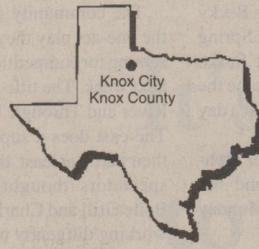


Our heartfelt thanks to Bill Baker and Kay Dean Johnson for all the photos and articles of the 1953 tornado

The Knox County



News

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

Volume XXXII Number 24 • Thursday, March 13, 2003 • Periodical • USPS #903920 • Mailed At Knox City, Knox County, Texas 79529 • 10 Pages + 1 Insert • Price 50¢

Deadly tornado strikes Knox City

15 area residents killed on Friday, March 13, 1953



Special anniversary story inside this edition



HONORED as the 'New Business of the Year' Judy and Danny Lain receive an award from the Chamber's Executive Director, Marla Hawkins at the Chamber of Commerce Banquet last Tuesday. Judy and Danny opened the Knox County Cleaners late last year.



HONORED with the E. Hob Smith Memorial Award as Knox City's 'Most Appreciated Citizen', Sammy B. White was presented with a framed certificate by Chamber directors Marla Hawkins and Dale Turner at the Chamber of Commerce Banquet last Tuesday.



HONORED as the 'Claim To Fame' award recipients for their recent filming of Texas Country Reporter were Delbert and Joyce Lloyd of Texas Band Instrument Rebuilders, shown with Marla Hawkins, chamber director.

Annual Chamber Banquet is packed to honor Sammy B. White as 'Most Appreciated Citizen'

The Knox City Chamber of Commerce's annual awards banquet was a huge success as a large crowd gathered last Tuesday evening in the Knox City High school cafeteria to honor Sammy B. White with the community's 'E. Hob Smith Memorial Most Appreciated Citizen' award. Active in many facets of his community and church, Mr. White

stated in his brief remarks that he intended to keep on doing things the same way in the future that he has in the past.

Also honored at the banquet as the 'New Business of the Year' were Judy and Danny Lain with The Knox County Cleaners, opened last year here in Knox City. Delbert and Joyce Lloyd were honored with the

'Claim to Fame' award for their Texas Band Instrument Repair business that specializes in rebuilding band instruments for area schools. The local firm was filmed last week by a crew from Texas Country Reporter, with the show to be aired statewide later this spring.

See Chamber Banquet Honors, continued on page 3

Benjamin news

By Gladene Green, Benjamin Correspondent

We had a couple of warm, spring like days, then wham, here came another norther. Sunday was much cooler than the past day or so, but it's early March, so I imagine we will have several more cool "snaps" before spring sets in for good.

I extend sympathy to the family of Era Brown. Era passed away Monday morning after failing health for several months. She was a wonderful person and loved by everyone. Her funeral will be Friday at 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church here in Benjamin.

Concerning our ill - Sonny Bufkin has learned that he has a severe liver problem. He's undergoing tests and consultations with doctors to determine what course of treatment he will undergo. He's looking forward to a visit from their daughter, Michele and her family, in early April. Michele lives in Wyoming.

Little Bethany Ealexa Lynn Ledesma is a patient in HMC in Abilene. Bell, as she will be called, was born February 24 at HMC in Abilene. She weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz., and was 19 1/2 inches long. Her parents are Alex and Julie of Benjamin and she has two brothers, Stephen and Ryan. Grandparents are Jim and Brenda Larned and Jessie and Connie Ledesma, all of Knox City. Great-grandmother is Rita Thomas of Wellington. Bell did real well the first couple of weeks of her life but sick on Friday with temperature and after being checked at Knox County Hospital was taken to Abilene. Doctors there have done numerous tests and ruled out lots of problems but are awaiting results of further testing before making a final diagnosis. Hopefully, it will be something that can be treated fairly easily and she can come home soon. Certainly our prayers are with all our ill friends.

Here 'N There - It's spring break and teachers and students are elated. Don't know about the parents. They may wish the kids were back in school after a couple of days. With not much to do, everyone may get a little "fidgity".

Chance Propps and Laura Benson left Sunday for Austin and the state debate contest. They have done well to get past all local levels and we hope to hear good things about his Austin trip when they return. Making the trip with them were C.H. Underwood, their instructor, his wife Linda and Chance's mom, Stacia.

Sue Terry and kids of Dallas are visiting parents (and grandparents) Jane Gideon and Weldon Gideon during spring break.

Dillon Hutson of Childress has been here a few days of his spring break with his grandmother Debbie Moorhouse and family.

Emma and Jacob Gomez of Austin and Micheal Rosas of San Angelo were recent visitors in the home of their sister (and aunt) Gracie and Jessie Zavala and family.

Susan and Ned Jones who live at Nash are enjoying the company of their children, Devin, Blake

and Brooke Jones and their niece, Jenna McCanlies this week. Becky Jones took them to Big Spring Monday where they met Susan and she will bring them home the last of the weekend and visit a day or so.

Joy Yancey visited her Benjamin "kin" last week and her brother Joe Nunley in Munday Nursing Center.

Brandi Hacker of Abilene visited Jonnie Williams and Mary Bohannon Saturday and Sunday.

Betty Bohannon attended a birthday party for her grandson Chase Bohannon in Abilene Saturday.

Omitene Barnett is doing pretty well these days. Having some repairs made on her home and believes when that project is completed, she will feel much better.

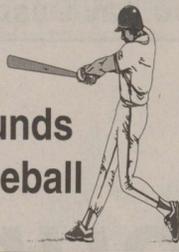
Bobby Roberson had a little accident last week. Got his hand in a saw and because of the damage done, he had to have some skin graft done. He's doing OK but don't think he's up to "carpen-

tering" anymore for a few days.

The community got a look at the one-act play they will be presenting for competition beginning next week. The title is "Over The River and Through The Woods". The cast does a superb job with their parts (at least, that's what we spectators thought). Directors Belle Grill and Charles Steele are working diligently to see that it's presented well. The cast includes Chance Propps, Laura Benson, Jessica Moorhouse, Maria Acevedo, Michael Clower and Maggie Seidenberger.

- Tuesday, March 18 •
Baseball at Archer City
- Thursday, March 21 •
Junior High Track meet at Knox City
- Saturday, March 23 •
High school track meet at Knox City

Hounds baseball



Hamlin Tourney

March 6
KC 125 34x x 15
Childress JV 020 15x x 8
Battery: Bruce and Thompson, Thompson (4) and Bruce
Home runs - Thompson, Shaver

Hamlin Tourney

March 7
KC 302 0xx x 5
Winters 529 2xx x 18
Battery: Ruiz, Gonzales (4) and Thompson

Monday, March 10

Loraine 100 010 0 2
KC 050 023 x 10
Battery: Carver and Thompson
Carver pitched a two-hitter and had 16 strikeouts.

The Knox County News

USPS 903-920

Established Oct 14, 1971
Phone & Fax Line: (940) 657-3142
110 North Central, Knox City, Texas 79529

Stacy Angle Thompson.....Editor/Publisher
Dave Thompson.....Asst. Publisher
Billye Angle.....Accounting

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Knox City, TX 79529-0009

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing, or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in the columns of this paper, will gladly be corrected upon notice of the same being brought to the attention of the publisher personally at the office.

NOTICES, ETC.

Notice of entertainments where a charge of admission is made, resolutions of respect in memoriam, posters, proclamations, letters expressing political opinions, weddings, engagements, anniversaries, legal notices, legal documents, and all other matters not of general news will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are encouraged. They must be signed by the author and include the telephone number for verification purposes. Only the writer's name will appear in print. Letters should be kept to a reasonable length, are subject to be edited for clarity, liable and for the purpose of only conveying a single point. Every attempt will be made not to change the meaning of letters. All letters are run "space available". Each letter is accepted on that basis.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Unsolicited photographs will be considered at a charge that will be determined after the picture is viewed. At this time, we do not accept photos by e-mail or on computer disk. We will accept actual photographs or 35mm negatives only.

ERRORS

This newspaper is not responsible for errors in more than one edition. Claims will not be considered unless made within 72 hours of publication. No allowance will be made when the error does not materially affect the value of the advertisement.

NEWS DEADLINE

All items intended for each week's edition must be received in the NEWS office no later than 4:00 P.M. on Mondays. Items submitted after the deadline will be held over for the following week. All items submitted are subject to holdover for future editions, depending on size, content, and available space.

NO GUARANTEES OR ASSURANCES ARE MADE AS TO WHEN ARTICLES OR PHOTOGRAPHS WILL APPEAR IN PRINT, OR POSITIONING WITHIN THE NEWSPAPER.

ADVERTISING

All advertising items intended for each week's edition must be received in the NEWS office no later than 4:00 P.M. on Mondays. Items submitted after the deadline will be held over for the following week. We reserve the right to reject, at our option, any advertising, with no explanation provided.

Member of the Texas Press Association Since 1971

The office of The Knox County News will be open as follows:
Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday-Sunday
Note: Since we are a small business with a full time staff of two, these times may vary as we are out of the office to cover news & sports stories, attend school events, take pictures, conduct business or handle family matters.

NOTICE OF GAS RATE INCREASE REQUEST

TXU Gas Distribution (the "Company"), in accordance with the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, hereby gives notice of its intent to implement a new schedule of rates for natural gas service to be charged to all residential, commercial and industrial customers in the unincorporated areas in the vicinity of the West Region Distribution System ("Enviros Customers"). The West Region Distribution System includes the following cities: Abilene, Albany, Alvarado, Anson, Avoca, Baird, Ballinger, Bangs, Benjamin, Blackwell, Blanket, Blum, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Carbon, Carlsbad, Cisco, Cleburne, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Covington, DeLeon, Desdemona, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Glen Rose, Godley, Gordon, Gorie, Gorman, Granbury, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Hermleigh, Hillsboro, Impact, Itasca, Joshua, Keene, Knox City, Lawn, Lipan, Loraine, Lueders, May, McCaulley, Meridian, Merkel, Miles, Moran, Morgan, Munday, Novice, O'Brien, Olden, Osceola, Ovalo, Putnam, Ranger, Red Springs, Rhineland, Rio Vista, Robert Lee, Roby, Rochester, Roscoe, Rotan, Rowena, Rule, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Santo, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Stephenville, Strawn, Sweetwater, Sylvester, Talpa, Throckmorton, Trent, Truscott, Tuscola, Tye, Valera, Vera, Weinert, Whitney, Wingate, and Winters.

The proposed revisions to the respective rate schedules will impact Residential Service, Commercial Service, Industrial Sales, Industrial Transportation, Rate Adjustment Provisions (Gas Cost Adjustment, Tax Adjustment, and Surcharges), and Miscellaneous Service Charges (Connection Charge, Read for Change Charge, Returned Check Charges, Delinquent Notification Charge, Main Line Extension Rate, Excess Flow Valve Charge, and Certain Stand-by Gas Generators). The proposed new schedule of rates will also eliminate the Rate Schedule for Public Schools-N and Commercial Contract Public Schools Rate.

The proposed rates are expected to produce a \$357,845 or a 10.27 percent increase in the Company's annual revenues from residential, commercial and industrial enviros customers in the West Region Distribution System. The proposed change will affect 3,494 residential, 475 commercial customers and 18 industrial customers. The proposed change may constitute a "major" change as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. The proposed changes will have differing impacts on individual residential and commercial customers, depending on consumption and current applicable rate schedules. A residential customer receiving a bill for 6 Mcf will see a bill of approximately \$50.93, which would constitute a change ranging from a decrease of \$6.93 to an increase of approximately \$7.60 per month. A commercial customer receiving a bill for 30 Mcf will see a change ranging from a 14.71% decrease to a 15.39% increase. Information on the change in any specific area can be obtained from TXU Gas Distribution.

A complete copy of the Statement of Intent, filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas on January 31, 2003 is available for inspection in the Company business office located at 1601 Bryan St., Dallas, Texas 75201. Persons with questions or who want information about this filing, or a copy, may contact TXU Gas Distribution at 1-800-460-3030. Any affected persons may file written comments or protest concerning the proposed change in enviros rates by March 21, 2003, with Docket Services Section of the Legal Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967.

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KC Area Church Directory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Knox City
Bobby King, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Services telecast live on Channel 6 in Knox City & O'Brien

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ Knox City
Claude McKiddy, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ Knox City
Pending name of new Minister
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH ~ Knox City
Paul Chambers, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m.

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Knox City
Father Leo Schoemer ~ Deacon Julian Estrada
Sunday Bilingual Mass at 11:00 a.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Rhineland
Father Leo Schoemer ~ Deacon Julian Estrada
Monday Through Friday Mornings, 8:00 a.m. Mass
Saturday Mass at 7:00 p.m. ~ Sunday Mass at 9:00 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of Benjamin
John Gillispie, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m., Sunday Morning at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Benjamin
Claude McKiddy, Pastor
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH ~ Gillespie
Ross Anderson, Pastor
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 7:00 p.m. ~ Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST ~ Benjamin
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL ~ Highway 222
W.O. Smith, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Mid Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

FAITH CHAPEL ~ 8 Miles South Of Knox City
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Mid Week, Wed. at 7:00 p.m.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH ~ O'Brien
Milton Mcamas, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. Mid Week, Wed. at 6:00 p.m.

WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH
- Rob Harrison, Pastor -
Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Mid Week Bible Study, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

"ABUNDANT LIFE" ZION FULL GOSPEL
Rich & Mary Ann Palma, Pastors
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00 p.m. Mid Week, Thurs. at 7:00 p.m.
Church location: 5 miles west of O'Brien

THIS CHURCH DIRECTORY IS SPONSORED EACH WEEK BY THESE MERCHANTS

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The Knox County News

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Mobile (940) 256-2394

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Dr. Imran Raza
Dr. Faras Hamadeh
Dr. Kevin Finley
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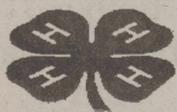
"Quality home care from the people you know"

A service of the Knox County Hospital District
(940) 657-3013

'Texas Country Reporter' film crew travels to Knox City for feature story on local firm



A FILM CREW FROM 'TEXAS COUNTRY REPORTER' traveled north to Knox City last week to gather information and video film on Texas Band Instrument repair, a local business owned and operated by Delbert and Joyce Lloyd. A unique business that specializes in the repair and rebuilding of used band instruments, the Knox City business serves school districts in a wide area of north Texas. The story on Delbert, Joyce, and their unique business will air statewide sometime later in the spring. In the photos above, the very distinctive Texas Country Reporter Ford Expedition is shown at the Lloyd residence with its Texas flag markings. In the center photo, Delbert is shown in the middle, explaining the process of rebuilding a band instrument to a member of the film crew, shown at left. Joyce Lloyd is shown to the right of Delbert. In the photo at right, a cameraman gets in real close to film a part of the rebuilding process on a band instrument. (NEWS digital photos)



KNOX CO. CEA NEWS

By TRISH JONES
County Extension Agent / Ag

Mycoplasmosis meeting set March 18

The incidence of Mycoplasmosis in stocker cattle has increased in recent years. Dr. Wohler, DVM of Texas Vet Labs Inc., will be visiting Knox County on Tuesday, March 18, at the Perry Patton Community Center in Munday at 6:00 p.m. We will be discussing Mycoplasmosis and its effects along with other stocker

health issues.

A hamburger supper will be served so we would appreciate an RSVP by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 17, to the Knox County office. We look forward to seeing you.

For more information or to RSVP contact the Knox County Extension office at 940-459-2651.

Immunization clinic to be in Knox City Thursday, March 13

The Texas Department of Health will conduct an Immunization Clinic at the Housing Authority Community Room, Thursday, March 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

DTaP, Polio, MMR and Chickenpox vaccines for children entering school will be available as well as other immunizations for adults, infants and children.

A parent, adult family member or guardian must accompany a minor.



Sharla Carver received an award for the Knox City high School Athletic Booster Club from Chamber Director Marla Hawkins, at left.



Joann Albus (center) and Peggy Guinn received an award for the Knox County Child Welfare Board from Chamber Director Kim Clonts, at left.



Delbert Lloyd received an award on behalf of the Knox City Lions Club from Chamber Director Marla Hawkins, shown at left.

NEWS Subscriptions: Call today, 657-3142

KC Chamber of Commerce honors businesses and organizations at banquet

Continued from page one

Several area organizations serving various facets of the community were also recipients of awards at the banquet.

The Knox City High School Athletic Booster Club received recognition for all their hard work in supporting the high school sports programs this school year, Club President Sharla Carver was present to accept the certificate.

The Knox County Child Welfare Board was recognized on behalf of all their efforts for Knox City and area children, Joann Albus and Peggy Guinn were on hand to accept the certificate.

The Knox City Lions Club was honored for their hard work and volunteer spirit, Delbert Lloyd accepted the certificate.

The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department also received a certificate for their dedicated service to the community, Domingo accepted the certificate in behalf of the department.

Outgoing Chamber Executive Director Marla Hawkins was also recognized, and the new incoming Executive Director, Daveine Clark was introduced. The president of the Knox City Chamber of Commerce for the new year is DiAnn Stewart, and Raul Espinosa was introduced as a new, incoming director.



Domingo Garcia received an award on behalf of the Knox City Volunteer Fire Department from Chamber Director Marla Hawkins, at left.

LEWIS PAINT & BODY SHOP

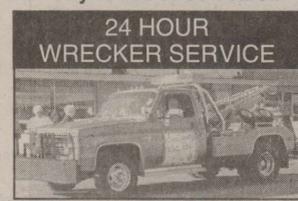
From 1952 to 2002, Owner Sterling Lewis Has Been Proudly Serving The Knox City Area For 50 Years!

Day or night, the only name you need to know. Specializing in major repairs, hail damage repair, custom painting and stripping, windshields and door glass, door and wheel aligning, and frame straightening. We can also replace those worn out headliners!

COME SEE US FIRST - NO JOB TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL

Sterling Lewis, Clint Lewis, Grant Lewis

Days: 658-3342 After Hours: 658-3330 Or 658-3629



Hispanic fund is started for summer leadership program

A 'National Hispanic Fund' has been established at Citizens Bank for three KCHS students attending a program sponsored by the National Hispanic Institute.

Anyone wishing to contribute may now do so, according to school counselor Bettye Moore.

A Golden Time

Brazos Valley
Care Home
658-3543

605 Avenue F, Knox City

A Mayo Clinic study says that depressed people tend to recover less well from heart attacks, coronary bypasses and other heart condition problems than people without emotional problems. The study followed 310 men and 70 women entering cardiac rehabilitation programs.

Researchers know that the protein ApoE is involved in Alzheimer's. Some Duke researchers say people who inherit a variant called ApoE are at risk before age 70.



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*** THURSDAY ***

CHICKEN STRIP SPECIAL - 6 PC.
Choice of potato log or mashed potatoes
- biscuit or rolls - gravy - free small drink - \$4.29

*** FRIDAY - HAMBURGERS ***
\$2.00 - All Day !!!

*** MONDAY - CHICKEN FRIED STEAK SANDWICH *** \$2.29

*** TUESDAY - HAMBURGER and POTATO LOGS *** \$3.00

BLUE BELL

Ice Cream - 1/2 Gallon



\$3.50 each

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BAIRD'S
Cinnamon Rolls

4.25 Oz.

49¢

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With Cash in February

••• \$8725.00 •••



Knox City, O'Brien hit

By Dick Tarpley
Abilene Reporter-News Editor

Thirteen persons were killed and at least 23 were hospitalized Friday afternoon as a vicious tornado cut a swath across northwestern Haskell County and the southern tip of Knox County.

The boisterous, brutal cloud dipped at least six times during its course from Jud, eight miles west of Rochester, northeasterly just to the west of Rochester, through the east side of O'Brien and through the east side of Knox City in southern Knox County. There its furious pace apparently exterminated itself. But in its wake it left four members of one family dead and three others in the same family injured at Jud; four persons in a trailer house on a farm between Rochester and O'Brien, including three members of one family dead; one fatally injured man in O'Brien; and four dead in Knox City.

The Knox County Hospital was directly in the path of the first major tornado in West Texas since the Olney Tornado two years ago. Between \$75,000 and \$100,000 damage was estimated to that structure, and its 27 patients were evacuated to other hospitals in West Texas after the storm passed on. But none of the patients were hurt, except Mrs. B.E. Karr, 81, of Rochester, who suffered only a slight bruise.

With the tornado came hard showers that totaled as much as four inches at Knox City. The rain covered most of Haskell and Knox Counties and hail fell at Knox City with gusto before the tornado struck.

Hardest Hit
Knox City (population 1,488) was the largest town hit. And the damage there was terrific. Fifty to 75 homes were damaged over a 20 to 25 block area extending from south of the hospital in southeastern Knox City to the northeastern tip of the city near the high school football field.

It was in northeastern Knox City where three of the victims died.

W.W. Hyde, 70, retired mail carrier and Reporter-News mail subscription salesman, was sitting in his chair in the front room of his new home near the northeastern edge of Knox City when the wind smashed the front room wall down. The wall struck Hyde, killing him instantly.

Mrs. Hyde was in the adjoining bedroom but escaped serious injury as only the living room wall collapsed. The north and east sides of the house were not seriously damaged.

Also in northeastern Knox City Mrs. Martina Avolas, about 65, and her daughter, Mrs. John Escobar, about 45, of O'Brien, who was visiting Mrs. Avolas, were killed as their home was destroyed.

Many of the finer homes of Knox City were destroyed or damaged, including several outstanding structures near the hospital. The Clinic, owned by Dr. T.P. Frizzell, across the street from the hospital was broken and littered, although still standing.

10 Die Instantly
Ten of the dead were killed almost instantly. Three died later in three hospitals. Six other per-

sons in hospitals at Haskell, Seymour and Abilene were on the critical list. Seventeen others were still hospitalized but were not believed seriously hurt.

Mrs. I.B. Ashley, 49, and two of her children, Carlton, 11 and Sue, 3, died in the tornado at their home in Jud. Another daughter, Velma Ruth, 5, died at Rule Clinic about an hour after she was rushed there.

Three other Ashley children were hospitalized at Haskell. Ruth Ashley, about 15, was in critical condition with a head injury, but Shirley, 9, and Wanda, 4, both with broken legs, were not considered in serious condition.

Funeral for the four members of the Ashley family were tentatively set for 3 p.m. Saturday at Jud.

Besides Velma Ruth Ashley, the others who died in hospitals were Fred Qualls, 65, of O'Brien, who died in a Haskell hospital about 5 p.m.; and J.T. Darr, 76, of Route 2, Knox City farmer, who died at 6:20 p.m. at Hendrick Hospital in Abilene.

Mrs. Qualls was critically hurt.

To Four Hospitals
Injured were taken to hospitals at Stamford, Haskell, Seymour and Abilene. The 27 patients in the Knox County Hospital were evacuated to hospitals throughout the area or to homes in Knox City. Water was being hauled into Knox City.

Power lines were down and little hope for restoration of electricity was held before Saturday or early next week as lines south of Rochester were torn down.

A gas main burst near the hospital in Knox City and no gas service was available. Telephone service was knocked out but was restored late Friday.

The tornado began around 2 p.m. or earlier.

It struck the hospital at Knox City at 2:15 p.m. Clocks there were stopped at that time.

STORM DEAD AND INJURED

From the Abilene Reporter-News filed, March 14, 1953

THE DEAD

Mrs. I.B. Ashley, 49, Jud.
Carlton Richard Ashley, 11, her son.

Velma Ruth Ashley, 5, her daughter.

Glenda Sue Ashley, 3, her daughter.

Mrs. Joe Klutts, about 40, of near O'Brien, and two of her children, a boy, about 12, and a girl, about 16.

A woman who lived with the Klutts family in their trailed home, whose name was not known. She was about 20.

W.W. Hyde, about 70, of Knox City.

Mrs. John Escobar, about 45, of O'Brien.

Mrs. Martina Avolas, about 65, her mother, of Knox City.

Fred Qualls, about 65, of O'Brien.
J.T. Darr, 76, of Route 2, Knox City.

CRITICALLY HURT

Mrs. J.T. Darr, 72, Route 2, Knox City, in Hendrick Hospital, Abilene.

Mrs. Fred Qualls, 63, of O'Brien, head injuries; Haskell Hospital.

Mrs. M.M. Griffith, 70, O'Brien, lacerations on head; Haskell hospital.

Lilly Mae Escobar, about 10, O'Brien, both arms broken, leg injury, in Haskell Hospital.

Ruth Ashley, about 15, Jud, head injury, Haskell Hospital.

Mrs. G.D. McCarty, 75, Knox City, fractured leg and other injuries, Seymour Hospital.

Hospitalized, Not Serious

Hendrick Hospital, Abilene - Mrs. L.L. Houston, 73, Route 1, Knox City.

Stamford Sanitarium - Mrs. E.H. Day and two children, Knox City; Clyde Grissom Day, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Day, Knox City;

Haskell Hospital - Glenn Bell, 30, Knox City; baby girl Littlejohn, O'Brien; Mrs. G.H. Taylor, 23, and daughter, Barbara Jean, 1 1/2, both of Fort Worth, visiting their mother and grandmother in Jud; J.W. Oxford, 68, Rochester; Shirley Ashley, 9, Jud; Wanda Ashley, 4, Jud.

Seymour Hospital - Mrs. B.E. Karr, 81, Rochester; Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Cornett, 70 and 53, Knox City; Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Ball, 63 and 48, Knox City.

The Knox County News has put together these photos and stories from 50 years ago as both a tribute to the 50th anniversary of the tornado that struck Knox City, and as a grim reminder that we are about to enter another tornado season here in West Texas.

We invite you to revisit the past through these photos and stories, while urging you to keep in mind just how dangerous spring weather can be in our part of the world.

Be safe, not sorry!





Tornado Season Checklist:

- Make an emergency plan for your home.
- Review the emergency plan with your loved ones and make sure each family member knows exactly what to do in the event of a tornado.
- Keep a list of emergency phone numbers handy.
- Keep a list of all medications for each family member.
- Use a safety deposit box at the bank to safeguard your valuable papers and documents.

- Visit your insurance agent to make sure that your homeowner, vehicle, and medical policies are up to date and provide you with adequate coverage to meet today's rising costs.

- Make sure any emergency supplies at your home are up to date and in good, working condition.

Wichita Falls newsman one of first at storm scene

By AL HALL
Wichita Falls Record News

(Editor's Note: Al Hall, state editor of the Times, Record News, was the first out of town newsman to reach Knox City following the tragic tornado. Here is his eye witness account of the scene.)

A deathly hush hung over Knox City as I drove into town less than an hour after a death-dealing tornado had laid waste to some eight or ten blocks.

Volunteer firemen were directing traffic, tragic-faced weeping survivors were picking through rubble in the almost vain hope of recovering a memento or something tangible of the life they had enjoyed a few short minutes before.

White refrigerators stood as tombstones, marking the sites of comfortable homes that had been flattened or completely carried away by the devastating wind.

Streets were blocked with uprooted trees, telephone and light poles, wires were everywhere, and the trees still standing were festooned with sheets of corrugated roofing.

My first thought was to get to the hospital, to check on casualties. But the hospital was the first structure to be razed by the storm.

The plate glass windows of the operating room had been blown out and the equipment was a

shambles. Windows all over the building were gone, and one complete wall had been ripped from the inner wall. Not a brick was left in place.

But the nurses, who had watched the storm's approach, were well disciplined, and although shaken by the ordeal were hastily evacuating the patients.

Between 25 and 30 patients, including two mothers with newborn babes, were transferred to other hospitals or private homes.

Already four ambulances from other towns had arrived and were loading patients. Then the injured started to arrive. As fast as facilities could be set up in one of the less badly damaged rooms of the hospital, blood donors by the score lined up - waiting to give the vital fluid that might save a life. Hap Smith, Rochester druggist, was stationed at the door, methodically listing the patients as they arrived and were transferred to other hospitals.

There were literally hundreds standing around on the lawns watching the proceedings. But the stark tragedy made coherent thought almost impossible. The only signs of hysteria were apparent among those who had escaped uninjured but were rushing their loved ones to the only asylum

they knew, and the looks on their faces as they beheld the ruined hospital were pitiful to witness.

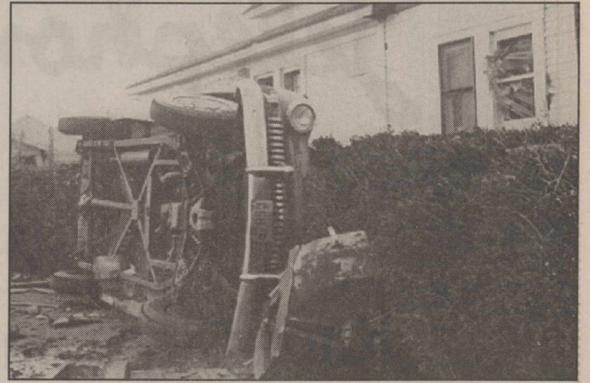
Communications from Knox City were confined to mobile telephones on police cars and those owned by oil companies which flocked in to summon aid and maintain contact with the outside world.

As the injured and dying began arriving faster than they could be given first-aid, they were transferred to ambulances directly from the cars in which they arrived. Then the count of actual casualties became impossible and it may be hours before all are located.

But through it all, the firemen, peace officers and just plain civilians who volunteered to direct traffic, kept the lanes open for the emergency cars, and traffic moved smoothly with minimum delays.

As the shock wore off, good neighbors turned to coordinating their efforts to provide shelter, comfort and food for the less fortunate.

Within two hours the crisis had passed, and the town started binding its wounds. But the scars of damaged homes and broken families will long remind Knox City of the tragic 13 minutes at 2:13 on Friday the 13th that left 13 lifeless victims in its wake.



Mortician won't forget cries of hospital patients

By George Dolan
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

The screams of frightened patients in Knox County Hospital will ring in the ears of E. Hob Smith for a long time.

Smith, who has spent 23 years handling torn bodies as a partner in Mansell-Smith Funeral Home at Rochester, can't afford to be too greatly disturbed by human suffering.

But the 48-year-old mortician admits those cries for help among patients in the tornado-torn hospital bothered him.

"They wanted someone to do something for them," Smith said.

Doctors, nurses and ambulance attendants rallied quickly to their aid. But they naturally had to turn their attention first to those persons most

seriously injured in the big blow.

Ambulance drivers, who swarmed into the stricken town from all over Northwest Texas, were among the many heroes of the storm.

Smith, himself one of the first ambulance drivers on the scene, is convinced he saved at least two lives.

Neither Mrs. Fred Qualls of Knox City nor Mrs. M. Griffin of O'Brien would have survived if she hadn't been rushed to a hospital, he believes.

"I know they would have died, both of them," Smith declared.

Smith sped the badly injured women to Haskell County Hospital.

They were saved, he said, despite the swarm of sight-seers who cluttered highways in the area.

Smith delivered six patients in the flurry of the post storm confusion to

hospitals in Abilene, Stamford and Haskell and to their Knox City homes.

Ten of the 27 patients in the hospital at Knox City were taken to neighboring hospitals. The rest were carried to their homes.

Mrs. Beulah Sanders, hospital superintendent, said Saturday that panic among patients was held down because "the thing hit so quickly."

"I was at the nurses' residence (a badly damaged stucco-addition to the hospital) when I heard the wind," said Mrs. Sanders.

"The windows started blowing out. Then the roof blew off."

But Mrs. Sanders, a slight, soft-spoken woman, was something of a heroine herself. She didn't bother to seek shelter. Instead she ran into the hospital building to see about her patients.



Storm gave no warning of approach

By Jimmy Branch - Editor, Publisher, Knox County Herald

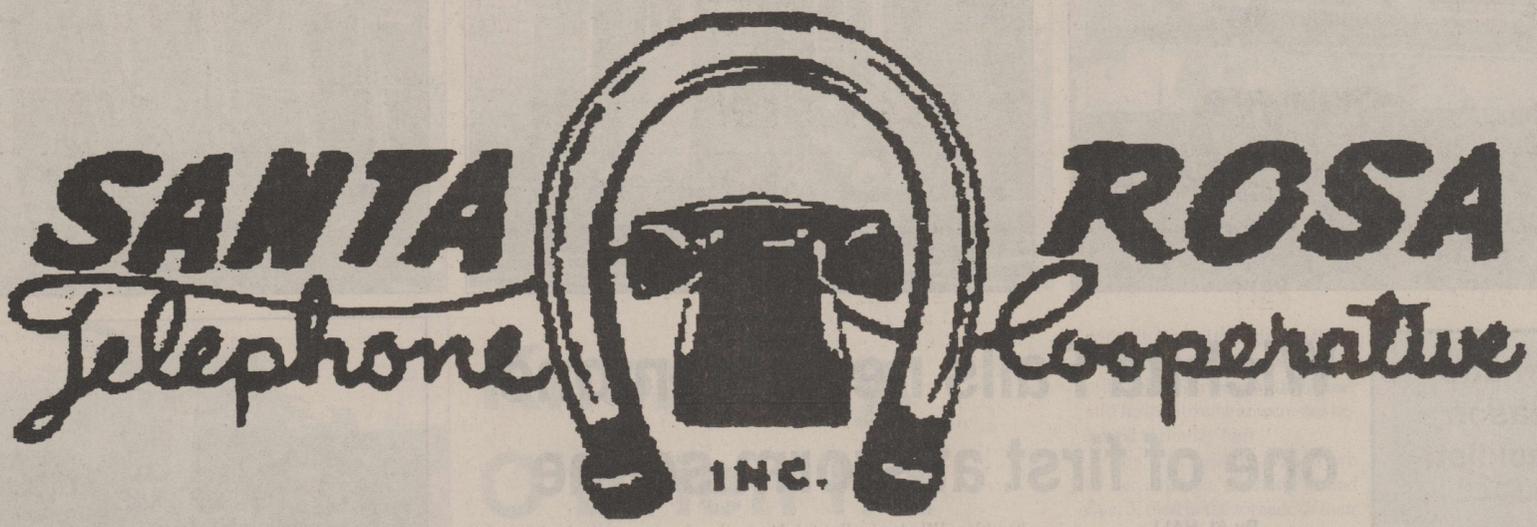
A death-dealing tornado side-swiped this West Texas town of 2,000 persons this afternoon, leaving death and destruction in its wake.

The twister dropped down from a rain-soaked sky, striking the southeast section of the city without warning about 2:20 p.m. Residents were enjoying what looked like a drouth-breaking rain when nature's masterpiece of destruction took the joy out of the Friday 13th afternoon.

Heavy rain and some hail fell in practically every community in the area topped by the five inches of rain which fell in Knox City when the twister hit.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE



Knox City's Santa Rosa Telephone customers who have 'made the switch' as of Monday, March 10, 2003

Abila, Mario & Linda	657-4036	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	657-3141	KNOX CO. AGING SERVICES	657-3618	Rios, Larry	657-5513
AGRILIANCE OF KNOX CITY	657-3585	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH		KNOX COUNTY CLEANERS	657-3641	Rios, Lupe	657-4018
Albus, James & Janice	657-3798	PARSONAGE	657-3654	KNOX COUNTY EMS	657-1313	Rios, Jessie & Dora	657-4593
Albus, Jimmy Ray	657-3943	Fisher, Shannon	657-1338	KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL	657-3535	Rios, Josephine	657-3935
Albright, Justin	657-4059	Flanders, Bobby Joe	657-4055	KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL		Rios, Sammy & Lou	657-3149
Angle, Buddy	657-3327	Flores, Ancil Jr. & Sally	657-5529	CLINIC	657-3906	Rios, Sarah	657-4104
APPEARANCES	657-5301	Flye, Amy Jo	657-3372	KNOX COUNTY HOSPITAL		Roberts, Don & Diane	657-3893
Arnold, Barney B.	657-3841	Flye, Mary	657-3750	HOME HEALTH	657-3013	Robinson, Melinda	657-4042
B & P BARBECUE	657-5023	Frausto, Kristi	657-1335	KNOX COUNTY NEWS, THE	657-3142	Rocha, Kristi	657-4017
Baez, Blas	657-3339	Frost, James Thomas	657-3064	Lankford, David	657-3978	Rocha, Mary	657-4094
Bailliff, Eddy & Betty	657-3308	Garcia, Elda	657-4034	Lankford, Sondra	657-3824	Rocha, Simon	657-3220
Ball, Joyce	657-3139	Garcia, Eric	657-3222	Larned, James & Brenda	657-1170	Rodriguez, Joe	657-5163
Banner, Joe	657-1163	Garcia, Freddy	657-4030	LARSON PHARMACY	657-3210	Rodriquez, Cruz	657-4061
Barnard, Andy & Lana	657-1228	Garcia, Jose	657-4043	Ledesma, Jessie & Connie	657-3624	Rolston, Homer & Jan	657-5196
Barnard, Claudale	657-3698	Garcia, Olivia	657-4009	Ledesma, Manuel & Mary	657-3317	Rosencranz, Roger	657-5107
Barnard, Joe & Barbara	657-3010	Garcia, Patricio	657-4060	Ledesma, Steve & Alishia	657-5532	Rowan, Bernice	657-3803
Barry, Kerry	657-4229	Garcia, Richard & Aurora	657-1183	Lee, David & Jeanine	657-5043	Rowan, Bobbi	657-4085
Bartley, Terry	657-3024	Garcia, Sylvia	657-1194	Lerma, Belinda	657-4103	Rowan, Delma	657-3246
Beauchamp, James	657-4655	Gaston, Doug & Lana	657-4140	Lerma, Billy & Deanna	657-5061	Salazar, Paul	657-4125
Belcher, W.R.	657-3127	Godsey, Carol	657-3800	Lerma, Ray & Diane	657-3132	Sanchez, Florencio	657-4130
Benavides, Toni	657-5519	Godsey, Daniel	657-5311	Lewis, Eric & Emily	657-4848	Sanders, Jackie	657-5184
Bernal, Sandra	657-4057	Gonzales, Pat	657-3732	Lewis, Fred & Tanya	657-5114	Servin, Dionicio	657-3908
Bishop, J.M.	657-5040	Green, Eric	657-4166	Lewis, Todd & Missy	657-5183	Shahan, Mary C.	657-4260
Bowman, Weldon & Susan	657-5185	Green, Helen	657-4028	LIBERTY CHURCH OF GOD		Shaver, M.F.	657-3857
Boyd, Louie Mae	657-4014	Grindstaff, John & Peggy	657-3703	IN CHRIST	657-5569	Short, Janet	657-4109
Bradford, Lorene	657-3124	Grindstaff, Sammy	657-3134	Logsdon, C.A.	657-5573	Silva, Salvador	657-3070
Brothers, Charlene	657-3428	GRILL, Lorene	657-3636	LOGSDON INS AGENCY	657-5044	Sliger, Laurie	657-4071
Bryant, Eddie & Claudia	657-3254	Gross, George R. & Ila Kay	657-3700	LYNN ELECTRIC MOTOR CO	657-3511	Smith, Randy & LaDonna	657-3415
Burkham, Leon	657-3772	Groves, Bill & Dell	657-3188	Lucas, Erwin S.	657-4223	Smith, Ricky Dale & Rocky	657-1017
Burns, Edward & Mozelle	657-5123	Guinn, Dell	657-4777	McCrary, Roxie	657-4108	Speck, Danny	657-5031
Burt, Robin	657-5198	Guinn, Jerry	657-4920	McGaughey, Mark	657-4021	Spells, Robert & Stacie	657-4039
Butler, Terry & Jennifer	657-1084	Gutierrez, Roberta & Marcelina	657-4079	McGaughey, Marsha	657-3090	Stafford, James	657-3083
Cardoza, Virginia	657-4005	Hacker, Clifford & Sherry	657-3773	McKinney, Willie J.	657-3325	Stafford, Kursten	657-1285
Carver, Riley & Stephanie	657-1115	Hacker, Kristy	657-4119	McLemore, Mitch & Kim	657-1223	Staggs, Larry	657-3223
Carver, Susan	657-3242	Hanson, Clara	657-5058	Macal, Ricardo	657-4052	Stanfield, Ron	657-3029
Casillas, Edmond & Yolanda	657-5358	Harris, T.	657-4192	Magana, Albert	657-3243	Starnes, Charles	657-3040
Casillas, Susie	657-4227	Harris, Terrel & Annette	657-4092	Magana, Andrew & Lucretia	657-4022	Steen, Harry E.	657-3924
Cathcart, Ida	657-1287	Hawkins, Kay	657-5574	Manning, Orval & Helen	657-3689	Stewart, Bill & DiAnn	657-3007
Chisum, Russ	657-1219	Heald, Ruschelle	657-4065	Mardinez, Jose G.	657-3663	Strickland, Chris & Amy	657-3018
Clark, Darren	657-1229	Heath, Jennifer	657-4075	Marin, Joe & Maria	657-3919	Stuckey, Donna	657-4013
Clark, Darren	657-4429	Hedgecoke, Stacy	657-1106	Marion, Auta	657-1112	Tankersley, Samuel	657-3859
Clark, Hazel	657-3549	Hernandez, Roni	657-4019	Marion, Roland & Sue	657-3294	Tankersley, Samuel	657-3816
Clarke, Charles & Peggy	657-3658	Herrera, Adela	657-5328	Martinez, Anthony	657-1161	Taylor, Donny	657-4006
Clonts, Greg & Kim	657-3378	Hester, Alton & LaUna	657-3072	Martinez, Hononio	657-4163	Taylor, Donny & Cynthia	657-4023
Compton, Daniel	657-4074	Hill, Phillip & Lynda	657-1141	Martinez, Jose G & Juana Maria	657-3663	Taylor, John H.	657-3184
Conn, Gary	657-4332	Hodges, George	657-3380	Martinez, Juliana	657-4062	Taylor, John & Shirley	657-5080
Contreras, Vallerie	657-4110	Holder, Larry W. & Connie	657-4823	Meador, Jeffery & Crystal	657-4226	THE PIZZA PLACE	657-5345
Counts, David	657-3596	Holder, Larry W. & Connie	657-3823	Monroe, Sheri	657-4026	Thomas, V.F.	657-3900
Correll, Sonny & Brenda	657-3692	Hollingsworth, Randy	657-3498	Moreno, Rafaela	657-5369	Thompson, Dave & Stacy	657-3131
COUNTS REAL ESTATE	657-5012	Holmes, Rhonda L.	657-4132	Morrow, Ronnie & Leisa	657-3006	Thompson, Scooter	657-3004
Curd, Jerry	657-3752	Houch, Morris	657-5173	Moss, Nikki	657-1110	Tolleson, Norman & Sue	657-3863
Curd, W.P.	657-3447	Howeth, Colin & Christie	657-1059	Moss, Tim & June	657-5019	Torres, Leocadio & Maria	657-1297
Curd, William & Rita	657-3721	Hurt, Viola	657-1212	Mossburg, Patty	657-1181	Trice, W.L. (Bill)	657-5027
Daniel, Ed & Cheryl	657-3196	Hutchinson, Cameron	657-1258	Moya, Demetrio & Amber	657-4070	Turner, Dale & Gail	657-1064
David, Connie	657-5510	Hutchinson, Cleveland & Kelly	657-1257	Munoz, Irma	657-4374	Underwood, Evelyn	657-3309
DAVID COUNTS CAMPAIGN	657-4222	Hutchinson, Krystal	657-4257	Munoz, Toni	657-4004	Vacek, William J. & Janice	657-3713
Davis, Brittany	657-4107	Hutchinson, Wayne & Kelly	657-1196	Myers, Rocky & Rickie	657-3279	Vaden, Jackie & Cheryle	657-4001
Davis, Nancy	657-5096	Ivie, David	657-5341	Myers, Tomas & Orrin	657-1138	Vasquez, Ricky Dwayne	657-4058
Davis, Nancy	657-1164	Ivie, David	657-1002	Nava, Cynthia	657-4225	Wainscott, D.W. & Sharon	657-3221
Day, Roy	657-4068	Ivie, V.M.	657-5368	Nelson, Jim	657-5527	Waldrup, Greta	657-4041
Del Hierro, Alfonso	657-4016	JESSIE'S SERVICE STATION	657-5593	Norton, Robert	657-4116	Walker, Billie R.	657-3628
DeVille, Kent & Jennifer	657-3976	Johnson, Nonie	657-5525	Offield, Eddie	657-5001	Ward, Gerald	657-8907
Duncan, Carol	657-3433	Johnston, Audie	657-3852	Oudems, Charlene	657-4063	Ward, Gerald & Stella	657-5347
Dunn, Lydia	657-4966	JON'S AUTO SERVICE	657-3606	Pack, Ida	657-5022	Watson, Leon	657-3277
Eaton, Elaine	657-4084	Jones, Clint & Doris	657-4444	Penman, Jane	657-3436	Watson, Tim	657-1269
Eaton, Jeremy & Lynnzie	657-1241	Kilgore, Jan & Bill Tweedy	657-3465	Peysen, John & Bonnie	657-3324	Watson, Wayne & Renella	657-3876
Eddington, Leola	657-4050	King, Erwin & Francis	657-3462	Picklesimer, John	657-5007	Watson, Wayne fax	657-4876
Ejem, Gwen	657-4066	KINNIBRUGH WELDING	657-4100	Pierce, Lacey	657-1194	WAYNE'S SERV. STATION	657-3814
Ellis, Beatrice	657-3818	KNOX CITY CHURCH		Pineda, Jack & Pauline	657-4053	West, Jeremy	657-1227
Elmore, Vonnia E.	657-8906	OF CHRIST	657-3891	Quintana, Stella	657-3169	West, Jeremy	657-4220
Emerson, J.M. & Susan	657-3608	KNOX CITY CHURCH		Railsback, K M	657-4468	White, Ronnie	657-1046
Escobar, Ray	657-3451	OF CHRIST	657-3331	Railsback, Bruce & Sandy	657-3468	Williams, Brian & Cathye	657-3157
Espinosa, Brandon	657-3078	KNOX CITY FLORIST	657-3581	Ray, C.B.	657-3932	Williams, Donald	657-4160
Espinosa, Celia	657-3016	KNOX CITY HOUSING		Reed, Charles	657-3630	Williams, J.L.	657-4082
Espinosa, Juan O.	657-4126	AUTHORITY	657-3612	Reeves, S.J. Jr. & Myra	657-3301	Wilson, Jesse	657-4033
Espinosa, Raul Jr. & Stephanie	657-5343	KNOX CITY-O'BRIEN CISD		Reid, Rick	657-3321	Wilson, Patsy	657-5021
Espinosa, Raul & Vera	657-3992	Elementary School	657-3147	Reynolds, Tommie & Sequoyah	657-3945	Young, Billy & Patricia	657-3284
Espinosa, Robert Q.	657-4120	High School	657-3565	Rhodes, Allen & Janice	657-4010		
Espinoza, Manuel Jr.	657-3319	Middle School	657-3731	Rhodes, Ruth	657-3021		
Espinosa, Wesley & Linda	657-3337	Superintendent	657-3521	Richardson, Flint & Christy	657-1206		
Estrada, Dionisia	657-5098	Vo Ag Shop	657-5171	Richardson, Sid & Rosa	657-3356		

Call the Seymour office, (940) 889-1125

Knox County News Classifieds

Our customers know how fast these ads get results !! Call 658-3142 to place your ad

Prices: Minimum Ad: \$4.00 for 20 words - 20¢ for each extra word - \$1.00 Added per week if end-of-month billing is necessary - Deadline: Mondays at 5:00 p.m.

Real Estate

PRICE REDUCED - 600 S. Ave. F. Large home with three bedrooms and study or four bedrooms, two baths, large living-dining, large kitchen with built-ins, den and two car garage, storm cellar, all in good condition. For appointment call Rike Real Estate, 940-864-2411.

7-25 tfc 45

IF YOU ARE interested in selling your home, let us know. Several inquiries have been made for new home purchases. Let us list your home.

COUNTS REAL ESTATE
658-3990 • 102 N. AVE. A

10-17 tfc 29

Aging center lunch menus

March 17th thru 21st

Monday, March 17 - Fish with tarter sauce, macaroni and cheese, sweet peas, cole slaw, hush puppies, cake.

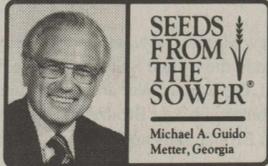
Tuesday, March 18 - Slice ham, butter beans, turnip greens, spoon tomato salad, cornbread, jello / fruit.

Wednesday, March 19 - Beef stew, seven-minute cabbage, cornbread, cobbler.

Thursday, March 20 - Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, whole kernel corn, celery and apple salad, hot rolls, fruit crunch.

Friday, March 21 - Mexican casserole, ranch beans, salad, crackers, blueberry muffins.

(All menus subject to change without notification. It is important to contact the site manager in order that meals can be prepared.)



SEEDS FROM THE SOWER
Michael A. Guido
Metter, Georgia

A man jumped into a cab and found the driver with a book in his hands. "What are you reading?" he asked.

"The Bible."
"Why?" he wondered.
"I love it," said the cabbie, "and I love the Savior of whom it speaks."

"What's your creed?" he asked.
"It's simple," said the cabbie. "Believe all that God has said, obey all that He has commanded, and accept all that He has promised."

What a creed! In believing its sayings, you will find salvation; in obeying its commands, satisfaction; in accepting its promises, security.

Oh, the joys of those who are always reading the Bible and thinking about ways to follow God more closely.

NEWS

subscriptions

just like a letter from home !!

Call today
657-3142

Garage Sale

HASKELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Third Annual Flea Market to be held Saturday, March 15, in conjunction with the Haskell Fire Department's Annual Antique Car Show. Both to be held around the square in Haskell beginning at 8:00 a.m. Call (940) 864-2477 or (940) 864-3830 for more information.

3-13 tlc 48

Help Wanted

SERVICE TECHNICIAN for local tractor dealership. Health, retirement and vacation benefits. Call 940-422-4534.

12-12 tlc 14

HELP WANTED - Knox County Hospital District is taking Applications for Certified Nurse Aides and LVNs, with a minimum of two years experience and references. For information call (940) 657-3535 ext. 260.

2-20 tlc 33

RN FULL TIME openings at Hardeman County Memorial Hospital, 402 Mercer Street, Quannah, Texas 79252. Contact D.O.N. Paula Butler, 940-663-2795.

2-20 tlc 24

\$1,000 SIGN-ON BONUS currently being offered for full-time LVN position. Good benefits package also available. Contact Rachel Gray RN, DON, at Munday Nursing Center, 940-422-4541. EOE.

3-13 tlc 36

WANTADS work wonders...

Call today,
657-3142

Deadline is
Monday at 5:00

For Sale

'WHEN WRESTLING WITH your conscience, let your conscience win. Right now get 2 great La-Z-Boy recliners for one low price starting at \$499 for a pair. Kinney Furniture in Stamford still offers easy terms, free out of town delivery, and small town personal service.'

3-13 tlc

SCRAPBOOK ENTHUSIASTS! Come check out our supply of pictures at The Knox County News, 108 North Central.

1-31 tlc

'YOU CAN'T TURN back the clock, but you can wind it again. Come see the great new mattress sets from Spring Air, the fastest growing mattress company in the USA. Kinney Furniture in Stamford will give you a free set of sheets with any size with any size premium bed.'

3-13 tlc

SO MANY SEPARATES from which to choose. Mix and match skirts, pants, vests and jackets. Great buys, Appearances.

3-13 tlc

FOR SALE - AKC registered white male chihuahua, 11 weeks old. Pretty spoiled. Call 658-1007.

3-13 tlc 2tp

BETTER HURRY and get a time of your choice for **TANNING !!!** New lotions have arrived! Appearances, 657-5301.

2-13 tlc

BEACH SANDALS have arrived in sizes we were out of. Come in while sizes are complete. Appearances, 108 North Central, Knox City.

3-13 tlc 22

LADIES' SUITS, COATS, SEPARATES. Wonderful buys! Appearances, 657-5301.

2-20 tlc

Notice

FAST FOOD FOR people on the go. Penman's Convenience Store, 940-658-3424.

12-19 tlc 12

IN A HURRY? Call ahead, Penman's Convenience Store, 940-658-3424. *

12-19 tlc 10

Bid Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: Childress
Contract 6096-74-001 for REPLACE TAS W/SGT in DICKENS County, etc. will be opened on April 10, 2003 at 3:00 a.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$244,850.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 9256

State Office

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

District Office(s)

Childress District
District Engineer,
7599 US 287

Childress, Texas 79201-9705
Phone: 940-937-2571

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3-6 tlc 260

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3-28 tlc 24

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Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE - THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 30.05 OF THE PENAL CODE OF TEXAS - (CRIMINAL TRESPASS SENATE BILL III LEGISLATURE), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL LANDS OF THE W.T. WAGGONER ESTATE ARE POSTED - SAVE AND EXCEPT WHERE WRITTEN PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO COME UPON THE SAME.

GENE W. WILLINGHAM
A.B. WHARTON 52

LEGAL NOTICE - THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 30.05 OF THE PENAL CODE OF TEXAS - (CRIMINAL TRESPASS SENATE BILL III LEGISLATURE), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL LANDS OF THE SPIKE BOX RANCH AND CACTUS FARMS ARE POSTED - SAVE AND EXCEPT WHERE WRITTEN PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO COME UPON THE SAME.

MIKE SHEEDY
10-29 tlc 52

Call in your news, 657-3142

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O'Brien happenings

By Audie Johnston, O'Brien Correspondent

"Someone asked me after yesterday's service, "How do you know when you are getting old? How do you know when you have started to die?"

Here's a test. You are getting old when you no longer have dreams - not the kind of dreams you have while your sleep, but dreams you dream when you awake. You are starting to die when you feel that the exciting parts of your life have already happened.

What are your hoped and dreams? Are you just expecting to get out of bed tomorrow and make it through the day? Or do you have a dream? Do you have a dream of being something someday that you are not today?

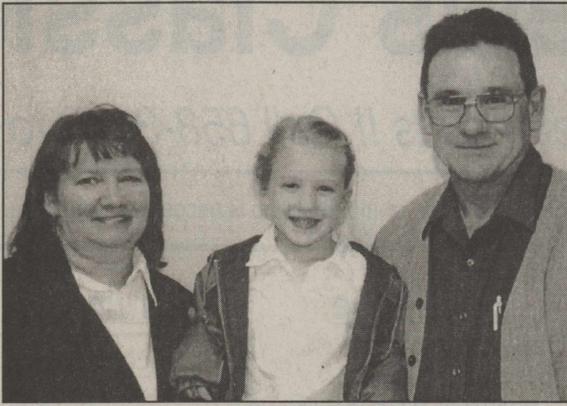
You may say, "I'm already half-way through life, or maybe beyond half-way." It is never too late to dream about what could be."

Here and There - Rhonda McManus and Billie Walker of O'Brien and Vita White of Rule attended a multi-association women's retreat in Millsap Saturday. Missionary Louise Fisher of Louisiana gave highlights of her travels to Korea and Brazil. Linda Barron spoke of her 15 years in Africa, Shirley McDonald spoke of God's work at home; Rev. V.A. Trussell issued a challenge to the women. Music was by Paul Andrew and Sheryl Smith "Batling Pianos" and a medley by Robin McKay and Annette Coursey. Approximately 50 women attended.

Adelle Herring was blessed with her company last week. They were Andy Hines of Lubbock, Claudia Reid of Rochester and Kevin Urbanczyk of Goree.

Charlene Brothers spent some time in Abilene over the weekend with her son, Craig Brothers and family.

Eddie and Claudia Bryant were in Lubbock over the weekend and visited their son, Jon and wife Lindsey, and all had a good time



O'BRIEN BAPTIST PASTOR Milton McManus, shown with wife Rhonda and daughter Lacey, are now at home in the church parsonage. (NEWS Photo)

visiting.

Dan and Marilyn Talbot were in Shallowater Saturday to visit their daughter Cathy. She had hurt an ankle but was doing pretty good.

David Ellis of Alpine visited with his mom, Beatrice Ellis, and helped her with her yard work and did some visiting.

Veeta Reid enjoyed her little grandson Sam a few days last week and returned home with him to spend a few days with his new baby brother from Russia.

I was honored last week by having my daughter Loura and husband Bill and son Tom from Lancaster, California, and my son John Johnston and wife Nancy and grandson John Walker, all from Haltom City, Louisiana, and then we all were in Slaton spending some time with another son, Don Johnston and wife Marilyn and their children, Lance and wife Angie, Kenda and husband Hayes and daughter Kellen and daughter Kari and husband Brad Lewis and daughters Kristen and Kelce and then on to Plainview on Saturday to visit my daughter Sammie Roberts and husband Kenneth and sons Rodney Roberts and wife Sherry and son Jerod and daughter Gina

of Lubbock and son Randy and wife Angie and sons Haden, Tristan and daughter Halle of College Station to attend Sammie and Kenneth Roberts 50th wedding anniversary. My other son Jimmy and wife Tenia Johnston and daughters Wendi Anderson and husband Shannon and son Brandon and daughter Jamie Wells and quintuplets, Briley, Zachary, Jantzen, Jaden and Landen, all from Lubbock and daughter Shirley James and husband Freddie of Shallowater and daughter Carla Lambright of Plainview and many other relatives from several other cities attended the anniversary celebration and enjoyed lots of good food and visiting so many friends and loved ones.

Our church is blessed to have Bro. Milton as pastor and we bless him and are behind him and we all want to praise him and be with him in all our prayers not just for him but those sick that are still in our prayer list. These are some on our list, Dan Talbot, Loretta Hewitt, Troy and Clara Hanson, Vivian Hendrix, Demp Emerson, Hope Poe and Evelyn Underwood who is in the KC "care home", in fact, all in our church need prayer!

High school honor roll

'A' HONOR ROLL Fourth Six Weeks

Ninth Grade: Jessica Albus, Grant Lewis, Tanisha Patel.

Tenth Grade: Kaylie Billington. Eleventh Grade: Cody Brock-ett, Brandon Espinosa, Ariana Gomez.

Twelfth Grade: Ashley Harrison, Kimberly Hawkins, Ashley Jobe, Lezli Villa.

'A-B' HONOR ROLL

Ninth Grade: Antonio Aguayo, Ryan Harrington, Nikki Moss, Tomas Myers, Meagan Schur, Andy Shaver, Sandra Silva.

Tenth Grade: Drew Barnard, C.J. Bruce, Eric Lewis, Erica Nevarez, Dimple Patel.

Eleventh Grade: Krystal Hutchinson, Amado Rodriguez, Carlos Ruiz, Eddie Vela.

Twelfth Grade: Sean Duncan, Kendrick Green, Mindy Hudson, Brad Johnson, Diana Miranda, Wesley Parker, Eric Rodriguez, Teresa Rodriguez, Anita Silva, Leah Simmons, Scooter Thompson, Landon Weiershausen.

Mid-school honor roll

'A' HONOR ROLL Fourth Six Weeks

Fifth Grade: Clayton Clark, Brittney Gonzales.

Sixth Grade: Jordan Carter. Seventh Grade: Marni McLemore.

Eighth Grade: Bridgett Billington, Brandon Grimsley, Laura Harrington, Emily Lewis, Katelyn Railsback, Tiffany Wilde.

'A-B' HONOR ROLL

Fifth Grade: Elmina Banks, Devon Flye, Kishan Raghu.

Sixth Grade: Chance Agraz, Samantha Esquivel, Cheyanne Lee, Christopher Taylor.

Seventh Grade: Joseph Albus, Sarah Burt, Candace Carver, Britany Garcia, Rico McCrary, Brianna Rios, Jessy Schur.

Eighth Grade: Vanessa Solis, Cody Waincott.

Elementary honor roll

'A' HONOR ROLL Fourth Six Weeks

First Grade: Lyndon Baty, Zachary Carter, Kelsey Vasquez.

Second Grade: Selena Benavides, Blayne Bradley, Jose Espinal, Jennifer Harris, Hagen Hutchinson, Allison Lynn.

Third Grade: Destini Billington, Cassidy Carter, Kyle Harrington, Jarek Wilde.

Fourth Grade: Santiago Espinal, Landon Lynn.

'A-B' HONOR ROLL

First Grade: Stratton Edmonds, Jonathan Jackson, Ty McLemore, Christopher Richardson, Courtney Taylor, Ligon West.

Second Grade: Quinten Burt, Emily Espinosa, Chasity Garcia, Haley Ledesma, Jasmine Lerma, Blayne Styles.

Third Grade: Reagan Clark, Lucinda Diaz, Tiffany Esquivel, Trent Harris, Monique Taylor, Anthony Toliver, Brandon York.

Fourth Grade: Kaley Ainsworth, Brandon Bradley, Whitney Collins, Santos Espinal, Adrian Flye, Kelsey Harrington, Alanah Lee, Zach Shaver, Camille Ward, Zakery York.

Obituaries

Owen Wade Anderson

Owen Wade Anderson of Austin died March 3, 2003, following complications from heart surgery.

Wade worked for three years at the Attorney General of Texas office, after graduation in 1994 from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law.

Wade worked at the Texas State Comptroller's office for over 30 years. He was a tax attorney specializing in interstate tax and tax policy.

Wade served twice as general counsel for the Comptroller, and also as associate deputy comptroller.

Wade was a former general chairman and active member of the Western States Tax Association. He was the Texas representative to the Multistate Tax Commission, and was on their executive board for over 25 years. He received the Federation of Tax Administrators' Award for Outstanding Service and Leadership. He was a founding member and former chairman of the Border States Caucus. Wade testified before the U.S. Congress several times as a tax expert.

In 1998, Wade went to work for Vinson & Elkins law firm as a tax attorney, where he continued his involvement with multistate tax issues. He made many new friends there.

January 1, 2003, Wade returned to the Texas State Comptroller's office as executive counsel for Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn.

Wade was born August 4, 1940, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to Owen William and Elizabeth Upshaw Anderson. Wade grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, then Houston, Fort Worth, and Tyler, Texas. His family also enjoyed many summers in their cabin in Evergreen Colorado, where Wade loved fishing with his hands in the streams. In 1958, Wade moved to Austin to attend the University of Texas at Austin. In six years' time, he graduated from U.T. with a B.A. in mathematics on a geophysical scholarship, and from the U.T. School of Law by 1964. Wade was devoted to his hobbies of painting military miniatures, collecting swords, and undertaking home improvement projects.

Wade is survived by his loving family, including his wife of 39 years, Nancy Benedict Kelly Anderson, daughter Natasha Anderson, daughter Hollyana Melear, son-in-law Shane Melear, and granddaughter Chloe Melear. Survivors also include his brother Reyburn Anderson, brother-in-law Robert Everette Kelly, uncle Norman Anderson of Gunnison, Colorado, cousins Don Fritz and Jo Strauss, and their families.

Services were held Thursday, March 6, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at Weed Corley Fish Funeral Home in Austin. Burial was in Austin Memorial Park.

Ramon P. Valencia

Graveside services for Ramon P. Valencia were held Monday, March 10, 2003, at 2:00 p.m. at Crestview Memorial Park in Wichita Falls with Smith Funeral Home of Knox City in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Valencia, 78, died March 7, 2003, at the Brazos Valley Care Home in Knox City.

Born May 8, 1924, in Hanover, New Mexico, he was the son of Felipe and Victorianna Valencia. Ray served in the United States Air Force for 21 years. He served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He was awarded with an Air Medal with four Bronze leaf clusters, EAME Ribbon with one Silver, two Bronze stars and a Good Conduct Medal.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Ray is survived by his wife, Minnie Pearl McWhorter Valencia; a brother, Tony Valencia of Bayard, NM; a stepdaughter, Dale Rush of Boerne; a grandson, a great-grandson and numerous nieces and nephews.

Community Network computer classes to start again March 17

The Knox County Community Network computer training classes will begin March 17 and continue through April 17.

Courses will be on Monday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00, Tuesday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30, Tuesday nights from 6:00 to 8:00, Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 on the Knox City Elementary campus.

Courses available are Intro to Computers, Internet, MS Word (Basic), MS Word (Intermediate) and Equipment Questions and Answers.

A special two night course in Excel Spreadsheet will be held Monday and Tuesday nights, March 24 and 25, at the Knox County Aging Center and Library.

For reservations and location of classes, call Susan at 657-3618.

Parenting fair set April 24 in Knox City

By Jane Rowan
County Extension Agent / FCS

The Texas Cooperative Extension - Family and Consumer Sciences Committee will be sponsoring the ninth annual Knox County Parenting Fair, Thursday, April 24, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Knox City High School gym.

The fair will offer a variety of information on services and programs available to help parents raising their children. Booth space is also still available for anyone wishing to participate as an exhibitor.

For more info contact the Knox County Extension office at 459-2651.

Sports photos are available at the NEWS

LEGAL NOTICE

On February 6, 2003, VALOR Telecommunications of Texas, LP (VALOR) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) to establish surcharges to recover lost revenues and increased costs associated with seven hundred thirteen (713) Expanded Local Calling Service (ELCS) routes implemented in and between VALOR's Texas telephone exchanges and in many instances, exchanges of other local telephone companies. The application is filed based on the Commission's Substantive Rule 26.221 titled, "Applications to Establish or Increase Expanded Local Calling Service Surcharges".

ELCS expands a local calling scope to include one or more additional telephone exchanges, if customers in a petitioning exchange approve by ballot, the payment of an ELCS fee in lieu of long distance charges. The costs and lost revenues associated with VALOR's surcharge application are those not recoverable through the ELCS fee.

In the application, VALOR proposes to implement on an interim basis a monthly per line surcharge of \$0.99 for residential customers and \$1.98 for business customers beginning with the April, 2003 bill cycle. This proposed surcharge will apply in addition to any monthly ELCS fees. If rates at or above the level of the interim surcharges are not ultimately approved by the Commission, VALOR will refund all or part of the interim surcharges, as directed by the Commission. Ultimately, VALOR seeks approval of monthly surcharges of \$3.38 for business lines and \$1.69 for residential lines to replace the interim surcharges. Additionally, the application proposes that customers currently billed ELCS fees lower than \$3.50 per residential line and \$7 per business line, will have those fees raised to \$3.50 per residential line and \$7 per business line.

The net annual effect on the revenues of VALOR will be zero since the requested surcharge replaces lost revenues and reimburses VALOR for the increased cost of service associated with ELCS. The estimated total lost revenues and increased costs VALOR seeks to recover through this proceeding is \$7,601,145 annually.

If you have questions about the proposed surcharges or would like further information, please call VALOR at 1-877-520-5220. The Public Utility Commission has assigned Project No. 27363 to this proceeding. Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Public Utility Commission of Texas as soon as possible and no later than April 14, 2003, the intervention deadline. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, PO Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing-impaired and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

AVISO

El 6 de febrero de 2003, VALOR Telecom de Texas, LP (VALOR) sometió una solicitud a La Comisión Pública de Servicios de Texas (Public Utility Commission of Texas) para establecer sobrecargos para recuperar las ganancias perdidas y los costos incrementados relacionados con setecientos trece (713) rutas implementadas del Servicio Expandido de Llamadas Locales (Expanded Local Calling Service) entre los despachos centrales de teléfono de VALOR de Texas y en muchas instancias, despachos de otras compañías locales de teléfono. La solicitud se sometió basada en la Regla 26.221 de La Comisión titulada, "Solicitudes para Establecer o Incrementar los Sobrecargos de Servicio Expandido de Llamadas Locales".

ELCS extiende el alcance de llamadas locales para incluir uno o más despachos de teléfono adicionales, si los clientes de un despacho hacen una petición de cambio que es aprobada por voto para pagar un cargo de ELCS en lugar de sobrecargos de larga distancia. Los costos y ganancias perdidas relacionadas con los sobrecargos de la solicitud de VALOR no son recuperables a través de la cuota del ELCS.

En la solicitud, VALOR propone implementar temporalmente un cargo mensual por línea de \$0.99 por cliente residencial y \$1.98 para clientes comerciales empezando con la facturación del ciclo de Abril, 2003. Este cargo propuesto se aplicará en adición a cualquier cargo mensual ELCS. Si las tarifas al o sobre el nivel de los sobrecargos temporarios no son ultimadamente aprobados por la Comisión, VALOR reembolsará todo o parte de los sobrecargos temporales, indicados por La Comisión. Ultimadamente, VALOR busca aprobación de sobrecargos mensuales de \$3.38 por líneas comerciales y \$1.69 por líneas residenciales para reemplazar los sobrecargos temporarios. Adicionalmente, la solicitud propone que los clientes que actualmente son facturados con tarifas ELCS más bajas de \$3.50 por línea residencial y \$7.00 por línea comercial, tendrán un incremento de tarifas a \$3.50 por línea residencial y \$7.00 por línea comercial.

El efecto anual en las ganancias de VALOR serán cero siendo que los sobrecargos solicitados reemplazan las ganancias perdidas y reembolsa a VALOR por incremento en el costo del servicio relacionado con ELCS. El costo estimado total de las ganancias perdidas y el incremento de costos que VALOR tiene como fin recuperar a través de este procedimiento es \$7,601,145 anualmente.

Si usted tiene alguna pregunta acerca de los sobrecargos propuestos o si necesita más información, por favor llame a VALOR al 1-877-520-5220.

La Comisión de Servicios Públicos ha asignado el Proyecto No. 27363 a este procedimiento. Las personas que deseen intervenir o comentar en o sobre estos procedimientos deben notificar La Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas tan pronto como sea posible y no más tarde del día 14 de Abril 2003, fecha límite de la intervención. Para intervenir o para más información, escriba a La Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (Public Utility Commission of Texas), 1701 N. Congress Avenue, PO Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. También puede solicitar más información llamando a la Comisión de Servicios Públicos al (512) 936-7120 o al (888) 782-8477. Personas con impedimentos de hablar o del sentido de oír con teléfonos de textos (TTY) pueden comunicarse con La Comisión al (512) 936-7136.

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Abilene - Acco Feeds (915) 676-3302 10:00-11:00 A.M.
Anson - Farmers Coop Gin (915) 823-3122 12:00-1:00 P.M.
Haskell - Richardson's (940) 864-8551 2:00-3:00 P.M.
Knox City - Benjamin Fertilizer (940) 658-3642 4:00-5:00 P.M.

To place an order or for more info contact one of our Aquatic Consultants, local dealer or email sales@dunnfishfarm.com
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Photos from this week's baseball and track action

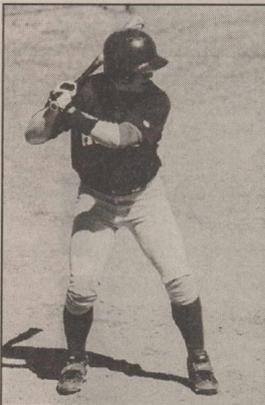


CJ BRUCE had the catching duties on Thursday against Childress in the Hamlin Tournament.



QUENTIN SPELLS goes from 2nd to 3rd base after an overthrow by Childress at Hamlin

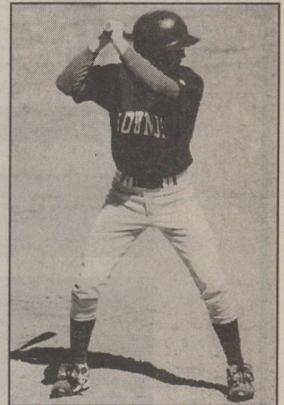
KCHS batters pound out home runs



TYE CHISUM hits a home run against Seymour



SCOOTER THOMPSON drives in 3 runs against Childress



ANDY SHAVER hits a home run against Childress



BRANDON GRIMSLEY goes over the high jump bar in the Junior High Track Meet at Rotan



EMILY LEWIS throws the shot at the Junior High Track Meet at Rotan on Thursday



CANDACE CARVER clears the hurdles easily in the Junior High Track Meet at Rotan

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