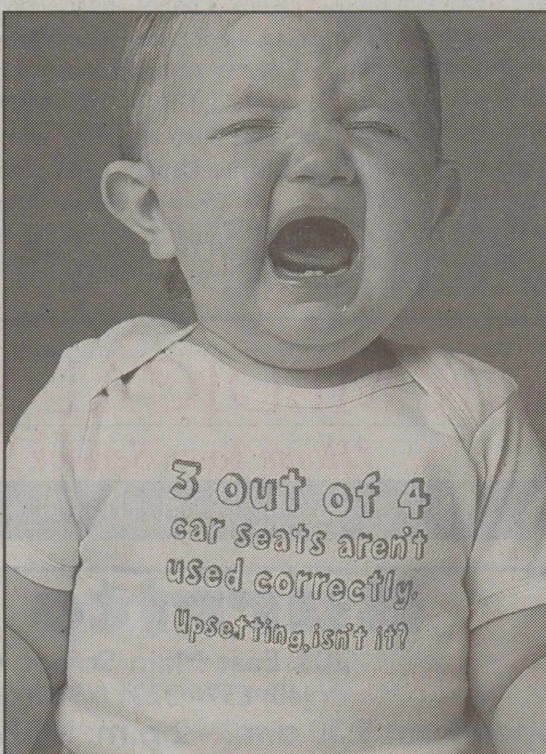
NOTICE

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.

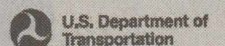
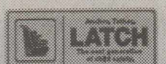
All material copyright The Knox County News 2011

KCN OFFICE HOURS

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



The LATCH system makes it easier to be sure your child's car seat is installed correctly every time. Just clip it to the lower anchors, attach the top tether, and pull the straps tight. To find out more, visit safercar.gov.



How to overthrow the status quo?

Promote Civic Responsibility – and Start Young, Expert Says

Across the nation, people take to the streets in record numbers to overthrow the greed and politics they say has hijacked the American dream. No longer can you work hard and get ahead, they say: The system is rigged to promote the rich, the powerful, and the greedy. The disenfranchised Occupy protesters and the citizens of Main Street have united in untold numbers.

Time magazine names "The Protester" its 2011 Person of the Year. The young people who turned out in droves to vote in 2008 are now abandoning the political process; seeing hope in neither the Republicans nor the Democrats, they're disengaging out of disillusionment.

Former TV news anchor and reporter Mary Jane McKittrick, author of "Boomer and Halley -- Election Day: A Town Votes for Civic Responsibility" (www.boomerandhalley.com), says it's time to remind people that civic duty is not solely the responsibility of elected officials. "It's easy to blame Wall Street, the White House, Congress, the pundits, and everyone in between," says McKittrick. "But we fail to see the role we've all played in the fiasco. We voted for these people. We abdicated

our responsibilities to them. We let them have the power. "Now we, the people, are powerless. No wonder our kids think the system is broken and they don't need to participate." It's a problem she saw coming and why she wrote "Boomer and Halley -- Election Day," winner of a Mom's Choice Award for Juvenile Humor. It's part of a series designed to help parents teach 4- to 8-year-olds civil values, including lifelong civic involvement. A successful Democracy depends on civic-minded citizens, but people don't get that way overnight, McKittrick points out. It's a value instilled in children from a very young age. That's not happening.

"We're the 99 percent compliant; people have stopped being involved. America has stopped voting," McKittrick said, citing a Project Vote analysis of the November 2010 elections, in which a majority of registered voters did not go to the polls.

A study of American teenagers' civic participation from 1976 through 2005 found a general decline over the decades, according to the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood.

The high point for conventional participation, like

writing to a public official, came in 1978. But even then, only 27 percent of 17- to 19-year-olds declared such intentions, according to a September 2009 article published by the MacArthur Foundation. "Even alternative forms of engagement — such as boycotting and demonstrating — declined among high school seniors during the 1980s, reaching a low of 17 percent in 1986," according to the authors.

That number settled at around 20 percent during the late 1990s through 2005, they wrote.

The "Yes we can!" campaign of then-presidential candidate Barack Obama in 2008 inspired record numbers of young people to get involved. But two years later, they dropped out of sight. Young Americans, blacks and lower-income Americans participated in the election in historic numbers, according to the non-partisan non-profit Project Vote. But by 2010, 23 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds were "civically alienated," a Tufts University study found, and they mostly stayed home during the Nov. 2, 2010 midterm elections. "Non-voters were the majority in 2010," according to Dr. Lorraine Minnite, who analyzed turnout for Project

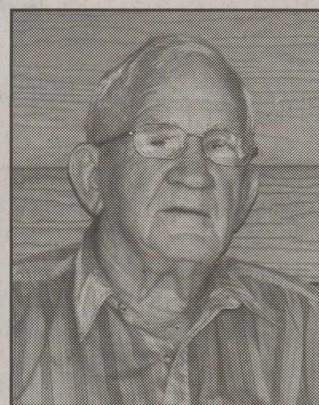
Vote. Interestingly, people ages 65 and older — who have a rich history of civic involvement — constituted 21 percent of voters though they make up only 13 percent of the population.

"For the first time in quite awhile, we're seeing Americans in the streets," says McKittrick. "But no one's talking to the kids about the protests. Children should be taught what they mean and shown how the situation can be turned around. This is a very teachable moment."

Start now teaching children to pay attention, take responsibility and work through problems together, she says. "Do that, and they'll probably never have to Occupy a park."

About Mary Jane McKittrick
Mary Jane McKittrick is the creator, author, producer and publisher of the Boomer and Halley series of children's books, comic tales that teach core values such as honesty and responsibility. McKittrick is a former broadcast journalist and holds a dual bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts and Speech Communication.

OBITUARY



BENJAMIN, TX-FRANCIS L. "DUTCH" YOUNG

Benjamin, Tx-Francis L. "Dutch" Young, 82 passed away in Munday, Texas, December 28, 2011. A visitation was scheduled for Friday evening, December 30, at Smith Family Funeral Home in Knox City from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Services were held at the First Baptist Church at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December

31, 2011 in Benjamin with Dr. Troy Culpepper officiating. Burial immediately followed at the Benjamin cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes.

Mr. Young was born May 29, 1929 in Edhubie, Texas to Wayne and Carmen (Adcock) Young. He married Imagean Nunley in May of 1946. For 30 years, Dutch worked for the Texas Department of Transportation which he also retired from. He was a volunteer with the Benjamin Fire Department and was also a past Councilman with the City of Benjamin. Dutch was a member of the First Baptist Church.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Wayne and Carmen Young; 2 brothers, Wayne Young Jr. and Jackie Young; sisters, Dorthy West and Patsy Benson; and a daughter, Brenda Golleher.

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday

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

Thomas Carter, Pastor
406 2nd Street • 658-3517
knoxcity-fumc@hotmail.com-umckc.net
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Evening Bible Study - 7 p.m. Monday, Breakfast Bible Study 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morning Bible Study 10 a.m. Wednesday, Youth Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Worship Team Rehearsal 7 p.m. Wednesday, Outreach Lunch 12 noon every 3rd Sunday
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

Thomas Carter, 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

Shannon Waters, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Mid-Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH – O'Brien

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

WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Rob Harrison, Pastor
Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY IS BROUGHT TO YOU EACH WEEK BY THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS:

Knox County Hospital
657-3535

O'Brien Co-op Gin
658-3631

A year of progress and accomplishments



By Jimi Coplen

In the end, you're measured not by how much you undertake but by what you finally accomplish. And, this year, the Knox County Visioning Group has done just that.

"One of our biggest accomplishments this year was the Knox County Brochure. It is at the printer as we speak. This is going to be a great tool that will be utilized by many," said Ms. Coplen, KCVG Community Development Director. The KCVG sold ads, organized design and printing of the brochure.

The KCVG also held their first major event in 2011 –

Knox County Adventure Days. This event took people around the county through events like the Amazing Grace Race, a bus tour, and even a photography scavenger hunt. It opened people's eyes to the rich history of the county. This event is being repeated April 27-28, 2012.

Another big accomplishment was the business development workshop series. Meetings held throughout the year consisted of workforce development, customer service, social media, estate planning and business planning. These workshops attracted a variety of different people and brought resource

agencies to the county.

A big hitter at the end of the year was the Shop Local flyer produced and mailed by the KCVG. "These flyers went to each box holder in Knox County. Christmas sales carry these retailers throughout the year so it is important to remember to support them during the holidays," said Ms Coplen.

The KCVG also participated in the promotion and manpower of the music camp and Cowboy Christmas Ball in Goree. They also helped in the group tour that took place during the quilt show.

Additional projects in 2011 included a job fair, business recruitment, a summer intern program, grant writing, entrepreneurial support, and monthly KCVG meetings where all shared about events going on throughout the county.

The KCVG could not do what they do without the support of their partners. Partners receive advertising at all KCVG events, in press releases, on KCVG letterhead the website, and social media. Partners include Knox County, Knox City EDC, Development Corporation of Munday, First National Bank of Munday, City of Munday and the City of Knox City, Knox County Hospital District, City of Goree, Circle Bar Ranch, AEP, and Knox County Abstract.

Knox County Aging Services

Menus For January 9th To January 13th

Monday January 9th Spaghetti Italian Vegetables Broccoli Garlic Toast Autumn Jello	Whole Wheat Roll. Chocolate Cake/Strawberry	Potatoes Carrot/Raisin Salad Cornbread Baked Apples
Tuesday January 10th Beef Tips/Noodles Meadow Blend Vegetables Corn	Wednesday January 11th Tilapia/Lemon Whole Kernel Corn Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Cherry Crisp	Friday, January 13th Cheeseburger Potato Wedges Tomato Wedge Salad Melon Medley
	Thursday, January 12th BBQ Chicken Mashed	

New Serving Time Is 12 Noon (In Knox City Only) Alternate Desserts For Diabetics
Please Call In Your Orders By 10 A.M. To 657-3618
Orders Cant Be Taken After 10 A.M. And Need To Be Picked Up After 11 A.M.

Benjamin News By Gladene Green

By Gladene Green

Happy New Year. We are already a few days into 2012 and I hope things are going good for you. So far, so good here. Now that most of the Christmas decorations are down, all that rich, delicious food has been consumed and I have had my "good luck" black-eyed peas, maybe things will get back to some sort of "normalcy." Let's hope so.

My sincere sympathy to the family of Dutch Young today. Dutch passed away last Wed in the Munday Nursing Center where he had been for about 3 months. His funeral was Sat., here in Benjamin.

REGARDING OUR ILL

Mike Young is having some health problems. Has, among other issues, a blood clot in his lungs. Is taking medication for it and hopefully that will help him. He spent last night, Saturday, in an Abilene Hospital & is returning home today.

Reports from Jan Carver is that she is doing better. Still on medication for blood clots in her arm, but that is improving. Said she will start therapy very soon and that should help and also she will be doing her walking which will help her regain her strength. It was good to talk to her and hear her sound like herself again. She said her girls have gone home and left Fred to take care of her and that he is doing a good job!

HERE 'N THERE

Lots of Christmas & New Years visiting took place over the past two weeks. No way to possibly get it all in one week but I've attempted to get a big part of it. And please forgive me if I miss yours. Let me know and I'll get it next time.

Susan and Ronnie White,

Tim, John & Hannah had Joshua and Amy White of Bryan, Chris, Ava & Mitch White of Plano & Jessica White of El Paso visiting. Jessica is a 2nd year med student at Texas Tech-El Paso, hoping to be a cardiologist. Also joining them for lunch & visiting Christmas Day were Tib Burnett of Benjamin & Tom & Martha Whitford of Knox City.

Sue Terry & family of Dallas, Lana Hale & family & Dillon Benson, Arial Gideon & Addison all of Benjamin had Christmas this past Thursday (29th) with their parents, Jane Gideon & Weldon Gideon. On Friday, they had a family party for Weldon, honoring him on his 90th birthday. Their son (& brother) Oscar Gideon & family who live in Arizona arrived on Saturday for the funeral of Dutch Young & remained for a few days visit.

Hazel Stockton & Kim Moore & Shelby had several for Christmas Day. Enjoying a great meal & a day of fun were Keith & Pam Conner of Midland, Bob & Stephanie Brannan & family & Clay & Melanie Conner & baby girl of Lubbock, Samijo Russell of Knox City, Blaine & Gary Neal & Hayden of Seymour, & Bud Conner of Benjamin. Later in the week, Hazel's niece & her husband, Steve & Judy Watson of Durant, Ok., visited a few hours.

Stasia & James Propps had family members for Christmas Eve. And then on Christmas Day. They all went to Trey & Carrie Propps at Vera. Enjoying both get "togethers" were Don & Jimmie Kay Liles who live near Longview, Chance Propps of Los Angeles, Ca., Cody Propps of Tarlton State in Stephenville, Shaylee Propps of Canyon, Lynn Fancher of

Longview, Herb & Dickie Propps of Seymour, and Donnie & Barbara Ryder & Shannon Propps of Benjamin.

Holiday guests of Roger & Betty Bohannon were Craig & Bonnie Howell and family who live in Nebraska. Lonnie Bohannon who has been living in Nebraska several months also made the trip with them & will not return to Nebraska for a while (if he does at all). Think he's glad to be back home. Betty also said the youngsters had lots of friends in & out.

Pam Duke told me that her sister & brother-in-law, Fred & Nancy McGreger had been in San Diego, Ca., this past week. His aunt, Sybil Chandler, who had visited in Benjamin several times, passed away & her memorial services were one day last week. Their son, Chris, who lives in Germany, met them there for a visit. They were to return home Sat.

Pam was also telling me about their new grandson. Zachariah Lee was born on Dec. 20 to Rachel & Jon Ferris. He weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. & was 20 1/2 inches long. According to Pam, he is just precious. And oh yes, Dennis Duke is the proud maternal grandfather. The new baby & his parents live in Wichita Falls & they are doing fine.

I visited with Raquel Acevedo today. She said she would be leaving the last of the week for San Antonio where she will be attending school at UTSA. She's looking forward to it but a bit apprehensive about the big city as she went to school at Snyder the last semester & there's quite a contrast between the two cities.

My family had Christmas dinner on Christmas Eve with Debi & Mike

Moorhouse & Dillon Keys. Present were Jessica Moorhouse & Brandon Hutchinson of Abilene, Beckie Keys of Holliday, Will Moorhouse of Sweetwater & Liz & Nathan Herring, Taylor & Westin & Kevin Smith of Munday, On Christmas Day, they were at my house joined by Cody Taylor of Amarillo & Diane Evans & Ashlee of Childress. It was a fun weekend enjoyed by everyone.

New Years weekend guests of Mike & Debi Moorhouse were Bob & Neva Ridgeway, Given & Dagon Dangerman, Dale Green & grandson, Dakota & Mel Deseay all of the Grapevine area.

I had a nice visit via telephone with my dear friend, Jonnye Matthews Yandel a few days before Christmas. She lives in San Antonio & said the call took the place of her Christmas card & I sure was glad to hear from her. Years & miles apart have separated us since our high school days but never severed our lasting friendship.

Mary Jane Young spent Christmas with her daughter Debbie Neal & family in Boca Raton, Fl. She said she enjoyed it & really had a good time with her great-grandchildren. She came home Thursday after receiving word of her brother-in-law, Dutch Young's death. Debbie came home with her & will be here a few days. Mary's son, Jack, Jr. & his wife, Cindy of Round Rock were also here for the funeral.

Susan Cartwright reports that her mom is back at the Munday Nursing Center after being hospitalized a few days. She suffered a stroke last Wed which left her with some side-effects, but able to be back in Munday. She said she's now

in a wheel chair. She lost some use of her arms and hands & is having some speech problems. We pray she will overcome some, if not all, of these problems.

Jan Carver said she & Fred and the rest of the family had Christmas in the home of Mike & Tammy Lyles. Since it had only been a few weeks since Jan's by-pass surgery, her girls thought it would be better to have the get-together elsewhere. And she said it was enjoyable & good for her to get out a while, going somewhere besides the doctor.

Gloria West & her daughter Cathy Tomlinson of Denton spent Christmas with Betty Parker & family in Aspermont. Also joining them were Robert Clower of Electra, Chelsea Parker of Abilene, & Sabra & Sam Turner who live in Kansas.

Lorene Powers spent Christmas with her children & their families in Midland. Their holiday was marred by illness of her son-in-law, who was admitted to a hospital early on Christmas Eve. He has a lung problem & the last I heard was still in the hospital but hoped to go home yesterday (Sat.).

Linda & Charles Griffith & Becky & Kemp Jones & family spent Christmas with Lori & Ricky LaShomb in Lubbock. Their other daughter (& sister) Amy & Vinie Tyson & family of Clovis, N.M. were also there.

Charles & Joy Jones had their children, David & his wife who live at Run Away Bay & Sheila & Ishmael De Las Santos of Vernon & their families during

Christmas and on Christmas Day they were all in church. Their presence sure helped our attendance as we had several of our "regulars" out.

Mitzi & Shane Welch attended the funeral of his uncle in Stamford on Saturday.

Peggy Haley & her daughter Pam of Ft. Worth were here Sat. for the funeral of Dutch. She visited briefly with several relatives before returning home.

Dillon Keys spent Thurs. nite with friends & relatives in Childress. A friend, Chance Gallion returned home with him Fri. On Sat., Ashlee Evans, also of Childress, came to stay until Sun. p.m. They both returned home late Sun. to get ready to start back to school Monday morning. Both thought they were being treated terribly unfair as several schools don't go back until Tues.! Too bad.

Betty Lyles had most of her family at her house for Christmas. That's Judy Robinson & her family - husband John. They live in Sherman & all her daughter's & their families except one who lives in North Carolina, and Mike & Tammy Lyles of Benjamin & their family with the exception of their son-in-law, Cody Wainscott who is in Afghanistan.

It's late news, but I congratulate Knox City Greyhounds, Blake Jones & Ryan Ledesma for making the 6-man All State team. Blake is a Benjamin resident & a senior at KCHS. His parents are Kemp & Becky.


2012 Knox City Little Dribblers

The Knox City Little Dribblers League has started sign-ups for the 2012 season. Letters are being sent home with every child in Pre-K through 6th grade in the Knox City-O'Brien school district this week. The Knox City coaching staff will be in charge of directing the league again this year. The teams will be coached by the high school students that have volunteered to help our youth learn the game of basketball. The league is designed to give the kids of Knox City the chance to play basketball in a

controlled and structured setting with a positive environment. There were over 100 kids that signed up to play last year. Coach Steele said, "We were very pleased with the number of kids that played little dribblers last year. We had a bunch of positive feedback from parents on the structure and participation". There will be four divisions for the different grade levels. The divisions are PK-K, 1st - 2nd, 3rd - 4th and 5th - 6th. The entry fee to play is \$10.00 per child and the deadline is Wednesday, January 11th. We are

currently looking for sponsors for the t-shirts. We are asking for \$75.00 from each sponsor which will put your business name on the back of every t-shirt. Last year we purchased over 120 shirts. Coach Steele said, "We would like to thank the community for their support of Knox City Little Dribblers. Without the support of the community, some of the things we do for our youth

would not be possible". The first playing date will be January 28th starting at 9:00am. A schedule of times and dates will be sent home with the children after sign-ups and the teams have been determined. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me for further information. My contact information is charles.steele@esc9.net, 940-657-3115.



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

2011 Weekly Weather Report

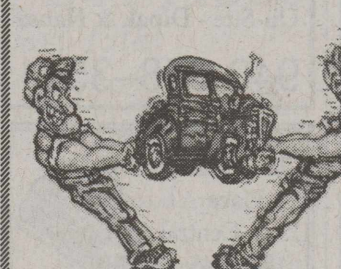
Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
12/18	47/60	
12/19	44/60	0.75
12/20	28/46	
12/21	27/59	
12/22	31/40	
12/23	26/42	
12/24	29/39	
12/25	36/41	0.08
12/26	29/43	
12/27	31/59	
12/28	27/57	
12/29	29/71	
12/30	34/65	
12/31	37/80	
01/01	27/56	
Total Rainfall for month		2.21
2011 Rainfall (ytd)		8.13

Tim's Roofing
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
References Available
Free Estimates
Seymour, Texas
(940)357-1956 • (940) 889-6422

Flat Roofs
Hot Tar
Gravel Roofs
Torch Down
Asphalt Shingles
Wood Shakes
Wood Shingles
Metal
Repairs

CALL TODAY!

LEWIS PAINT & BODY SHOP
EXCELLENCE SINCE 1952



COME SEE US FIRST
NO JOB TOO LARGE
OR TOO SMALL!
24HR WRECKER
SERVICES

CLINT LEWIS
OWNER

"IN LOVING MEMORY OF STERLING LEWIS"
DAY OR NIGHT, WE ARE THE ONLY NAME YOU NEED TO KNOW. SPECIALIZING IN MAJOR REPAIRS, CUSTOM PAINTING & STRIPING, WINDSHIELD & DOOR GLASS WINDSHIELD REPAIR, WHEEL ALIGNMENT AND FRAME STRAIGHTENING. WE CAN ALSO REPLACE THOSE WORN OUT HEADLINERS! WE UNLOCK LOCKED CARS.

DAYS NIGHTS 106th NORTH 2ND
940-658-3342 940-658-3629 KNOX CITY, TX 79529

LIKE THE NEW LOOK?
LET US KNOW!
WWW.KNOXCOUNTYNEWSONLINE.COM

VERNON COLLEGE
2012 Spring
Registration

WE DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON YOU!!
* No Late Registration *

Vernon Registration Wichita Falls Registration
January 10 January 11 & 12

See registration guide for registration times
Classes begin January 17
DON'T MISS OUT!!!
Vernon College - The best connection you'll ever make!

Tom Bassett, Agent
705 N Avenue E
Haskell, TX 79521
Bus: 940-864-3250
tom.bassett.m@statefarm.com
Mon-Fri 8:00am to 5:30pm
After Hours by Appointment
Se habla español

See why State Farm* insures more drivers than Geico and Progressive combined. Great service, plus discounts of up to 40 percent.* Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.* CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.

State Farm

*Discounts vary by states.
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company,
State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL

From the Office of the Knox County Sheriff

JUST AN OPINION

Webster's dictionary says gossip could be a person who habitually reveals personal or sensational facts about others, or a rumor or report of an intimate nature.

Rumor, however, talk or opinion widely disseminated with no discernible source, or a statement or report current without known authority for its truth.

So much is made of being popular or well known for being able to pass on information, fact or fiction, about a situation or people. So

many times everyone wants to be the first to know something, whether true or not. If someone knows another who might know anything about a situation, or may have heard about it, the person in the know wants to be popular and get the information out. This occurs so much of the time whether or not any forethought is given to what the end result may be, whether or not the rumor is true or has any basis. Peace officers, public officials, or anyone else who is always so avail-

able, or readily accessible to the public has to be very careful about what they pass on to anyone. Just to discuss issues amongst themselves in public can be very harmful to an ongoing case, seriously damage the reputation of the target of the rumor, or assist in making subject matter grow way out of hand. In the case of law enforcement information that is carelessly allowed to escape the realm of those who need to know, can be dangerous to peace officers who are trying to

serve civil papers, conduct an investigation, make a traffic stop, make an arrest, whatever the activity may be.

The old game that kids used to play where they sit in a circle and start with a whisper to one of the kids. By the time the information makes it full circle the original information is nothing what it started out to be.

There are so many saying about the passing of rumors or gossip: "I don't repeat gossip so you better get it right the first time." Lost

and found - I found your nose, it was in my business. I don't have a dog in the hunt (means nothing to me, stay out of it). The information is on a need to know basis and I didn't see your name on a need to know list.

All that can be honestly said, if you want to know something, ask the person(s) involved. If they want you to know, your wish will be fulfilled and they will tell you all about it. If you're not on the "need to know list", guess what. You probably

don't need to know. All this is about a few individuals who conduct their business on a day to day basis by prying & nosing around asking improper questions, passing around non-public information as well as rumors and gossip, bouncing through life denying they did the gossip deed when confronted by the disgruntled public. Why not mind your own business if it isn't your business. Don't strive to make it your business.
Dean W Homstad - Sheriff - Kox County

Fire ants expanding their range with help!

COLLEGE STATION - Like Old West cattle barons in a B-western, red imported fire ants are expanding their range and increasing their herds while laying wholesale waste to the range, according to an expert on the issue.

Dr. Micky Eubanks, a Texas AgriLife Research entomologist at College Station, said the ants are using a practice known as "mutualism" to help them thrive despite the estimated \$1 billion Americans pour into controlling them annually.

"Mutualisms play key roles in the functioning of ecosystems," Eubanks said. "In this case, fire ants protect aphids in exchange for the honeydew that aphids produce and the ants eat. Native ants also do this, however a study by our

team recently published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science determined that mutualisms involving introduced species such as the red imported fire ant can actually enhance invasion success and ultimately disrupt entire native ecosystems."

Eubanks said the phenomenon has received relatively little attention in scientific circles prior to this study. The team, consisting of Eubanks and lead researcher, Dr. Shawn Wilder, Texas A&M University entomologist; Dr. David Holway, Division of Biological Sciences, University of California; Dr. Andrew Suarez, departments of entomology and animal biology, University of Illinois and Dr. Edward LeBrun, Brackenridge Field Laboratory,

University of Texas, examined how access to food-for-protection mutualisms involving the red imported fire ant aids the success of this prominent in-



vader. He said intense competition with other ants and insects in the pest's native Argentina checks their explosive success there, but in the U.S. the invaders dominate the range, running

rough-shod over the native ants while making full use of the aphid "cows'" nourishing honeydew.

The research team found that the carbohydrate-rich substance known as "honeydew" - that sticky fecal substance that drips on your car from aphids feeding on tree leaves - is a magic elixir to the ants. It gives

them the energetic edge needed to out-forage native species and conquer new territory.

"Laboratory and field experiments demonstrated that honeydew with its high carbohydrate content dramatically increases fire ant colony growth, a crucial factor of competitive performance," he said. "We examined colony growth by rearing fire ants with and without honeydew-producing aphids. After seven weeks, laboratory ant colonies with access to honeydew-producing aphids were 20 percent larger than those grown with cotton plants, but no aphids, even though both colonies had all the insect prey they could eat. "Our findings support the

hypothesis that although mutualisms help generate and maintain biodiversity in our native flora and fauna, introduced species such as the red imported fire ant can infiltrate these networks and divert resources for their own success with potentially devastating consequences to their native neighbors."

For more information on the published work titled: "Intercontinental differences in resource use reveal the importance of mutualisms in fire ant invasions," go to the Discovery Blog article: <http://tinyurl.com/7end6gy> or for the complete work, go to: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1115263108>

Texas Peanut Producers Board announces biennial elections

Voting opens Jan. 9 LUBBOCK, Texas (January 3, 2012) - The Texas Peanut Producers Board will be holding an election for four expiring directors' seats beginning Jan. 9 and ending Jan. 23, 2012.

There is one seat open in Voting Region 1, which consists of the following 44 counties: Andrews, Bailey, Brewster, Castro, Cochran, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Dallam, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Ector, El Paso, Gaines, Glasscock, Hale, Hartley, Hockley, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Lamb, Loving,

Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Midland, Moore, Oldham, Parmer, Pecos, Potter, Presidio, Randall, Reagan, Reeves, Sherman, Swisher, Terrell, Terry, Upton, Val Verde, Ward, Winkler and Yoakum. There are two seats open in Voting Region 2, which consists of the following

40 counties: Archer, Armstrong, Baylor, Borden, Briscoe, Carson, Childress, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Donley, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Haskell, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Jones, Kent, King, Knox, Lipscomb, Motley, Ochiltree, Roberts, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, Wheeler, Wichita, Wilbarger and Young.

There is one seat open in Voting Region 4, which consists of the following 61 counties: Aransas, Atascosa, Austin, Bee, Bexar, Brazoria, Brooks, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Dimmit, Duval, Fayette, Fort Bend, Frio, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Hidalgo,

Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kenedy, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Lavaca, Liberty, Live Oak, Matagorda, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Refugio, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Starr, Tyler, Uvalde, Victoria, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Willacy, Wilson, Zapata and Zavala.

A person is eligible to vote in this board election if he or she is currently a producer of peanuts, or for at least one production period during the three years preceding the date of this election (Jan. 23, 2012), has been a producer of peanuts or has caused peanuts to be produced for commercial purposes. This includes owners of farms and their tenants or sharecroppers that pay the peanut assessment. Any person qualified to vote is also qualified to seek nomination for election to the board as a director. For a producer to vote in director elections, the producer must reside within a county located in the voting region they wish to vote. Ballots will be available from Texas AgriLife Extension Service offices and peanut buying locations in each of the counties where elections are being conducted. Ballots may also be obtained by mail from the TPPB office between Jan. 9, 2012, and Jan. 23, 2012. For a ballot to be valid, it must be mailed to TPPB, 4205 N. I-27, Lubbock, Texas 79403, with a postmark date of no later than Jan. 23, 2012. Ballots with a postmark date later than Jan. 23, 2012, will not be valid.

Knox County Market Place

For Rent

Knox City Housing Authority (KCHA) has 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments available for immediate occupancy to eligible applicants in both HUD and USDA-Rural Development programs. Rental assistance is available for most units. Applications for housing may be picked up at 203 SW 4th Street in Knox City, Texas or call 940-657-3612 for more information. It is the intent of KCHA to offer vacant units to income ineligible (high income) applicants when there are not income eligible (very low or low income) applicants on the waiting list. KCHA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

3 bedroom, 2 baths, living room, dining room, pantry/utility room, carport, patio and storage building,

furnished with stove, refrig, washer & dryer, wall furnace, window unit air conditioners, ceiling fans in every room, no smoking or pets inside house. Call Billy Walker, 657-3628.

Help Wanted

Full time, second shift, LVN. Apply in person, Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm-Haskell Health Care Center, 1504 North First St.-Haskell, or call Administrator at (940)864-8537

Licensed vocational nurse positions available. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City.

Wanted full time LVN's. Contact April, Roby, RN, Director of Nurses, at Gibson Care Center, Aspermont, Tx 940-989-3526.

The Knox County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for the position of Jailer/Dispatcher. Must be able to obtain a jailer's license within a year of employment. For more information, contact Sheriff Dean Homstad at 940-459-2211 or come to the Knox County Sheriff's Office for an application. Position will remain open until filled.

For Sale

2 bedrooms, 1 bath, large back yard, detached single garage, 308, S. 3rd, KC, call 1-806-543-3131.

PRICE REDUCED! \$51,000

201 SE 2ND STREET 3BR, 2 BATH BRICK HOME FIREPLACE AND MORE COUNTS REAL ESTATE 940-658-3390

Classifieds Get Results!

LVNS FULL TIME
For second shift. Requires state license. We offer competitive salary and benefits. EOE- For information call Administrator at (940)864-8537 or apply in person at:
Haskell Health Care Center
1504 North First St. - Haskell, TX.
Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm.

NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY
KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS
BY ORDER OF THE KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY IS AVAILABLE FOR BID. SEALED BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE, P.O. BOX 77, BENJAMIN, TEXAS 79505, BEFORE 12:00 P.M., JANUARY 18TH 2012.
SURPLUS PROPERTY AVAILABLE
METAL BRIDGE ON COUNTY ROAD 3605 THAT CROSSES THE SOUTH WICHITA RIVER BETWEEN VERA AND GILLILAND
THE WINNING BIDDER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVAL AND CLEANUP. DUE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF FIRE, THERE WILL BE SOME RESTRICTIONS ON USING CUTTING TORCHES. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE JUDGE'S OFFICE AT (940) 459-2191.

Alzheimer's Association Workshop offered for individuals with memory loss and their care partners

If you or someone you care for has memory problems, developing a partnership with your physician and honing communication skills can result in increased knowledge of the situation and less stress, helping the partners make informed decisions about care and services.

The Alzheimer's Association - North Central Texas Chapter is offering a workshop, "Partnering With Your Doctor: A Workshop for Persons with Memory Problems and Their Care Partners," on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at Anson Park Seniors, located at 2249 Vogel St., in Abilene.

The workshop will provide strategies to form a doctor/patient/care partner relationship that allows you to more effectively manage and be a part of your healthcare. Workshop leaders will discuss communicating with

your doctor, improving how patients and care partners work together, getting organized and prepared for doctor visits, reducing your stress, and ways to ensure the best health care possible for the patient.

There is no charge to attend the workshop; however, reservations are required. For more information or to register, contact the Alzheimer's Association - North Central Texas Chapter at 325-672-2907 or 1-800-272-3900, or e-mail mbannister@alz.org.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care and support. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

NEW TEXAS CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW Save a Life
Local Department of Transportation

NEW TEXAS LAW
Effective 9/1/2009
A child up to 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat.

Most children between ages 4 to 8 will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Safety experts recommend that all children under age 13 ride in the backseat. Adults and children must be buckled up whether they are in the front or back seat.

4 STEPS FOR KIDS

- REAR-FACING SEATS**
From birth to as long as possible, up to the weight or height limit of the seat. At a minimum, keep rear-facing until age 1 and 20 lbs.
- FORWARD-FACING SEATS**
From a minimum of age 1 and 20 lbs until the child reaches the upper weight or height limit of the seat.
- BOOSTER SEATS**
From about age 4 to about age 8, or up to 4 feet 9 inches.
- SAFETY BELTS**
From 8+ years old or taller than 4 feet 9 inches.

Still not sure which safety seat is right for your child? Contact Safe Riders at 1-800-252-8255 for more information.

Stay Mentally Sharp & Fit

By Mark Underwood

2012 is upon us and many of us are thinking about what the New Year will bring. This time of year is an occasion to get us thinking about our health—specifically brain health. A healthy lifestyle is easy to understand but not everyone realizes the more you work out your brain, the better you'll be able to process and remember information. Carve out time to give your brain work outs. You can do that by creating your own "health club" that includes ongoing learning. Make a commitment to keep learning, no matter what your age or stage of life, and you are automatically improving your brain power.

Learning curve College, high school, and elementary school students all the way down to K-4 are continually engaged in stimulating learning experiences. These young stu-

dents don't have to work on brain fitness because for them, everyday learning is a habit. But that's not true as we grow older. Think of the brain's inner workings this way. Some of the circuits—conduits of information and memory slow down. As we decrease our need to keep the brain as fit as a student studying for college exams, the creation of new neural pathways diminishes. So what can you do to have a sharper brain? Plenty. Brain fitness isn't rocket science. Start by making a commitment to learning something new on a regular basis, weekly or daily and then add in other challenging ways to give your brain a regular boost of energy. A growing body of research actually also shows that people who commit to lifelong learning can lower their risk of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Jump start your brain

power You may not realize it but your brain power has incredible potential when it is "sharpened" and kept fit. There's no better time than now to invest in your brain's fitness. As millions of people grow older, many experience age-related changes like forgetfulness or decreased concentration skills. Some people find they have difficulty sleeping and their short-term memory isn't as sharp as it used to be. Did you know your short-term memory is like a scratch-pad for temporary recall of information being processed? In order to understand this sentence your brain needs to remember the beginning as you read move along toward the end and get to the period. About 70 million baby boomers are heading to retirement in the next few years. Many people join health clubs to stay fit and others exercise at home with family and friends.

If you are heading to retirement, make sure you continue to exercise your brain. By learning something new you are breaking the way you think about topics and ideas. You are using brain pathways that may not have been used if you hadn't ramped up your brain calisthenics.

Brain health tips—a 'no-brainer' Here are some things you can do to keep your brain sharp and fit:

- Use your senses to learn. Know how you learn best, and then use it to your advantage. Some people learn best with audio tapes, others prefer videos or an in-person classroom.
- Stay Organized. Take notes. Use both words and pictures. Take advantage of calendars, date books and other organizational tools to help you concentrate while learning.
- Journal: Record

information of your learning milestones by keeping a journal. Writing down your experiences helps build on previous knowledge and creates good retention.

• Participate in educational experiences. Take an adult education class or enroll in a technical college course.

• Take up a new hobby. People who enjoy life have found new outlets like quilting, woodworking and other hobbies.

• Take up a new sport. Have you thought about learning to ice skate, curl, play badminton, take up golfing or numerous other sports? Your local parks and recreation department probably has numerous opportunities for you along with other community resources.

• Play board games and puzzles. The more you play the better your mental dexterity will like-

ly become.

It's time to stoke the fires of aging in the brain. Build your own "health club" which includes a variety of brain fitness activities. It's never too late to learn something new and feed an aging brain.

Mark Underwood is a neuroscience researcher, president and co-founder of Quincy Bioscience, a biotech company located in Madison, Wisconsin focused on the discovery and development of medicines to treat age related memory loss and the diseases of aging. Mark has been taped as an expert in the field of neuroscience for The Wall Street Journal Morning Radio, CBS and CNN Radio among others. Mark is also a contributor to the "Brain Health Guide" which highlights the research at Quincy Bioscience and offers practical tips to help keep health brain function in aging.

AgriLife Extension disaster recovery guide now available in e-book format

By Paul Schattberg

COLLEGE STATION – The Texas AgriLife Extension Service disaster recovery guide on how individuals, families and businesses can recover from a disaster such as a hurricane, fire or flood, is now available free in e-book format.

"Now you can download this guide to your mobile device or tablet before a disaster happens, so you'll have it available in the event you're ever affected by one," said Dr. Andy Vestal, AgriLife Extension director of homeland security and emergency management in College Station.

The "After a Disaster: Information to Help You and Your Family Recover" e-book contains details on various recovery-related topics, including keeping safe, assessing structural damage, debris removal, basic first aid, obtaining assistance, removing odors, controlling mold and insects, salvaging important documents and helping family members cope.

Vestal said the guide was developed by experts from AgriLife Extension and other entities of the Texas A&M University System in conjunc-

tion with input from state and national disaster mitigation and recovery organizations.

"This guide is a comprehensive but easy-to-understand publication with lists, worksheets, contacts and other useful material covering a preponderance of those issues and challenges people face in recovering from a disaster," he said.

Trey Rice, AgriLife Extension web usability and design specialist, said the guide was made available in e-book format in large part due to Internet search data from people affected by the many wildfires experienced throughout the state this year.

"The Texas EDEN website statistic and usage data collected during and after the Bastrop wildfires indicated that a large number of people were searching for disaster recovery information," Rice said. "They were doing this using a mobile device, such as an Apple iPhone or Google Android Phone."

Rice said the guide may be downloaded in its entirety using almost any generally available mobile device. He added the new e-book is currently only available in English, but

a Spanish-language version will be available soon. A PDF version is already available for download in English and Spanish.

"While the guide has been converted to e-book format to be downloaded and read on iPhone, Android, Kindle and similar devices, the mobile device being used will determine the format and any additional app that may be needed to allow reading it," he added.

Rice said in addition to downloading the entire guide in the e-book format, users may also download the complete guide or specific sections in PDF format. Download options can be found at <http://texashelp.tamu.edu/disaster-recovery-guide-and-ebook.php>.

Additional information on disaster preparation, mitigation and recovery may be downloaded free from the Texas Extension Disaster Education Network website, <http://texashelp.tamu.edu>. Free disaster- and emergency-related publications may also be found online at the Texas AgriLife Bookstore, <http://agrilife-bookstore.org>.

McMurry Additions To Dean's List:

Additional area students added to the Dean's List at McMurry University are: Jessica Vanderpol, Sophomore Undecided major from Benjamin, Tx. Jordan Carter, Senior Mathematics Grades 8-12 major from Knox City, Tx.

Prospective wine-grape grower workshops set

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service viticulture team has set the dates for its Prospective Wine-grape Grower Workshop from January – June, said the team's coordinator.

"This workshop was created by the team as a means to educate farmers, entrepreneurs or any other individual considering planting

prospective grower workshops throughout the year in different wine-grape growing areas of the state.

The day-long program consists of a series of presentations that provide an overview of the unique requirements and risks associated with establishing and operating a commercial vineyard in Texas.

and vineyard labor requirements.

The nearest workshop to Childress County residents will be June 15 in Lubbock.

Specific locations for the workshops will be determined later and posted on the Texas AgriLife Extension Conference Services website at <http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu>. Registration can be completed online, with information on specific workshops available by entering the word "wine" in the keyword field. Registration is \$150 per individual or \$250 per couple, and lunch is included.

The workshop also serves as a prerequisite for application to the Texas Viticulture Certificate Program offered by Texas Tech University and AgriLife Extension," Westover noted. More information on the certification program can be found at <http://winegrapes.tamu.edu/viticulturecertificate.html>

Additional information related to wine-grape growing in Texas can be found at <http://winegrapes.tamu.edu>.



a commercial vineyard of what is generally involved in that sort of enterprise," said Fritz Westover, AgriLife Extension viticulture adviser for the Gulf Coast.

Westover and other team members work together to schedule and present these

The workshop begins with registration at 8:30 a.m., followed by presentations and instruction from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Topics include vineyard economics, necessary viticulture expertise, vineyard site considerations, risk factors

J&J PET GROOMING
Owner—Jeraine Taylor
310 S.W. 4th St.
Knox City, Texas
940-657-4064

The "It's Only Another Beer" Black and Tan
8 oz. pilsner lager
8 oz. stout/lager
1 broy mix
1 by food
1 pick-up truck
1 10-hour day
1 food worker
A few rounds with the guys
Mix ingredients.
Add 1 totaled vehicle.
Never underestimate "just a few" Buzzed driving is drunk driving.

CITIZENS BANK, N.A.
658-3527
Knox City

Burrito Express
657-4323 658-5568

Knox County HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Knox County Hospital
Knox City Clinic • Munday Clinic
Knox County Home Health
Knox County EMS
Your hometown healthcare team.

Bill Stewart Insurance Services
Office (940) 658-3211 • Fax (940) 658-5509
Mobile (940) 256-2394
Crop Hail • Fire • Auto • Homeowners • Life • Hospital
Liability • Workers' Compensation • Bonds • Farm Equipment
P.O. Box 99 • 700 E. Main • Knox City, TX 79529-0099

PUMPERS SUPPLY & EQUIPMENT
658-3260
Backing the Hounds since 1976

PBH OILFIELD SUPPLY
Charlie Pierce
Michael & Terry Bartley
658-3559

AIR AG, INC.
STAN WOJCIK
940-658-3744

SHORTES, INC.
Complete Oilfield Construction
658-3576

CUTTING EDGE SALON
Sara Stanfield - Nails
Emily Lewis - Haircuts & Color
(940) 657-4247

SUPPLY HOUSE
658-3389

CITY MOTEL
RV Park & Restaurant
On-Site - Dipak & Hansa
940-658-3541

LARSON PHARMACY
Larry & Beth Staggs
657-3210

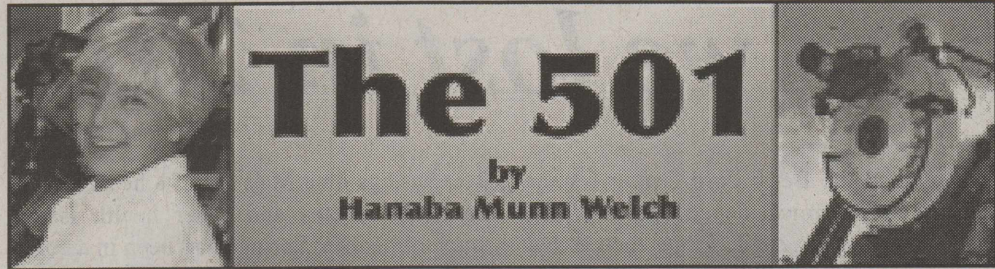
PENMAN'S SERVICES LTD
658-3513

The Pizza Place
13 N. Central
657-5345
Now accepting Visa & Mastercard

Lawrence Brothers
Knox City
940-658-3715

LYNN ELECTRIC MOTOR CO., INC.
1011 Main St. • Knox City
Jimmy Lynn • Scott Lynn
940-658-3511

THANK YOU FOR READING THE
KNOX COUNTY NEWS



Megan Anderson of Munday Receives Academic Honors

ABILENE, TX -- Megan Anderson, a Senior Early Childhood Education major from Munday TX has been named to the Fall 2011 Dean's Honor Roll at McMurry University. To be eligible for the Dean's Honor Roll, a student must complete 6-11 hours with at least a 3.5 grade point average.

Offering a diverse academic curriculum to more than 1,400 students, McMurry University is a small Christian liberal arts school in Abilene. Students choose from 41 majors; education and business are popular as are the school's pre-professional programs in medicine, dentistry, law, and physical therapy. The three-week May Term gives students an opportunity to explore a subject outside their major. Through the Servant Leadership Program, students learn about ethics and develop leadership qualities. McMurry's signature Texas Semester takes students through Texas history and culture with hands-on experi-

ences like visits from leading authorities that take place both in the classroom and at historical sites across the state. Internships with businesses in Abilene present undergraduates with the opportunity to acquire additional knowledge of the workplace in nonprofit and corporate settings.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) have approved McMurry University to grant master's degrees. Beginning in the fall of 2012, students may enroll in a Master of Nursing program through the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing. It is anticipated that a second master's program in Education in Curriculum and Instruction with an English as a Second Language Endorsement (ESL) will be launched in the fall of 2013 through the School of Education.

This past summer, the NCAA officially announced that McMurry University has

See ANDERSON on page 8

In front of our house at the farm is an old John Deere tractor. All other yard ornaments pale in comparison. It looks really good when it snows.

Be careful where you park a tractor in case it never starts again.

By any other name, the tractor is an "objet trouvé," that famous French art term for a "found object."

Of course, it's not like we found the tractor somewhere. But when it comes to calling something a found object, the term means finding the object to be art rather than finding the object.

The longer you neglect a tractor, the more picturesque it gets, and the more it lends itself to being an objet trouvé. Still, much depends on who's looking at it and the going price for scrap.

Meanwhile, here's a story with an objet trouvé theme:

In New Orleans in the 1970s I babysat once for an artist who let dirty dishes stack up in and by the sink. Then she painted them, and I don't mean she painted them instead of washing them, ex-

cept that's exactly what she did. For still life compositions, dirty dishes trumped fruit and flowers. (She could've changed later, but she was in her dirty dishes period back then.) Whether her stuff sold or not, as long as she had a kitchen clutter painting in progress on her easel, who could fault her for letting the housework go? Art first.

I remember only her last name. Did she ever become famous?

INTERNET PAUSE TO SEARCH FOR AN ARTIST NAMED D'ARENSBOURG

Believe it or not, I just found a New York artist named Jane D'Arensbourg, who designs jewelry. One of her Facebook entries indicates she made the November 2010 issue of Martha Stewart Living Magazine. Somehow I don't think it's the same D'Arensbourg.

ANOTHER INTERNET PAUSE

Wow. A little more research, and I've unearthed two salient facts: Jane D'Arensbourg was born in,

of all places, New Orleans, and she puts a torch to Pyrex to make jewelry! There you have it. Another way to turn dirty dishes into art. Use a torch.

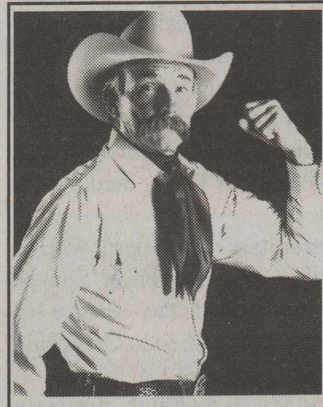
Looking at her picture I think she is at best a descendant of the artsy D'Arensbourg I met, perhaps a younger sister of the little boy I babysat in that rather quaint apartment off St. Charles Avenue. I like to think so.

It's enough to make me want to do a quick pen and ink study of our kitchen counter and then add calculated dashes of color. My artist's eye is looking at dishes to be washed, a bowl of fruit worthy of a Dutch master and some objets trouvés -- Folgers coffee containers, a potato atop a Dannon yogurt container, a jar lid, a cell phone case, a tractor bushing, a pill bottle and the potholder I made in the first grade.

Did I mention the fruit bowl is Pyrex? And me without a torch.

Better I go take a picture of the tractor.

I know right where to find it.



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

By Baxter Black, DVM

TAKING THE OTHER SIDE

Like many of you, I receive all kinds of news stories, jokes, blogs, etc. Last week three items came my way that stimulated a predictable knee-jerk response. 'Why?' I asked myself, 'can't I be more generous and examine the opposite side of view.' So I will.

The first item was, "In France, eating animals becomes legal obligation." The government is decreeing to school, colleges, nursing homes, children's hospitals and prisons that they must serve meat as their main source of protein. Taking the side of Verona the Vegan I would say, "Meat is bad for you. Even a sip of chicken broth can upset the system of the strongest vegan's digestive tract! To walk by a Pizza Hut can give some of us a rash. A true vegan couldn't even catch a whiff of tuna salad! We'd all be forced to wear Asian Flu masks!

"At a table where everyone is ordering brisket and ribs our vegan minority representative would look around and quietly say, 'Oh...I guess I'll have the cole slaw.' It is imperative that we not lose the 'martyred' image. Think of the sacrifice it takes to live on a diet of protein from soybeans, carbs from brownies, and vitamin B from organic chemicals.

"We suffer on your behalf and proselytize like recovering smokers! France must be stopped!"

Item #2 said, "Humane Society of the U.S. still stifling nation's Pet Shelters! The Humanewatch.org shows how little the HSUS gives to Pet Shelters across the country!" In response, as their spokesman I might say, "Of course we don't donate much to Pet Shelters! Where

would you get such an outrageous idea! Probably those pictures of yearning and abused puppies you see in our commercials. Obviously it's to attract attention, but our lawyers say it would be hard to prove deceptive advertising. The object, of course, is money. Speaking of which, there is not enough in our budget to support pet shelters. By gosh, it takes more than a third of your donations to run these ads featuring yearning and abused puppies that we make to encourage you to send in more money!

"You just don't know! A quarter of all you send is squirreled away, invested, you know. You can't expect us to spend that money on yearning abused pets...that's our pension. Lawyers are expensive! It takes a lot of cash to sue people. Plus CEO's and officers need to make a little. So I hope you can see, we simply don't have the money to throw around."

Item #3, a notice from Department of Interior about designating additional miles of river and reclassification of "Endangered" to the Loach Minnow.

Response from a member of LLLL (Loach Lovers LC); "I am shocked that anyone could object to increasing protection for a fish, that I admit I have never seen and virtually nobody has ever heard of. But think of the benefits; restriction of recreational use of rivers, prevention of access to the public, limiting grazing, timber and mining, anything that might encour-

age people to live there.

"As you know, LLLL derives hundreds of thousands of dollars by litigating nuisance law suits with the government who, in turn supports us by settling out of court. What a deal! Love the Loach? You bet your spotted owl. How stupid do you think we are?"

THE END. Presented on behalf of the Misunderstood. www.baxterblack.com



The Paperboy

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

An open letter to readers, advertisers,

I'd like to thank you for your business in 2011 and wish you success in 2012. As a reader and/or advertising customer, I appreciate your business.

I'm not sure about you, but last year was a difficult one. Tremendous challenges were faced by many businesses across the spectrum and there is something to be said about survival.

As we continue to battle the obstacles around us and build lasting trust and relationships with clients, I hope you will keep in mind the fact that Blackburn Media Group newspapers reduced several of our rates in order to aid you business or service through the holidays.

Our small towns are important. What we do is important. In 2012, this publication must lead the way toward growth and prosperity. That means we have a lot of work to do. On a personal level, it means we need each other.

I wrote a column a few months back about making a list of what you need and getting the items you can in your city. I stand by the philosophy of shopping local. I was encouraged by the sales tax rebate numbers throughout 2011. It appears there is marginal to good improvement in our local counties. Is that not great news in a year with a horrific drought?

Most of us are like-minded. We want a safe community to live in and opportunity. We have those things before us. They may not be easy to recognize sometimes, but I believe they are real. Look around your community and notice the worker bees delivering meals, serving on the chamber, working the concession stands... it takes a lot to make our communities hum.

Through organization, communication

and hard work, we can have the kind of communities we all want to see. We should strive for excellence in 2012!

So much of our local economies are based on attitude. It can be argued that the chances of a thriving economy are related to optimism on what to expect. Nationally, we get a very pessimistic view of the economy. Either view can gain momentum.

I'm optimistic this year. I know too many people in the communities we serve and they are motivated and they are winners. They love their homes and they fight the good fight daily trying to make it better.

Small businesses are the backbone of this country. You take the risk, you provide jobs, you work your tail off to make ends meet... you are the lifeblood of your town and this country. Be proud of that!

Our communities can be what we make of them. You read your newspaper. You may love it or hate it, but odds are you are intelligent. The fact is smart people read newspapers - either print or online. Anyhow, as an intelligent person, you have a vision of what you'd like to see happen in your community. Odds are, that vision is very close to that of your neighbors.

Those visions need to be shared. Through communication we can develop long-term goals. This can begin now, or we can kick the can down the road another year. We should get together with our friends and discuss the possibilities and begin the network it will take to realize a common vision.

Thanks again for your readership and your business. It means more than I can express in a letter.

Regards, Chris

©Copyright Christopher Blackburn 2012

KNOX CITY-O'BRIEN CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2011

	General Fund	Special Education SSA Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,086,834	\$ 176	\$ 90,148	\$ 1,177,158
State Program Revenues	1,889,867	250,584	140,557	2,281,008
Federal Program Revenues	29,881	8,194	958,603	996,678
Total Revenues	3,006,582	258,954	1,189,308	4,454,844
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
Instruction	1,480,373	59,646	583,257	2,123,276
Instructional Resources and Media Services	26,574	-	-	26,574
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	11,035	3,225	13,247	27,507
Instructional Leadership	3,928	133,830	54,281	192,039
School Leadership	189,948	-	8,284	198,232
Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	32,090	54,360	90,923	177,373
Health Services	348	-	-	348
Student (Pupil) Transportation	44,746	82	-	44,828
Food Services	4,848	-	219,895	224,743
Extracurricular Activities	188,892	-	-	188,892
General Administration	230,656	-	19,124	249,780
Facilities Maintenance and Operations	421,054	20,117	3,780	444,951
Debt Service:				
Principal on Long Term Debt	-	-	70,000	70,000
Interest on Long Term Debt	-	-	21,680	21,680
Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	-	323	323
Intergovernmental:				
Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	80,713	-	130,120	210,833
Other Intergovernmental Charges	36,222	-	-	36,222
Total Expenditures	2,751,427	271,260	1,214,914	4,237,601
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)	255,155	(12,306)	(25,606)	217,243
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
Sale of Real and Personal Property	1,907	-	-	1,907
Transfers In	-	-	29,661	29,661
Transfers Out (Use)	(29,661)	-	-	(29,661)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(27,754)	-	29,661	1,907
Net Change in Fund Balances	227,401	(12,306)	4,055	219,150
Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	2,117,661	416,424	24,371	2,558,456
Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 2,345,062	\$ 404,118	\$ 28,426	\$ 2,777,606

Knox County Hospital
Knox City Clinic • Munday Clinic
Knox County Home Health
Knox County EMS

HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Your hometown healthcare team.

PENMAN'S
SERVICES LTD
658-3513

Notable passings: Those we lost in 2011

- Jazz legend Sam Rivers died Dec. 26, 2011 from pneumonia. Rivers was 88 years old.
- North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, the mercurial strongman extolled at home as the "Dear Leader" and reviled abroad as a tyrant, died at 69 on Saturday Dec. 17, 2011. No cause of death was reported, but Kim was believed to have suffered in recent years from diabetes and heart disease.
- Former Czech President Vaclav Havel, a dissident playwright jailed by Communists who then became Czech president and a symbol of peace and freedom after leading the bloodless "Velvet Revolution," died at 75.
- Cesaria Evora, the chanteuse from the West African island nation of Cape Verde, was the first world-music act to take the stage at L.A.'s Walt Disney Concert Hall, in 2003.
- Literary critic and writer Christopher Hitchens.
- Comic book artist Joe Simon, who created Captain America with the late Jack Kirby, died at age 98 on Dec. 14, 2011.
- Actor Harry Morgan, known for portraying Colonel Sherman T. Potter in "M*A*S*H" and Detective Bill Gannon in "Dragnet," died at the age of 96 on Dec. 7, 2011.
- Bollywood legend Dev Anand died of a heart attack at the age of 88 on Dec. 4, 2011.
- Comedian Patrice O'Neal passed away on Nov. 28, 2011 at the age of 41. He struggled with diabetes and suffered a stroke in Oct. 2011. O'Neal was known for several appearances on "The Office" and "Chappelle's Show," as well as an appearance on "Comedy Central Roast of Charlie Sheen."
- The only daughter of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin, Svetlana Peters, who denounced communism but later said she regretted coming to the United States, has died in Wisconsin.
- Long time New York Times journalist Tom Wicker died at the age of 85.
- Ruth Stone died at the age of 96 on Nov. 19, 2011. Stone became a prolific writer in the last 20 years of her life and won the National Book Award in 2002 for "In the Next Galaxy." She was also a finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize. The American poet also landed National Book Critics Circle award and two Guggenheim honors during her career.
- Evelyn Lauder, a member of the Estee Lauder cosmetic company who helped create the pink ribbon symbol for breast cancer awareness, died Saturday in New York City at age 75.
- "The Family Circus" creator Bil Keane, whose kid-friendly comic strip gave readers a funny version of his own life at home and became one of the most widely syndicated cartoon panels in the world, has died at age 89.
- Former heavyweight World boxing champion Joe Frazier died in Philadelphia a month after being diagnosed with liver cancer. He died at the age of 67 years old on

- Monday, Nov. 7.
- Longtime CBS news man and 60 Minutes reporter Andy Rooney.
- Dorothy Rodham, Hilary Clinton's mother, died at age 92.
- Artificial intelligence pioneer John McCarthy in 1966, when he and his students programmed a computer to play chess with a computer in Russia.
- Journalist Robert Pierpoint, who was a former White House correspondent for CBS News who covered six presidents, died at age 86.
- Civil rights activist Fred Shuttlesworth died at age 89.
- Barry Feinstein shot more than 500 album covers, including Bob Dylan's 'The Times They Are A-Changin'' and George Harrison's 'All Things Must Pass.' He was 80.
- British Indy car racer Dan Wheldon died in a race in Las Vegas. He was 33.
- Weezer bassist Mikey Welsh passed away unexpectedly in Chicago on Oct. 8. He was 40 years old.
- Legendary Oakland Raiders owner and NFL renegade Al Davis died at age 82.
- Apple co-founder Steve Jobs died at the age of 56. Jobs was a giant in the technology world and changed the world with his creations such as the iPhone, iPod, iPad iTunes and also was a creator of Pixar Animation.
- Arthur C. Nielsen Jr., who led the company that grew into an international market research firm and a household synonym for television ratings died at 92.
- Dolores Hope, who throughout her 69-year marriage to comedian Bob Hope oversaw their charitable giving and played a key role in establishing the Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, died at her home in Toluca Lake. She was 102.
- Frances Bay, who found success as a character actress in middle age playing grandmother roles in the Adam Sandler movie "Happy Gilmore" and on TV's "Happy Days," died, according to her agent. She was 92.
- Cliff Robertson, who starred as John F. Kennedy in a 1963 World War II drama and later won an Academy Award for his role in "Charly," died on Sept. 10, one day after his 88th birthday.
- Jani Lane, former lead singer of the 1980s glam-band Warrant, was found dead in a hotel room in California.
- Actress Annette Charles, best known for playing Cha Cha DiGrigorio in the 1978 movie 'Grease', died at age of 63 from cancer.
- Bubba Smith, the former NFL star and "Police Academy" movie actor, died of natural causes. He was 66.
- British singer Amy Winehouse was found dead at her home in north London on July 23, 2011. She was 27 years old.
- Television genius, Sherwood Schwartz, the man who created "The Brady Bunch" and "Gilligan's Island", died at the age of 94.
- Former first lady Betty Ford died.

- She founded the Betty Ford Center for the treatment of chemical dependencies a mile from her home in 1982. Since then it has treated more than 75,000 people.
- Former UNLV star, and NBA basketball player Armen Gilliam died at the age of 47 while reportedly playing basketball at a gym in Pennsylvania. Gilliam was the No. 2 overall pick in the 1987 NBA draft.
- Longtime NFL tight end John Mackey and the first National Football League Players Association president died at the age of 69 after a decade long battle with rontal temporal dementia.
- Columbo' actor Peter Falk died June 23. Falk won four Emmys for his portrayal of the detective sporting his signature overcoat. He also received two Academy Award nominations during his long acting career. Falk was 83.
- 'Jackass' star Ryan Dunn died June 20, 2011, following a fiery car crash. He was 34.
- Clarence Clemons, saxophonist most famous for playing in Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, died June 18 following complications from a stroke suffered the previous week. He was 69.
- Carl Gardner, the lead singer of the vocal group The Coasters, died on June 12 at age 83. Gardner was the lead singer and longest-serving member of the group, which was the first vocal group inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The Coasters' hits included "Yakety Yak," "Poison Ivy" and "Charlie Brown."
- Former Detroit Tigers outfielder Jim Northrup died June 8, after having a seizure. His two-run triple in Game Seven of the 1968 World Series helped lead the Tigers to a 4-1 win. Northrup spent 12 seasons playing ball with Detroit, the Montreal Expos and Baltimore Orioles before moving into the broadcast booth. He was 71.
- Leonard Stern was a television writer, director and producer for such programs as "The Honeymooners" and "Get Smart." Stern was also the co-creator and publisher of Mad Libs. He died on June 7 at the age of 87.
- Actor James Arness died June 3. At 6' 7", he towered over his co-stars on the show "Gunsmoke" where he played Marshal Matt Dillon for 20 years. Arness was 83.
- Assisted suicide advocate and convicted murderer, Dr. Jack Kevorkian, died June 3. He was known as "Dr. Death" for taking part in more than 100 suicides. Kevorkian was 83.
- "Cosby Show" and "Sesame Street" actress Clarice Taylor died on May 30. She was 93.
- "Grease" and "Taxi" actor Jeff Conaway died on May 27 in Encino, California. He was 60.
- Former professional wrestler 'Macho Man' Randy Savage died after losing control of his car due to a heart attack on May 20. He was 58.
- Minnesota Twins great Harmon Killebrew died May 17 following a long battle with cancer. The hall of famer played for three teams over 22 seasons and is regarded by many as one of the best to ever play the game. Killebrew was 74.
- Bob Flanigan, a founding member and original lead singer of the innovative vocal group the Four Freshmen, died May 15, at his home in Las Vegas of congestive heart failure. He retired as singer of the band in 1992 but would remain as manager until his death. The band had a series of hits in the '50s, including "Graduation Day" and "It's a Blue World." Flanigan was 84.
- Former Dallas Cowboys running back

- Ron Springs died May 12, of a heart attack. Battling diabetes and other health issues much of his life, Springs had been in a coma since 2007. Drafted by the Cowboys in 1979 out of Ohio State, he spent his last two seasons in Tampa Bay. Springs was 54.
- Former NBA player Robert "Tractor" Traylor was found dead of an apparent heart attack in his apartment in Puerto Rico, May 11. Known for his size, Traylor was the number six pick in the 1998 draft. His size contributed to health problems leading to heart surgery in 2005. Traylor was 36.
- Actress Mary Murphy died at her home May 4, from heart disease. Probably best remembered for playing the small-town girl opposite Marlon Brando's rebellious motorcycle gang leader in "The Wild One," she would go on to do numerous movies and television shows. Murphy was 80.
- Jackie Cooper, who came to prominence as a child star in the 1930s and went on to develop a long career as a director and character actor, died on May 3 in Beverly Hills. He was 88.
- Sol Saks, a comedy writer who created the classic sitcom "Bewitched," died in Los Angeles on April 16. He was 100.
- Newsweek owner Sidney Harman died of complications from leukemia April 12. He was also a pioneer in home and car audio as the Harman in Harman/Kardon Inc. Harman was 92.
- Sidney Lumet, the American film director known for inspiring top-notch performances from actors in a stream of classic films including "12 Angry Men," "Dog Day Afternoon," "Network" and "Fail-Safe," died on April 9 at age 86.
- Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic congresswoman who became the first woman on a major party presidential ticket as Walter Mondale's running mate in 1984, died on March 26 at the age of 75.
- American Film Institute "Female Legend" and three-time Academy Award-winning actress Elizabeth Taylor died March 23. She was 79.
- Former Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who helped bring peace to Bosnia and negotiated the release of American hostages in Iran, died in California on March 18 at age 85.
- British actor Michael Gough, probably most well known for his role as butler Alfred Pennyworth in the Batman movies of the late '80s and early '90s, died on March 17. He was 94.
- Rapper Nate Dogg (Nathaniel Dwayne Hale) died at the age of 41 of unknown causes. He's best known for his 1990s rap hit "Regulate" and working with rappers like Eminem, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre.
- Mike Starr, the former bassist for the band "Alice in Chains," in Salt Lake City on March 8. He was 44.
- Leading home run hitter and Hall of Fame baseball player Duke Snider died Feb. 27 at the age of 84. Snider played for the Brooklyn Dodger teams in the 1940s and '50s.
- Justin Tension, a crew member on the "Deadliest Catch" boat F/V Time Bandit, was found dead in a motel room in Homer, Ala., on Feb. 22. The cause of death is unknown. Tension was 33.
- Former NFL defenseman Dave Duerson died Feb. 17 from a self-inflicted gun shot. The four-time Pro Bowl safety won Super Bowls with the 1985-1986 Chicago Bears and the 1990-1991 New York Giants. Duerson was 50.
- Character actor Len Lesser, probably best know as Uncle Leo on "Seinfeld," died Feb. 16. He was 88.

COMMISSIONERS continued from page 1

Urbanczyk and seconded by Commissioner Birkenfeld to approve nominee appointments to the appraisal Board They are Patsy Gonzales 471, Larry Thompson 400, Buddy Tolson 471 and Bobby D. Burnett 471. All Approved Passed 5-0.

2. No Action taken on 911 personnel..
3. Court was made aware that a Court-house Employee had been terminated.

The Extension Activity Report, Aging Services Report, 911 Report, Knox County

Visioning Team, and Road and Bridge Report required no activity.

Commissioner McCown made the motion to approve Financials, Budget and pay the bills for November, 2011; the motion was seconded by Commissiones Urbanczyk, the motion passed five to zero.

There being no further business to come before the Court Commissioner Griffith made the motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Urbanczyk, all agreed. The meeting of the Court was adjourned.

LOOKING AHEAD continued from page 1

For more information, you may contact Jane Rowan, County Extension Agent/FCS at (940)864-2546 or Alzheimer's Association North Central Texas Chapter at (325)672-2907 or 1-800-272-3900.

Childress Basketball Little Dribblers Tournament will be March 22-24, 2012. Boys and girls division \$65 per team. Deadline to enter is March 11 To sign up or if you have any questions, call Lisa Darter, 940-674-5401.

ANDERSON continued from page 7

been accepted into a NCAA Division II candidacy period, bringing back scholarship athletics to the institution for the first time since the 1976-77 school year.

McMurry University is committed to providing opportunities and experiences to ensure that every McMurry student achieves their

maximum potential-in their careers, their personal relationships, and in their roles as moral citizens and contributing members of society.

On the web: <http://readabout.me/achievements/Megan-Anderson-Named-to-Deans-Honor-Roll-at-McMurry-University/3197579>.

SMALL BUSINESS IS BIG BUSINESS TO US

Do the corporate mega banks treat your small business like small business? Small business is big business to us. We're a small business, too. We know how important every small business is to our local economy. We know the local economy. It just makes sense to do your business banking with us.

First National Bank

MUNDAY - HASKELL - STAMFORD

PHONE ~ (940) 422-4522 TELEBANK ~ 422-4741

fnbmunday.com

FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

It just makes sense.