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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2013

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

75 CENTS

Springer's first two bills pass House

Special to the Courier

AUSTIN — Rep. Drew Springer's HB 698 passed the Texas House of Representatives on third reading Monday, marking the second bill the legislator has passed in the last week.

HB 698 makes it easier for residents in rural areas to receive their concealed handgun licenses by requiring DPS to establish an alternative method of fingerprinting for citizens that live more than 25 miles from an authorized provider.

"This issue was brought to my attention by several constituents, along with the Texas State Rifle Association," said Springer, R-Muenster. "In many areas, citizens are having to drive up to 100 miles to get the required prints to exercise their Second Amendment rights. It is not right to disenfranchise citizens just on the basis of where they choose to live, my bill addresses this inequality."

HB 698, will move onto the Senate where Sen. Craig Estes, R-Wichita Falls, will carry it through the legislative process.

Last week, Springer passed HB 697, which exempts booster clubs and other school support organizations from charging taxes at concession stands and similar fundraising efforts.

"All money from these sales goes directly back into the school," Springer said. "Until recently, the state has never gone after these support groups. It makes no sense for the government to hassle them just so they can get a couple extra cents out of the sale of a Dr Pepper. My bill formally puts into statute that these groups are exempt from taxes."

HB 697 has been referred to the Texas Senate Finance Committee and will be carried by Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock.



Rep. Drew Springer

Benjamin photographer



Wyman and Sylinda Meinzer wait for ceremonies to begin last Thursday at the Dedication of the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas. Meinzer's two photographs of the Bush Ranch at Crawford are key visual elements at the entrance to the museum section of the center.

Knox City elections Three run for council seats

By Hanaba Munn Welch
The Knox County News-Courier

Zeke Duke
Dr. Ezekiel "Zeke" Duke, an incumbent on the Knox City City Council, is running for another term.

Duke grew up in Benjamin and graduated from Benjamin High School. He

studied biology and medicine at Texas Tech University and completed a residency in family practice in Amarillo at the Texas Tech School of Medicine.

Duke practices family medicine in Knox City. He and his wife, Amanda Duke, have two children and belong to the First United Methodist Church, where he is chairman of the finance committee.

"There's work that needs to be done," Duke said. "The thing that I'd really like to see us do is a long-term strategy for our streets. If we are going to keep people living here, one of the things we're going to have to have is good roads."

Duke is a Mason and belongs to the Orient Lodge 905 in Knox City.

He has served on term on the city council.

See **THREE**, Page 11



Dr. Ezekiel Duke



Danny Lewis



Greg Oliver

Menzer photos grace new Bush Library

By Hanaba Munn Welch
The Knox County News-Courier

Benjamin photographer Wyman Meinzer put on his best duds — his Doc Holliday vintage dress coat, vest and cravat — for good reason last Thursday. He and his wife, Sylinda Meinzer, were among distinguished invitees at the dedication of the George W. Bush Center at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Two Meinzer mural-style photographs, each

14 feet by 30 feet, flank the entrance to the museum at the complex. One shows the Bush ranch at Crawford at twilight; the other, by day. It took Meinzer twice to get it right — or at least to please Laura Bush, who commissioned the photographs.

"She was very specific about it," Meinzer said. "She wanted one twilight shot, horizon and tree line. Above it would be a glow in the

See **MENZER**, Page 11

Goree city elections

Five vie for council seats

By Hanaba Munn Welch
The Knox County News-Courier

Brenda Burns
Brenda Burns is running for a place on the Goree City Council.

Her current job is in Seymour, where she is senior branch office administrator for Edward Jones, an investment company. Previously, she worked for the city of Seymour, first at various positions and ultimately as utility clerk.

"The utility clerk worked closely with the city secretary," Burns said.

Setting agendas was part of her job.

"I bring five and a half years' experience with the city of Seymour to the table," she said.

Burns is originally from Guthrie. She was first hired by Edward Jones in 1996 when she and her husband, Laprell Burns, lived in Hereford.

See **FIVE**, Page 11



Brenda Burns



Glenna Decker



Caroline Garcia



Arturo Ramos



Tammie Trainham

Knox Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to kcnewsCourier@gmail.com.

Pet clinic

The Haskell County Alzheimer's Support Group meets the fourth Monday of the month at the Haskell County Extension Office, 101 S. Ave. D, in Haskell. The next meeting will be at 3 p.m. Monday. Caregivers, family members and friends of individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia are encouraged to attend. Contact Jane Rowan for information at 940-864-2546.

Class reunion

The Munday High School Class of 1963 will have a 50th reunion May 25 at the New Grand Hotel in Wichita Falls. For information, contact Rick Couch at warlord161@verizon.net (972-571-5899) or James Earp at jamesjamesearp@cs.com (940-368-2475).

Tour of Homes

The Knox County Visioning Group is seeking local homes to feature in the annual tour of homes in December. For information, call 940-459-4121.

KCVG grant

The Knox County Visioning Group is looking for individuals who have an interest in pursuing a trade in heating, ventilation and air-conditioning. The KCVG is rolling out a grant for \$1,500 available to a Knox County senior in high school or a Knox County resident who is already out of high school and wishes to pursue this training. The grant will require the student to return to Knox County for one year and work in an HVAC field.

Senior citizens musical

The monthly musical fundraiser for the Knox County Aging Center is from 7 to 9 p.m. the first Monday of the month. Local musicians and talent. Bring your own snacks. Tea/coffee will be served. Donations will be accepted for the upkeep of the building. All funds benefit the Aging Center. For information, contact Cheryl Daniel at 657-3618

Alzheimer's support

The Haskell County Alzheimer's Support Group meets at 3 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month at the Haskell County Extension Office, 101 S. Ave. D, in Haskell. Caregivers, family members and friends of individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia are encouraged to attend. Contact Jane Rowan for information at 940-864-2546

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgins at kcnewsCourier@gmail.com.

News on the go



Use your smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

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Editorial: Noon Mondays

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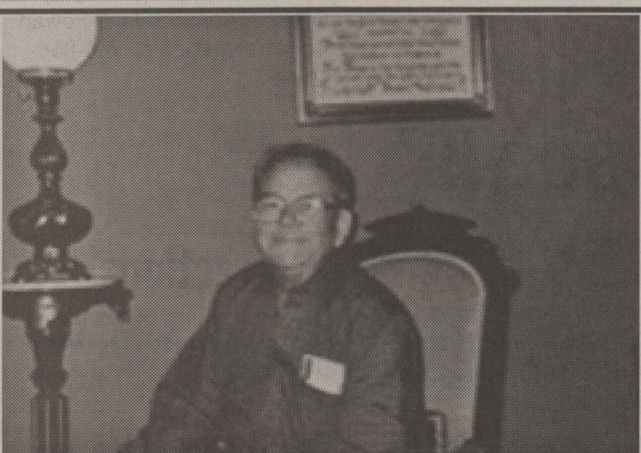


**Glenna Decker
For Goree City Council**

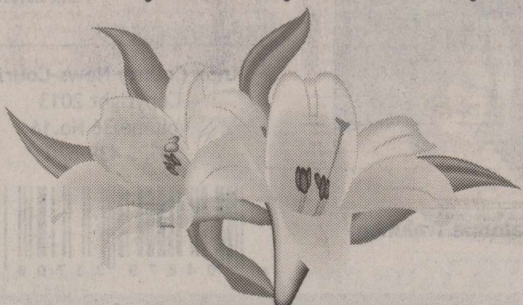
Thank you for allowing me to serve the City of Goree as city councilwoman for two terms. I strive to serve with truth and integrity and will seek to do what is right for the community and the citizens in all matters and with no personal agenda.

I ask for your support in this upcoming election, May 11.

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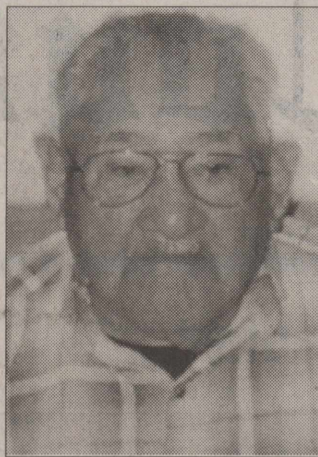


Deaths

Abraham Lopez

Abraham Lopez, 98, passed away Wednesday, May 1, 2013. Abraham was born May 4, 1914 to Francisco and Maria Lopez in Mexico.

Abraham is survived by two sons; Elias Lopez of Forney, Texas and Abraham Lopez, Jr. of Cornelius, Oregon. Six daughters; Anita Garcia of Sunnyside, Washington, Mary Gomez of Alliance, Nebraska, Janie Sanchez of Munday, Texas, Lydia Cordova of Harriah, Washington, Hope Gomez



ABRAHAM LOPEZ
of Tacoma, Washington, and Gloria Martinez of

Yakima, Washington. Also, 36 grandchildren, 87 great-grandchildren and numerous great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held Friday, May 3, 2013 from 6-8PM at the funeral home. Services will be held at 10AM, Saturday, May 4, 2013 at the Assembly of God Church in Munday. Burial will follow in Johnson Memorial Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home of Munday.

Engagements

Deen, Baker plan nuptials



JUDSON RYAN BAKER AND PAULA GRACE DEEN

Mr. and Mrs. Loys Deen of Lubbock announce the engagement of their daughter Paula Grace Deen to Judson Ryan Baker, son of Rebecca Baker of Knox City and Jimmy Baker.

Ms. Deen is a graduate of Lubbock Monterey High School and received her bachelor degree in elementary education from Hardin-Simmons University. She is employed with the Denver City school system.

Mr. Baker is a graduate of Knox City High School and Chappell Boot Making School. He is involved in agriculture and is employed by Pumpers

Supply. The couple plans to make their home near Knox City following an August wedding.

Knox County Aging Services

May 13-17

Monday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, Italian veggies, broccoli, garlic toast, Jell-O.

Tuesday: Pork chops, black-eyed peas, spinach, corn bread, baked apples.

Wednesday: Salisbury

steak, diced potatoes, English peas, whole-wheat rolls, fruit salad.

Thursday: King Ranch casserole, Spanish rice, pinto beans, tortilla, brownie.

Friday: Cheeseburger, potato wedges, tomato-wedge salad, melon.

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Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

The month of May got off to a cold start with north winds and temps dropping from 90-plus on Wednesday to about 40-plus on Thursday. Sure didn't seem like spring, but by the weekend, things had warmed up, and the days were much more pleasant. Still no rain, but we are closer to one now than we were yesterday (or farther from the last one), whichever way you want to look at it!

Regarding Our Ill

Betty Lyles returned home Friday after a few days in a rehab center in Wichita Falls for therapy following a light stroke. She is doing much better but has some more improving to do and will continue therapy at home for a while. I talked to her Sunday, and she sounds good and is very optimistic about a complete recovery.

Little Jaycee Holmes is OK after being bitten by a dog last Tuesday. She was outside playing, and the dog (which belongs to a neighbor) got her between her eyes. The bite required a couple of stitches, and her face was swollen a day or so, but she's OK now. The dog has been penned up for a period of time, but it is probably OK; and, of course, the most important thing is that Jaycee has no real ill effects of it.

Shower Honors Mom To Be

Tina Silva was honored Saturday afternoon with a baby shower at the Methodist Church from 3 to 4 p.m. A variety of cookies and nuts and punch were served to those in attendance. The young mother to be received an assortment of baby needs, which she will certainly be able to use when the little girl arrives in a couple of weeks.

Cemetery Donors

Buddy Tolson, Cemetery Association treasurer, has made available to me those who have donated to the Benjamin Cemetery Association during the month of April. Those making donations are: B.A. Kilgore, Mary Parrico, Wayne Bufkin, Marty Griffith, Benny and Belle Grill, Bobby D. Burnett, Tillman Burnett, Larcie D. Burnett, Danny and Anne Allen, Jerry and Jackie Snailum.

These donations are all appreciated, and anyone wishing to donate, just send it to the Benjamin Cemetery Association.

Here 'n' There

Judy Robinson of Sherman is here to help her mom, Betty Lyles, for a few days. Also visiting on Sunday were Judy's daughters, Susanne Brackeen of Gunter and Stephanie Grandberry of Prosper.

Betty and Roger Bohannon spent the weekend with friends in Earth.

Debbir Clower spent the weekend with her son, David, and his wife in Plainview.

Tom and Kim Lyles of Amistad, N.M., spent a couple of days here visiting relatives. Samijo Russell and D.J. returned home with them for a few days' visit. Also visiting with Hazel Stockton and other relatives and friends were Shelby Russell of Midwestern University, Brenda and Steve Conner of Big Spring and Clayton Conner and family of Lubbock.

Shannon Propps of Amarillo was here a couple of days this past week.

Wyman and Sylinda Meinzer were in Dallas last week to attend the dedication of the George W. Bush Library.

Tammy Lyles is in Fort Worth to be with her grandmother, Dorothy Carver, who is in a rehabilitation facility following a couple of strokes a few weeks ago. Dorothy is doing pretty well but has quite a ways to go before she's able to return home.

And I wish the Munday and Knox City track teams well when they take part in the upcoming state track meet. Make everyone proud, and once again, bring home some honors.

Gladene Green is the longtime Benjamin correspondent for the Knox County News-Courier.

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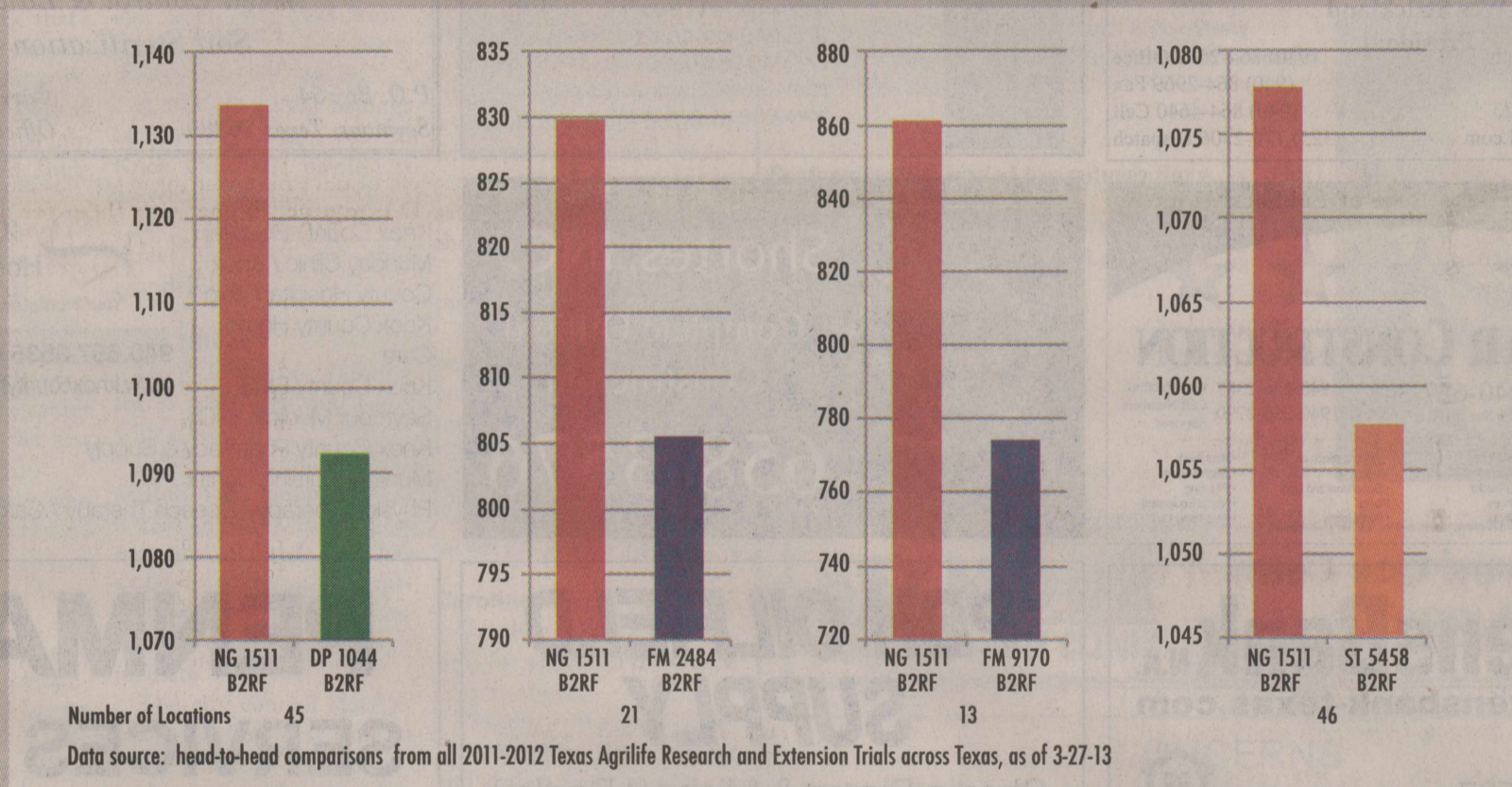


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House-Senate still working on budget bill

By Ed Sterling
For the News-Courier

AUSTIN — May 27 will be the last day of the 140-day regular session of the 83rd Texas Legislature. There is a mountain of work for lawmakers to pack into the remaining few days.

First among lawmakers' duties is to pass a budget for fiscal years 2014 and 2015. The task of reconciling two versions of the budget is now in the hands of a 10-member House-Senate conference committee.

They will have to come to terms on how much of that enormous amount to put toward public education, health care and transportation. Once agreed upon by the conference committee, a budget of about 850 pages in length will be returned to the House and Senate for more or less ceremonial votes before reaching the governor's office for a signature of approval or a veto.

Big-ticket items in the budget are health and human services, about \$75 billion; public and higher education, about \$75 billion; public safety and criminal justice, about \$12 billion; and business and economic development, about \$25 billion.

Water bill slows down
CSHB 11, by House Natural Resources Committee Chair Allen Ritter, R-Nederland, was stopped on a parliamentary point of order in House floor debate on April 29. The bill would pull some \$2 billion from the state's "rainy day fund" for deposit into a state water implementation fund that the Texas Water Development Board would mete out for qualified local and regional water conservation and infrastructure projects.

Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston, raised the point of order against further consideration of the bill on grounds that the general appropriations (budget) bill had not yet been certified by the comptroller. Speaker Joe Straus sustained the point of order.

The bill was returned to the House Committee on Appropriations.

House OKs funding patch
On April 29 the supplemental appropriations bill, Committee Substitute House Bill 1025, moved to the Senate, after having been passed by the House on April 26.

Authored by House Appropriations Committee Chairman Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, the bill would add \$875 mil-

lion to the current state budget, which ends Aug. 31. Public schools would get \$500 million of the amount to help fill the gap left by a \$5.4 billion cut in education funding passed by the 2011 Legislature. Prison-related managed health would get \$39 million to cover projected costs through the end of the fiscal year.

Some \$170 million of CSHB 1025 will come from the Rainy Day Fund to help the Texas A&M Forest Service and other agencies cover costs from wildfires that ravaged areas of Central Texas in 2011. Some \$2 million of the supplemental funding is designated for the recovery of West, Texas, where a fertilizer plant caught fire and exploded on April 17, resulting in 15 deaths, more than 160 injuries and catastrophic public and private property losses.

Agency would be renamed
The Senate on May 2 passed SB 212, the Railroad Commission of Texas sunset bill reauthorizing the state agency that regulates the oil and gas industry for 10 more years.

Authored by Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, the bill would rename the agency the Texas Energy Resource Commission to reflect its actual purpose.

BMG takes reins of Stonewall Courier

The News-Courier

CHILDRESS — Blackburn Media Group has recently purchased another newspaper in West Texas, owner and CEO Christopher Blackburn has announced.

The Stonewall County Courier in Aspermont has been continually published since the mid-1980s and will begin publishing under the BMG moniker May 2. The publication formerly was owned by Jay and Cynthia White.

"We're thrilled to be in Stonewall County," Blackburn said. "We've gotten a very warm welcome from residents and members of the business community in Aspermont, and we look forward to carrying on a tradition of bringing community news, outlooks and publicizing events for them."

The Stonewall County Courier came dangerously close to closing in the last few weeks, and Blackburn said this was not an option for the community.

"Towns like Aspermont and Old Glory and Swenson and Peacock — they deserve to have a community newspaper that focuses on their residents," he said. "It's important these communities have a voice and a historical record."

The editorial and advertising operations for the newspaper will be overseen by Haskell native Wayne Hodgin, who

will serve as executive editor of the publication.

Hodgin is a 2001 graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in journalism. He served as editor of the Tech student newspaper — a 15,000-circulation daily — for two years prior to graduation. Since that time, he has managed successful weekly and daily publications in the Lubbock, Houston, Abilene, Wichita Falls, Atlanta and Savannah, Ga., markets.

Hodgin is also editor and general manager of The Post Dispatch and the Knox County News-Courier. He will continue to serve Blackburn Media Group in all capacities capacities.

"Wayne brings a wealth of industry knowledge with him, and we're lucky to have such a professional with his background in Stonewall County," Blackburn said.

Blackburn Media Group is owned by Blackburn and his wife, Sharon, who serves as the company's vice president.

The company publishes seven other community newspapers throughout West Texas, the Panhandle and southwestern Oklahoma, including The Childress Index — its flagship publication — The Post Dispatch, the Wellington Leader, the Hall County Herald, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, the Knox County News-Courier and the Hollis (Okla.) News.

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USDA to help study affects of weather, climatic on cattle



Special to the Courier

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Tuesday awarded \$19.5 million to support research, education and Extension activities associated with climate solutions in agriculture aimed at the impacts of climate variability and change on dairy and beef cattle. USDA remains focused on carrying out its mission, despite a time of significant budget uncertainty.

The announcement is one part of the department's efforts to strengthen the rural economy.

"We have seen the impact that variable climate patterns have had on production agriculture for the past several years. These projects will deliver the best tools

available to accurately measure and respond to the effects of climate on beef and dairy production," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Farmers and ranchers need sound, science-based information and solutions to help them make management decisions that will sustain their productivity and keep their operations economically viable."

Oklahoma State University (OSU) in Stillwater, Okla., received \$9.6 million over five years to better understand vulnerability and resilience of Southern Great Plains beef in an environment of increased climate variability, dynamic land-use and fluctuating markets. The team's goal is to safeguard regional beef production while mitigating the

environmental footprint of agriculture.

The project also includes education and Extension components to train the next generation of producers and researchers in addressing the impact of climate on beef cattle. Using a community- and citizen-science approach, the project will train young students and citizens to use GPS-enabled digital cameras and smartphones and web data portals to participate in field data collection. The geospatial data will be integrated into a portal for community-based analysis and inventory and used to educate the general public on climate change related to range-based beef production.

The University of Wisconsin (UW) in Madison, Wis., received \$9.9 million over five years to study the environmental impact of various dairy production systems and develop best

management practices for producers to implement at the farm level. The project's ultimate goal is to increase the resiliency of dairy production systems while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The team will also develop an agricultural education curriculum with an urban foods focus at Vincent High School in Milwaukee in an effort to educate future leaders and consumers about the contributions of the dairy industry to economic and environmental sustainability. Curricula at the high school and college levels will be developed related to mitigation and adaptation to climate change and agricultural sustainability.

These Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP) bring together teams of researchers that represent various geographic areas to support discovery, applications and promote communication leading to innova-

tive, science-based solutions to critical and emerging national priorities and needs. This year's awards broaden NIFA's CAP climate change portfolio, which includes three projects awarded in 2010 focusing on loblolly pine in the South, corn production in the Midwest and wheat crops in the Northwest.

AFRI is NIFA's flagship competitive grant program and was established under the 2008 Farm Bill. AFRI supports work in six priority areas: 1) plant health and production and plant products; 2) animal health and production and animal products; 3) food safety, nutrition and health; 4) renewable energy, natural resources and environment; 5) agriculture systems and technology; and 6) agriculture economics and rural communities.

USDA has made a concerted effort to deliver results for

the American people, even as USDA implements sequestration — the across-the-board budget reductions mandated under terms of the Budget Control Act. USDA has already undertaken historic efforts since 2009 to save more than \$828 million in taxpayer funds through targeted, common-sense budget reductions. These reductions have put USDA in a better position to carry out its mission, while implementing sequester budget reductions in a fair manner that causes as little disruption as possible.

Through federal funding and leadership for research, education and extension programs, NIFA focuses on investing in science and solving critical issues impacting people's daily lives and the nation's future. More information is available at www.nifa.usda.gov.

The Paperboy How much is your commute?

Saw a story on the news the other day which reported that commuters in the U.S. spent an average of \$9,000 a year getting to and from work.

The older I get, the more I'm thankful for life in the small town. I stay busy and the thought of spending three or four hours stuck in traffic five days a week is not appealing at all. For the record, my commute to the office is around two minutes. Half of that time is taken up by walking from my truck to my desk.



I haven't added up the annual cost for my commute, but I'd put it closer to \$9 than \$9,000.

I always thought of Al Gore as sort of a stiff board with an ego. The kind of guy who thinks he's an expert on everything. The internet comes to mind as well as a dozen other examples.

Apparently, there are others who have a higher opinion of the man.

Nearly president Gore is a money-making machine. In fact, he's making much more money than he ever would have or could have as president.

Since the Bush v. Gore Supreme Court decision in 2000, Al Gore's net worth has gone from \$1.7 million to around \$200 million. A big part of that, around \$100 million, occurred in January of this year. Current TV network, which Gore helped start in 2004, was sold to Qatari-owned Al Jazeera Satellite Network for \$500 million. Gore banked \$70 million from the deal. A couple of weeks later, Gore exercised some Apple stock options and netted a cool \$30 million.

Between those maneuvers and the books, documentaries, etc. on global warming and climate change, Gore can now afford some more houses and a larger jet to help the climate change continue.

He may not have won the White House, but his windfall looks to have eased his pain.

Not long ago I was using some vinegar to clean my coffee maker at home. My wife and I began a conversation about the product and

the fact that my mother used is for a great many things.

On the website vinegartips.com they claim to have 1,001 uses for the product. What I learned on the website was the long history of vinegar. According to the site:

"The word vinegar comes from the French word 'vinaigre' which means 'sour wine.' It was probably discovered by accident thousands of years ago — after a cask of wine had gone bad. When the wine was first made, natural sugars were fermented into alcohol. Over time, bacteria in the air transformed the alcohol into acetic acid, which gave the 'sour wine' its bite."

Historically, vinegar has been used all over the world.

- The Babylonians used vinegar to preserve and pickle food.
- Hippocrates prescribed vinegar as a remedy for a variety of ailments.
- Caesar's armies used vinegar as a beverage.
- Hannibal drenched huge boulders in hot vinegar which cracked them into small pieces, enabling his army to continue its journey across the Alps.
- Helen of Troy bathed in vinegar to relax.
- Jesus was offered vinegar before he was crucified.
- Early Europeans used vinegar as a deodorizer.
- During the Bubonic Plague people poured vinegar on their skin to protect themselves from germs.
- Cleopatra dissolved pearls in vinegar to prove that she could consume a fortune in a single meal.
- Sailors used vinegar as a food preservative during long voyages.
- World War I medics used vinegar to treat soldiers' wounds.

It's hard to believe the same product you can use to eliminate corrosion can be used to soak vegetables making them pretty tasty.

Check out the site if you want to learn more about this inexpensive liquid. You'll find it tough to think of a product that gives you more bang for your buck.

Christopher Blackburn is publisher of The Knox County News-Courier and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.

The 501 Missing Muse

If you've got a muse, you don't miss her 'til she's gone. Mine flew the coop last night. If she doesn't return, I'm on my own. Muses are like that. Flighty. They don't punch time clocks.

The classic Greek ones are Melpomene, Calliope, Thalia and I'll bet you can't list them all either. If you've studied art history, maybe you can find them in a Titian crowd, and you know the Three Fates and the Four Humors too. What a gang.

Muses inspire creativity. More about the Fates and Humors later, unless my muse shows up with other plans.

Willie Nelson, wearing his composer's bandana, once remarked in a televised interview that music is everywhere, hanging in the atmosphere ready to be picked like fruit. Those aren't exactly his words, but that's the image he suggested. Pulling tunes out of the air is a muse-compatible view of how artists get things done. Right? Inspiration comes mysteriously from somewhere.

Muses have to be fed, by the way. My muse likes coffee and chocolate. Willie's muse probably has different tastes — whatever gets you to 80. I myself am having coffee and chocolate-filled Oreos right now, waiting for my muse to land on my right shoulder. Except you never really know when they come and go. There's no thump, no whoosh.

Moving right along, consider the Three Fates — Birth, Life and Death. The first Fate spins the thread of life, the second one puts

it through a needle and the third one cuts it with shears. Simple. I'm going to have another Oreo in honor of the middle one. And that's all I have to say about that trio, except I need to look them up to see if I got it right.

WIKIPEDIA PAUSE.

The one with the shears snipped my Internet connection. What a trickster. Maybe later.

The Four Humors are more complex. You probably know them mainly as the four elements of the ancient world — earth, air, fire and water. Talk about easy chemistry. In the science classroom-lab where I blew up a thing or two, the wall chart listed 96 elements, or thereabouts. I'm either correct or close. For all I know, they've since found more, the same way astronomers aided by their muse — Uranus, according to my dictionary — have discovered more planets.

What makes the Humors doubly significant is their relationship to humanity's four temperaments — sanguine, lethargic, phlegmatic and air-headed. OK, I made up the last one. I have no Internet.

DICTIONARY PAUSE.

Two out of four ain't bad. It's sanguine, phlegmatic, choleric and melancholic.

Oddly enough, I visited a Wednesday-night Bible class a few years ago where the main study book categorized personalities according to the Humors and confirmed it all with Scripture. I guess somebody figured there was no reason to reinvent the Zodiac wheel, where the Humors also prevail.

To that I say, truth is where you find it. Really.

To my muse I say, please come home. I've saved you some Oreos.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a columnist and contributor to the Knox County News-Courier.

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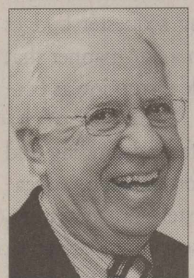
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Idle American

Out-smarted by smart key

Introspection of retrospection should never be taken lightly. Generally, getting on with life is preferable to dwelling on what might have been.

On rare occasions, though, it is profitable to re-visit bad decisions, declare intent never to make them again, and share details of painful experiences. Perhaps I can help others avoid the pitfalls, which open wide to me.



DON NEWBURY

I was "chewed up and spit out," and can just now smile about an avoidable ordeal a month ago caused me to shed tears.

It was car-buying time, a process faced no more than twice a decade. A few details are givens. My wife always wants a white vehicle that gets good gas mileage and has leather upholstery. I shoot for cars two to three years old with low mileage.

Eureka! I found a hybrid that commonly delivers 40 mpg. It met all our specs. I whistled a happy tune all the way home.

If I had known then what I know now, I would have at least given pause to the seller's mention that the vehicle has just one "smart key." Assured that I could get another one, I gave the matter little thought.

First I had to learn what a "smart key" does. I found out it joins horseshoes and hand grenades in "coming close" effectiveness. As long as it's carried in pocket or purse, the car "knows" it's nearby. Locked cars are magically unlocked, and the ignition requires no insertion of key.

What a "smarty-pants" it is. "Smart key" and auto are in a state of harmonious "gee-haw," and the motor purrs at the push of a button.

All the while, the "smart key" lays low in pocket or purse.

Even I, the incurable optimist, knew at least one more "smart key" would be needed, so I visited a locksmith to see what it would cost to get two duplicates "made." He was patient with me — mostly explaining that much has changed — it's no longer 1957.

That was the year I bought my first car. I was age 20; the 1949 Nash Ambassador was only a dozen years my junior. It had "plain" keys — three, as I remember. The car set me

back \$300, had a bloated appearance and almost no distinguishing features, save the fact the front seat backs lowered to make a bed. I could have made my bed and lain in it, I guess, though I never did.

I digress. The locksmith, unable to help, suggested a visit to the dealership. There, I was stunned to learn that an additional "smart key" called for detailed programming on an expensive machine that had a \$350 price tag — \$50 more than my first car. If I wanted two, the cost would be \$700, plus tax.

Had my wife been along, she'd have noticed face-reddening and asked if I'd taken my heart medication.

"Get some 'smart keys' on the Internet," another shopper whispered. "Take 'em to a locksmith for programming and save a bundle." So I did.

I should have listened to the first locksmith — the one who referred me to a dealer.

The Internet has many sites trumpeting availability of "blanks" for "smart keys." (No doubt some could provide "dumb keys," too.)

The purchase was not seamless. The blanks ran \$85 each, programming not included. I spent the equivalent of two full days, visited five locksmiths and drove more than 200 miles before finding a shop that would tackle the programming procedure.

Woe is me! The first blanks I ordered weren't the right ones — my mistake — and only one of the second shipment worked.

Thankfully, Jay Reed, a Colleyville locksmith some 30 miles from our home, took pity. His work ran into hours, tying up the "super-duper" machine that programs "smart keys." The result, though, was two additional "smart keys."

All told, though, the bill was well short of \$700. This doesn't include, of course, two wasted days spent on the project, emailing/telephoning the Internet supplier, or the 200-plus miles driven all over the Metroplex.

My wife, experienced at cutting to the chase, found silver linings.

"You didn't lose the 'smart key' before getting the extras, and as to the time thing — you're retired."

I hear the latter a lot.

Don Newbury, former chancellor of Howard Payne University, is a humorist and motivational speaker.

Dixie Divas

When Mama made up her mind

Mama was stubborn. "Set in her ways," is what country folks call it, and, boy, was she. When she made up her mind, nothing stopped her. Especially when she set her jaw and punctuated her declaration with a firm



RONDA RICH

nod of her head. If she also threw that crooked forefinger in your direction, you knew it was set in stone. Destined to be.

So it was Mama decided I would go to college, and she would pay for it. Now, Mama was a hard worker. There's no two ways about that. Except for a brief three-year spell when times turned bad in our household, so Mama took a job in a sewing plant to help see us through. She had never worked outside the home. Besides her remarkable talent at fixing things with masking tape and duct tape, she was most skilled at sewing.

With the wily ingenuity of her people, the Scotch-Irish, Mama "figured it out," a term she used quite often. In the spare bedroom of our little house, she set up her old tan and brown Singer sewing machine Daddy had bought her 25 years earlier and went to work. In retrospect, she was amazing, though I couldn't fully appreciate it then. She took in sewing and alterations, charging \$25 a dress.

Mama had an eighth-grade education because that's as far as her one-room schoolhouse in Nimblewill Valley went. But, eager to learn and knowing early that education was important, she started school at 4 and stayed until she was 17.

The sweet teacher did her best to find ways to keep teaching her, because Mama was the only student she ever had who went to school seven years longer than required.

She knew the basics of economics: She could add, subtract and spend less than she earned. In time, she expanded her little home business by buying fabric

cheap, selling for a profit, and sewing up "spec" dresses that yielded a tidy profit.

Mama was diligent in her business and her bookkeeping, always recording what was earned, what was spent and what was owed, because Mama had "house" accounts for her best customers. She kept spiral-bound notebooks she called her "sewing books" and listed every customer's detailed measurements and the orders they placed.

It paid off. For both Mama and me. She managed to pay for two bachelor degrees — journalism and broadcasting — at an expensive college. When time came to pay the quarterly tuition, Daddy would always say, "Do you need any money?" Not that he had a lot, but he always had a bit tucked away.

Inevitably, Mama would say, "No, I've got it. The good Lord has provided and sent enough business to pay for another quarter." It meant everything to her to do it on her own.

Now, I could have gone to a less expensive college and that would have been fine with me. But Mama had a dream for me to go to a place called Brenau. As a young wife, whose husband was away for two years fighting in the South Pacific in World War II, she had rented an apartment in an old, antebellum home near the Brenau campus. She would sit on the steps and watch the pretty girls on campus and think to herself, "One day, I'm gonna have a little girl who goes to that school." It was a grand and lofty dream for a woman who had grown up in a four-room, tin-roofed house with no indoor plumbing.

The other day, that college inducted me into its Hall of Fame. I felt a bit embarrassed and fraudulent accepting an honor that isn't mine. It belongs completely to Mama. Since she's with Jesus now, I went to the ceremony and accepted in her honor.

I'm so proud of her. Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's a Better Day A-Comin'," is available at rondarich.com.

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Warpath 5K



Audra Arendall/Special to the News-Courier

Aspermont resident Jackie Lackey competes in the first Warpath 5K Color Run, sponsored by the Haskell Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization on Saturday. Also competing were Knox City resident Jasmine Lerma and Guthrie residents Aleshia Withers, Mallory Canada, Kennedy Snyder and Wendy Masterson.

Author to sign copies of new book

Special to the News-Courier

WICHITA FALLS — Sheri A. Sutton will hold a book signing for her newly released book, "And So It Is, Recognizing God's Presence in Our Lives Today," from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Henderson Book Store in Haskell.

By using daily devotionals to capture in a few words a topic for reflection and meditation, Sutton allows the reader the opportunity to discover God within his or her own life circumstances.

Through her words, Sutton reaffirms God's existence in all things.

"God is always faithful, and God's love endures forever," Sutton said. "Since God is found in the ordinary, as well as the extraordinary, "And So It Is" will help you find God's presence in the everyday activities of your life."

Sutton graduated from Midwestern State University and spent the majority of her professional career in the accounting field. She retired in August 2009

to pursue a writing career.

She has been published in the Secret Place devotional magazine and the Lenten Devotions on the Lord's Prayer. She is a member of the Wichita Falls Poetry Society and the Poetry Society of Texas and has been recognized in various contests. Her poetry has been published in the Wichita Falls Literary Art Review magazine and The Poetry Society of Texas' A Book of the Year. Sutton and her husband, Mark, live on a small farm near Wichita Falls.

Visit sheriasutton.com for information.

"And So It Is" is published by WestBow Press, a division of Thomas Nelson. It is available in hardcover, softcover, and ebook through WestBow Press, your preferred on-line retailer, or your local bookseller.

Texas 4-H "Mission Possible" Camp to be Held July 8-10

Special to the Knox County News-Courier

BROWNWOOD — The Texas 4-H Conference Center, 5600 Farm-to-Market Road 3021, Brownwood, will again offer its Mission Possible "inclusive" summer camp for youth with and without disabilities from July 8-10.

"The camp is a statewide effort to engage young people with various medically diagnosed disabilities into the 4-H program," said Dr. Darlene Locke, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service 4-H and youth development specialist and conference center director. "Mission Possible is held simultaneously with a session of County Camp, providing an even greater diversity of participants. Mission Possible campers participate in the same activities as those in County Camp."

She said the Mission Possible camp is open to youth ages 8-18 and offers participants a full gamut of activities, including shooting sports, archery, dance, arts and crafts, kayaking, dancing, swimming and environmental education.

Individual registration is \$175 through June 14 and five percent higher thereafter. Registration covers all meals, lodging, refreshments, health care services, facility and programming fees and a Mission Possible T-shirt.

Registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis until the camp is filled. First time applicants should contact the 4-H Center for an application, which will be reviewed to ensure the camper's needs can be adequately met. To register, go to <http://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu> and choose "Mission Possible" under the 2013 Summer Camps tab. A camp brochure may also be found at the site.

Locke said 4-H members ages 14-18 serve as mentors and act as camping or teaching assistants to ensure disabled participants learn and are successful in camp endeavors. They arrive a day before camp for an in-service training,

which addresses disability awareness and explains their role in assisting the campers, including help with transportation, hygiene and personal safety.

"The goal of Mission Possible is to create an inclusive environment and to also help break down the barriers of misunderstanding and fear that hinder full community involvement by those persons with disabilities," she said. "And we are accredited by the American Camp Association, so families are assured of a quality program and facility that meets rigorous standards."

From 2005-2012 the center has held eight Mission Possible camp sessions serving 155 campers, 136 of whom have had medically diagnosed disabilities, including autism, Down's syndrome, pervasive development disorder, cerebral palsy, blindness, traumatic brain injury and attention deficit hyperactive disorder.

"Mission Possible is unique as a camp for youth with and without disabilities, but is also unique in the disabilities served," said Dr. Chris Boleman, statewide 4-H and Youth Development Program director, College Station. "While at camp, the focus is on their ability and not their disability, and activities are adapted to meet the individual needs of the camper."

Boleman said the goal of the camp is to help campers with life skills toward independence, enhance self-esteem, increase understanding and acceptance, improve social abilities, widen awareness of and participation in recreational activities, and enable youth to connect with others.

"The value of the camp goes beyond the engagement of youth with disabilities in that 4-H youth serving as mentors gain insight into the world of disabilities," Locke noted. "Their knowledge and in-

creased awareness allows them to be better informed and to serve as advocates within their own communities for the disabled."

Mission Possible is funded by private donations and user fees assessed from the participants. Each year, the 4-H Center seeks additional sponsors to help reduce the burden on individual camper families and the 4-H members volunteering their services as mentors, said camp coordinators.

"This year we particularly want to thank C.C. Creations of College Sta-

tion, which has been our T-shirt sponsor for seven years, as well as the generosity of Warren and Jeannie Seidel, Mrs. Helen Piehl and Nathan and Gena Halfmann for their support of Mission Possible," Locke said.

For more information, call 325-784-5482 or email texas4hcenter@ag.tamu.edu.

Currently there are more than 55,000 4-H members in 2,000-plus clubs statewide, with more than 600,000 Texas youth participating in 4-H programs and activities annually.

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Munday Girl's Softball Association would like to express our thanks to Rick Decker for the donation of a light fixture and the replacement bulbs for our softball field. We would also like to thank Bill Longan, Phill Loftin, and BK Electric for their time installing the fixture and fixing all of our lights.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Schalk Oil Company, Inc., 4245 Kemp Boulevard, Suite 412, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid in the Tannehill Formation, Foster Lease, Well No. 2. The proposed injection well is located 13.6 miles Southwest of Guthrie, Texas in the Tumbleweed, NE. (Tannehill) Field, in King County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3,869 to 3,882 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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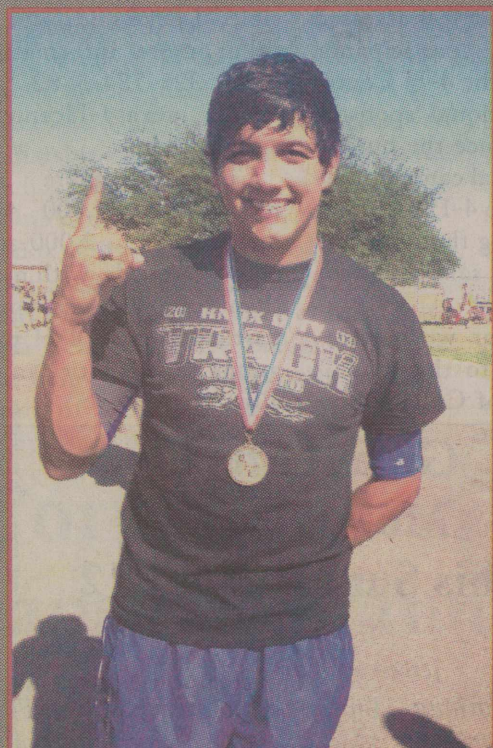


Photo by Tony Logsdon

Tylynne Eaton broke the Knox City High School record. In Junior High, broke the 8th grade record and remains unbroken.



Junior, Tylynne Eaton winning discus with a throw of 160'



Sophomore Krys Campos placing 3rd and advancing as the wildcard with a throw of 138'11"



Caitlyn Baxter, Essence Ward, Chasity Tolson, Jordyn Eaton



Left: Tylynne Eason 1st in discus; Right: Krys Campos 3rd in discus



Freshman and 1st leg Jordyn Eaton handing the baton to Senior 2nd leg Chasity Tolson in 800m relay



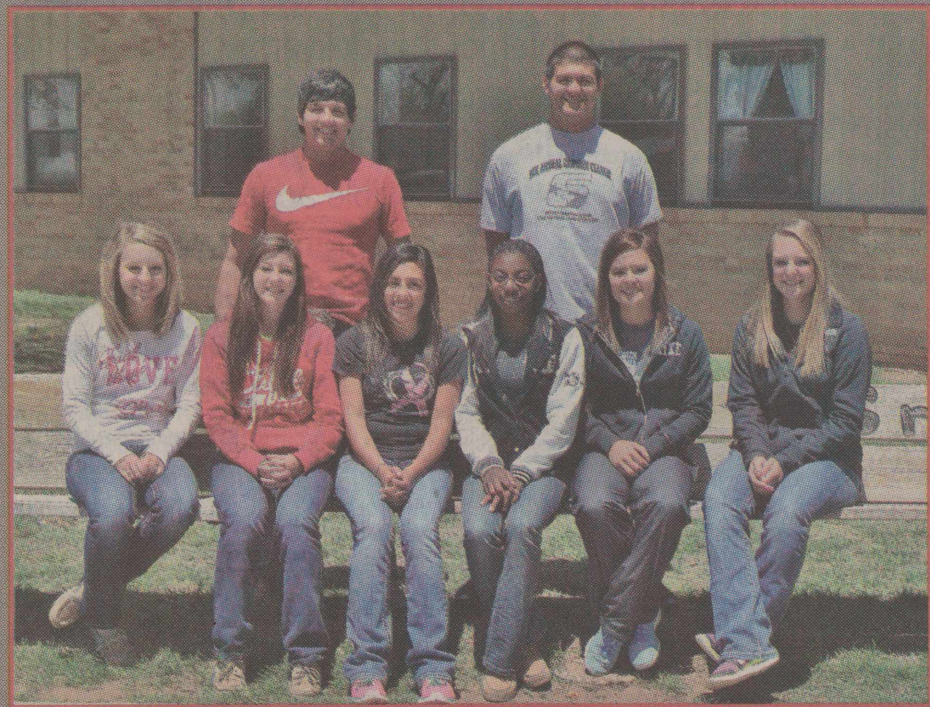
Chasity Tolson is a senior. This is her last sporting event in high school



Caitlyn Baxter and Essence Ward 800m relay



Krys Campos, cousin to brother and sister Jordyn and Tylynne Eaton headed to Austin!



Standing from left Tylynne Eaton - 1st in discus and Krys Campos- 3rd in discus; seated from left: Andrea Lynn - alternate, Jordyn Eaton - 800 relay, Caitlyn Baxter - 800 relay, Essence Ward - 800 relay, Chasity Tolson - 800 relay, Leighton Pepper, alternate.



From top left: Chris Lewis (seated), Tylynne Eaton, Jose Espinal, Zach Carter, Krys Campos (seated); next row, Sheldon Baty, Chris Richardson, Israel Rodriques; next row, Jordyn Eaton, Leighton Pepper, Kaylie Steele; next row, Essence Ward, Andera Lynn; next row, Chasity Tolson and Caitlyn Baxter. Coaches: left side: Charles Steele, Jason Josselet; right side: Josh Webb, Collin Howeth.

M Moguls

STATE QUALIFIERS

The Munday Athletic Booster Club wishes our state bound athletes the best of luck!



Trey Stinnett- Long Jump,
Triple Jump, 400m Relay,
1600m Relay



Xavier Bulliner-Shot put, Discuss
LJ Collier-Shot put, Discuss
Tyrone Dockins-Shot put, Discuss

Bring home the gold!



Tatum Bufkin, Triple Jump

M Lady Moguls



Roddrick Taylor-400m Relay, 1600m Relay
Garrett Weaver- 400m Relay, 1600m Relay



Dee Paul-Long Jump, Triple Jump,
300m Hurdles, 400m Relay,
1600m Relay

School district announces scholarship fund drive

Special to the News-Courier

Louis Baty, superintendent of Knox City-O'Brien CISD, has announced the annual Knox City-O'Brien CISD Scholarship Fund Drive in progress.

"As the cost of furthering one's education continues to rise, Knox City-O'Brien CISD is dedicated to our students success following graduation," Baty said. The Board of Trustees has designated a "Wall of Fame" in the W.R Baker Auditorium to recognize the individuals and businesses who have created endowed scholarships or who donate to the annual scholarship fund drive for graduating seniors of Knox City High School.

Knox City-O'Brien CISD cordially invites individuals and businesses to be a part of this exciting time at Knox City High School and be recognized as a: Blue Scholarship Sponsor with a contribution of \$250 or more; White Scholarship Sponsor with \$100 to \$249; or a

Red Scholarship Sponsor with a Contribution of \$25 to \$99.

It is the desire of the Knox City-O'Brien administration and Board of Trustees that each student has the financial means to pursue a dream.

With your financial contribution, it can happen. Your donation will be greatly appreciated by the district and a graduating senior who will have the financial assistance to pursue their vision of an education beyond high school.

"Each year various businesses and organizations contribute faithfully to Knox City-O'Brien CISD in their own generous way," Baty said. "Now, we invite you to join them by making your contribution."

Send donations to Scholarship Fund, Knox City-O'Brien CISD, 606 E. Main St., Knox City, TX 79529.

Anyone needing additional information is encouraged to contact Baty at 940-657-3521.

Cornerstones, time capsules planned for clinics

Special to the News-Courier

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas will lay cornerstones May 18 at the Knox County Hospital District clinics in both Knox City and Munday. Time capsules will also be installed.

Everyone attending will be invited to place a business card or other small item into the capsules.

The ceremonies will be at 10 a.m. in Knox City and at 2 p.m. in Munday. The public is invited to attend. School groups or others interested in the historical significance of cornerstones will find the ceremonies especially interesting. The ceremonies are entirely symbolic and explain the procedures, purposes and significance of early day cornerstones.

Representatives of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas from around the state will attend and conduct the formal ceremonies. The ceremony is very similar to the one conducted by President George Washington during the construction of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

The ceremonies will be preceded by a formal ceremonial opening of a Masonic Lodge, and the proceedings of the ceremonies will be included in the annual publication of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Members of the Orient Lodge 905 are providing the cornerstones.

A cornerstone ceremony will also be held at the Knox City Community Center June 22. For information, contact Steve Pepper at 940-256-0028.

Regional Briefs Work to begin soon to improve US 82 in Knox County

Special to the News-Courier

CHILDRESS — The Texas Department of Transportation recently hosted a pre-construction meeting to discuss the project for an asphaltic concrete pavement overlay on U.S. 82, beginning at State Highway 6 in Benjamin and continuing east to Farm-to-Market FM 267, a distance of 7 miles.

The \$1.2 million contract was awarded to Zack Burkett Co. of Graham. This is a mill and overlay project. The contractor planned to begin milling the roadway on April 29. Weather permitting; this project

should be complete by mid-May.

Glenn Allbritton, Munday Area Engineer, said, "This is a straight-forward job. The contractors will mill the roadway and follow with an overlay."

The contractor will be using two-way traffic control during daylight hours, with flaggers and stop signs on each end of the project, with a pilot car guiding the traffic through the work zone. The roadway will be open to the traveling public each night.

For more information contact Barbara Seal, TxDOT Public Information Officer, at 940-937-7288.

Car seat checkup seminar offered

Special to the News-Courier

HASKELL — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will be sponsoring a child safety seat checkup event on Tuesday.

Certified technicians will be available to provide on-site child safety seat inspections and education from 1 to 4 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church, 1600 N First St., Haskell.

To participate you must bring your child and know the child's weight and height.

More than eight out of 10 car seats are installed incorrectly. For a child safety seat to do its job right, it has to be:

- Appropriate for your child's age and size;
- Installed properly in your vehicle; and
- Adjusted to fit your child securely.

If you're a parent or caregiver, don't miss this opportunity to have a free child

safety seat inspection by a certified child passenger safety technician. Technicians can provide hands-on advice and instruction.

Make sure your children are safe and you are in compliance with the current child safety seat law in Texas. The law, which took effect on Sept. 1, 2009, requires all children under 8, unless taller than 4-foot-9 to be in a child safety seat system, which includes traditional child safety seats with harnesses and booster seats.

Remember: All child passengers under age 13 should ride securely restrained in the back seat, where they are safest — every trip, every time.

To locate a certified child passenger safety technician in Texas visit buckleup.tamu.edu.

For more information contact the Haskell County Extension Office at 940-864-2546.

Course available for food-service professionals

Special to the News-Courier

HASKELL — A two-day Food Protection Management training for food service managers in the Big Country area will be May 20-May 21 at the Taylor County Extension Office located on the Taylor County Expo grounds in Abilene from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

The training will allow food establishments permitted by the Texas Department of Health to meet their certification requirements if they pass the exam.

The exam being used is the National Restaurant Association's ServSafe exam and covers 12 food-safety concepts re-

lated to personal hygiene, cross contamination, time and temperature, sanitation, pest management, foodborne illness and related areas.

The course is sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Haskell, Jones, Nolan, and Taylor Counties and the Environmental Section of the city of Abilene.

Cost for the class is \$125, which includes the course book and exam.

Registration information is available by calling the Taylor County Extension Office at 325-672-6048, or the Haskell County Office at 940-864-2546.

Call today to subscribe!

940-422-5350

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ALPHONSE KUEHLER, Deceased, were issued on April 12, 2013, in Cause No. 2569, pending in the County Court of Knox County, Texas, to: DEBORAH ANDERSON AND BETH ARNOLD.

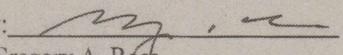
The contact address of the Independent Co-Executrixes is as follows:

c/o: Gregory A. Ross
Attorney at Law
4245 Kemp Blvd., Suite 308
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 8 day of April, 2013.

Law Office of Gregory A. Ross, P.C.
4245 Kemp Blvd., Suite 308
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
(940) 692-7800 Telephone
(940) 692-7813 Facsimile

By: 
Gregory A. Ross
Attorney for the Estate
State Bar No.: 17302500

Public Notice

Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact

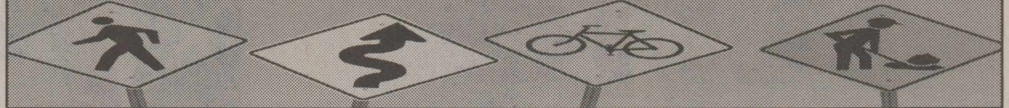
The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from the Knox County Rural Water Supply Corporation. The proposal consists of constructing a new drinking water distribution system within rural areas of Knox, King, Haskell, and Stonewall Counties. The new system would consist of approximately 113 miles of buried waterlines, 2 standpipes, 2 pump stations, isolation valves and approximately 162 meter connections.

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act and agency regulations, the Rural Utilities Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment of the proposal that assessed the potential environmental effects of the proposal and the effect that the proposal may have on historic properties. The Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment was published on March 21, 2013 for a 30-day public comment period. There were no written comments submitted regarding the proposed project during the 30-day period. Upon consideration of the applicant's proposal, federal and state environmental regulatory and natural resource agencies, the state historic preservation officer, Native American tribes, and public input the agency has determined that the proposal will not have a significant effect on the human environment for which an Environment Impact Statement will not be prepared. The basis of this determination is summarized by the lack of potential adverse impacts to the environment from the proposed project.

In order to avoid or minimize any adverse environmental impacts, the Rural Utilities Service will require the applicant to incorporate the following mitigation measures into the proposal's design. The applicant must return disturbed land to preconstruction conditions, an archeological survey must be performed prior to any ground disturbance, notifications to the RUS and SHPO should be made if cultural material is discovered, the project must avoid impacts to the Texas Horned Lizard, and crossings along the Brazos River shall be bored.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment can be reviewed or obtained at the USDA Rural Development office located at 4400 Buffalo Gap Road, Suite 4150, Abilene, Texas 79606 (ph. 325-690-6162). For further information contact John Powell of Rural Development at: (325) 690-6162 ext. 4. 050913c

CHECKING THESE VITAL SIGNS CAN SAVE A LIFE.
Drive FRIENDLY. Drive SAFE.



Property Owners Can Protest Property Appraisal Values

Property owners who disagree with the Knox County Appraisal District's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's Appraisal Review Board (ARB).

A property owner must file a written notice of protest before June 1, 2013 or within 30 days after the appraisal district mails the taxpayer a notice of appraised value, whichever is later. The ARB will begin hearing taxpayer protests on June 30, 2013 for Real Estate and June 21, 2013 for Mineral. Need to call ahead for appointment.

After the ARB completes its hearings and approves final property tax appraisals, local governments will use these appraisals to set 2013 property tax rates.

The ARB is a group of citizens who live in the appraisal district and are appointed by the appraisal district's board of directors, except in Harris and Fort Bend Counties where a local administrative judge makes the appointments. Property owners may protest any of the following issues to the ARB:

- the appraised or market value of the property;
- unequal appraisal of the taxpayer's property compared to similar property in the district;
- inclusion of the property on the appraisal records;
- denial of a partial exemption, such as a homestead exemption;
- denial of special appraisals, such as agricultural or timber productivity appraisal;
- determination that agricultural or timber land has had a change of use and is subject to a rollback tax;
- identification of the taxing unit or units in which the property is located;
- determination that the taxpayer is the owner of the property; or
- any other action of the appraisal office that adversely affects the owner.

The ARB schedules a hearing and sends the protesting property owner written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing. The law contains specific timelines and procedures for both the owner and the ARB throughout the appraisal protest process. These are detailed in the state Comptroller's publication, *Property Taxpayer Remedies*.

Copies are available from KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT office P.O. Box 47 Benjamin, Texas 79505 940-459-3891. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/ or by calling (800) 252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and then press "1" to contact the Information Services Team.

MEZNER

From Page 1

western horizon. Above that would be moon and stars. She had a certain area she wanted."

When Laura Bush saw Meinzer's first shots, she asked him to come back to capture views with fewer trees. Meinzer was happy enough to deal with a woman who knew exactly what she wanted.

"She was very specific about it," he said. "We did another shoot. She liked that."

The Meinzers didn't have to wait until the official opening of the center to see the photographs in place and the rest of the center. Three weeks ago, when Wyman Meinzer was in Dallas to speak to a women's club, Laura Bush knew he was in town and gave the couple a special tour.

"It's a library and an education center of the highest standard," Sylinda Meinzer said, herself an educator by profession.

Sylinda Meinzer sees Laura Bush's hand in the whole project.

"Laura Bush was a librarian," she said. "This is very special to her. I think she did a lot of work to make this happen."

Wyman Meinzer doesn't disagree, based on his working relationship with the former First Lady.

From his photographer's point of view, Meinzer believes the George W. Bush Presidential Center is "real impressive" and an unqualified success, from the video that plays on a 360-degree screen in the rotunda to the piece of one of the Twin Towers in New York that's on display in the museum.

Imagery shows George W. Bush when he first learned that a plane had crashed into a tower of the World Trade Center.

"Him speaking to the children, that look on his face," Wyman Meinzer said.

As for his own photographs, Meinzer has been told his work started drawing praise even before the center opened officially, as the first visitors came through.

Brendan Minter, who contacted Meinzer on Laura Bush's behalf to engage him in the first place, gave Meinzer the good news.

"Brendan called and said there were lots of compliments," Wyman Meinzer said.

On opening day, the Meinzers were part of an invited crowd of 7,800.

"We actually had fairly good seats," Sylinda Meinzer said.

But it wasn't a day for anyone to rub elbows either with President Barack Obama or the honoree, President George W. Bush, or the other three former presidents in attendance —George Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter. Security was tight, perhaps especially in the wake of the bombing at the Boston Marathon.

But despite the number of people on hand, both for the opening ceremonies early in the day and for the "block party" in the evening, things went smoothly.

"There was no one rude," Wyman Meinzer said. "Secret Service were accommodating. Both events went flawlessly."

As for Wyman Meinzer's relationship with George W. Bush, he's been surprised on more than one occasion that the former Texas Governor and former U. S. President always seems to know him.

Once the greeting was "Hey, Wyman. How're you doing? Where's John Graves (author of the Meinzer-Graves book "Goodbye to a River")?"

Another time his com-

ment was "Hey Wyman. I didn't even know you owned a suit."

"That's when I was proclaimed state photographer," Meinzer said.

Now Meinzer really doesn't own a suit —just period Western attire of the highest order that he wears with his trademark lace-up boots and his jeans.

"A typical business suit is just not Wyman," Sylinda Meinzer said.

If nothing else, Wyman Meinzer is just himself —a Benjamin, Texas photographer with no desire to be anyone else. It's taken him places.

THREE

From Page 1

Danny Lewis

Danny Lewis is running for a place on the Knox City Council.

Lewis has worked 25 years at Penman Services with job responsibilities that range from office work to delivering diesel and propane.

He's a Knox City native, and he's served twice on the city council.

Lewis is not critical of recent city councils.

"The things that need to be done that have been neglected, the last city councils have been doing that," he said.

"To keep on continuing to better the city -- streets, water, sewer, equipment" is his aim.

"I think we've got a pretty good group of employees down there," he said.

Lewis believes in tight money management.

"I don't like raising taxes and water fees and stuff," he said. "We need to really think what we're doing."

A Mason, Lewis belongs to Orient Lodge 905 in Knox City. His passion is motorcycle racing.

He and his wife have three children and four grandchildren.

Greg Oliver

Greg Oliver is running for a place on the Knox City Council.

Oliver works for the Texas Railroad Commission as a field engineer. In the past he's also farmed and has worked for the local hospital district as an emergency medical technician intermediate.

The city council election marks Oliver's first time to run for an elected office.

"I was asked by a number of city leaders to run," he said.

He views the city council work as a way to give back to the community, he said.

Oliver serves as president of the board of directors of the Knox City Chamber of Commerce. He's served three years on the chamber board.

"It's work, but it's rewarding," he said.

Oliver is a Knox County native. He's a member of O'Brien First Baptist Church and Orient Lodge 905 in Knox City. His wife, Pam Oliver, is secretary for the county extension agents.

Oliver lists his top concerns for the city as "utilities, infrastructure and city streets."

FIVE

From Page 1

The opportunity to work again for Jones drew her away from the city of Seymour job.

"Electric, water, sewer, garbage — I loved what I did," she said. "Go to work for the city, before you know it, you know everybody."

In her bid to serve on the Goree City Council, Burns is

most concerned about water issues, not only for residents but also for the town's main businesses — Trainham Ice and Lake Creek Beverage Store.

"I want to preserve our businesses in Goree," she said. "I understand everybody is going to have to watch their p's and q's with water. I just think we need to think about our commercial business that is keeping our town going."

Burns believes it's important for Goree to draw visitors.

"It's very important that we bring traffic into Goree and show them that we're still on the map. We need to clean up our little town and make it presentable."

Glenna Decker

Glenna Decker serves on the Goree City Council. She's running to keep her seat.

Decker, a Seymour High School graduate, attended both cosmetology school and nursing school at Vernon College and has worked as a nurse. For ten years, she operated an assisted living center in Seymour. During a five-year stint in Lubbock, Decker was office manager at the Rehab Institute at Methodist Hospital.

Now Decker works with her husband, Tommy Decker, in their oil field services businesses.

"You have to stay on top of a lot of state rules and regulations," she said. "I have learned that I don't know everything but I can educate myself by reading. If you don't educate yourself on the facts, then you can't make a good judgement."

Decker helped write policies and forms when Methodist Hospital implemented electronic systems.

"I feel like it is the responsibility of a person sitting on a council or school board or whatever to educate yourself," she said. "You have to set yourself up to look for the future always."

Decker is wary of too many restrictions.

"The only way to draw people back into the small communities is you have more freedom," she said. "The potential for rural communities is limited only by the actions and imagination of the people in control."

Caroline Garcia

Caroline Garcia is running for a place on the Goree City Council.

For about five years, Garcia worked as city secretary and also in maintenance.

"I had my water license and my sewer license," she said.

Cleaning up the town was one of her priorities and still is. She also believes in updating ordinances.

"Listening to the community and to what their hopes and dreams are for their town" is how she would approach the task of serving on the city council, she said.

Garcia spent some of her high school years in Munday but graduated from high school in Roswell, N. M. Through the U. S. Job Corps, she trained as a painter and learned other related skills, including wall papering. It's something she still likes to do.

"I love painting," she said. "I use my skills."

Garcia grew up in a family that traveled to find seasonal work. She was born in Libertyville, Ill., and most of her relatives live in northern states.

"I'm the only one that stayed in Texas," she said. "When I first moved here, I didn't want to be here. Now I wouldn't want to live anywhere else but Goree, Texas."

Garcia works for Trainham Ice. Her husband, Victor Garcia, Jr., works for Quality Implement in Mun-

day. The couple has one son, Victor Garcia III.

Caroline Garcia often volunteers for work in Goree — clean-up projects, events, funeral meals.

"Whatever they ask me to help, that's where I'll be," she said.

Arturo Ramos

Arturo "Art" Ramos is running for a place on the Goree City Council.

Several years ago, he served on the Goree School Board, but this is his first time to run for city council.

Ramos was born at Killeen when his father was stationed at Fort Hood, but he spent most of his youth in Goree, where he graduated from high school.

For most of his adult life, he has worked in the security industry in management.

"That's my whole background," he said.

Ramos lived in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. He managed 300 employees and was responsible for 30 accounts.

Now he's working as a roustabout in the oil field "to be back home, to be close to my family," he said.

"Coming back and coming back (to Goree to visit), I started missing it more and more," Ramos said.

Ramos and his wife have four children together; he has three from a previous marriage, also living in Goree.

Their house in Goree is

one Ramos has remodeled.

The couple also has a vendor's trailer for selling snow cones, ice cream and other food items. They hope to be able to eventually open a restaurant in an old building in Goree.

"Bringing the life back to Goree" is Ramos's goal.

Ramos has been back in his hometown for a year and a half.

Tammie Trainham

Tammie Trainham, Goree City Council member, is on the ballot in the race for two places on the city council, but she's campaigning for two other candidates: Brenda Burns and Caroline Garcia.

"I'm a good choice, but they're the best choice," Trainham said.

Trainham, wife of former Goree Mayor Kent Trainham, has served one term on the council.

Tammie Trainham is originally from Seymour. She attended Midwestern State University, where she played basketball, and then studied at Texas Tech University, where she earned a degree in

exercise and sports science. Her minor was English.

Trainham and her husband own Trainham Ice Co.

Tammie Trainham's vision for Goree is that it will someday be a gateway to Millers Creek Lake "with businesses and an economy that supports hunting and fishing," she said.

As a volunteer, Trainham works with the youth ministry Hiz Kidz (officially "Hiz Kiz" for Internet purposes). The ministry is supported by four Knox County churches, three in Munday and one in Goree.

She's a founder of Going for Greatness in Goree, a non-profit group organized to help the city promote events and apply for grants to support various undertakings. Trainham's specific dream is that Goree will someday have better sidewalks, a skate park and a walking track.

The number of candidates for two vacancies on city council has surprised Trainham.

"We never have candidates," she said. "We have good candidates."

We would like to thank our community for your thoughtfulness and sympathy during our dad's recent passing. Your prayers, phone calls, visits, food, flowers, and cards meant so much to us at this difficult time. May God bless each of you.

*The family of Abraham Lopez
Janie Sanchez, Eli Lopez, Hope Gomez, Mary Gomez,
Ann Garcia and families*

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CONCERNS

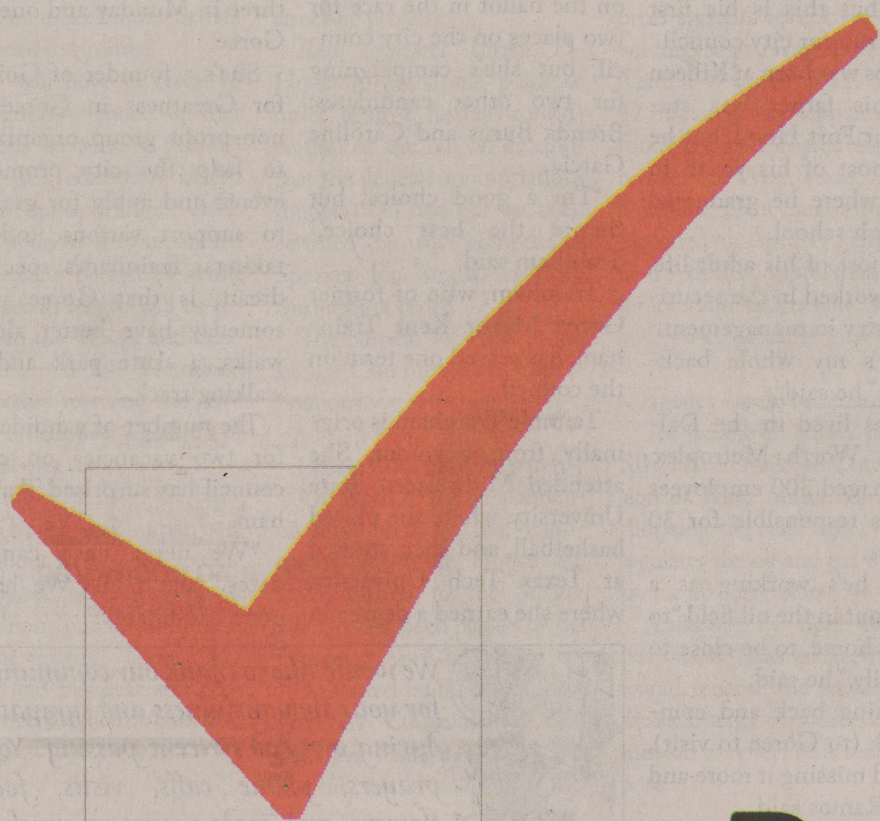
These are a few areas that the citizens of Munday need to be aware of:

- Water restrictions and conservation Stage 3 are still in effect
- No filling or refilling of swimming pools, spas and Jacuzzi type pool either indoors or outdoors
- Only hand held hoses, buckets or drip irrigation are permissible. No automatic sprinkler systems or hose end sprinklers can be used.
- If you have private water well and will be using it to water, please post a sign in your yard. This will make the city and your neighbors aware of the use of a well on your property.
- The complete restriction and conservation order can be picked up at Munday City Hall from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday.
- The use of trash dumpsters are for normal household garbage. Do not put grass clippings, brush, tree limbs and yard debris in the dumpsters. Items placed beside the dumpsters such as furniture and other household items will not be picked up. If city removes this type of debris the customer or customers that use the dumpster will be charged for removal. The City of Munday offers a place to dispose of this type of debris at a nominal fee. Contact City Hall about the time, place and charges for these.
- The City of Munday by ordinance will begin to ask citizens to clean the property that they own or lease. Items such as tall grass, brush piles, hay bales, tires, junk or abandoned vehicles and other various equipment items are some of the items that the City will be monitoring. For a full recap of items and remedies please contact City Hall. Remember your neighbors!
- Golf cart, animal, noise, curfew and other ordinances are in place and are being enforced.
- The City of Munday is working for the citizens of Munday. We will do our part and we are asking the citizens of Munday to do their part and take the extra step to help your neighbor. The costs that are incurred by the City are costs to all its citizens. We pay for this thru our utility services (down 24% last year), sales taxes, and property taxes. Please contact City Hall or me personally if you have any concerns or questions. I have an open door policy. I will discuss any issue that you have. I will strive to give you the best possible solution that is right, fair and responsible to both the citizens and the City of Munday.

Thank you for past efforts and we are looking forward to our combined efforts for the future of the City of Munday.

Thank You
Ricky Ake
Ricky Ake
City Administrator

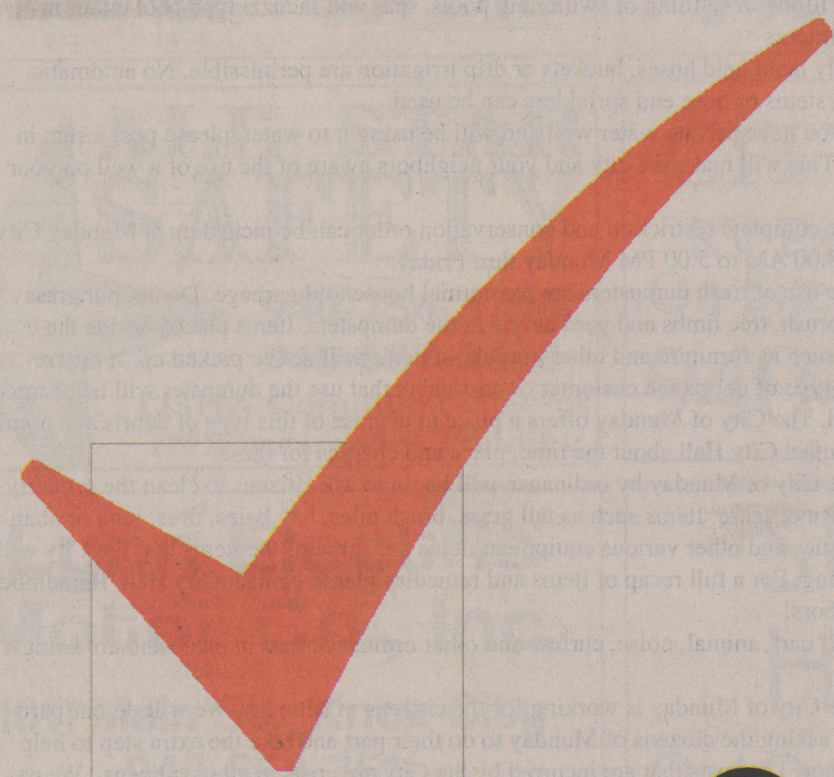
GOREE CITY COUNCIL



Brenda Burns

"Political ad paid for by Kent and Tammie Trainham"

GOREE CITY COUNCIL



Caroline Garcia

"Political ad paid for by Kent and Tammie Trainham"

News-Courier Classifieds

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website: www.haskelldrugstore.com; or pick up an application at 100 S. Ave. E, Haskell. Contact Linda Short at 940-864-2673. (TFNC)

General hired hand who can drive a tractor, change water, pickup fence, work cattle, etc. Call 325-668-6294. (0530p)

ENERGETIC OFFICE MANAGER: The

Stonewall Courier is searching for an upbeat, community-minded, independent individual to maintain our new office in Aspermont. Position is part-time, 20 hours a week. Skills required: computer, phone, email and clerical. Skills preferred: knowledge of cameras, ability to shoot photos and journalistic writing skills. For informa-

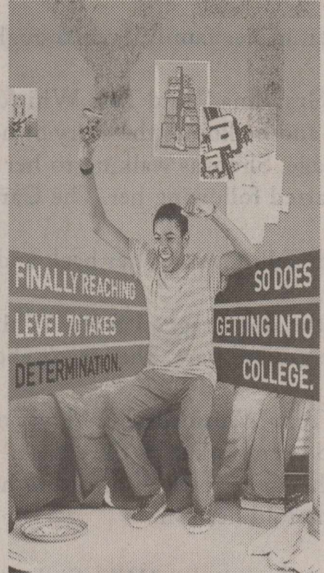
tion, email stonewall-courier@gmail.com.

Help Wanted: Full-time waitress needed. Please apply in person at Matis's, North Highway 27, Munday, TX (0516c)

GARAGE SALE

BIG GARAGE SALE: TVs, digital cameras, electronics, furniture, antiques, knick-

knacks. Saturday 7 a.m. til ? 702 N. Fifth St., Goree. (0510p)



The Munday and Knox City Housing Authorities have apartments available for immediate occupancy. It the intent of both to rent the units to high income households when there are no eligible low or very low income applicants on the waiting list. Flat rent is \$200 for 0-1 bedroom units and \$250 for 2-4 bedroom units. Income based rent may be lower. Call Munday at 940-422-4941 or Knox City at 940-657-3612 for more information. Both are equal opportunity providers. 053013c



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Cemetery Series

Family story reveals how grandmother died

By Hanaba Munn Welch
The Knox County News-Courier

O'BRIEN — In the old cemetery at Cliff, irises still grow around the grave of Sallie Whitford, 1818-1914, and a conch shell lies close to the monument — one of the few markers that's still standing.

Who was Sallie Whitford?

Her story is far from forgotten in her family, even though her death occurred almost 100 years ago.

"They called her 'Old Blind Grandma,'" said Tom Whitford, a great-grandson.

Whitford lives in Knoxville, and he knows the story of how she died.

Even at age 95, it wasn't old age. She was walking to her son's house when a dog belonging to the Carter family started following her. The Carters were cousins, Whitford said.

"It attacked her," he said. "She fell down on her back and grabbed that dog. She had her thumbs in its mouth."

In the struggle that ensued, the dog dragged Sallie Whitford around and around in a circle until her body wore the ground bare. She wasn't about to give up the fight, and neither was the dog.

"Somebody finally came by," Tom Whitford said. "The dog ran off."

But Sallie Whitford's hip had been broken in the attack.

The person who came onto the scene took Whitford to her son's house.

"The Carters' dog got me," she told her son.

She later died.

"I'm pretty sure she died from the injuries," Whitford said.

Whitford's son, Tommie Whitford, immediately took his shotgun and walked to the Carters' house.

"The dog was lying under the porch in the shade," Tom Whitford said.

"You come to get your mother," remarked one of the Carters.

Tomme Whitford swung his shotgun up to his shoulder and shot the dog and walked off.

"He didn't say a word," Tom Whitford said.

Whitford's grave is one of several at Cliff in an all-but-forgotten cemetery that lies east of O'Brien on the Knox-Haskell county line — if not in Knox County, very close.

Most of the graves are from the first two decades of the last century. The markers are elegant in design, reflecting the Victorian sensibilities of the early 20th century. Two tall Woodmen of the World markers lie flat in the sand. A few ragged trees punctuate the site. Fields of winter wheat grow in all directions. No true road provides access.

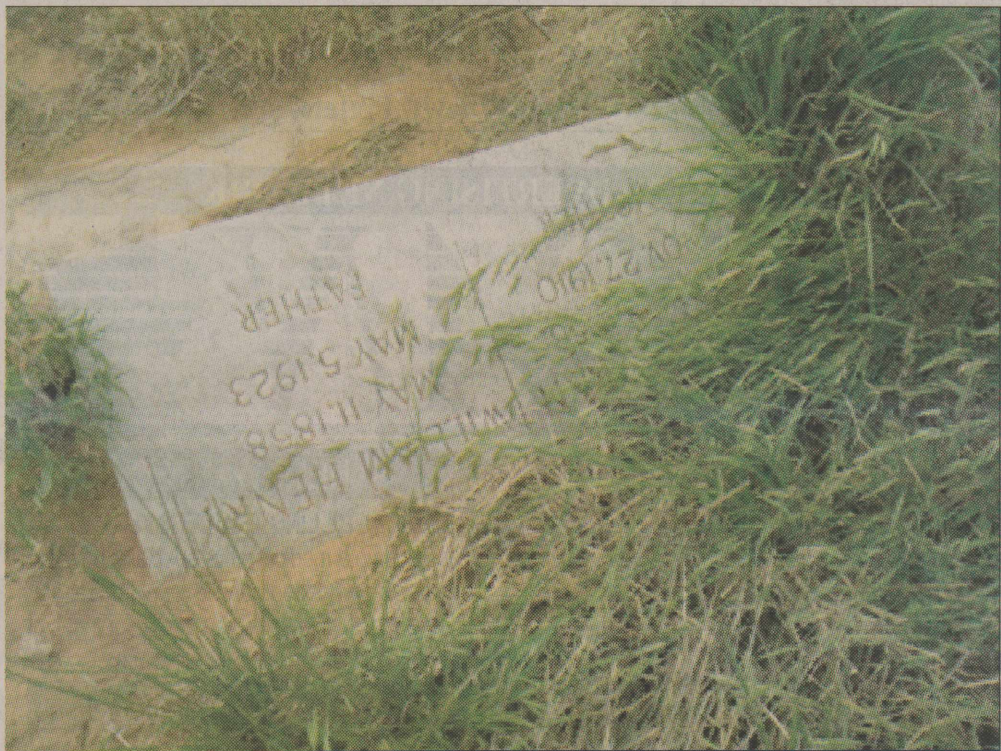
Tom Whitford hasn't visited the cemetery in years — not since a cousin from California wanted to see Sallie Whitford's grave.

"It was really overgrown," Whitford said. "Lots of weeds. It would take an act of Congress to fix it."

Meanwhile, the forces of nature continue to change the site as sand and grass encroach on pieces of marble and stone, both standing and fallen, all that's left of a once vibrant farming community.



Photos by Hanaba Munn Welch/The Knox County News-Courier
The marker of Sallie Whitford, 1818-1914, stands almost straight at the old cemetery at Cliff near the Knox-Haskell county line. A sizable conch shell lies near the grave. From whence the shell? Tom Whitford, a great-grandson, assumes his parents put the shell there. A trip to San Antonio in 1936 to an Eastern Star convention gave them the opportunity to take a side trip to the Gulf of Mexico. Whitford remembers that his mother and father kept souvenir shells in their cellar, presumably from that 1936 trip. Placing shells at gravesites is an ancient tradition.



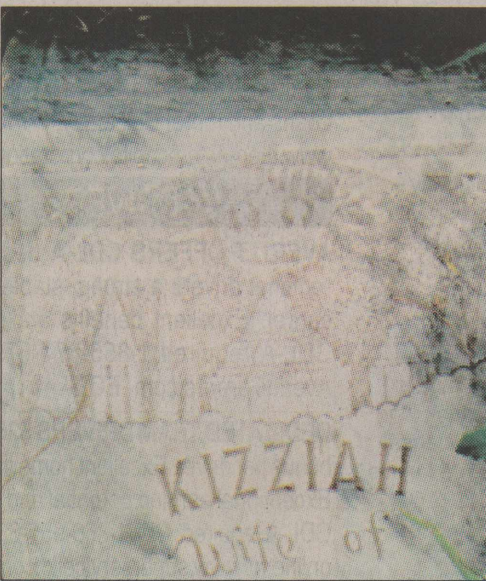
One of the "newer" gravestones visible at the old cemetery at Cliff, east of O'Brien, is from 1923. It lies fallen and partly buried in the sand amid tall winter grass.



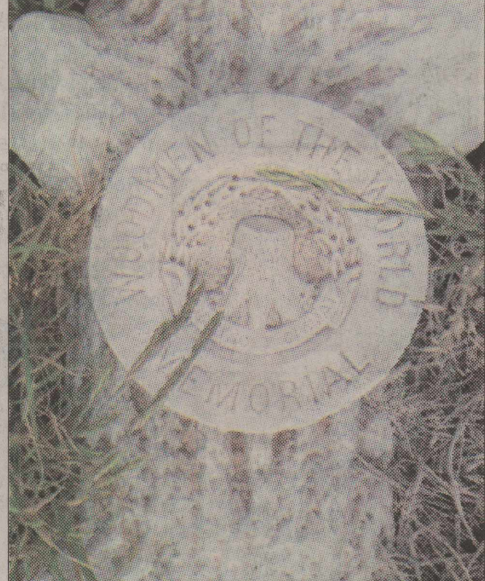
Danny Lewis takes a look at a fallen Woodmen of the World marker at the cemetery at Cliff. Despite his self-proclaimed disinterest in history, Lewis was intrigued by the markers and the way time has ravaged what must have once been a well-kept cemetery.



A work of art, a Woodmen of the World marker lies in the grass at the cemetery at Cliff, itself like a corpse. The marker identifies the grave of A.T. Parish, 1886-1910.



The scene carved at the top of the marker of Kizziah Matthews, 1830-1912, would seem to represent the Holy City Jerusalem, symbolic of Heaven. The marker now lies on the ground in the cemetery at Cliff, still attached to its base but toppled, presumably by the forces of nature.



The Latin phrase "dum tacet clamatur" is part of the design of a Woodmen of the World grave marker in the cemetery at Cliff. The stump is the symbol of a life cut short, fitting for the 26-year-old man buried in the grave. The phrase translates "though silent, he speaks."



Both prickly pear and irises grow at the cemetery at Cliff, where civilization is fading amid untamed vegetation. Holes in the ground are evidence that many creatures make their dens in the soft earth.

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