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# THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF ROBERT DILLARD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015

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Justin Josselet

## Josselet hired as new coach

MUNDAY — Justin Josselet has been hired as a new coach at Munday High School to replace Jenna Williams, who is moving to Hawaii in February after her husband got a job there.

Josselet, a 2003 graduate of MHS, will be handling junior high basketball and assisting Corey Stephenson with girls track in addition to being the head tennis coach.

"I'm happy to get back into coaching," Josselet said after he had served as an elementary school principal in Quanah from August to December.

Previously following graduation from the University of North Texas, he had coached at Mason, Muenster, Nazareth and Quanah.

## Frank wants fairness restored

AUSTIN — Rep. James Frank filed a bill last week aimed at equalizing funding for nine school districts, including ones in Knox City and Munday here in Knox County, across his district currently affected by a provision in the Texas Code.

Under the current law, school districts with fewer than 1,600 students and in less than 300-square miles receive less funds per student.

"There is little data to suggest the necessity in continuing with a two-tiered system," Frank said.

He added that there are three other similar bills under consideration and that he would work with those representatives to make sure the legislation has the best chance of passing.

If Frank's bill is approved, the Knox City-O'Brien Consolidated School District would receive an addition \$446,472 and the Munday Consolidated Independent School District an additional \$548,155.

## Jail escapee captured

BENJAMIN—Dameon Blake Cash escaped from the Knox County Jail here Saturday afternoon by scaling a fence while prisoners were out for recreation, but was captured less than five hours later. Escape charges have been filed against Cash.

A spokes person for Sheriff Dean Homstad indicated the surround agencies, including the Department of Public Safety and the Texas Department of Corrections, assisted in the capture

## Beef prices will stay up

LUBBOCK — The price of beef will remain high for a while as the drought conditions here in Texas and elsewhere in the country have reduced the nation's cattle supply to its lowest levels in 50 years.

"The current cattle industry and beef prices are driven by a historically tight supply of cattle total beef production," said Jason Slane of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association.

Gene Hall of the Texas Farm Bureau said prices should start going down eventually when ranchers recover from selling much of their herds during the height of the drought.

Demand for beef remains at an all-time high as Americans continue to be big consumers.

"The public will tell us when it's too expensive," Hall added.

## Supt. Dillard's contract extended two years

Special to the Courier

MUNDAY—The Munday Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees voted to extend Supt. Robert Dillard's contract for two years, from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017, at its regular monthly meeting here last Monday.

The meeting was moved from the board room to the cafeteria to accommodate all parties in attendance.

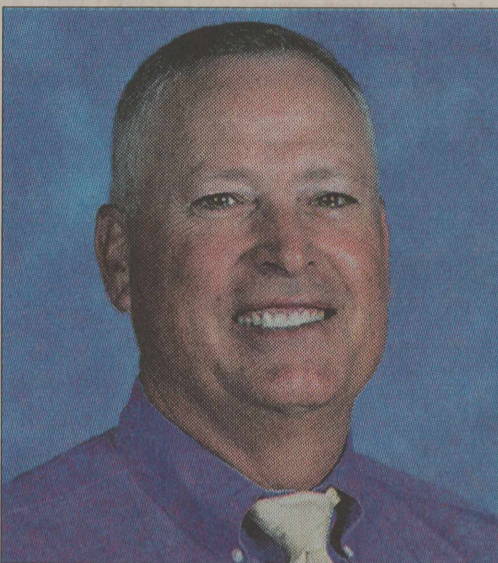
The new contract with two revisions was approved by a 4-1 vote with Nancy Birkenfeld casting the no vote.

Then by the same 4-1 vote with Jason Redwine in the minority, Dillard's base pay was set at \$107,000.

The trustees also approved the hiring of Justin Josselet as a teacher-coach for the remainder of the school year and the financial review presented by Dillard. In addition, they voted to nominate Jim Cowser as a replacement for new Judge Bobby Burnett on the Knox County Appraisal

District Board of Directors.

Other trustees at the meeting included Bill Longan, Sam Hunter and Rebecca Araujo. Missing were Todd and Tyler Thompson.



Robert Dillard

## Perry named chairman of Senate committee

LUBBOCK — Lt. Governor Dan Patrick selected Sen. Charles Perry to Chair the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water and Rural Affairs last week. Additionally, Perry was



Sen. Charles Perry

named a member of committees on Higher Education, Health and Human Services and Criminal Justice. "What a humbling honor to be appointed to a chairmanship my first session in the Texas Senate," said Sen. Charles Perry. "My position on this committee will

ensure a strong voice for the citizens in the 51 counties I represent in rural West Texas."

"Throughout my time in the Texas Legislature, I have made securing our future water needs a top priority," continued Perry. "I look forward to working with my fellow Senators to ensure Texas continues to address our water infrastructure so that our state's future remains strong and our agricultural needs are met."

A senator has not been granted a chairmanship his first session in the Senate since 1993. Earlier this week, Patrick realigned and consolidated committees, reducing the number of total committees by 22 percent.

"I look forward to working with my fellow Senators on the Higher Education, Health and Human Services, and Criminal Justice Committees," said Perry. "I am excited to continue working closely with Texas Tech Chancellor Robert Duncan in the area of higher education as I value his expertise and institutional knowledge in this area."

## More moisture coming our way



If the weather forecasters are correct, Knox County will be receiving more rain starting Friday and continuing into Sunday morning.

For those travelling to Lubbock, it might even turn into frozen mix Saturday night.

The USDA Plant Materials Center, northwest of Knox City, recorded .67 of an inch of rain and other places in the area reported up to an inch last week.

It was followed by another "January Thaw" with temperatures that reached into the 70s early in the week.

## Knox Notes

### Musical set Monday at Aging Center

KNOX CITY—A musical is planned from 7-9 p.m. Monday here at the Knox County Aging Center. Bring snacks or finger food. Donations accepted.

### Museum fundraiser set Feb. 8

BENJAMIN--The Wichita Brazos Museum's annual fund raising dinner

will be Sunday, Feb. 8 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. here at the Benjamin Memorial Building. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Ham, turkey, sausage, beans, coleslaw, potato salad and pies will be served. Take-outs will be available. The silent auction will close at 1:30 p.m. Door prizes will be given away. The remaining food will be available to purchase.

## Knox Calendar

Please notify the News-Courier to add or update your events and meeting times. Emailed submissions to kcnewscourier@gmail.com are preferred, but will also be accepted by phone at 940 422-5350. The deadline for inclusion in the next week's issue will be 5 p.m. on Fridays.

### Thursday, Jan. 29

Knox City JVG basketball at Hawley

Knox City JVB basketball at Guthrie Tournament

### Friday, Jan. 30

Benjamin VG, VB basketball vs. Harrold

Knox City VB basketball vs. Patton Springs

Munday VG, VB basketball at Crowell

### Saturday, Jan. 31

Knox City JVB basketball at Guthrie Tournament

### Monday, Feb. 2

Benjamin JHG, JHB basketball vs. Crowell

Munday JHG, JHB basketball vs. Northside

Musical at Knox County Aging Center, Knox City, 7-9 p.m.

### Tuesday, Feb. 3

Munday VG, VB basketball vs. Benjamin JVB

Knox City JVB, VG, VB basketball vs. Paducah

### Thursday, Feb. 5

O'Brien JH basketball vs. Guthrie, Knox City

### Friday, Feb. 6

Munday JVB basketball at Stamford

Munday JVG basketball at Knox City JVG

Benjamin VG, VB basketball vs. Northside

Knox City JVG, JVB, VG, VB vs. Motley County

Munday VG, VB at Chillicothe

### Sunday, Feb. 8

Knox County Wichita Brazos Museum fundraiser, 11-1:30

Please notify the News-Courier to add or update your events and meeting times. Emailed submissions to kcnewscourier@gmail.com are preferred, but items will also be accepted by phone at 940 422-5350. The deadline for inclusion in the next week's issue will be 5 p.m. on Fridays

### Tuesday Scores

Girls  
Spur 31, Knox City 26  
Munday 56, Harrold 8

Boys  
Munday 40, Harrold 26

## Corrections

In last week's story about Knox City basketball, the wrong district was mentioned. Knox City plays in District 7-1A, not 8-1A.

## News on the go



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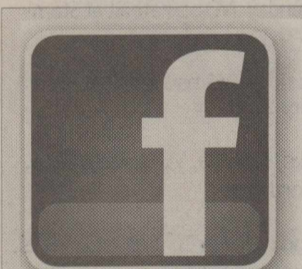
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The Knox County News-Courier

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## Deaths

### Frieda Koenig

Frieda Koenig, 102, passed away Jan. 22 in Wichita Falls. She was born Nov. 28, 1912 in Rhineland, to Joseph and Alice Koenig.

Rosary was held last Friday at the funeral home in Munday. Funeral Mass was held Saturday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rhineland. Interment followed in St. Joseph's Cem-

etry under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home.

Frieda helped organize Sacred Altar Society, Catholic Daughters of America and Jubilee Club. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Frieda was employed as a hostess in Fort Worth, Dallas and Wichita Falls for Sacred Heart. She volunteered for

her church in caring for shut-ins. She also worked at Interfaith Ministries Inc.

She was preceded in death by Geraldine Koenig, Dorothy Howard, Charles Koenig, Jerome Koenig, Arnold Koenig and her parents.

Frieda is survived by Leo Koenig, Mark Koenig, and Margret Dexheimer and several nieces and nephews.

## Knox County Aging Center

Monday February 2: Salisbury steak, yams, English peas, bread & cookies.

Tuesday February 3: Beef stew, corn bread, salad and cake.

Wednesday February 4: Meatballs w/ brown gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, cook-

ies.

Thursday February 5: Chicken fajitas, Spanish rice, salad, cake.

Friday February 6: Hot dogs, potato salad, pork & beans, dessert.

# Redder named to Dean's List

Special to News-Courier

STEPHENVILLE--Ryan Redder recently earned the honor of being placed on Tarleton's Scholastic Honors Dean's List for the Fall 2014 semester. The Scholastic Honors Dean's List is one of the highest honors Tarleton State University confers on its students.

This distinction is the university's way of honoring students on their academic

achievements and recognizing their importance on campus, while distinguishing them as an outstanding student committed to achieving excellence.

Ryan is a 2013 graduate of Munday High School and is majoring in Agricultural Services and Development.

He is the son of Rickey and Amy Redder of Munday and the grandson of Rhiney Redder of Munday and Joyce Greenwood of Goree.

# Pink Ladies feted at luncheon

Special to News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The staff of the Knox County Hospital Auxiliary, the Pink Ladies, were feted at a luncheon at the Turnrow Grill earlier this month.

The group of volunteers who operate the Pink Ladies Thrift Store live in Knox City, O'Brien, Munday, Rochester and Seymour.

They give hundreds of hours to help raised money for the hospital.

A survey of those in attendance revealed that 14 of 22 were wearing an item of clothing purchased at the store.

Billie Walker thanked all the donors and customers for making it possible for the Pink Ladies to offer monetary help to the hospital.

## Feral Hog Management Workshop set in Seymour

By Kay Ledbetter  
Special to News-Courier

SEYMOUR — A Feral Hog Management Workshop will be offered by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Baylor County on Jan. 29.

The meeting will begin with registration at 1 p.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. in the Cliff Styles Activity Center, 1205 Archer Road, Seymour.

There is no registration fee and those in attendance can earn three hours of Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator continuing education units — two general and one laws and regulations.

"Feral Hogs are a big financial concern for producers in Baylor County as they destroy crops and fencing every day," Shaw said. "This program should provide landowners with different avenues to help with the control of feral hogs within Baylor County as we have several speakers coming to discuss different management techniques."

Topics and speakers will be:

- Basic Biology of Feral Swine and Feral Hog Damage in Watersheds, Josh Helcel, AgriLife Extension wildlife associate, Gatesville.

- Progression of the Wildlife Industry from Survival to Sport and Profit, Ricky Linex, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources and Conservation Service wildlife biologist, Weatherford.

- Feral Hog Control, Bob Richardson, trapper from Stonewall County.

- Feral Hog Trap Demonstration, Don Gresham, Goin Fencing, Forestburg, and Helcel.

- Information about Helicopter Hog Hunts, Dustin Johnson, Cedar Ridge Aviation, Knox City.

Refreshments will be provided courtesy of Capital Farm Credit with door prizes for those in attendance.

## The Paperboy Ready made labor

One of the benefits to having strong, capable sons is the labor they provide.

Funny thing about children - they want things. They want various items and they want the freedom to play.

As an adult, and more importantly, their father, I have needs of my own.

This is clearly a case of supply and demand. I demand that work be done and they supply the labor. I'm only half kidding...

My sons are 9 and 11. If you have children or grandchildren, you know as well as I that boys and girls that age are capable of many chores. And the more they can do, the more jobs you place on them.

It seems like just a short time ago I was watching my oldest son struggle with lifting the trash bag into the dumpster. Now, he's picking up two or three bags at a time and throwing them in.

When my wife gets home from the grocery store and she needs the car unloaded, our little soldiers march quickly to get the job done.

They can vacuum and dust and are making pretty good hands at yard work.

Every Tuesday evening, the boys come up to the office to help unload newspapers. It gives them a chance to earn a few dollars and they enjoy the feeling of completing the job.

As a dad, it really warms my heart to see them develop a work ethic that will serve them for decades to come. They've always taken school pretty seriously, but they are learning the benefit of rolling up your sleeves and getting after it.

I think it's funny that sometimes when they have to work together, they get to bickering. It's usually because big brother doesn't think little brother is being productive enough. Big brother is usually right.

Last summer was the first summer that I had help mowing. That will become one of their main jobs this coming spring.

In the coming weeks we have some touching up to do around our house. The boys are going to have to scrape and prepare our fence for me to paint it. It's a big job and one that is not fun. I'm interested in how they will handle it.

When I was a boy we lived in a brick house. I remember my mom telling me I was going to help her paint it. You would have thought she shot me in the chest. How dare she interrupt my mornings of cartoons and Happy Days for hard work. Who was she to make me work for hours a day before baseball practice?

You know who she was? My mom and my boss. And those thoughts I had? Well, let's just say they stayed thoughts.

All these years later, painting that brick house with my mom is a pretty good memory. It took us several days to complete the job, but we worked side-by-side and talked the whole time.

Sometimes the work we have to do is not fun. But when you do it as a family, you can have a pretty good time doing it. Yes, sometimes they're going to moan and maybe groan, but stand firm. Hang a carrot out there for their effort. Read them some scripture about doing work.

I foresee increased labor and responsibility from my children. There is no end in sight for their wants and desires. And there is no shortage of jobs...

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Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of The Red River Sun, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, The Knox County News-Courier and The Post Dispatch. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @WCBlackburn, although he doesn't tweet much.

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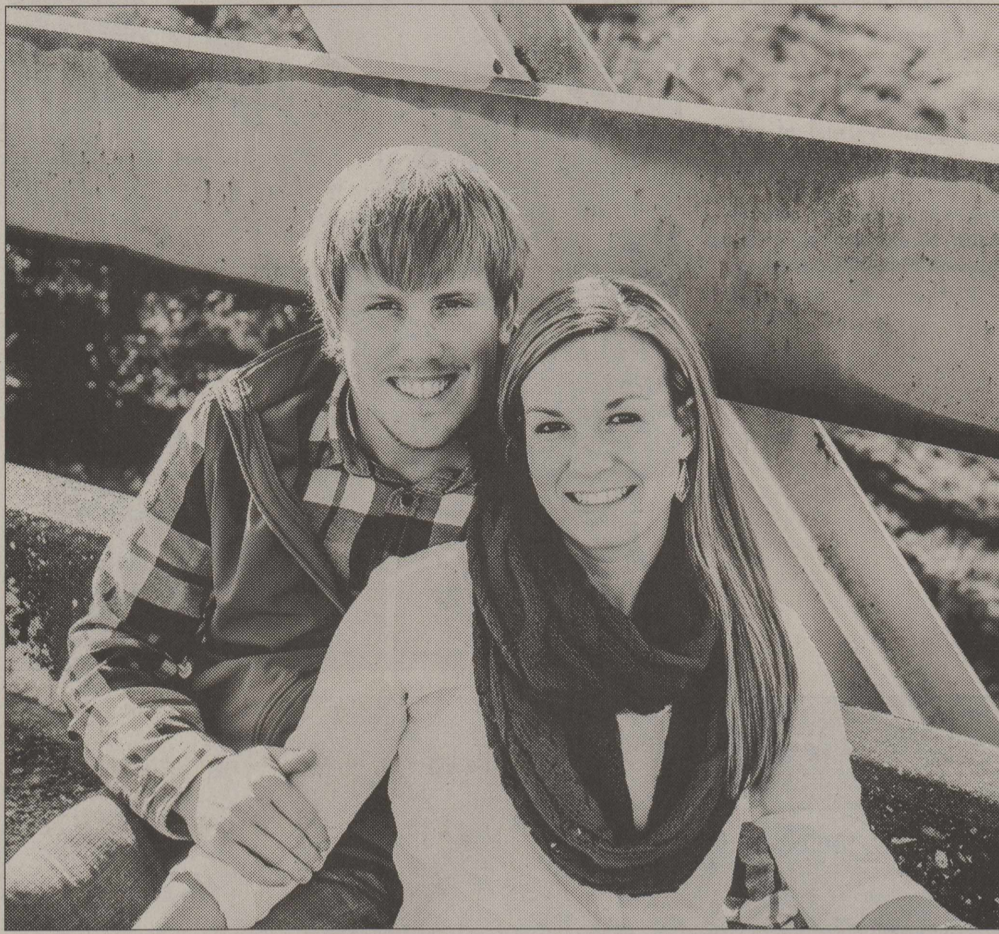
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## Portwood, Urbanczyk plan April wedding



Steven Urbanczyk and Skye Portwood

Mr. and Mrs. Harley Portwood of Seymour announce the engagement of their daughter, Skye Portwood, to Steven Urbanczyk, son of Mike Urbanczyk of Munday and the late Kerri Urbanczyk.

Skye, a graduate of Seymour High School and Tarleton State University, is employed as a teacher at Seymour ISD. Steven graduated from Munday High School and attended Texas Tech University. He

is involved in his family's farm and ranch operation, Baker/Urbanczyk Farms.

A wedding is planned for April 18, 2015, in Graham.

Skye is the granddaughter of Don Buckalew of Olney and the late JoAnn Buckalew and the late Johnny and Frances Palmer of Megargel. Steven is the grandson of Kenneth and Joy Baker and Buddy and Peggy Urbanczyk of Munday.

## The 501 'Left to right' bespeaks culture

If I were a cartoonist, I'd name my strip "Left to Right." Those words have a nice political ring. People might be drawn to look at my stuff to see which way my pen leans.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

The name came to me in a dream. (I'd been reading about cartoonists and Charlie Hebdo before I hit the hay.) But my title is apolitical -- a statement only as to which way to read my stuff, meaning the normal way, left to right.

Ah, but "Left to Right" bespeaks culture, first-cousin to politics. Think "Truth, Justice and the American Way." Didn't we learn in grade school that the Chinese read things backwards? Or did I dream that too.

GOOGLE PAUSE. Sure enough, it's a complex multi-directional worldwide scene if you look at all literate societies that currently exist plus a few that don't -- like the Umbrians and Etruscans, who wrote left to right. Plenty of people still do, including the Chinese. The good news is -- if you like uniformity -- everybody seems to agree that the top is where to begin. If the starting point is the upper right corner, from there you go either left or down to follow the text. No other choices. The same principle seems to apply to cartoons too. All clear?

Idea: Have you heard it's good to change the way you dress yourself in order to keep

your brain active? If you put your pants on one leg at a time -- which seems to be the norm for all cultures -- you're supposed to change from right-leg-first to left-leg-first, or vice-versa. You do whatever it takes to break your routine so as to develop some extra brain circuitry. Seems like that's how I heard it.

If the pant leg thing works, changing reading directions should be even better -- a real brain workout. Mine's getting tired just thinking about it. sdrawkcaB delleps eb ot evah dluow sdrow eht nevE

Whew! That was a workout! Spell-check thinks every word is wrong. Spell-check has a bias. So do I. Otherwise I wouldn't have said the Chinese read things backwards. It's like accusing the English of driving on the wrong side of the road. One person's wrong is another person's right, and one person's backwards is another person's go-ahead direction.

Hmmm. Maybe someone should establish an artificial get-away environment to help people exercise a fresh set of muscle groups in their brains to delay senility. The same destination point also could be marketed as a setting for participants to learn to identify with other cultures in the name of tolerance and understanding. Just mixing those two target groups might be an exercise in itself.

How would it work? The alphabet soup could be Cyrillic for all the non-Cyrillic attendees. Forks could be forced on the Asians. As for driving, all cars could be restricted to reverse to create an equal playing field, whatever the driver's preference. Best of all, the Chinese would have to learn to write the right way. So would the Americans.

## Veterans eligible for larger loans

AUSTIN — Texas veterans are now eligible for low-interest land loans up to \$125,000 — the maximum allowed by law. Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush increased the land loan limit in his first act as chairman of the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB). The previous land loan limit was \$100,000.

"Texas veterans have more than earned this benefit," said Bill McLemore, executive director of the VLB. "This will make it easier than ever for veterans to achieve the American Dream they fought and sacrificed so much for through their service."

Texas veteran benefits are already the best in the nation. To qualify for VLB benefits, veterans must be honorably discharged, have served at least 90 days on active duty and live in Texas.

"No other state can match what the

VLB offers: low-cost home, land and home improvement loans; skilled nursing long-term care facilities and cemeteries — all exclusively for Texas veterans or their spouses," McLemore said. "Additionally all of our programs are self-funding, which is good news for Texas taxpayers."

The cornerstone of Texas veteran benefits is the VLB's ability to offer below-market interest rate loans for land and home purchases, as well as for home improvements.

The VLB operates eight Texas State Veterans Homes that serve more than a thousand veterans and their families needing long-term, high-quality care. The VLB also provides free burial of veterans with full military honors at Texas State Veterans Cemeteries in Abilene, Corpus Christi, Killeen and Mission.

## EPA finalizes greenhouse gas permit

DALLAS — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final greenhouse gas (GHG) Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) construction permit to Tenaska Brownsville Partners L.P., to construct a natural gas-fired electric generating plant in Brownsville.

"Tenaska's project takes advantage of our clean-burning natural gas resources," said Regional Administrator Ron Curry. "The company has also demonstrated

stewardship of Texas' invaluable historic landmarks with considerations for Palo Alto Battlefield park."

Tenaska will construct natural gas-fired turbines connected to electric generators. Exhaust from the turbines will be recovered to power a steam-turbine generator. The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$500 million. Constructing the facility will create 600-700 temporary jobs, with 23 full-time jobs when the facility is operational.

## Donor program tops 7 million registrants

AUSTIN — In 2014 the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) recorded approximately 1.4 million new registrants to the Glenda P. Dawson Donate Life Texas Registry, boosting the total registry to more than seven million individuals. The registry is the state database of individuals who have officially indicated their decisions to donate organs and tissue to benefit thousands of people currently awaiting transplants.

"Since the program's inception, the DPS driver license system has played a critical role in the registry process, and DPS is proud to have helped millions of Texans join the Donate Life registry," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Every person who selflessly elects to register as a donor has the potential to save another individual's life."

"The Texas Department of Public Safety staff are essential to the Donate

Life Texas organ, eye and tissue donor registry. Of the seven million Texans now registered, 98 percent of them joined the registry by saying yes to donation while applying for a state ID or driver license," said Patricia Niles, Donate Life Texas Board Chair. "Those who register give the precious gift of hope to the thousands who await lifesaving transplants. I commend the DPS for helping to make donor registration in Texas convenient as well as heroic."

The 79th Texas Legislature created the registry in 2005, and in recent years, legislation has helped streamline the registration process, and additional DPS training has helped increase participation. Since the creation of the registry, more than 6.8 million DPS customers have chosen to become possible donors during the driver license and identification card application, renewal and duplicate processes.



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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary F. Cartwright, Deceased, were issued on January 21, 2014, under Cause No. 2606, pending in the County Court of Knox County, Texas, to Louis A. Cartwright.

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.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Independent Executor, addressed as follows:

Louis A. Cartwright, Independent Executor  
Estate of Mary F. Cartwright, Deceased  
c/o Hilgers & Langham, PC  
9501 N. Capital of Texas Hwy.  
Suite 202  
Austin, Texas 78759

Dated January 23, 2015.

/s/ Wayne A. Langham,  
Attorney for Independent Executor



# Houndettes improve 7-1A record to 3-2



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier  
**Jordyn Eaton connects for points against Motley County.**



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier  
**Ryan Heard makes a layup against Motley County.**



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier  
**Amy Harrington makes layup against Motley County.**



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier  
**Krys Campos battles for rebound against Motley County**

## Greyhounds share second in 7-1A

Special to the News-Courier

KNOX CITY — At the halfway point in the District 7-1A boys basketball race, Knox City were tied for second place with Guthrie and in the running for the playoffs with a 3-2 record. However, Motley County and Spur are both only a game back and still in the running for one of top three spots. The Paducah Dragons set the pace at 5-0.

The Greyhounds suffered a 61-50 loss to Guthrie at home on Tuesday night. The Hounds enjoyed a 17-15 lead after the first quarter, but the Jaquars pulled away to 32-24 and 50-37 leads after the end of the next two quarters, finishing with 8 of 17 from three-point range as compared to 2 of 10 for the Hounds. Ryan Heard and Elias Nevarez led scoring with 12 points each.

"We came out well, but couldn't keep up

our intensity or effort," said Coach Josh Webb. "We played sloppy on offense and lazy on defense and that led to a well-coached team beating us."

However, things were different last Friday night as the Hounds rebounded for an important 52-48 road victory over Motley County. Heard and Skylar Neil led the offensive effort with 15 and 14 points, respectively. One of the keys to victory was a 26-14 edge on the defensive boards.

"We again came out with good intensity and maintained it through most of the game," Webb said. "Motley never gave up and made us work for everything. They kept it close the entire game and we could never make a run on them. They are a good team and we were fortunate to get a win on the road."

The Greyhounds were scheduled to play Spur on the road Tuesday night and then entertain Patton Springs Friday night.

Special to the News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The Knox City Houndettes grabbed a pair of wins last week to improve their District 7-1A record to 3-2 at the halfway point, good for third place behind Paducah and Spur.

First, the Houndettes used a stifling defense and good execution on offense for a 47-18 victory over Guthrie. Makaylie Steele led the way with 18 points, adding seven rebounds and three steals. Brooke Jones added 12 points.

On Friday, the Houndettes had their first true road game, traveling to Motley County. The game was a battle from the start as both teams played physical and

tough. The Houndettes escaped with a 45-43 win.

"Everyone on the team contributed in the win," said Coach Dylan Ballard. "These are the types of games you want to be in as a coach and as a player, they are fun."

Steele again led the scoring effort with 18 points, but got plenty of support from five others, allowing Knox City to escape with an important road win in the Houndettes' effort to make the playoffs.

In the junior varsity game, Knox City prevailed, 36-31.

The Houndettes faced Spur on Tuesday and then are off on Friday since Patton Springs did not field a team this year.

## KNOX CITY YOUTH SUPPORTERS

<p><b>Basic Energy Service</b>                  100 N. Birch                  940-658-3990</p>	<p><b>Mi Familia</b>                  502 S. Ave. F                  Knox City                  940-658-3769</p>	<p><b>Lawrence Brothers</b>                  206 E. Main                  Knox City                  940-658-3714</p>	<p><b>Advertise your business here!</b>                  Show your support for the Knox City Greyhounds and Houndettes!</p>		
<p><b>Five Star Construction</b>                  (940) 657-4777                  (940) 657-3483</p>	<p><b>Lynn Electric Motor CO., INC.</b>                  1011 Main St. • (940) 658-3511  <b>Scott Lynn</b>                  TECL #18951/58587KPT</p>	<p><b>Bill Stewart Insurance Services</b>                  O (940) 658-3211                  M (940)-256-2394                  700 E. Main Street</p>	<p><b>Peppers Dry Goods</b>                  Knox City, TX                  940-657-4406</p>	<p><b>Main Street Plumbing &amp; Repair</b>                  911 W. Main                  940-658-3341</p>	<p><b>PBH Oilfield Supply</b>                  (940) 658-3559</p>
<p><b>Jeremy Eaton Equipment Services</b></p>	<p><b>Pumpers Supply &amp; Equipment</b>                  658-3260</p>	<p><b>Abundant Life Christian Fellowship</b>                  Knox City, TX</p>	<p><b>Skyrey Oilfield &amp; Construction</b>                  307 South Central                  940-256-0058</p>	<p><b>Penman Services LTD</b>                  658-3513</p>	<p><b>Knox County Hospital</b>                  (940) 657-3535 or                  (940) 657-5521</p>



# Mogulettes pace 8-1A with perfect 5-0 mark

MUNDAY—The Munday Mogulettes start the second half of District 8-1A in the lead with a 5-0 record after convincing 66-7 and 55-27 victories over Chillicothe and Northside.

The Mogulettes held the Lady Eagles scoreless in the second half on Tuesday after opening a 28-7 halftime lead. Raci Dillard led scoring with 28 points while Myca Flowers added 11.

The Mogulettes got balanced scoring against Northside as Dillard scored 11 while Kimberly Shahan and Kathryn Cude added 10 each.

“We’re clicking at the right time,” Coach Corey Stephenson said. “We’re

playing really well defensively and playing like a team, moving the ball around better on offense.”

Munday ranked No. 1 in defense in the Wichita Falls area, allowing only 29 points a game.

The Mogulettes were scheduled to host Harrold Tuesday night and then travel to Crowell on Friday to play the second-place Lady Wildcats, who are 4-1 after a forfeit over Benjamin last Friday.

Chillicothe edged Harrold, 27-26, on Friday to improve to 2-3, a game behind Northside. Harrold and Benjamin finished first half play at 1-4 and 0-5, respectively.



Zane Messer for The Knox County News-Courier  
**Anna Vega takes ball away from Northside player.**



Zane Messer for The Knox County News-Courier  
**Myca Flowers connects from outside against Northside**



Zane Messer for The Knox County News-Courier  
**Munday's Alfonso Nunez dribbles past Northside defender.**



Zane Messer for The Knox County News-Courier  
**Munday's Day'veon Dockins makes layup against**

## Moguls in second place after convincing wins

MUNDAY—Peaking at just the right time in their playoff run, the Munday Moguls scored a pair of convincing wins over Chillicothe, 50-34, and Northside, 65-29, last week to take over second place in District 8-1A with a 3-1 record.

The Moguls will get a chance to avenge an earlier setback to district leader Crowell on the road Friday. “We just have to do better this time,” Coach Greg Clark said about the showdown battle.

“We’re definitely getting better, playing with a purpose,” Clark added, pointing out that the

Moguls were taking better care of the ball and improving on the boards.

He noted that the Moguls didn’t come out of the longer football season at full strength because of injuries that took some time to heal. “I’m really pleased with the boys now,” he added.

Temerick Reagins led scoring against Chillicothe with 12 points while Day'veon Dockins and Heath Blevins each contributed 10 points.

Against Northside, Reagins and Heath Blevins led scoring with 14 and 10, respectively.

# MUNDAY YOUTH SUPPORTERS

<p>Kandis Stephenson, Owner 940.422.8600</p> <p><b>Casablanca</b> boutique shopcasablancaboutique.com 110 W. Main Street Munday, TX 76371</p>	<p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE!</p>	<p>Knox County Hospital District Your Hometown Healthcare Team</p> <p><b>Knox County Home Care</b> 940-657-3013</p>	<p><b>RAS Trucking</b> 422-4501</p>	<p><b>Booe ROOFING</b> 940-422-4500</p>	<p><b>PENMAN Knox City</b> 658-3513</p>
<p><b>Munday Tire &amp; Appliance</b> <b>Shahan Bros.</b> 940-422-4821</p>	<p><b>Buds For You</b> 422-4712 Furniture &amp; Decor at Bud's #2 on Main</p>	<p><b>Jim Cowsert Farm and Ranch Appraisals</b> 940-256-0708</p>	<p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE!</p>	<p><b>PETTY FLYING SERVICE</b> 800-687-3327 • www.pettyflying.com</p>	<p><b>First Bank Texas</b> Munday Office 111 South Munday Ave. • (940) 422-4522 Equal Housing LENDER</p>
<p>Knox County Hospital District Your Hometown Healthcare Team</p> <p><b>Munday Clinic</b> 940-422-5271</p>	<p><b>QUALITY IMPLEMENT CO.</b> 940-422-4534</p>	<p>Knox County Hospital District Your Hometown Healthcare Team</p> <p><b>Munday Nursing Center</b> 940-422-4541</p>	<p><b>CHARLES BAKER INSURANCE</b> 422-4722 Agent: Jan Searcey, CIC</p>	<p><b>CAPITAL FARM CREDIT FCS</b> 940-422-4323</p>	<p>Knox County Hospital District Your Hometown Healthcare Team</p> <p><b>Knox County EMS - Munday Station</b> 940-422-4400</p>
<p><b>Glenn Herring INSURANCE AGENCY</b> 940-422-4359</p> <p><b>Germania INSURANCE</b></p>	<p><b>LAWRENCE BROTHERS SUPERMARKETS</b> 940-422-4133</p>	<p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE!</p>	<p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE!</p>	<p><b>Messer Photography</b></p>	<p><b>A+ AUTO &amp; FARM SUPPLY</b> PARTS &amp; PLUS 940-422-4400</p>



# Mustangs winless in District 8-1A play

Special to the News-Courier

**BENJAMIN**—The Benjamin Mustangs suffered a pair of setbacks last week, falling 74-54 to Northside and 72-50 to Crowell. The losses left the young Mustangs at 0-4 and in last place in District 8-1A with not any real hope of making the playoffs this season.

Coach Jacob Navarro indicated he was pleased with the way the Mustangs' offense has improved. "It's definitely coming around, but we've got to work more on defense," he said.

Justin Rainwater and Caleb Barrientez

led scoring in the Northside game with 20 and 14 points, respectively. The pair added 17 and 15 against the district-leading Crowell Wildcats while Joseph Macius added 15.

Navarro added that the young Mustangs team made up of underclassmen are gaining valuable experience playing a tough schedule this season. "That's how you get better," he said.

Crowell sets the district pace with a 4-0 record, a game ahead of Munday, while Harrold and Chillicothe are tied for third at 2-2 after the Eagles beat the Hornets, 81-70, in two overtimes last Friday night.

# Stangs return to cage court

Special to the News-Courier

**BENJAMIN**—The Benjamin girls basketball team was scheduled to return to the basketball court with enough players this week after having to forfeit games to Northside and Crowell last week, falling to 0-5 in District 8-1A.

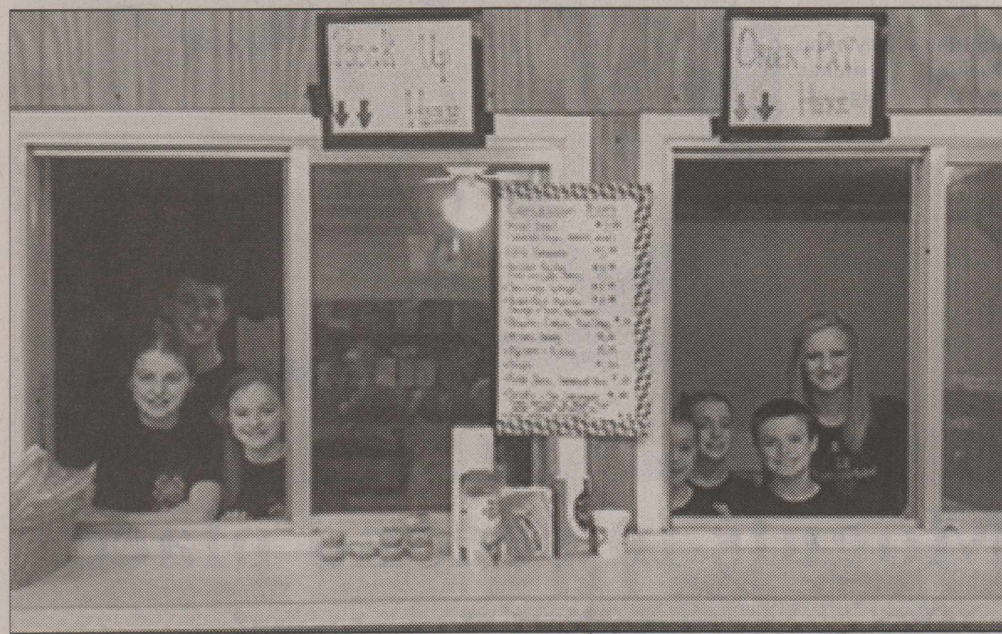
Coach Jacob Navarro reported that lead-

ing scorer Emily Brown was scheduled to be back in action after being sidelined with an injury. In addition he will have a new player eligible in Cori Everson.

The Stangs were scheduled to play Chillicothe (2-3) and Harrold (1-4) this week.

Munday leads the district with a 5-0 record, a game ahead of Crowell and two games ahead of Northside.

# 4-H Club earns \$ at stock show



Knox 4-H members in concession stand.

Courtesy photo for The Knox County News-Courier

During the Knox County 4-H January meeting, members had an in service program on how to run and manage a concession stand in preparation for the Knox County livestock show.

4-H members and parents manned the concession stand on Friday and Saturday during the livestock show as a fundraiser for the club. We worked hard and had lots

of fun. Thank you to everyone who supported us!

Congratulations to all the 4-Hers who showed animals at the livestock show and for all of their hard work!

If you are interested in or have questions about our 4-H club, please contact the Knox County Extension Office at 940-459-2651 **Corrie Earthman**.

# Signs of the times

Special to the News-Courier

**Billboard on the side of the road:** Keep your eyes on the road and stop reading these signs.

**Sign at church:** To remove worry wrinkles, get your faith lifted.

**Maternity shop:** We are open on Labor Day.

**Butcher shop:** Let me meet your needs.

**Department store:** Bargain basement upstairs.

**Dentist office:** Be true to your teeth or they will be false to you.

**Car lot:** Best way to get on your feet is to miss a car payment.

**Beauty shop:** Dye now.

# Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

**T**hese Monday mornings come around pretty quickly. Some are fairly good news days—others not so good. I do have a little to report this week. We certainly have enjoyed this weather the past few days and hope the pleasant temps "hang around" for a little while.

Not much change concerning our ill friends today. Latest news on Valerie Mendoza is that she is more or less "holding her own." She's off the respirator and has had several surgeries, which have all been successful. More will follow within the next few days. I talked to her mom, Lana, on Saturday, and she's encouraged regarding her progress. And she and the rest of the family are so very grateful for all the prayers said for them as well as all the other expressions of kindness that have come their way during this time.

My great grandson Dillon Keys of Munday was scheduled to have a procedure Wednesday in Wichita Falls to check his kidneys and bladder. His bladder surgery has not been scheduled, but hopefully this test will help doctors determine what will be done next.

Sympathy this week to the Jimmy McNulty family of Knox City. Jimmy passed away on Friday night, and his services will be tomorrow (Tuesday) in Knox City with burial here in Benjamin. His wife is former Shirley Pierce, and his parents-in-law were the late P. H. and Goldie Pierce of Benjamin.

Also sympathy to the Koenig family in Munday for the loss of their loved one last week.

Here 'N There

Ronald and Verna Griffith, who live in Minnesota, were here this weekend. They had been to Seagraves and Abilene and were going on to South Texas to spend some time at his brother's (Marty) ranch. They said they would be back here in five or six weeks to spend some time before returning home.

Michael and Lynn Rogers and little girls, Kaylie and Madalyn, of Snyder spent the weekend with her parents, Mike and Debi Moorhouse.

Last week the "Women of Benjamin" (which is a group of local ladies who meet once a month for fellowship and to share each other's joys and concerns and just have a fun evening) met at Turnrow Grill in Knox City for our belated Christmas get together. Illnesses and other unavoidable happenings kept us from getting together until then. We had a good time and a wonderful meal. We will meet again on Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Baptist Parsonage, and we invite any and all ladies of the community to be there. And I might add, we do not limit the attendance to Benjamin women. Anyone from anywhere is welcome. The more the merrier! Those enjoying the meal in Knox City were Mary Jane Young, Pam Duke, Jess Jones, Imagean Young, Betty Bohannon, Nancy McGreger, Jessica Watson, Jill Jackson, Barbara Ryder, Susan Jones, Linda Griffith, and Gladene Green, and one guest, Leddy Brumley.

**A1005**

**Notices of Non-discrimination**

**Notice #1**  
Note: Grant Recipients are required to publish this notice in a newspaper of general circulation in their community.

**Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Status**  
 The City of Knox City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or employment in, its program or activities. The EEO officer has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

**Notice #2**  
**Equal Employment Opportunity Statement**  
 The City of Knox City does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The City of Knox City has adopted complaint and grievance procedures regarding its Texas Community Development Block Grant Programs. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if s/he wishes to file a written complaint about proposed TxCDBG activities. The City will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within ten (10) working days. Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures at the City Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling EEO officer at City Hall

**A1005**

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# BENJAMIN YOUTH SUPPORTERS

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ranchland</b></p> <p>102 E. Hays St. Benjamin, TX 940-454-2323</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Circle Bar Ranch</b></p> <p>Jerry Bob and Eugenie Daniel Truscott, Tx.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Santa Fe on the Brazos</b></p> <p>940-454-2057 109 E Hayes Benjamin, Tx. 79505</p>
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## Munday CISD 3rd Six Weeks Honor Roll

### A Honor Roll

**1st Grade**-Caroline Alvarado, Kameron Arismendez, Lily Arismendez, Haiden Bowman, Chandlyr Clark, Kylen Crawford, Elijah Estrada, LJ Garcia, Aaliyah Gonzalez, Taylor Herring, Amrie Loftin, Jelani Lopez, Kanyn Mauldin, Ambrey Myers, Trevor Thompson, Hunter Urbanczyk, Jariyis

### Williams.

**2nd Grade**-Desiree Carrasco, Mackinzi Castille, Ann'Elyse Clark, Talan Collins, Cambell Corcoran, Eryn Cottingham, Alexis Garcia, Kierslynn Myers, Landri McCombs, Trey Wilson.

**3rd Grade**-Melissa Carmona, Kyson Latham, Luis

Marmolejo, Kayton Shahan, D'Keydren Toliver.

**4th Grade**-Jaxon Bowman, Conner Moore, Stephanie Scott.

**5th Grade**-Karley Myers, Justin Tidwell, Allie Willison.

**6th Grade**-Macy Flowers, Destyn Mauldin, Claire

Redwine, Carlie Willison.

### A-B Honor Roll

**1st Grade**-Grant Bonham, Raina Brown, Kinslee Carver, Marina Davila, Abri Diaz, Brandon Henderson, Ericka Hernandez, Luke Latham, David Walker, Termane Wilson.

**2nd Grade**-Itxel Davila, AJ

Diaz, Evelyn Garcia, Baleria Gonzalez, Bayley Lyles, Zenaida Nunez, Rolando Perez, Mance Phillips, Aaron Quintero, Jacob Ramos.

**3rd Grade**-Raehanna Hardeeman, Caramy Ledezma, Daniela Nunez, Brooklyn Rodriguez.

**4th Grade**-Dustin Cottingham, Noah Lyles, Diana

Marmolejo, Cheney Thompson, Aleeya Urbanczyk.

**5th Grade**-Leisa Beauchamp, Joe Jasso, Manny Nunez, Corbin Rogers, Julie Valk.

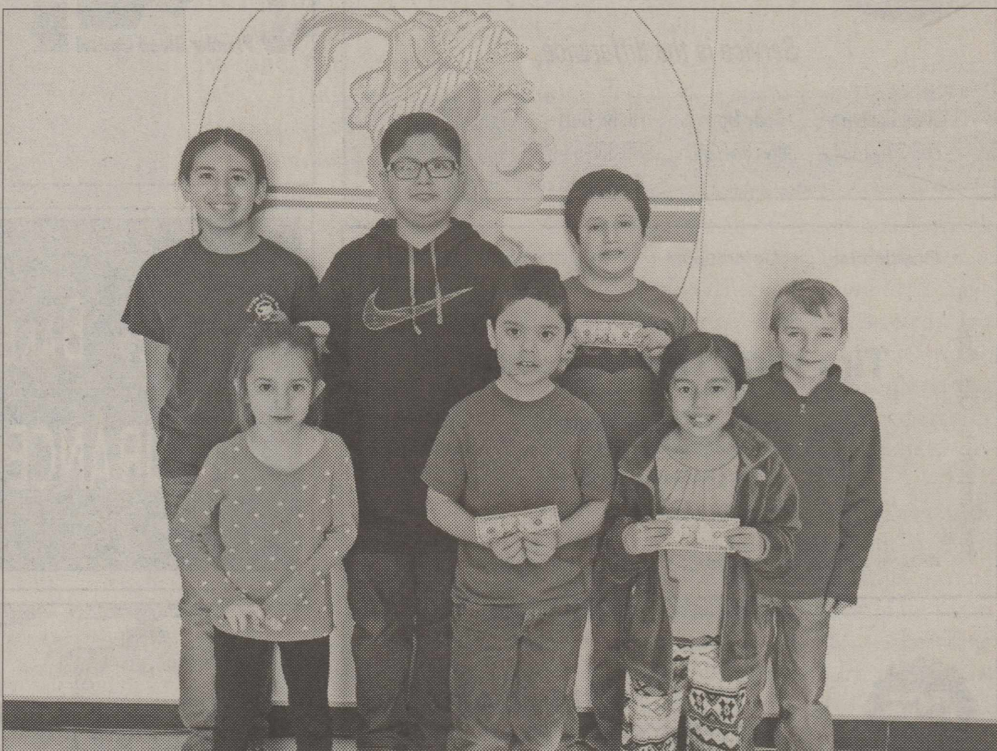
**6th Grade**-Kelton Carver, Ashley Castorena, Chris Dennis, Jonah Hernandez, Kassandra Reyes, Trinity Rodriguez, Ashia Swearengin.

## Advance reading winners



Winners of advance reading awards at Munday Elementary shown (l-r) are Grant Bonham, Noah Lyles, Alondra Gonzalez, Karley Myers and Kamryn Rocha.

## Perfect attendance



Students at Munday Elementary with perfect attendance are shown here (l to r): Olivia Myers, Thomas Castorena, Brooklyn Rodriguez, Trinity Rodriguez, Manny Nunez, Caleb Quintana and Haiden Bowman. Not pictured is Kinley Rocha.

## USDA creates more bird habitat opportunities

WASHINGTON - U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini announced earlier this week that the Conservation Reserve Program now will encourage more bird habitats to be established in irrigated farmland regions.

Declines in upland bird populations, such as the northern bobwhite, pheasant, and prairie chicken, led to the creation of new Conservation Reserve Program features to help restore habitats for these species in these agricultural areas. Since the program's creation in 2004, more than 240,000 acres of marginal cropland has been converted to native grasslands, spurring an increase in upland bird populations.

In recent years, however, applications for this type of habitat creation have slowed. To encourage more participation, USDA's new policy focuses on farmland with center-pivot irrigation systems where there are circular areas of cropland with patches of land beyond the reach of irrigation. Until now, these patches - known as pivot corners - were only eligible for habitat creation when connected by a linear strip of grassland also enrolled in the program. The new policy allows producers interested in habitat creation to use disconnected pivot corners to help increase the population of upland birds.

"This is how creative thinking can strengthen the intersection of both agriculture and conservation," said Dolcini. "By removing the program's requirement for connecting strips, we believe more participants will convert more pivot corners into habitat. Studies suggest that the shapes of these patches, and their proximity to each other, create an attractive environment for the birds, even without the connecting strips."

Other species that can benefit from today's change include the mourning dove, wild turkey, several spar-

rows, meadowlark and bobolinks.

The Conservation Reserve Program is a voluntary program. FSA contracts with agricultural landowners so that environmentally sensitive land is not farmed but instead used for conservation. Participants establish long-term plant species that control soil erosion, sequester carbon, improve water quality, and strengthen declining wildlife populations. In return, participants receive annual rental payments between 10 and 15 years.

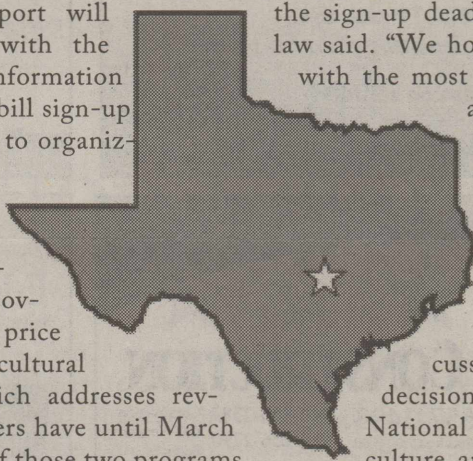
## Texas Ag Forum set Feb. 20 in Austin

AUSTIN - The 2015 Texas Ag Forum scheduled Feb. 20 at the Hilton Austin Airport will provide producers with the most up-to-date information possible about farm bill sign-up decisions, according to organizers.

The 2014 farm bill introduced two new safety net programs: Price Loss Coverage, which offsets price shortfalls, and Agricultural Risk Coverage, which addresses revenue declines. Farmers have until March 31 to decide which of those two programs is best for their operation, said Dr. Joe Outlaw, co-director of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economist.

"We decided to hold the 2015 Texas Ag Forum in late February to get as close to the sign-up deadline as practical," Outlaw said. "We hope to provide producers with the most up-to-date information available."

The forum will feature presentations from policy makers, university experts and farm group representatives. The 2014 farm bill programs will be discussed as well as web-based decision aids developed by the National Association for Agriculture and Food Policy - a coalition co-led by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University and the Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri-Columbia.



220 South 5th Ave.  
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Pastor Shane Kendrix

### Service Times:

**Sunday**  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

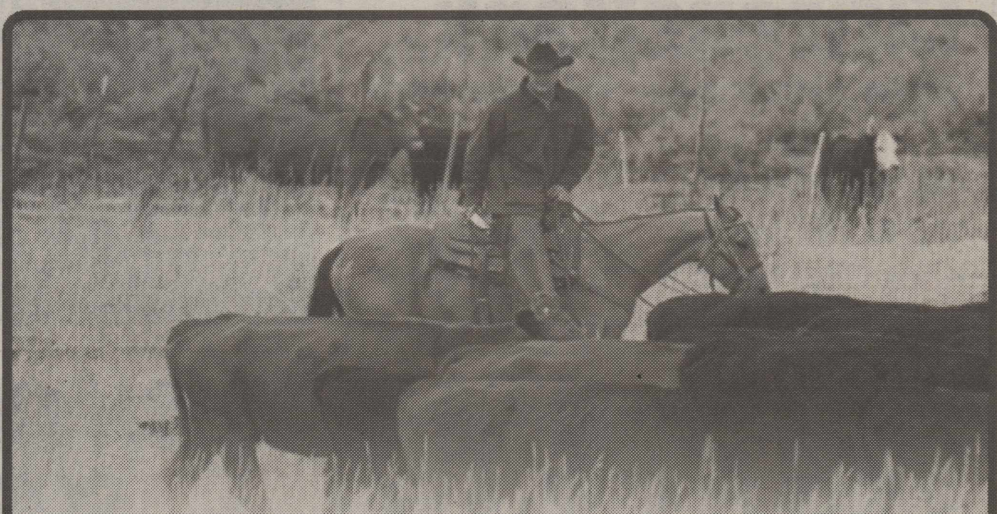
**Wednesday**  
Awanas, Pre-K to 6th grade:  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Youth: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Hunt Oil Company, 1900 North Akard Street, Dallas, Texas 75201-2300 has applied to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Strawn (Twin Peaks, Strawn Lower and Strawn 5400') formations in the S. B. Burnett Estate Lease Well Nos. Q316, Y-11AR and Y-95A. The proposed injection wells are located 17 to 18 miles southeast of Guthrie, Texas in the Anne Tandy (Strawn) Field, King County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 5050' to 5650'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the 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, 78711-2967. (Telephone 512/463-6792)



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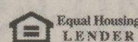
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## Mac's Views

## 'Disneyland for Golf Nuts'

When I first started going to the PGA Merchandise Show back in 1974, the vendors showed their wares in tents in a parking lot. It's a lot different now as I reflect back on the last decade, including last week's big show.



JAMES  
MCAFEE

It's now held in the Orange County Convention Center and is sometimes called "The Major of the Golf Business" or even "Disneyland for Golf Nuts." It's a gathering of everyone who is anyone in the golf industry and those who want to be included in the future. More than 1,000 companies and brands, including 200 new ones, showcased their products and services over six miles—that's correct—of aisles for a record attendance of 41,000, most of them coming the first two days.

I didn't get the chance to see as much as I have in the past as I was doing some public relations work for TPK Golf, but I did attend an interesting luncheon by Golf Digest that painted an optimistic outlook on the game, contrary to what is heard from some national media sources.

I didn't have time to play, but did venture to the About Golf simulator and got a chance to play one of the imaginary "Infamous 18 Holes" with my cousin. It was Big Sur, requiring a 175-yard layup to a narrow fairway with waves sometimes leaping onto the fairway. Eldon's shot bounced off a rock and back into the fair-

way. Mine missed the rock and ended up in the ocean. The final result was an 8 for me and a 5 for Eldon. Needless to say, the course record for the course was reportedly 85. On another simulator closest to the pin contest, I hit a 165-yard shot to 27 feet for fifth place among the media.

As usual, I did get to renew acquaintances with many fellow golf writers and even ran into two young golf professionals from Costa Rica, who remembered me from my time there and a visit in 2013. "Our home is your home," one of them said. "Come back down anytime." Be careful with such an invite, I might just accept.

There's also a preliminary outside demo day before the start of the big show. More than 7,000 PGA golf professionals got a chance to actually test products at the Orange County National Golf Center and Lodge's range, the largest I've ever seen. "Hitting clubs and seeing ball flight is the only way to truly test equipment, and every equipment maker is here to answer all of my questions," was the comment I heard from many of the pros.

Getting ready to return home, I did experience a bad toothache. Thank goodness, I took some Orajel along with me on the advice of my wife.

After returning home, I was reading the newspaper, all dressed for church, when I experienced one of my attacks of a urinary infection that sent me straight back to bed. Plenty of cranberry juice and two days of medication allowed me to get to the office and get out this issue. So I'll cut this time with you a little short this week.

## Great turnout for Leija benefit



A benefit luncheon for Robin Leija drew 605 people at the Munday High School Cafeteria Sunday. Tickets for the fried chicken meal sold for \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

## Tales from the Good Ol' Days

## A wartime bride for a young soldier

By Walter Hertel

I first noticed a pretty young girl named Peggy back in 1942 and 1943 when she was a junior and senior at Benjamin High School. It was during her senior year that I was drafted into the U.S. Army, being stationed in Fort Sill in Oklahoma, Camp Roberts in California and Camp Carson in Colorado.

I remember writing a letter to my future father-in-law, saying: "Your daughter and I are in love. We want to marry. Please let her come to Colorado." His reply was a firm, "no way."

When I got an unexpected furlough about a month later, I got a ride back home and surprised Peggy. After some hugs and kisses, we ventured out to Vera to see her dad. He was on a motor grader. I said, "Walter, your daughter and I want to get married." This

time the answer was "yes."

Things happen fast in wartime. We got our marriage license and were married. We headed to Colorado in our '35 Ford. Peggy rented a room from an elderly lady in Colorado Springs and I returned to Camp Carson. I only had a limited time to spend with Peggy, just a snip of girl as pretty, lovely and sweet as a 17-year-old girl could be. We moved to Austin, South Carolina and Muskogee, OK before I had to say goodbye to Peggy and head overseas to serve in England, France and Germany during World War II.

After serving two years, three months and 17 days—yes I was counting the days—I returned home to Benjamin to a tearful welcome by Peggy, both sets of parents and many friends.

We have been married now for 70+ years and she is still the joy and love of my life. I thank God for her every day.

## Weather Whys?

## 'January Thaw' not end of winter

This time of year, you hear about the "January Thaw." What is it?

It's a term that at one time was only considered folklore, but now we know there is some factual evidence to support it, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "The 'January Thaw' refers to the period that often occurs around mid-January when cold temperatures take a break, and it is warm over much of the United States," he explains. "This is often especially true in the upper Midwest and the Northeast, when snow is on the ground from very cold temperatures in the early part of January. Dips in the jet stream and other factors make mid-January a prime time for milder, and sometimes, way above normal temperatures, hence there is a 'thaw' that occurs over much of the country."

How long does the thaw last?

A: Not very long, McRoberts adds. "The typical January Thaw will only last a week or so, and then it's right back to the cold temperatures," he notes. "That's because cold air masses—some of them arctic—are frequently pushing southward this time of year. We know that on average, Jan. 23 is typically one of the coldest days of the year, and the thaw often happens right around or after that day. This does not mean that all of the ice and snow are melted during the thaw, but very often there are temperatures 10 to 15 degrees above normal. And it's true that a January Thaw does not happen every year, but it does happen at least 50 percent of the time in each decade, so a lot of people look forward to it."

## USDA Disaster Assistance Deadline Friday

For The New-Courier

Livestock producers are reminded that the Jan. 30, 2015, deadline to request assistance for losses suffered from Oct. 1, 2011 through Dec. 31, 2014, is fast approaching.

Applications for the Livestock Indemnity Program and the Livestock Forage Disaster Program, restored by the 2014 Farm Bill resumed in April 2014, after having expired on Sept. 30, 2011. To date, more than 556,000 applications have been approved to assist farmers and ranchers in recovering from nearly three years of natural disasters.

The Livestock Indemnity Program provides financial assistance to eligible producers for livestock deaths. Losses can be caused by adverse weather, extreme temperatures, disease, or wildfires, or due to attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected

by federal law, including wolves and avian predators.

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program provides compensation to livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire. Qualifying droughts are based on U.S. Drought Monitor severity ratings, and qualifying fires are those occurring on rangeland managed by a federal agency and normally permitted for grazing.

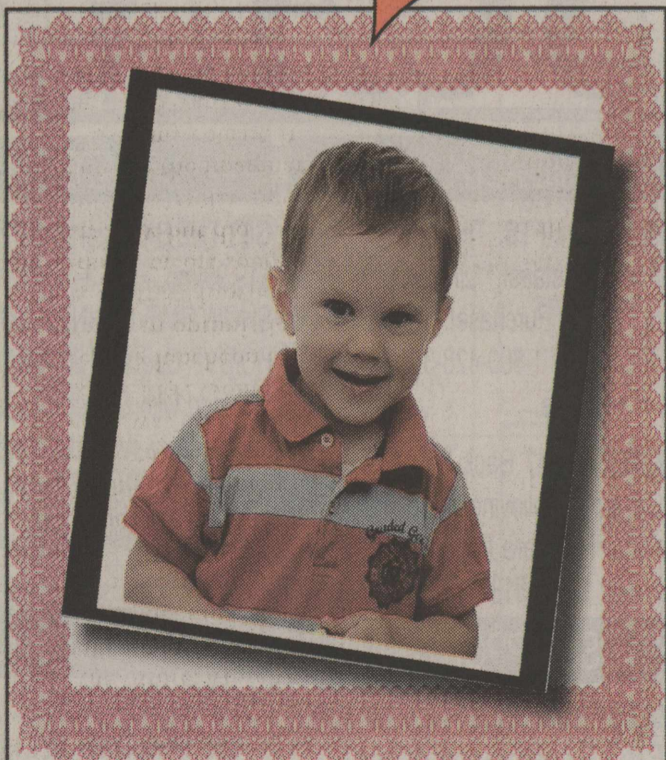
Local FSA county offices can provide additional information on the types of records producers will need to apply for assistance. Producers are encouraged to contact their county office ahead of time to schedule an appointment. Producers who already have appointments don't need to take any additional action to meet the deadline. FSA offices can be found at [offices.usda.gov](http://offices.usda.gov). To learn more about these FSA disaster programs, visit [disaster.fsa.usda.gov](http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov).

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