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KNOX COUNTY DISTRICT  
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# Happy New Year! THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF W. BELLINGHAUSEN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2015

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## Some Texans can carry guns openly

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN — Effective tomorrow on Jan. 1, licensed Texans will be free to walk the streets, or travel the state, openly wearing their holstered handguns for the first time in more than a century.

Texas has 914,000 concealed license holders, meaning they are at least 21, have

a clear criminal record, no record of mental illness, have completed a training course and have passed a shooting test.

Lawmakers in Texas first restricted the carrying of pistols in public in 181. That law didn't change until 1995, when lawmakers allowed the concealed carry of handguns.

The relaxed rule passed only after police groups defeated a provision that would have

sought to ban law enforcement from asking residents if they had the proper license.

However, from all indications, law officials are saying they will not demand to see a license if they have no other reason to stop someone carrying a gun openly.

Of course, not doing so could also make it easier for unlicensed residents to take advantage of the don't ask movement.

Local law enforcement agencies have been training dispatchers to tell 911 callers that it's now legal to carry a handgun openly.

Staffers with the Texas District and County Attorneys Association have been traveling across the state teaching prosecutors, police and judges about the new law, too.

# YEAR IN REVIEW 2015

### Knox Notes

Please notify the News-Courier about your upcoming events. Emailed submissions to kc-news@courier@gmail are preferred. The deadline for inclusion will be the Friday before the following week's issue.

### Ice causes power outages

Special to The News-Courier

Knox County seemed to miss most of the snow that ensnared most of North Texas on the weekend, but got plenty of rain and ice that made the roads slippery on Monday morning.

Power was off in different places across the county Sunday night and Monday, but things were worst in Electra where the entire town was out of power. Reports indicated that Haskell continued to have outages Monday and Stamford still didn't have power in some places Tuesday morning.

The cold weather was expected to hang around as 2015 came to a close, but another system bringing more snow was expected to miss the county to the North.

An EF-4 tornado with winds of 200 mph struck Garland Saturday night. Eight people died when their vehicles were thrown from overpasses on I-30 and George Bush Turnpike

### Hunter safety course set Jan. 9

Special to The News-Courier

QUANAH — Copper Breaks State Park will offer the state-approved hunter safety course, required by law for all hunters born after Sept. 2, 1971, at 9 a. m. on Saturday, Jan. 9.

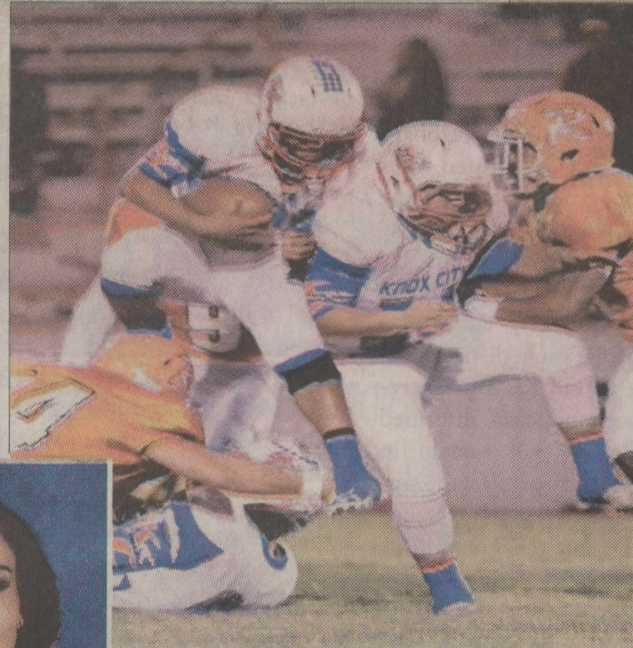
Participation is by reservation only. Younger hunters should be accompanied by an adult. A non-refundable advance payment of \$15 is required to sign up for the class. Park admission of \$2 for adults is waived for participants, but camping and other fees will apply. It is recommended that participants bring a sack lunch as there will only be a short lunch break.

### News on the go

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

Knox County News-Courier  
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Volume 38 No. 11  
USPS 439-620

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The Knox County News-Courier (ISSN 8750-6750) is published every Thursday, including holidays, by Blackburn Media Group Inc., P.O. Box 1260, Childress, Texas, 79201-1260. Entered at U.S. Post Office, Munday, Texas, for transmission through the mail as a Second-Class matter, according to an Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Munday, Texas, 76371. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Knox County News-Courier, P.O. Box 151, Munday, TX 76371.

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The Knox County News-Courier

It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and the ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

**DEADLINES**

Advertising: Noon Mondays  
Editorial: 5 p.m. Mondays

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

\$36 a year in the county  
\$42 a year outside the county



**Obituaries**

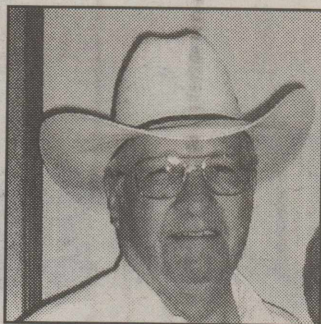
**Dallas Ray Dykes**

Dallas Ray Dykes, 74, lifelong resident of Knox City, passed away at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015. Funeral services were held Sunday at Abundant Life Church in Knox City with Rev. Tex Cox and Steve Pepper officiating. Burial took place immediately following the service at Knox City Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes. A visitation was held Saturday at the funeral home.

Dallas was born Aug. 23, 1941 in Burlington, CO to Girth A. Dykes and Louise A. (Bigelow) Dykes. Dallas married Dorothy on Jan. 15, 1982 in Knox City, where they made their home.

Dallas enjoyed golfing, drag racing and rodeoing. He was a member of Abundant Life Church in Knox City.

He was preceded in death by his parents Girth A. Dykes and Louise A. (Bigelow) Dykes; wife, Dorothy Jean Dykes; and sister Mavis Olsen.



DALLAS DYKES

Dallas is survived by daughter Patti Lain Currie of Knox City; two grandchildren Brandon Lewis of Knox City and Aaron Lewis of Burkburnett; four great-grandchildren Skylar Lewis of Lubbock, Sloan Lewis, Lainy Lewis and Becca Lewis all from Burkburnett; and brothers, Allen Dykes; and Roger Dykes; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

If desired, memorials can be given in Dallas's name to the Knox City EMS, PO Box 608, Knox City, Texas 79529.

Online condolences can be shared with Dallas' family at [www.smithyfh.com](http://www.smithyfh.com).

**Knox County Aging Center Menus**

Menus for week of Jan. 3-9

Monday: meatloaf, Blessed potatoes, green beans, breadsticks, peach crisp

Tuesday: Chili & beans, cornbread, salad, fruit cup

Wednesday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, seasoned corn, bread, cookies

Thursday: Salisbury steak, yams, English peas, bread, fruit cup

Friday: Ham sandwiches, salad, potato wedges, peaches

**KCOISD gets clean audit**

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY — The Knox City-O'Brien Independent School District Board of Trustees received a clean audit from James E. Rogers & Company during a meeting here earlier this month. Rick Rodgers informed

the board he did not find any areas of noncompliance with state and federal guidelines and noted that the district is in sound financial shape with only two yearly payments remaining on the bonds issued in 2002.

In other business, the board split their 915 allocated votes for the Knox County Appraisal District Board of Directors evenly between Ray Penman, Buddy Tolson and James Cowsert; authorized presenting each district employee \$50 in KC Bucks certificates; and was informed the district will remain in Class A Division I in the upcoming University Interscholastic League realignment.

**50: Close but no cigar**

This first runner-up of this year's Miss Universe Contest can console herself knowing she's now the world's 51st famous Miss Runner-Up.

Have we all had some memorable near misses? I'm thinking about a particular oil well. For about an hour, we investors thought we could afford a nice breakfast. Not so.

Back to Miss Universe.

As for the host, whose mistake interpreting the results gave the crown briefly to the wrong beauty, he's earned himself a paragraph in the "mistakes happen" chapter of history. Previously I just knew him as the "Family Feud" guy. Now I know his name is Steve Harvey. He's remorseful. He's famous. Poor Steve.

Through it all, it's the winner who should be crying. Who'll remember her when it's Miss Runner-Up who made history with her erroneous two-minute reign? Except the winner cleary gets the prize for the more memorable name: Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach. It might not be that you'd choose for a career in the movies, but it's one way to outdo an Ariadna Gutierrez Arevalo, who goes by Ariadna Gutierrez. Ho-hum.

Anyway, if you didn't watch the pageant, that's what you missed, except you've probably seen replays of the crownings. I haven't. Nor do I want to. Too much emotion.

If you've ever been in a beauty pageant, you understand it all very well. Although I don't

count myself as one of you, on a technicality, I could. You're probably thinking my mother entered me in a kiddie pageant back when I was cute. Wrong. I was in college.

Instead of fraternities and sororities, my college had something called social clubs — drastically scaled-down versions of the real thing. The guys' clubs all had sweethearts. One of those clubs was sort of a collection of misfits. They weren't outcasts, but they weren't mainstream. They chose me to be their sweetheart, which automatically put me in the running for beauty queen of the yearbook. I lost, of course, but I did my best to represent my guys. They probably liked it that I chose to dress in a somewhat severe black outfit that wasn't the norm.

If you've never been in a beauty contest, put some Vaseline over your lipstick and grin. Now try holding that expression for several minutes. No smiling. You've gotta grin and look like you mean it.

**PAUSE FOR YOU TO TRY IT.**  
That very exercise makes me glad I was never really part of that circuit.

Nevertheless, post-college, when I happened to reconnect with a schoolmate, Beverly, via an alumni group, she said, "I seem to remember you as some sort of beauty queen."

Maybe that black outfit really did make me stand out in that string of ordinary glamour gals.

Now Beverly and I are good friends. When we need a laugh, she says, "I seem to remember you as some sort of beauty queen."

That's probably a line those two down-to-the-wire contestants can use on each other along about 2085 if there's ever a rest home for Miss Universe contestants.



HNABA NUNN WLCH

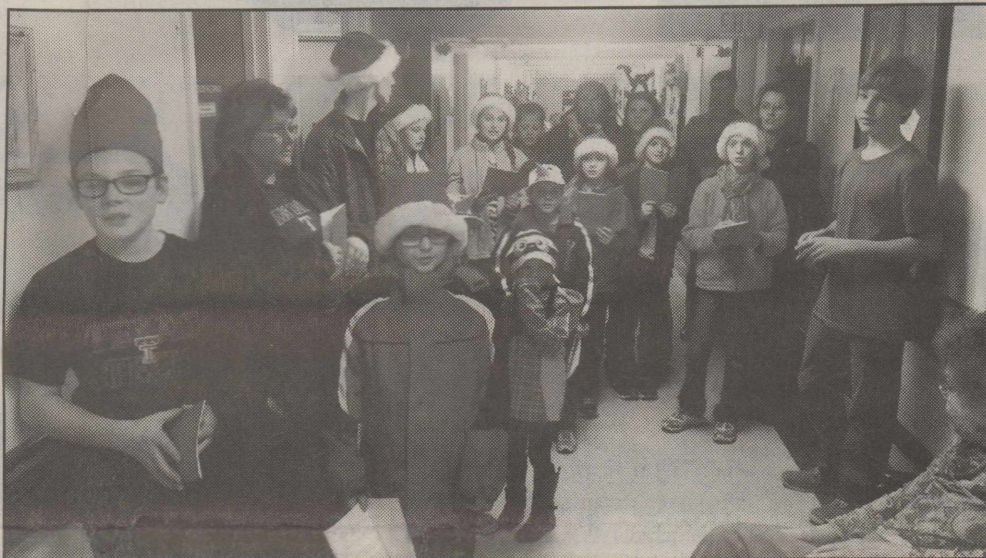
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**4-Hers go caroling**



Courtesy photo

The Knox 4-H club jumped into the Christmas spirit by getting together for singing Christmas carols at the Munday nursing home and at other homes in Munday. Pictured (l-r) are Jackson Bowman, Molly and Conner Moore, Ryan, Shawn and Corrie Earthmen, McKayla Coplen, Lane Addington, Belle Earthmen, Lorrie Coop, Grace Tidwell, Nate Earthmen, Laci Bowman, Morgan and Larressa Earthmen and Josiah Coplen.

**4-H retreat set Jan. 8-10**

Special to The News-Courier

BROWNWOOD — 4-H members in grades 8-12 and adult leaders will have an opportunity to hone their leadership skills during several 4-H programs at the 2016 Teen Leadership Retreat Jan. 8-10 at the Texas 4-H Conference Center near Brownwood.

Mark Carroll, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service 4-H youth specialist and conference center program director, said: "Participants learn leadership skills through workshops and hands-on learning experiences."

Carroll said the retreat allows participating youth to explore new or revised projects and curricula they can implement in their respective counties.

Registration is \$115 for youth and \$85 for adults. Registration continued through Dec. 31.

"This year's program will focus on increasing knowledge in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, leadership, the Share the Fun program and wildlife," he said.

Registration is \$115 for youth and \$85 for adults. Registration continued through Dec. 31.

Everyone is welcome to come celebrate!

**90th Birthday Party for U.J. Bellinghausen**

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January 3, 2016

2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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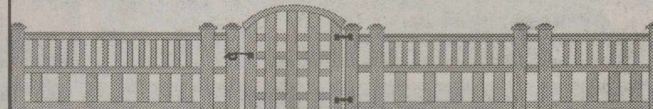
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- 135+/- Ac - Stonewall Co. - (\$1200/Ac) **NEW**
- 79.54+/- Ac - West of O'Brien - (\$1,650/Ac) **NEW**
- 600 N. Munday, Munday - 2/1 on corner lot (\$29,900) **NEW**
- 158.6+/- Ac - West of O'Brien - (\$1,650/Ac) **NEW**
- 167.31+/- Ac - West of O'Brien - (\$1,350/Ac) **NEW**
- 159 FM RD 2976, Lake Stamford - 2/2 Lakefront property (\$25,000) **NEW**
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- 1008 SE 5th St, Knox City - 3/2 with open floor plan (\$59,900) **REDUCED**
- 30 +/- Ac. West of O'Brien. Perfect home site with water well (\$1500/Ac)
- 608 Sunny Ave, Rule 3 or 4/2 with pool (\$62,000) **REDUCED**
- 120 L. Street, Munday 3/2, New Renovation (\$59,900) **REDUCED**
- 160 +/- Acres NW Corner of Haskell Co. Hunting (\$1,000/Ac)
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- 405 S. Hilmar, Weinert, 3/2 w/ shop (\$97,500) **PENDING**
- 566 +/- Ac. SW Knox Co. on FM 2279 (\$1,549 / Ac) **REDUCED**
- 355+/- Ac. on Hwy 6 and 1225 (\$950/Ac)

Happy New Year

To all of our friends here in Knox County, we wish you all a very Happy New Year

**The Cottinghams**  
Ryan, Tara, Emily, Dustin, Eryn



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# Looking at 2015 in our rearview mirror

## Looking at 2015 in our rearview mirror

We're closing the door on 2015 tonight and it's time to reflect back on memories of the year, going back through issues of the News-Courier.

### January

New officials of the Knox County office took office. Included were county judge Travis Floyd, justice of peace Augustin Rodriguez, treasurer Rosie Ake, county and district clerk Lisa Cypert and commissioners Nathan Urbanczyk and Dan Godsey, elected the previous fall.

Alexia Jimenez took the grand champion steer award at the Knox County Junior Livestock Show. In the swine judging, Madison Thompson emerged as the grand champion. Her Yorkshire also took breed honors. Kristen Kuehler claimed reserve honors and her heavyweight Cross won breed honors. Other breed winners were Jordan Ruiz, Berkshire and Spot; Christian Abils, Chester White; Kendall Thompson, Duroc; and Skylin Ledesma, Hampshire. Connor Moore captured top honors in single fryer while Cayce Camp prevailed in pens of three fryers for rabbits; Chance Baty showed the grand champion boiler in the poultry; Kristen Kuehler claimed both grand and reserve honors for lambs; and Brylee White emerged as the grand champion for goats.

Justin Josselet was hired as new coach at Munday High School, replacing Jenna Williams, who moved to Hawaii.

The Munday Consolidated Independent School District voted to extend Supt. Robert Dillard's contract for two years, but then later in the year he moved to Littlefield.

### February

Winston Stephens was hired as the new administrator for the City of Munday.

The silent auction at the Wichita Brazos Museum raised more than \$2,000.

The Knox City Greyhounds finished second in the District 7-1A to qualify for the playoffs, but the Houndettes finished fourth. The Greyhounds won bi-district over Harrold, but fell to Ropes, 66-49, in the area round.

The Munday Mogulettes beat Crowell, 52-46, in a playoff to win its first district title in 14 years. The Moguls also qualified for the playoffs by finishing in second place in District 8-1A. The Mogulettes suffered a 42-22 setback to Whitharral in the area round while the Moguls were eliminated in bi-district, 43-28, by Guthrie.

Icy conditions made travelling difficult, causing some cancellations, including the Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show and a few local churches.

### March

Debbie Tanner's quilt was named the viewer's choice at the delayed Cotton Pickin' Quilt Show.

Raci Dillard of Munday was named the District 8-1A cage MVP. MHS Coach Cory Stephenson was named coach of the year. Temerick Reagins was the District 8-1A offensive player of the year.

Both the Munday and Knox City bands received 1 ratings in state concert and sightreading.

More than 1,100 were fed at the St. Joseph's Catholic Church's annual Parish Sausage & Fried Chicken Dinner.

Allene Brown celebrated her 90th birthday.

Glenn Dale Large, who operates the 57 Heaven Museum, was named the winner of the E. Hub Smith Most Appreciated Citizen at the Knox City Chamber of Commerce banquet.

### April

The MHS "Time on Fire" and the KCHS "Wizard of Oz" one-act plays ad-

vanced to bi-district. Munday advanced to the regional competition in Lubbock, but missed a spot in state.

Munday claimed both the boys and girls District 8-1A golf titles. The boys team of Mitchell Lowrance, Chandler McCombs, Heath Bivens and Holt Bivens advanced to state, finishing fifth. Taylor Thompson also went to state as an individual.

The Moguls and Mogulettes swept the team titles in the Mogul Relays.

Gordon Ross joined the staff at the Knox County Hospital.

Sadly, we lost Gabriel Rodriguez, 14, who drowned at Miller Creek.

The Greyhounds finished as co-champions in District 7-1A track while the Houndettes settled for second place. The Moguls and Mogulettes claimed the District 8-1A track titles. In the area competition at Philip McAfee Memorial Track, Munday swept the titles while Knox City took runnerup honors.

### May

Munday continued its track success, sweeping the regional titles. Knox County sent 19 to the state track meet. Knox City's Jacoby Thomas claimed a gold medal in the triple jump and a silver medal in the long jump with leaps of 44-9 1/4 and 20-10 1/4, respectively. The Moguls finished second at state, led by Temerick Reagins' anchor legs on the relays. A dropped baton proved costly for the Mogulettes.

Billy Carden and Bill Burtram were elected to the Munday city council while Amanda Duke and Jeremy Eaton were re-elected to the Knox City council. Laurie Urbanczyk, Shannon Waters and Kevin Myers were named to the Munday CISD school board.

The Movement Space "Rock This Town" recital featured more than 150 performers.

Race Dillard and M'Kayla Ericson of Munday and Hailee Cox of Knox City advanced to the state UIL academic competition. Kamille Redder of Munday competed in the state twirling event.

Andrea Lynn and Sheldon Baty were named the best all-around students at KCHS. Kaylie Steele was named top female athlete while Zach Rodriguez and Krys Campose shared male honors.

Knox City students got to see first hand the dangers of drinking and driving in a "mock" scenario entitled "Shattered Dreams."

Mitchell Lowrance and Raci Dillard were recognized as the winners of the Munday pride awards and as the school's valedictorian and salutatorian.

Emily Brown was named valedictorian at Benjamin High School.

Andrea Lynn and Kinslee Cox were recognized as the top two students at Knox City High School.

Munday announced that its swimming pool would re-open for the summer. Later in the summer, the pool at Knox City was also re-opened.

Kamille Redder, Kimberly Shahan and Maria Vega claimed the major awards at the Purple Cloud band banquet.

### June

Zachary Rodriguez had a busy summer participating in four different six-man, all-star football games.

Shane Kendrix left as the pastor at First Baptist Church Munday to take a position at the First Baptist Church in Frederick, OK.

The Knox City/O'Brien ISD accepted bids for additions at the elementary school.

Lorri Coop of the Knox County Extension Service received the Pioneer Leader Award from the Texas Rural Leadership.

### July

Marsha Quade, principal at Knox City Elementary, was named the TCASE administrator of the year.

Jack Nuckols celebrated his 90th birth-



day.

The 27th edition of the Watermelon Festival was held in Knox City.

Troy Parton, who had been the superintendent at Paducah, was selected to head the Munday CISD.

A Lawton, OK woman died after striking horses on Hwy. 277 near Weinert.

A group of teenagers from the MacArthur Church of Christ in San Antonio helped with vacation bible school at the Munday Church of Christ.

### August

The winning teams at the 26th edition of the KCCC Ag-Oil Golf Tournament were Domingo Garcia, Chad Donald, Eddie Baldwin and Robert Alcala in the morning and Clifton Kolb, Brandon Kolb, Aaron Leslie and Mark Whitman in the afternoon.

Cristel Shahan was named as the counselor at MHS.

Charles Breithapt, executive director of the UIL, spoke at Knox City, telling students to get involved.

Jason Young relocated his accounting office to Munday.

Jacoby Thomas, who had transferred from KCHS to MHS was ruled ineligible for varsity sports for 2015-2016.

Knox City and Munday open the football season with wins over Follett and Windthorst.

### September

Friends of the Wichita Brazos Museum held a garage sale in Munday.

High school students got a chance to

learn about possible careers at the annual Career Day in Goree.

The StoryWalk project of Kathryn Cude and Grace Tidwell opened at the Munday City Park.

Joe Bejar of Munday named as the maintenance division supervisor for the TxDOT Munday office.

Bobby Burnett, Benny Grill and James McAfee claim the Knox City Chamber of Commerce golf tournament.

### October

All 100 of the Green Pastures Wind Farms turbines in Baylor and Knox were up.

Tyler and Todd Thompson captured first place in the Horns and Heels Team Roping in Amarillo.

At the KCHS homecoming, Brylee was named Miss Firelighter, Elias Nevarez the football hero, Cheyenne Camp the band sweetheart, Jordyn Eaton, the football sweetheart and Sheldon Baty, the band beau.

Lake Creek beat the KCCC to win the Knox Cup.

Bobby Burnett announced he would be a candidate as judge for the 50th Judicial District.

Shan Newton, the youth minister at First Baptist Church in Munday, left for a similar position in Oklahoma.

Temerick Reagins suffered a season-ending knee injury in Munday's opening District 7-2A game with Hamlin.

All three of the Knox County volleyball

See **YEAR**, Page 4



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**YEAR**  
From Page 1

teams advanced to the playoffs.

Judge Travis Floyd announced his retirement, effective Dec. 10.

Benjamin was only football team to advance to the playoffs.

**November**

The Knox City Pride and the Munday Purple Cloud bands advanced to the state marching contest in San Antonio.

The Benjamin Mustangs fell to Forestburg in bi-district.

Munday's Kayla and Karla Taylor ran in the state cross country race at Round Rock.

Pvt. Cletis Donoho was the Gold Star honoree at the Veterans Day celebration in Benjamin.

Jeff Stanfield was elected as new mayor in Knox City.

More than 600 fed at the Munday Community Thanksgiving dinner at First United Methodist Church in Munday.

**December**

Kids got a chance to have their photos taken with Santa at Breakfast with Santa at the Munday Church of Christ and at downtown Christmas celebrations in Knox City and Munday.

The Munday Community Choir presented "Breath of Heaven" at First Baptist Church Munday.

Hailee Cox of Knox City finished eighth in the state FFA creed speaking contest.

Kristen Kuehler of Munday named to the Class 1A all-state volleyball team.

Stan Wojcik named as the new Knox County judge.

**KCHS CAGE SCHEDULE**

Jan. 1	Newcastle	All 4
Jan. 5	at Paducah	All 4
Jan. 7, 9	Knox City	JVB
Jan. 8	Patton Springs	VG, VB
Jan. 11	at Spur	All 4
Jan. 19	at Guthrie	JVB, VG, VB
Jan. 22	Motley County	All 4
Jan. 26	Paducah	All 4
Jan. 29	at Patton Springs	VG, VB
Feb. 2	Spur	All 4
Feb. 5	at Motley County	All 4
Feb. 9	Guthrie	JVB, VG, VB

**Favorite personalized plates revealed**

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN – My Plates has revealed their most favorite Texas license plates that were purchased in 2015 across a range of categories, including Texas Pride, College, Sports, Plate Speak, Romance and Humor.

The popularity of personalized plates has continued to grow with Texans embracing the release of new plate designs earlier this year including the Texas Oil and Gas plate and Lone Star 1836. Both of these are available with up to 7-letters, with background only starting from only \$50 a year, making them affordable for all Texans.

Harris County, being the most populated county in Texas, understandably delivered the highest volume of personalized plates over the last 12 months. However, when it came to looking at personalized plate sales by specific zip code, it was Katy that can now boast being the most personalized place in

the state of Texas. In second place was McKinney, followed by League City, Sugarland and Pearland rounding out the top five. Other top selling regions included Missouri City, Frisco, Cypress, Spring and Cedar Park.

There are now over 250,000 specialty plates that have been sold by My Plates, with more people than ever using their bumpers to express humor, individuality, creativity and self-expression.

My Plates Top Personalized Plates for 2015:

**Best Texas Pride Plates 2015**  
7TH GEN  
(on an Est. 1836 plate)  
NUF-SAID  
F4EVER  
(Reads Texas Forever)

**Best College Plates 2015**  
TWELFTH  
(on an Aggie Plate)  
FUNDVL (Reads fun devil on an ASU plate)  
EYE OF (Reads eye of the

See **PLATES**, Page 8

**Vail a good bet for summer golf**

By James McAfee  
The Knox County News-Courier

Norman allows the treasures of the landscape to dictate the flow of play. Craggy rock outcroppings, twisted knots of scrub oak, rugged gulches and wildflower meadows combined with plenty of elevation changes and dramatic vistas of the mountains make for a unique golf experience. There's plenty of room off the tees, but Norman plastered the layout with bunkers. There's just enough water, like the stream guarding the 18<sup>th</sup> green, to make it interesting. Closely mown areas around the green means bump and run shots or a putter may be your best option.

It's hard to beat a round of golf in the summer in Colorado and one of the best places, bustling with all kinds of other activities is the Vail Valley, 90 minutes from Denver.

Along with three others writers, I got to experience a Rocky Mountain high, playing the private Red Sky Golf Club's Norman course in nearby Wolcott and the public Vail Golf Club, two distinctively different types of courses.



Photo by Wes Bolyard

Photo courtesy of Wes Bolyard

Par 3 No. 7 at Vail Golf Club

hole-in-one on the 125-yard 10<sup>th</sup> hole where the pin was hidden from view from us on the tee.

The Fazio course is shorter at 7,113 from the tips. Fazio's design merges dramatic vistas of Vail's Back Bowls with a variety of terrain, winding through open sage-covered hills and a dense aspen forest.

Golfers staying at Rock Resorts properties have access to both courses on a rotating basis. Expect to pay \$200.

We stayed at the posh Arrabelle at Vail Square where there were free summer musical festivals going on both nights we were there. And, of course, we all had to take a spa treatment after a morning round of golf at the Vail Golf Club.

This course open to the public, located right next to busy I-70, and is fairly flat, making walking a definite option, especially with the next tees close to the last greens.

In fact, we saw golfers riding bikes with clubs attached. It was the first course in Colorado to offer these bikes.

The Vail G.C. can only be stretched to 6,766 yards and is player-friendly from the blues at 6,281 if you avoid the trees that line most of the fairways and

stay out of Gore Creek, which cuts through the course.

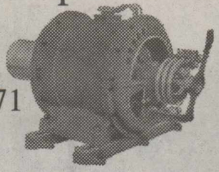
Plans call for a new clubhouse to be added next year, forcing the 18<sup>th</sup> green to be moved toward the tee, shortening what now is still a par 5.

There are other public courses in the Vail Valley designed by the game's top architects for those who decide for longer visits, including the Pete Dye-designed Gypsum Creek, the Arnold Palmer-designed Eagle Ranch, the Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed Beaver Creek and the Bruce Devlin, Robert von Hagge-designed Eagle Vail.

In addition, The Club at Cordillera (private) offers three courses, the Summit (Jack Nicklaus), the Mountain (Hale Irwin), the Valley (Tom Fazio) and a par-3 while The Sonnenalp (semi-private) has an 18-hole design by Bob Cupp and Jay Morrish.

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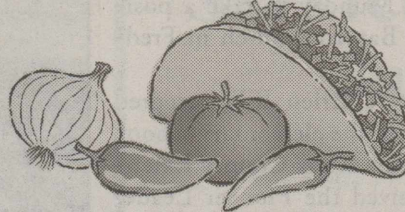
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**Munday cage schedule**

Jan. 1	Petrolia	All 4
Jan. 4	at Quannah	All 4
Jan. 8	Harrold	VG
Jan. 9	at Albany	JVG
Jan. 12	at Crowell	VG, VB
Jan. 14-16	at Aspermont	JVG, JVB
Jan. 15	Benjamin	VG, VB
Jan. 19	at Chillicothe	VG, VB
Jan. 22	Northside	VG, VB
Jan. 26	at Harrold	VG, VB
Jan. 29	Jayton	JVG, JVB
Jan. 29	Crowell	VG, VB
Feb. 2	at Benjamin	VG, VB
Feb. 5	Chillicothe	VG, VB
Feb. 9	at Northside	VG, VB
Feb. 12	Harrold	VB

**Create a financial calendar for new year**

**By Nathaniel Sillin**

When was the last time you made a financial resolution on New Year's Eve? If you can't remember, you're in good company.

The Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America's annual New Year's resolutions survey for 2014 reported that 49 percent of respondents said that health and wellness were their first priorities for the coming year, up from 43 percent in 2013. Only 30 percent ranked financial stability as their top goal for the year.

In 2016, maybe it's time to push financial fitness to the top of your list by creating an annual financial calendar that helps you save, spend and invest a little smarter. Here are some suggestions to build your calendar:

**Set three important money goals for the year.** Three money goals may not sound like a lot, but if you've never thought about money goals before, establishing these targets can make a major difference in your financial life. Set goals that address key money concerns or serve as a springboard for a solid financial future. Choose what makes sense for you, but here are three basic goals to start with:

**Create or reset your budget.** If you've never made a budget before, spend a month or two tracking everything you spend. Review your findings closely and see whether you're spending less than you earn. If not, determine if you can cut spending to direct more funds to meet key goals. If you already have a budget, consider reevaluating your finances to see where you could cut costs.

**Build an emergency fund.** An emergency fund contains between three to six months of living expenses you can draw

upon only in a real financial emergency such as unemployment, illness or a major unplanned expense.

**Save for something special.** Make one of your three goals a fun goal – a vacation, a new bike, a wardrobe upgrade – something that feels like a reward.

Here are calendar items that might help you reach those goals.

Make sure you note staggered receipt dates for each of your three free credit reports from Experian, TransUnion and Equifax so you can keep a steady eye on your credit and spot irregularities if they happen.

Prevent severe money surprises by marking key repair or replacement dates on home, appliance and other personal expenses that might be coming up in the future. Use the time you have now to schedule inspections and estimates for each so you'll be able to start setting aside funds in advance.

Retirement readiness is another key calendar item. At least once a year, consider reviewing your holdings in retirement or investment accounts to make sure they're still performing as you've planned or if not, whether you need to restructure the investments in your portfolio. Put the open enrollment dates for employer- or self-employment benefits on your

calendar and then mark a date several weeks before to allow you to start thinking through necessary changes. The way you choose employer or self-employment benefits is a key part of your financial planning and should intersect with other independent money decisions you're making for yourself and your family.

Insurance renewal dates are important to mark as well. If you're not comparison-shopping for the auto, homeowners or health insurance coverage you buy on your own, there's a good possibility you're losing out on money, service or coverage.

Set two dates each year to review your overall finances. You might consider dates in June and November to see how you're doing with budget, savings, spending, investment and tax issues. The June date is for corrective actions; the November date is to determine the last-minute spending, savings or tax moves you want to make before December 31 and to set financial goals for the New Year. If you work with a qualified financial or tax expert, consider involving him or her in the conversation.

**Bottom line:** If you use a calendar or datebook to keep on schedule, add important money dates and activities so you can meet your lifetime financial goals.



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## Vonda's Recipe Corner

By Vonda Carter

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and are looking forward to the coming year. Our Christmas was wonderful. My oldest daughter Rachel was here and it was so nice to see her. She lives in the metroplex so we don't see her very often. But now the holidays are coming to an end and things will start to be somewhat normal again. It's time for black eyed peas. I love 'em. Everyone needs to eat black eyed peas for New Year's, you know, good luck and all. I don't know about the luck part, I just know they sure are good. So here are a couple of recipes. Even if you don't like black eyed peas, eat a spoonful anyway, you don't want to take a chance on missing out on the good luck part, at least I wouldn't. The first recipe is mine, traditional black eyed peas in the crockpot.

### Crock Pot Black Eyed Peas

Dried black eyed peas, however many you want  
 1 package bacon, cut into pieces  
 Soak peas overnight. Rinse peas and put in crockpot. Add water to cover peas plus about two inches above. Add bacon, yes the whole package, and the onion. Turn crockpot to low setting and let cook for 5 or 6 hours. I usually let them cook overnight, in which case you should soak them all day. Yummy good.

### Black Eyed Pea and Pasta Salad

6 oz. small pasta shells, cooked and drained  
 1 cup sliced green onion  
 cucumber  
 1 can (15 oz.) black eyed peas, rinsed and drained  
 1 small jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped  
 Dressing  
 3 tbs. canola oil  
 1 tsp. sugar  
 1 tsp. chili powder  
 ½ tsp. seasoned salt

In a large bowl, combine the first seven ingredients. In a jar with a tight fitting lid, combine the dressing ingredients; shake well. Drizzle over salad; toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least two hours before serving.

If you're enjoying my little recipe corner, let me know, and send some recipes of your own to kcnewscourier@gmail.com or mail them to P.O. Box 151, Munday, TX 76371.

## Don't overlook Grand Junction for golf

By James McAfee  
 The Knox County News-Courier

While Grand Junction may not be close to other golfing destinations in Colorado, it definitely shouldn't be overlooked because the Golf Club at Redlands Mesa has been ranked the No. 1 public course in that state.

Grand Junction is located on the western edge of Colorado in wine country, offering a longer golfing season than elsewhere in the state.

The Jim Engh-designed course offers awe-droppings vistas of the rocky red cliffs of the Colorado National Monument and Grand Mesa as it twists up and down hills. The 11 elevated tees make golfers think they are hitting

it longer, but if they go up to the back of the par 3 16<sup>th</sup> tee, most will need a wood to get home.

On the par 5<sup>th</sup>, golfers play to a green perched on a rocky cliff, but then golfers playing from the right sets of tees have chances to get home in two on the back nine as I did with a hybrid from just inside 200 yards on the 12<sup>th</sup>,

knocking in an seven-footer for an eagle.

On the next hole, I was almost taken down by a run-away golf cart driven down one of the hills, but somehow heard the warning from the other writer and managed to avoid being hit from behind.

Playing with this same writer a few years ago in La-Paz, Mexico, I collapsed after 36 holes in 100 degree heat from dehydration and had to spend the night in the hospital. Not his fault, of course.

One word of warning when playing Redlands Mesa, try to stay below the hole with approach shots. Otherwise, you'll have a lot of three putts. Plans are to reduce some of the knobs on the greens to

### Benjamin cage schedule

Jan. 5	at Woodson	VG, VB
Jan. 8	at Chillicothe	VG
Jan. 13	Harrold	VG, VB
Jan. 15	at Munday	VG, VB
Jan. 19	Northside	VG, VB
Jan. 22	Crowell	VG, VB
Jan. 26	Chillicothe	VG, VB
Jan. 29	at Harrold	VG, VB
Feb. 2	Munday	VG, VB
Feb. 5	at Northside	VG, VB
Feb. 9	at Crowell	VG, VB
Feb. 12	at Chillicothe	VB



Par 3 17th at Redlands Mesa

Photo courtesy of Wes Bolyard

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 Youth: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

not make them quite as severe. If you want to make it a day of golf, a good value option is the public 18-hole Tiara Rado Golf Course, offering some up close views of the monument. The front 9 is very tight with "white stakes" and homes lining most of the fairways. An irrigation canal, not always noticed off the tee, adds to the challenge. A re-design of the back 9 gives it a totally different look with large trees putting the emphasis on accurate tee shots.

If you just remember to see where the Monument is located, you will have better luck with your putts and chips and realize the ball will not stop as quickly as you think.

Don't forget to save time to make the trek up to the Monument, home to 11 canyons and 20,000 acres of arched windows, rock spires and natural monoliths, even if hiking is not on your schedule.

Late summer is also the time for peaches and other fruits to be plentiful and our hostess surprised us with some home-made peach cobbler. Less than an hour away in Delta is another unique course that I played on an earlier trip to western Colorado. It's called Devil's Pulpit, a desert-style or prairie links built on an ashen clay backdrop named the Adobe Hills, looking more like something you'd find on the surface of the moon.

Have a very blessed & Happy New Year

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Sealed bids are due in the Superintendent's Office 606 East Main, Knox City, Texas 79529 no later than 1:00 p.m. on January 6, 2016. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Louis Baty, Superintendent at the above address or by phone at 940-657-3521/940-256-2693. Knox City-O'Brien CISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the District.

KNOX CITY-O'BRIEN CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2015

General Fund	National			Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	Breakfast Program	Lunch Program	State Textbook Fund		
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$2,016,665	\$33,295	\$0	\$73,674	\$2,123,634
State Program Revenues	2,110,893	824	95,875	279,021	2,486,713
Federal Program Revenues	8,430	191,080	0	444,424	543,934
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$4,135,988</b>	<b>\$225,299</b>	<b>\$95,875</b>	<b>\$797,119</b>	<b>\$5,215,281</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Instruction	\$1,680,823	\$0	\$59,875	\$296,658	\$2,037,356
Instructional Resources and Media Services	28,516	0	0	0	28,516
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	11,863	0	0	1,188	13,051
Instructional Leadership	6,341	0	0	191,899	198,240
School Leadership	218,540	0	0	0	218,540
Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	47,748	0	0	227,502	275,250
Health Services	518	0	0	0	518
Student (Pupil) Transportation	20,855	0	0	32	20,887
Food Services	4,723	241,880	0	6,370	246,973
Extracurricular Activities	178,353	0	0	0	178,353
General Administration	281,387	0	0	0	281,387
Facilities Maintenance and Operations	409,825	0	0	15,497	425,322
Security and Monitoring Services	0	0	0	0	0
Data Processing Services	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Service - Principal on Long-Term Debt	0	0	0	80,000	80,000
Debt Service - Interest on Long-Term Debt	0	0	0	9,465	9,465
Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	0	0	0	377	377
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	1,044,533	0	0	122,896	1,167,429
Intergovernmental Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	99,431	0	0	72,744	172,175
Other Intergovernmental Charges	39,070	0	0	0	39,070
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$4,066,223</b>	<b>\$241,880</b>	<b>\$59,875</b>	<b>\$894,105</b>	<b>\$5,262,283</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$69,765</b>	<b>(\$16,581)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$196,986)</b>	<b>(\$144,002)</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>					
Capital Related Debt Issued	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers - In	0	16,581	0	122,505	139,287
Transfers - Out	(139,287)	0	0	0	(139,287)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<b>(\$139,287)</b>	<b>\$16,581</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$122,505</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b>(\$69,522)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$74,480)</b>	<b>(\$144,002)</b>
<b>Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)</b>	<b>3,018,488</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>322,895</b>	<b>3,341,383</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - August 31 (Ending)</b>	<b>\$2,948,966</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$248,415</b>	<b>\$3,197,381</b>

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## TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



TexSCAN Week of  
December 27, 2015

### LEGAL

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**SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$4397.00 - MAKE & SAVE MONEY** with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com or 1-800-578-1363 Ext. 300N

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To Order: Call this Newspaper direct, or call Texas Press Service at 1-800-749-4793 Today!

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED CANCELLATION OF A SUBDIVISION

Rock Royalty, Inc., 6688 North Central Expressway, Suite 1610, Dallas, TX 75206 is proposing the cancelling a Subdivision Plat entitled "Brazos River Ranch" filed for Record in the Knox County Clerk's Office, Plat Records and in the Official Public Records of Knox County, Texas, at Volume 358, Page 197. The entirety of the Subdivision is owned by Rock Royalty, Inc. Any person who is interested in the property and who wishes to protest needs to appear on January 11, 2016 at 1:30 pm at the next Knox County Commissioners regular term meeting held at the Knox County Courthouse in Benjamin, TX.

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Extend your advertising reach with TexSCAN, your Statewide Classified Ad Network.

## Mac's Views

### Ring survives another scare

On our 25th wedding anniversary more than 30 years ago, Betty and I got new gold wedding rings to replace the expensive ones we got originally. Mine has survived, despite three occasions when it appeared it may have been lost. Betty's didn't.

The latest scare for my ring came recently when I decided to rake leaves. As I was finishing the task, I realized the ring was missing. Oops, the leaves were all in the dumpster. I called Betty for help. Carefully, taking layers of leaves off and moving them over, I got near the bottom of the pile and noticed a shiny object, the ring. Now all I had to do was to get a ladder to get into the dumpster to retrieve it, not an easy task for a 74-year-old with bad knees.

Several years prior to this while raking leaves back in Wylie, I had 10 bags with leaves in the back of my pickup when I also discovered no ring. I took out the first bag and poured it out on the driveway. Yes, the ring was in that bag and I didn't have to look into the other bags.

Ten years ago, I had put both my wedding ring and PGA ring into the console in my Dodge Neon when playing golf. I forgot to take them out. That was the night that my daughter took the car out into the country. She pulled off the roadway and it caught on fire.

The next day at the salvage yard, I got a look and found nothing but melted golf clubs in the trunk. There was some melted plastic in the front. Well, the workers spotted something in the plastic and retrieved my rings. After turning in an insurance claim, I actually got more to replace all my golf equipment than I did for the car.

One of my New Year's resolutions is getting my rings tightened so they will not slip off in the future.

Betty's ring? Well, it went missing about five years ago at Christmas time after some friends of our daughter visited while we were away. We finally went to a pawn shop and found one that nearly matches mine from a collection of 100.

In closing, as this year comes to a close, many of you may be thinking "What are my New Year's resolutions this year?" Good luck on making those changes.

May 2016 be the best year ever for you!

# Thornberry files for reelection

Special to The News-Courier

AMARILLO – Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) announced earlier that he has filed for reelection to the U.S. House of Representatives for the 13th District of Texas.

"It is an incredible honor for me to represent our area in Congress," he said. "The continued support of the people of the 13th District has also given me the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee."

"America continues to face unprecedented national security dangers – dangers for which we must be better prepared. I will keep working to ensure that the men and women of our military and their families have the resources

they need to be successful. We must stay focused on regaining our military strength and our position of leadership in the world.

"As we look forward to the end of the Obama Administration, there is also a great deal of work to do here at home. Whether it is simplifying our tax code or reducing regulations, we must get our country back on track and our economy growing once again.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of the 13th District. With every vote, I try to reflect the values and views of the people I work for and give our area a strong voice in government. With your help, I will continue to fight for conservative, commonsense policies that keep America strong and free."



MAC THORNBERRY

## The Paperboy

# It's not opposite day, it's Donald Trump

Of all of the stories in 2015, one of the more interesting ones is the story of Donald Trump's bid for the White House.

Trump, who pledges to make America great again, comes off like a crass and crude a n g r y American at his rallies and he is the most politically incorrect candidate of my lifetime.

He hasn't had to buy any airtime because for the last six months, the Mainstream Media has been all over him.

In the least, it's ironic that the same leftist media Progressives and Liberals cultivated is now building a candidate running as a Republican by giving him so much coverage. Only THEIR branding of him is not resonating with Americans.

So why am I writing about him? This is not an endorsement of Donald Trump, the candidate. This is an observation on how someone as bombastic as Trump has stayed on top...

The Trump Organization is huge. From Trump Rink

in Central Park in New York City, to golf courses, to luxury hotels, Trump is all over the globe.

The Trump Organization has properties in the following places:

### Domestic Hotels and Resorts

- Charlottesville, Va.
- Chicago
- Florida
- Jersey City, N.J.
- Las Vegas
- Los Angeles
- New York
- Stamford, Conn.
- Waikiki, Hi

### International Hotels and Resorts

- Istanbul, Turkey
- Panama City, Panama
- Seoul, South Korea
- Toronto, Canada
- Makati, Philippines
- India
- Punta del Este, Uruguay
- Vancouver, Canada

### Commercial Properties

- New York
- California
- Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

### Golf Courses

- New York
- California
- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey
- North Carolina

## PLATES

From Page 4

Tiger on an LSU plate)

### Best Plate Speak Plates 2015

- M262THN (26.2 Miles = Marathon)
- IMNVRL8 (Reads "I'm never late")
- UR A & (STAR symbol)

### Best Romantic Plates for 2015

- PS I@U (reads PS I Love you)
- UNWED (on Yellow Rose plate)
- WE@THE on a Cowboys plate (Reads "We love the Dallas Cowboys")

## Weather Whys

Tornadoes occur all over world

You never hear much about tornadoes happening in other countries. Do they occur all over the world?

The answer is yes, says Brent

- Florida
- Washington D.C.
- Scotland
- Ireland
- United Arab Emirates

What does that have to do with anything?

If Trump was such a bad guy, you'd think the media would focus on all of his human rights violations and how he mistreats workers and kicks dogs around the globe. But they don't.

In fact, they don't touch that stuff and I have a theory as to why. Trump takes care of his employees. He also employs thousands of people of color all over the globe and thousands of immigrants.

So despite the fact the MSM has labeled him a bigot and a racist, he sure does seem to take care of the people of color who work for him.

In my opinion, the reason Trump continues to gain strength is because Americans have grown tired of weakness. In fact, in a new poll released this week, Trump is liked by more Blacks and Hispanics than he is Republicans. Now that's just the opposite of what we were told by the MSM.

Consider the following: Paul Thomas, of the New Zealand Herald, said this

### Cutest Plates for 2015

- ANML@R (using the heart on Protect Wild Animals Plate)
- AAAWWW (on the Protect Wild Animals plate)
- CATNDGS

### Funniest Plates 2015

- UNMPLOYD (on a Texas Oil & Gas plate)
- KLUNKR
- FERD (on a Ford vehicle, that's how the owner pronounces it)

### Best Movie Themed Plates 2015

- MR YODA & MS YODA (a couple of fans)
- 1SPY007 (a fan of Bond)
- LGHTSBR (another Star Wars fan)

about Trump, an American:

"Trump personifies everything the rest of the world despises about America: casual racism, crass materialism, relentless self-aggrandizement, vulgarity on an epic scale. The fact that so many Republicans are comfortable with the thought of this monumentally unqualified man in the Oval Office shows how warped the Party has become..."

Maybe that's true and maybe it's not, but I'll tell you this from my heart:

The world thought a hell of a lot more about America when we didn't care what the world thought.

And now what do they think? They think we're weak. And we are.

This race is unpredictable and the more people underestimate Trump, the more he thrives. It's going to be a wild 2016.

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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 @WCSBlackburn.

### Best Sports Related Plates 2015

- OCKETS (next to the R logo reads Rockets on the Rockets plate)
- H2O POLO (A water polo fan)
- I@2AIM (I love to aim on a Hunting plate)

### Best Auto Related Plates 2015

- FJUAN50 (on an F150 truck)
- ADD MUD (on a 4x4)
- DADILAC (Dad's Cadillac)

My Plates is revving up for a massive 2016 with the release of an exciting new design being the "Classic Black" Texas license plate. For more info go to MyPlates.com

McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "The reason you hear so much about tornadoes in the United States is because we have so many, by far the most in the world," he points out. "Each year, there are about 1,200 tornadoes that form in the U.S., and a record 226 were reported last year in the Southeast in a 24-hour period alone. That compares with only about 80 per year in Canada and only about 20 per year in Australia. There are documented reports of tornadoes occurring in every continent except Antarctica. Oddly, The Netherlands has the greatest incidence of tornadoes anywhere on Earth when you consider relative land size."

What are some other places in the world that have tornadoes?

There have been some strong tornadoes reported in South America, McRoberts adds.

"In 1973 a tornado hit Argentina that killed 54 people and was unusually strong for that part of the world," he reports.

"Also that year, a tornado did some heavy damage in Brazil. A series of tornadoes hit Bangladesh, located near India, in 1996 that killed more than 600 people and injured 12,000.