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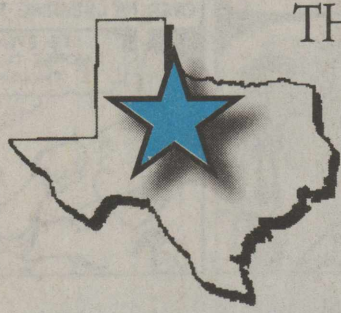
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THE

# KNOX COUNTY NEWS

PROUDLY SERVING THE KNOX COUNTY AREA

8 PAGES PLUS INSERTS  
VOLUME XXXVIII

KNOX COUNTY, TEXAS  
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2009

75 CENTS  
NUMBER 35

## LOOKING AHEAD

Grand opening of the Wichita Brazos Museum and cultural center Saturday, June 27, 2009 from 10:00 am. Dr. Scott White will be the guest speaker. Tours of the museum will follow the program until 5:00 pm. Hamburger meal for \$6.00 Served at the Benjamin memorial building until 2:00pm by benjamin senior class.

4th of July parade in munday! Begins at 9:00 and will run from munday school toward downtown munday and back. For more information, call munday chamber of commerce at 422-4540.

## Texas Cattle Raisers Urge Senate to Stop Clean Water Restoration Act

FORT WORTH — The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee today passed a bill out of committee that would give the federal government regulatory authority over stock tanks, drainage ditches and any water features found on family ranches despite large opposition from cattle raisers across the country.

S. 787, the Clean Water Restoration Act, would achieve unprecedented expansion of federal authority by removing the word "navigable" from the Clean Water Act definition of waters in the U.S. and replacing it with "waters of the United States." The new definition would grant the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers virtually unlimited regulatory control over all wet areas within a state.

The proposed legislation would require cattle producers to manage around puddles in the middle of pastures, drainage areas, road ditches and more. If cattle producers are unable to demonstrate proper management of these areas to the federal government, they could be required to get a permit, which would be far to impractical and expensive.

Additionally, the legislation would result in a major decrease in authority from state governments and private property owners all across the United States.

"All waters are not equal in terms of their environmental function and value, and they should not be regulated in the same way," TSCRA President Dave Scott, a rancher from Richmond, Texas, said. "If this bill passes in Congress, ranchers across the U.S. will be forced to get a permit to continue everyday operations on their own land."

"The federal government already struggles to handle the backlog of 15,000 existing permit requests; how it plans to deal with the massive amount of new permitting requirements and liti-

See CATTLE Page 8

## Watermelon Festival in Need of Volunteers

By Tamara Smart

There are many joys of living the small town life. Things are simple in smaller towns. One can walk into a local café, stop and get gas or even just go for a drive down the street and see old school mates, long lost acquaintances and business associates. Crime is rare and "I remember when" stories are frequent. Knox City is one of the few ideal American small-towns on the map left untainted by capitalistic enterprise or city-like infrastructure. Businesses are mostly locally owned and operated; the majority of the time bosses and workers build working relationships over years of blood, sweat and tears together.

One of the many glories that Knox City has to offer comes in the form of an annual summer fair. 21 years ago, as a tribute to Donald Johnson, the Watermelon Festival was kicked off into Knox City history. At one time, Knox City was the Seedless Watermelon capital of Texas with a watermelon patch that provided numerous jobs and was an essential ingredient to Knox's economic stability. This festival has featured many things

over the last 21 years: vendors, booths, games, parades, street dances, and of course, plenty of watermelon. Knox Citizens of past and present still look forward to this fair and many plan their family reunions and returns back to their small-town homes around the Watermelon Festival.

But alas, what so many people look forward to every year almost died this year. The watermelon patch sold and is no longer a significant economic source in Knox City. There were rumors at the festival last year that it would be the "last one". Almost nobody has come forward to volunteer to help make the Watermelon Festival come to fruition this year. While, yes, the annual festival is the big yearly Chamber of Commerce activity, to put it on takes effort from more than just the 4 directors of the Chamber... which, as of current, is all who are slotted to get the whole festival together.

"For the last 4 or 5 years, Davine Clark has done 90% of the work behind the watermelon festival," according to Marla Hawkins, Chamber member and current watermelon festival volunteer, "and has done a VERY,

VERY good job. I cannot say enough about how good of a job she did. So far [active Chamber of Commerce executive director]

Gail Turner has done a wonderful job as well."

Yet, there has not been much excitement over the festival this

year as in the past. Help is needed and Knox Citizens are asked

See MELON Page 8



Knox County News Photo

Local kids at last years 20th Annual Watermelon Festival during the watermelon eating contest. Will there be enough support and help this year to have as much (if not more) amazing Knox City memories made in one Saturday afternoon?

## Success Comes From Small Town

By Tamara Smart

Sometimes one wonders about people in Knox County history and may ponder for a minute what success stories may have arisen out of a small town education. Perhaps an easily dis-

provable myth that an education in a small town will hinder the potential success of that towns youth is the folly that one falls prey to during these times of reflection. This thought can be dis-proven with many examples,

one of which being a 2006 Knox City graduate who is currently attending McMurry University in Abilene.

Kayla Martin continues to be a bright star of recent Knox City past. As the daughter of

Youvon Martin of Knox City, Kayla has had hometown support and pride to cheer her through her first several years at McMurry as she has undergone an educational path which will ultimately lead her to owning two bachelors degrees; one in Political Science,

the other in Sociology. Kayla is a member of the student government at McMurry, is a member of the united Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society and was

See SUCCESS Page 8

## Knox County Trains 17 New Emergency Care Attendants

By Tamara Smart

On Saturday morning, 17 people from all over Knox County finished a 7-week process of becoming certified as Emergency Care Attendant with a hands-on "Extrication Class" to provide them with a practice emergency situation which required their abilities of remove victims of physical trauma from various scenes.

A school bus, a truck a local EMS unit, and plenty of volunteer "victims" were on site in order for the participants in the class to practice. There were multiple scenarios where "victims" were removed from wreckages on body board with ap-

propriate immobilizing bandages and placed in the EMS vehicle onsite.

Roland Marion and wife, Sue Marion, ran this class and seemed to be pleased with the results. There are three levels of First Responder training, the Emergency Care Attendant being the lowest level. After these 17 people received their competency certification, they are able to team up with other skilled people that have completed a higher level of training in trauma situations and assist as needed.

The class was paid for by a grant.



Knox County News Photo

Seventeen Knox County residents were recently trained as new Emergency Care Attendants.

## KC Elementary Student Achieves "Honors" Reader Certification

Third Grader Carson Lewis recently achieved the Honors Reader Level of Accelerated Reader Program at Knox City Elementary. In order to receive Honors Reader, a student must read, take tests, and accumulate 100 points from a list of challenging, teacher selected literature.

Carson began his goal for Honors Reader on April 27. He read books from a list that was made from books chosen by the school librarian, Mrs. Sandusky and his teacher, Mrs. Lowe.

The reading range of these books were anywhere from 4th

Grade level all the way to 7th Grade level. Carson accumulated all 100 points in less than 1 month while maintaining a 90% or above passing average on tests.

According to his teacher, Carson read a total of 161 books this school year which is a total of 1,655,373 words read! KCE is very proud of Carson and his accomplishment!

Carson is the son of Clint and Tonya Lewis of Knox City. Carson's grandparents are Darrell and Brenda Parker, Josie Lewis all of Knox City and the late Sterling Lewis.

See BUDGET Page 8

## Perry Signs Budget That Reduces GR by \$1.6 Billion

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry Friday signed Senate Bill 1 into law, providing a balanced budget that spends \$1.6 billion less in general revenue than the previous biennium. The budget funds key priorities from higher education and job creation to border security. The governor also used his line-item veto power to reduce the two-year budget by \$97.2 million in general revenue and \$288.9 million from all funding sources.

"The Legislature has done a commendable job in reducing the general revenue appropriation to live within the Comptroller's rev-

enue estimate issued in January, cutting general revenue spending by \$1.6 billion," Gov. Perry said. "It is particularly noteworthy lawmakers balanced the budget without using the state's Rainy Day Fund and provided a tax cut to 40,000 small businesses."

The budget signed by Gov. Perry decreases general revenue spending by \$1.6 billion, or 1.9 percent, compared to the current biennium, while still maintaining funding for key areas such as economic development, education and public safety. This de-

See BUDGET Page 8



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# OPINION

## Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters should be no more than 200 words and can be mailed to the Knox County News, 110 N Central, Knox City, Texas, 79529. Please include your street mailing address (no P.O. boxes), daytime phone number and full name. Our e-mail address is kcnews@valornet.com.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

The Texas Plains Trail Board of Directors would like to congratulate The Knox County Historical Commission for being selected by the Texas Historical Commission for a 2008 Distinguished Service Award for Historic Preservation. We are delighted that your Commission's dedication and hard work has been recognized with this wonderful honor.

Your Historical Commission is most fortunate to have members who appreciate, preserve, and promote the role Knox County played in Texas history, and the Plains Trail Board salutes the "gifts" your community brings to our Region's story as well. We would like to direct particular attention to your Commission's Volunteer programs and working with local youth organizations. We especially enjoyed the visit our Board made to your Community in March.

Our Board will eagerly watch for every opportunity to participate with you in promoting the wonderful people, places and tales from our past. Again, congratulations and thank you for preserving your county's heritage as a true treasure to be explored.

**Plains Trail Board of Directors**  
**Dolores Mosser, President**  
**Deborah Sue McDonald, Regional Coordinator**

**Retrofitting Municipal Vehicles Promises to Create Jobs**  
*Provides Economic and Environmental Solutions for Municipalities*

Dear Editor:

There is no simple solution when it comes to municipalities and government agencies improving fuel economy and reducing emissions of their transit and fleet vehicles. This is especially true today when there are limited resources available to address a multitude of complex issues.

Before municipalities spend hundreds of millions of dollars on hybrid vehicles, they should consider retrofitting their current vehicles with state-of-the-art hydraulic braking and propulsion systems. These cost-efficient systems capture wasted brake energy and convert it to an auxiliary source of energy to power the vehicle. The realized reduction in fuel consumption

and added years of useful life are economic advantages, while the reduction in harmful emissions from a renewable source of energy is a "green" benefit as well.

It is important to note that retrofitting vehicles could create jobs immediately, as municipalities and government agencies could begin the evaluation and conversion process right away. Purchasing new hybrid vehicles, while a costly endeavor, does not bring jobs to the area.

The bottom line is that it makes economic and environmental sense for municipalities and government agencies to investigate the benefits of retrofitting before spending millions of dollars. Conducting a thorough vehicle asset analysis and having a comprehensive, executable plan in place are the best ways to conserve energy and maximize return on investment.

Sincerely,  
**Sam Jones**  
 President  
**Recaptured Energy Technologies**  
 70 W. Madison  
 Chicago, IL 60602  
 773-203-2613



## The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

### The Reality About Newspapers

John F. Sturm, president of the Newspaper Association of America has good news for the newspaper industry.

The reputation of the newspaper industry has been damaged because of the failings of some of the largest newspapers in the country. As with the banking industry, the bad news about the failings of a few has given the entire industry a black eye.

"In the past two years, the newspaper business has faced unprecedented financial challenges," according to Sturm. "The economic meltdown and advertising recession have hit our industry hard. But make no mistake about this: newspaper media - print and digital - remains strong and will emerge from the current environment an even stronger multi-platform force."

Sturm uses facts to illustrate the reality about newspapers today:

1. Myth: No one reads newspapers anymore.  
 Reality: More than 104 million adults read a print newspaper every day, more than 115 million on Sundays. That's more people than watch the Super Bowl (94 million), American Idol (23 million) or that typically watch the late local news (65 million).
2. Myth: Young people no longer read newspapers.  
 Reality: 61 percent of 18-24 year olds and 25-34 year olds read a newspaper in an average week and 65 percent of them read a newspaper or visited a newspaper website in the past week.
3. Myth: Newspaper readership is tanking.  
 Reality: Average weekday newspaper readership declined a mere 1.8 percent between 2007 and 2008, and about 7 percent since its peak in 2002. Compare that to the 10 percent decline seen in the prime time TV audience in 2007 alone. Meanwhile, newspapers' Web audience has grown nearly 75 percent since 2004, to 73 million unique visitors a month.
4. Myth: Many newspapers are going out of business.  
 Reality: Newspapers, as individual businesses, by and large remain profitable enterprises - with operating margins that Wall Street analysts estimate will generally average in the low to mid teens during 2009. While that may be down from historical highs, such margins would be the envy of many other industries today. As consultant John Morton said in a recent American Journalism Review article, "Overall, the beleaguered newspaper industry's financial health has been weakened but remains healthy by most measures. In this environment, that is an achievement."
5. Myth: Newspaper advertising doesn't work.  
 Reality: Google's own research shows that 56 percent of consumers researched or purchased products they saw in a newspaper. Google also says that newspaper advertising reinforces online ads: 52 percent are more likely to buy products if they see it in the paper.
6. Myth: There are no creative options in newspapers.  
 Reality: Newspaper advertising options have exploded and now include shape and polybag ads, post-it notes, "we prints," shingle spadeas, scented ads, taste-it ads, glow-in-the-dark, belly bands and temporary tattoos, as well as event and database marketing, behavioral targeting, e-mail blasts, e-newsletters and more.
7. Myth: If newspapers close, you will still be able to get news from other sources.  
 Reality: Newspapers make a larger investment in journalism than any other medium. Most of the information you read from "aggregators" and other media originated with newspapers. No amount of effort from local bloggers, non-profit news entities or TV news sources could match the depth and breadth of newspaper-produced content.

"This is not a portrait of a dying industry," Sturm continues. "It's illustrative of transformation. Newspapers are reinventing themselves to focus on serving distinct audiences with a variety of products, and delivering those audiences effectively to advertisers across media channels."

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.

## The Knox County News

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**BRANDY WISE**  
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**TAMARA SMART**  
 Sports, Advertising Reporter

**DEADLINES** — The deadline to submit news and advertising is 2 p.m. on Fridays. Exceptions may be granted only by permission from the Editor.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Knox County News welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number to allow verification. Please keep letters to a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for any reason and to reject letters for publication for any reason. Letters deemed libelous and/or not for the public good will be rejected. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Knox County News.

### SUBMISSION POLICY

The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements.

### PHOTO SUBMISSION POLICY

The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

### NOTICE

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the editor.

### KCN OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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ACROSS	50 Boerne newspaper	1	2	3	4
1 kindergarten learning	51 you can ___ TX	5			
5 east TX reptile,	52 lemon or lime suffix	6			
informally	53 TXism: "___ bien"	7			
6 TX cowboy boot	54 Dallas Stars action:	8			
maker: "Tony ___"	"___ off"	9			
7 "Pudge" Rodriguez	56 TXism: "fit ___"	10			
8 sitcom for TX-born	fiddle"	11			
Angus T. Jones: "Two	57 TX Tierney film:	12			
and a Half ___"	"___ of Fury"	13			
9 TXism: "it don't ___"	58 cable TV network	14			
up"		15			
12 popular steak cut		16			
17 dirt excavator		17			
19 this Charlie was a		18			
'70s Cowboy safety		19			
21 "that ___"		20			
(nonsense)		21			
22 story not disclosed		22			
23 historic ___ Villa"		23			
in Galveston		24			
28 TXism: "___ high on		25			
the hog" (rich)		26			
29 wafer holder of TX		27			
Blue Bell scoops		28			
30 big aerospace &		29			
defense corp. with		30			
sites in TX		31			
31 TXism: "mad enough		32			
to spit ___"		33			
35 TXism: "she's ___"		34			
of bones" (skinny)		35			
36 TXism: "fast as ___"		36			
tail on fire"		37			
42 "Possum Kingdom		38			
is often		39			
called a lake		40			
44 Nazi Hitler		41			
TXism: "attracted like		42			
steel ___"		43			
48 splitback football		44			
formation (2 wds.)		45			
49 position of Houston's		46			
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*"It's that time again, time for the 121st Annual Old Settlers Reunion & Rodeo!"*

**July 17 & 18**

- Entries for the parade need to contact the Childress Chamber of Commerce for more information.

- Craft Show after parade, booths are available for \$20, also contact the Childress Chamber of Commerce @ (940)937-2567.

**We Appreciate you, our readers!**

**Thanks for Reading!**

**SMHthe heart of Stonewall County**

### "Depression, Its More Than Just The Blues"

Everyone gets down from time to time, but sometimes it's more than just "the blues." Sometimes, it can be clinical depression. Too many people believe that it is a "normal part of life" and often try and treat it themselves. Clinical Depression affects more than 2 million of the 34 million Americans age 65 and older each year. It is a real illness. It is treatable. Mental Health Matters...You Matter!

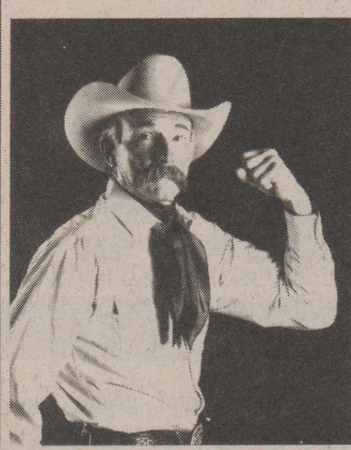
**KNOW THE SIGNS;**

- Persistent sad, anxious or "empty" mood
- Reduced appetite and weight loss
- Loss of pleasure
- Restlessness, irritability
- Difficulty concentrating
- Fatigue or low energy
- Thoughts of suicide or death

- Changes in sleep patterns
- Increased appetite and weight gain
- Loss of interest in activities
- Persistent physical symptoms not responding to treatment, like chronic pain or digestive disorders
- Feeling Hopeless, Helpless, or Worthless

Emotional wellness is just as important as your physical wellness! The Alternatives Program at Stonewall Memorial Hospital specializes in individual, family, and group counseling for older adults. Medicare and most commercial insurances pay for our services. Wheelchair transportation and lunch are complimentary. For further information, contact Sherry Nixon, RN, at (940) 989-3551.





## ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

by Baxter Black, DVM

### OVER-PREPARED

When we talk about someone being 'over-prepared', we think of a person who is very thorough and able to handle all possible contingencies. It is a good habit to have especially if you are someone who regularly messes up and therefore must be ready to respond when you over-mess up! A case in point; my friend Robin qualifies as this particular trip illustrates.

He left the Coachella Valley headed west on California Hwy 91 in his newly acquired twenty-year-old pickup. It was pulling a slightly older 16 ft. C&W stocktrailer missing two rails with one new tire and two horses on board.

Traffic was heavy. A motorist passed him on the left and pointed behind. Robin looked in the side mirror to see black smoke boiling from beneath his trailer's left wheel well! As he watched, the tire exploded! Pieces of tread and sidewall filled the air as if he had hit a land mine!

"No sweat!" he thought taking full control. "I've been here before. I've got a spare!"

It took him another hundred yards to maneuver the limping rig onto the narrow shoulder and stop. Walking sideways against the whizzing traffic he examined the naked rim. Out of his emergency supply box he extracted a Jiffy Jack and pulled the trailer up on it. "So far, so good!" he thought, smiling. Next he popped off the hubcap and proceeded to unscrew the lug nuts with his star wrench, which wasn't so easy since the rim now spun freely.

Placing the lug nuts in the hubcap behind him, he removed the rim and attempted to put on the spare tire. It was 1 1/2 inches too tall to fit! NO PROBLEMA! He had another jack!

Once the bottle jack was in position on the frame he raised the trailer high enough to allow the spare. Holding it in place he reached behind him, accidentally kicked the hubcap and scattered lug nuts into oncoming traffic! But Murphy's Law was no match for our cowboy! Risking the fate of possum and jack rabbit, he ducked and skittered into and out of passing vehicles, recovering 5 of the 8 lug nuts which he attached the spare. In relief he lowered the jack only to discover the spare was flat! OH NO!, you say, but...never fear! He had a pressurized can of Flat Fixer!

It aired up the tire to a pitiful 15 psi.

As Robin told me this string of pitfalls and mishaps I realized I was truly in the presence of World Class Mess Up, who had learned to compensate.

"So," I asked, "Did the 15 psi spare cause any problems, specially with that load?"

"No," he explained, "It pulled really good. You see," he said tapping his head with his finger indicating the wisdom of one who has learned to over-prepare. "It was just right. It matched the other three!"

## The 501

by Hanaba Munn Welch

Named for the historic FW&D Engine 501, The 501 is always exactly 501 words and dashes long, whatever the topic. Welch, a freelance writer for Blackburn Media Group, divides her time mostly between Abilene and the family farm north of Vernon.

Hats off to anyone who hops on a bicycle knowing the ride will end in a crash. That would be granddaughter Rylee. She's 6.

A push from her mom is all it takes for Rylee to take off with elan. She pedals in big circles and figure eights. She makes U-turns on a dime. Impressive. When she stops, she crashes.

Veering into semantics, Rylee's cycle-stopping antics are more inevitable than intentional. Even so, she's getting quite good at the crash routine, adept at landing on one foot and emerging relatively unscathed with her bike sprawled beneath her, it more akimbo than she. Yep, there's an art to her style of stopping. Rylee makes braking look like it's for sissies.

Of course, by the time you read these words, she will have mastered either the hand brakes or the coaster brake, and stopping by crashing will be nothing more than a memory, if she even remembers that part of the learning experience. I don't. Do you? I just remember the triumphant feeling of that first successful ride when I put my foot on a pedal, took off and went about the same distance as Wilbur and Orville's plane at Kitty Hawk, or so it seemed. I'm sure I wobbled and crashed at the end, but so what? The rite of passage was over. Life would never be the same. I was a newly minted bicycle rider, and I ran in the house to tell my mother.

It's fitting that we learn young when skinned knees are as natural as tooth loss.

Riding a bicycle, like walking, is a natural part of growing up. Eventually we abandon bikes for cars, the great American way to get around. But if there's an inalienable transportation right in this country, it's not the right to drive. It's the right to ride a bike.

Think about it. Drive drunk a time or two, and what happens? You lose your license. But they don't take your bike. Sober or not, as long as you stay out of jail, you can keep pedaling. It's life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in its purest form. Maybe it's even a way to overcome an addiction and earn back the right to drive a car.

Do I ascribe too much therapeutic value to bicycling? I think not. Even a one-gear bicycle optimizes energy. The one-to-one steering ratio keeps you unquestionably in charge. Add momentum to the gyroscopic effect of turning wheels and you get more stability and balance than you deserve. (I never had physics; don't take me literally unless I'm right.) Bottom line, bicycles make us better than we are and take us places beyond ourselves. Bicycles empower.

Don't scoff just because you've never lost your license and been forced to pedal. I haven't either. But live long enough and it'll happen, right about the same time as the second round of tooth loss.

The good news: Wheelchairs are much like bicycles. That's how I plan to think of mine.

Thanks For Reading!

## MUSEUM NEWS

The eight Communities of Knox County are digging into their local histories to prepare exhibits that reflect the development of each town for the grand opening of the Wichita Brazos Museum on June 27, 2009.

Knox City, Munday, Rhineland and Goree are mostly farm oriented country today, with oil fields also contributing, but once wild horses roamed there. Wild Horse Prairie is still a location many recall.

Vera, Gilliland, Benjamin and Truscott in the northern part of the county have farmland also, but many fields are on the edge of the Wichita and Brazos River breaks where ranching replaces the plow.

In the 1860's no one lived in what is now Knox County. Even the Indians just passed through hunting buffalo, but not making permanent homes.

In 1861 all Federal Troops left Texas to fight in the Civil War. Volunteer ranger companies from the frontier counties in danger of attack made "Scouts" into Indian Country that now makes up Archer, Baylor and Knox. The rangers of the 1860's will return to Knox County on June 27, 2009 and make camp near the Wichita Brazos Museum. At least a couple of the re-enactors will represent them.

They will discuss with every one who visits them what the rangers of 1860 did to protect the frontier counties.

Visitors can search through the dusty rolls of several different counties at the June 27 camp site. Ray Cragar, a civil war history buff, will help anyone look through the rolls or seek the name of an ancestor listed in the Index of Applications for the Texas Confederate Pensions.

Taking Knox County from Indian times to modern times is the story woven into the exhibits as each community tells a story at the Wichita Brazos museum at Benjamin, June 27, 2009. Visitors are invited to seek out their ancestors in the exhibits and maybe even find their own faces in the school exhibits.

The program will begin at 10:00 A.M. After the program the museum will be open until 5:00. Members of Friends of the Knox County Historical Commission will guide visitors on a tour of the museum after the 10-11 A.M. outdoor program. A hamburger lunch will be served at the Benjamin Memorial Building by the Benjamin Senior Class.

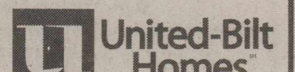
Every one is invited to attend, come out and learn about our history. There are too many stories to mention here.

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John Wolfe  
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**CANNER GAUGE TESTING TO BE HELD**

A Pressure Canner Testing Clinic will be held on Tuesday, June 30 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Haskell County Extension Office located at 101 South Avenue D in Haskell. Canner gauges need to be tested for accuracy each year. The clinic is free of charge and will only take about ten minutes. Participants will need to bring their pressure canner lid and gauge.

For more information contact, Jane Rowan - County Extension Agent/FCS, at the Haskell County Extension Office (940) 864-2546.

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

Thanks For Reading!

**LOCAL 4-H'ERS ATTEND NORTH REGION 4-H TEEN LEADER LAB**



Local 4-H members, Shannon Reeves, Ryder Cude and Logan Groves, all from the

Munday 4-H Club, recently attended the North Region 4-H Teen Leader Lab at the Texas 4-H Center in Brownwood, Texas. Ryder Cude and Logan Groves represented Knox County as voting delegates to the District 3 4-H Council during the annual District 3 Council officer elections. The council is comprised of two voting delegates from each county in the district. The purpose of the District 4-H Council is to work together to develop leaders, promote and encourage 4-H club work, and coordinate activities and events. During the three-day

event approximately 150 teens from District 3 and District 11 demonstrated leadership, learned project skills and recreation through hands-on activities and workshops.

Educational programs of the Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting or program are encouraged to contact the Knox County Extension Office.

**KNOX COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS DO WELL AT STATE 4-H ROUNDUP**



Almost 3,000 4-Hers from across Texas attended the State 4-H Roundup held recently in College Station on the campus of Texas A&M University.

This week-long event includes various competitive events such as fashion show, food show, public speaking, quiz bowls and various judging competitions, said Lorrie Coop, Texas AgriLife Extension Service agent.

Those competing from Knox County were:

Mitchell Ham, Raquel Acevedo, Shelby Russell, and Jessica Vanderpol in the Family Lifecontest with their presentation on how to improve family interaction. This team placed 12<sup>th</sup>. Brittany Coop, Devon Jones

and Leah Vanderpol competed in the Consumer Life Skills contest with their presentation on how to prevent identity theft and placed 8<sup>th</sup>. Samantha Esquivel competed as an individual in the Grass Identification contest in which she had to identify and classify 40 to 50 live or mounted grass specimens according to their life span, season of growth, origin, and grazing value for livestock and wildlife. These 4-H members are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to their projects.

The last event of the week was the awarding of \$2.2 million through the Texas 4-H Foundation. Coopsaid. Recipients and parents attended a scholarship

See 4-H page 8

**BRIGHT IDEAS**

By Alex Mills

What is it with liberals who oppose the development and use of energy and they are the first to scream "obscene profits" when petroleum prices increase because of shortages.

The most liberal lawmakers seem to come from states that produce very little energy, but they yell the loudest when prices rise.

A perfect example is the proposed wind farm off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. It just so happens that a very well know family, the Kennedys, has an estate at Hyannisport, which is near the proposed wind farm at Cape Cod. The Kennedy's, especially Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., have been very vocal in opposing America's first proposed offshore wind farm. Kennedy wrote an article for the New York Times in 2005 that argued that wind energy is not economically feasible unless it has federal and state subsidies, which it does to the tune of \$241 million.

Author Robert Bryce writes about some of the contradictions of liberals and their energy policies in his fantastic book, Gusher of Lies. Bryce writes about Kennedy's reasoning in the Times' article: "He (Kennedy) also claimed that while he supports wind power, 'some places should be off limits to any sort of industrial development' and that 'our most important wildernesses are those that are closes to our densest population centers, like Nantucket Sound.' Kennedy's many critics contended that his opposition was just another example of the NIMBY (not-in-my-back-yard) syndrome."

pinned on the environmental left are: BANANA (built-absolutely-nothing-anywhere-near-anybody), CAVE (citizens-against-virtually-everything), and NOPErs (not-on-planet-Earth).

Environmental groups are now fighting other environmental groups. One example occurs out west in Washington where the Bonneville Power Administration is a key provider of electricity in the Pacific Northwest. Most of the power originates from large dams on the Snake River. Some environmentalists want the dams destroyed because they decimate the run of salmon. They want to change from hydroelectric to wind.

This week it has come to light that one of the great liberals of the last 30 years may be profiting from pushing his "green" agenda. Representative March Kaptur (D-Ohio) voted against the cap-and-trade bill in the Energy and Commerce Committee, because she feels the Midwest is not getting its fair share. She said her top priority was "regional equity" Kaptur singled out senior members of the committee who represented regions that have subsidized power, including Waxman and Rep. Jay Inslee of Seattle. Even though Boston's electricity comes from investor-owned utilities, she questioned Representative Ed Markey of Massachusetts about his interest in the climate bill. "So I'm saying, what's his angle? And I asked Ed, 'Who's going to manage the derivatives? You're a finance center. Are you going to get some of the business? Because Toledo, Ohio won't.'"

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The Levelland Cheerleaders and Coach Kayla Rodriguez (Garcia) would like to thank the community of Knox City for all their support! The squad will be able to compete in nationals, thanks to your donations. THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City**

Rick Neal, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
 FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City**

Timothy Trimble, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 No Sunday Evening Service

**ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -**

Knox City  
 Tex Cox, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Warriors 6:00 p.m.  
 "Discovering God's Word" radio broadcast Sunday mornings on AM 1400 The River 8:20 - 8:50 a.m.

**FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City**

Gary A. Schnable, Pastor  
 Sunday Morning Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

**SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH - Knox City**

Father Charles Gorantla • Deacon Ben Vasquez  
 Sunday Mass at 11 a.m.

**LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knox City**

Gene Ward Jr., Pastor  
 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.  
 Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rhineland**

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 Saturday Mass at 7 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin**

Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin**

Timothy Trimble, Pastor  
 Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

**GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie**

Matt Harrington, Pastor  
 Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin**

Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

**THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL - Highway 222**

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.

**O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien**

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

**WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH**

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

**MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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- Tue. - Pork Chops(2) Potatoes/ Ranch Beans
- Wed. - Baked Chicken Ranch Beans / Spinch
- Thrus. - tacos(3) Rice/Beans
- Fri. - Soups
- Beans w/ Cornbread
- Chicken w/ Gabbage, Carret, Onion
- Beef Stew w/ Cornbread
- Sat. - Enchliades/ Rice Beans

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### Legal Notice

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Dallas MTA, LP doing business as Verizon Wireless is proposing to construct a new telecommunications tower to be located 650 feet south of SR-222, 2264 feet east of Avenue L, east of Knox City, Knox County, Texas. The proposed tower will be a 305 foot total height self-support lattice tower. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, any interested party wishing to comment regarding any effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to E. Heinemann at Archer, Inc. 200 Rufe Snow N., Suite 103, Keller, TX 76248 (817) 946-7156. Refer to number 555-2693.

### Garage Sale

Garage Sale 601 SE 8th St. SATURDAY ONLY 8 a.m. - ??? Furniture, Toys Tools, Big Man Clothes!

### House for Sale

For sale: 307 NE 3rd St. Knox City 2BR, 1 Ba. Large Spacious Corner Lot. 940-657-4146

### Legal Notice

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Julian Sepeda, Sr., deceased, were issued on June 4, 2009, in Cause No. 2495 pending in the Court of Knox County, Texas, to: Natalia Sepeda, Independent Executrix.

The mailing address of the Independent Executrix is in care of her attorney in Taylor County, Texas, as follows:

Natalia Sepeda  
c/o S Clinton Nix  
P.O. Box 59  
Abilene, Texas 79604

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

### 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 up on the same.

Gene w. Willingham  
A.B. Wharton  
We (54)

### Legal Notice

The Knox City-O'Brien CISD is accepting proposals for the following:

1. Property and Casualty Insurance
2. Motor Vehicle Fuel

These proposals should be addressed or delivered to Louis Baty, Superintendent at 606 East Main Street, Knox City, Texas 79529. Proposals are due by 12:00 noon on July 27, 2009. Proposals will be reviewed by the Superintendent and presented to the Board at the first board meeting after the deadline.

The District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and accept the proposal deemed most advantageous to the District and to waive any informality in the proposals. Specifications or additional information may be obtained by contacting the Administration office at (940) 657-3521

## REAL ESTATE

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- 609 S. Ave E. COME SEE THIS ONE! 4BR, 3 Ba. Master Suite, Pool Reduced
- 300 S. 4th 3BR, 2Ba, Corner Lot **Contract - Reduced** \$25,000
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- Grand Central Avenue: 1800+/-sq.ft. Brick home located in O'Brien. 4BR, 3Ba, 2 living areas, carport, cellar, large corner lot. \$55,000
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**NRCS**  
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Natural Resources Conservation Service  
James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center  
Knox City, TX  
2009 Weekly Weather Report

Date	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
06/09	69/90	.27
06/10	66/88	.12
06/11	64/93	
06/12	75/101	
06/13	75/98	1.49
06/14	69/97	
06/15	77/97	
Total Rainfall		1.88
2009 Rainfall (ytd)		8.16

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S-912



# BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

Last week was a good week weather- No bad clouds at all- A welcome change from the several days prior- and it's been hot! And of course, already getting dry- so regardless of what happens something is always wrong!! If it's not raining, we need it & want it- When it is raining, oft' times, we want it to stop!!! Oh well, we can't control the weather so why not take it and be content (as long as there are no bad storms).

Sympathy this week to the families of Lacy Headrick & Alfonso Del Heirro who have passed away. Lacy was a former Benjamin resident who had resided in Knox City several years before moving to the Throckmorton Nursing Center a while back. He was 102. His graveside service was Sat. in Knox City.

Mr. Del Heirro lived in Knox City & was the father of Benjamin resident Olivia Gloria. His service, also graveside, was Sun at the O'Brien Cemetery. He was 89.

Lana Mendoza, daughter of Jane Gideon & Welden Gideon was able to go home to her home in Seymour Thurs. after back surgery in Wichita Falls last Mon. She is progressing nicely but will be off work for several weeks while she recuperates. Her children were here with Jane while she was hospitalized.

Mary Bohannon spent Sunday night in Knox Co. Hospital. She's been having a few problems for a while & is sort of "run down" so drs. hospitalized her to sort of build her up & do some testing to determine what course of treatment to use- Of course, we wish Mary well & glad she's back home. Friends in Knox City told me that Ray Escobar underwent heart surgery last week in Lubbock. Were not sure if he was out of the hospital or not but knew he was still in Lubbock, probably at their daughters home. But did say he was doing well & knew he had many friends over here who would be interested in his health. I'm sure he would appreciate a cheery card.

Our friend, Bobby Flanders of Knox City, is ill in HMS in Abilene. Bobby began dialysis on Fri. & will start chemotherapy today (Mon) for

a newly discovered malignancy. Bobby's wife, Linda, is a cook at Bud's Café in Knox City and is in Abilene with Bobby. Please remember them in prayer as well as all others we have mentioned. Stacia Propps underwent surgery early last week & is back home & doing well. She's school secretary & will be away from her desk for a few weeks but should return good as new after her recuperation period. We pray her progress continues.

Our friend, Gaye Neal, former Benjamin resident now of Rule, is still in a Dallas hospital & drs. have told her family she may not regain her speech or her ability to walk. She has been completely immobile since a massive stroke several weeks ago. We talked to her husband Larry last week & he said things were not good but the family is coping with the situation. Gaye is to enter rehab soon to learn to adjust to her circumstances. They also need our prayers.

**Here 'N There**

Dutch and Imagean Young & Deann Lamb spent the weekend in Wichita Falls & celebrated Fathers Day & their son's and grandson's, Anthony Lamb, 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

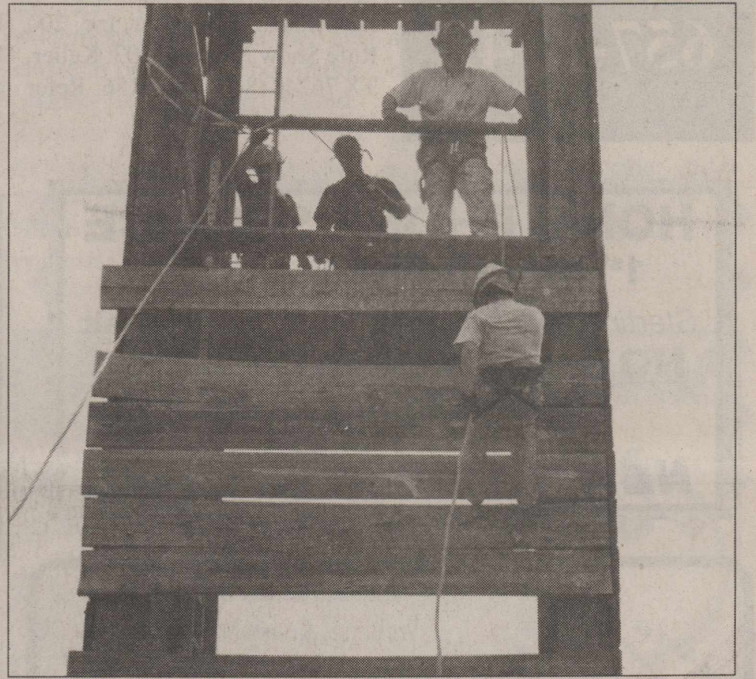
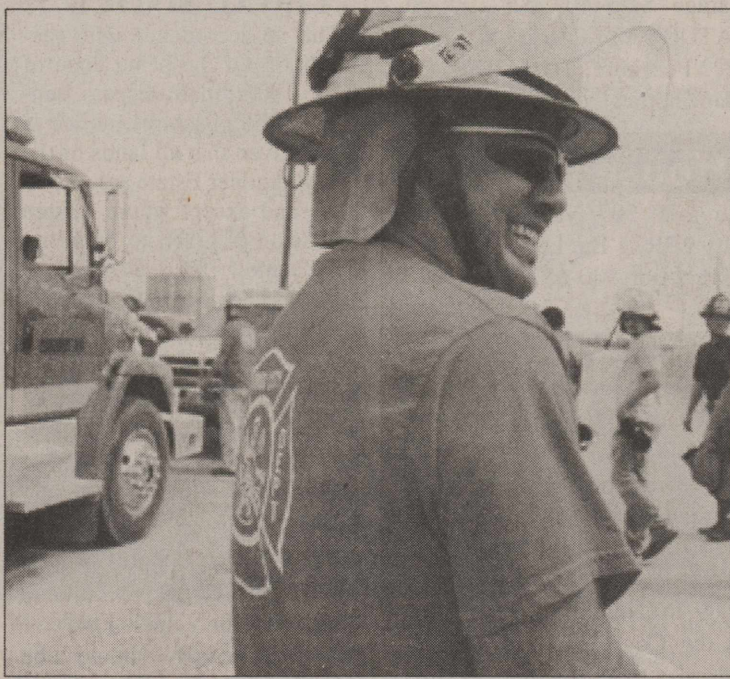
My daughter, Diane Evans & Ashlee & Dillon Keys of Childress visited me on Sat. Also having lunch with us was Debbie Moorhouse & granddaughter Randi Keys also of Childress. Randi returned home with them after a 2 and a half week visit here. She loves it down here and plans to come back for another visit before school starts.

Gloria West spent Friday night with daughter, Betty Parker & family in Aspermont. Her granddaughter, Sabra Turner & her husband who live in Kansas were back in Texas to visit and attend the Turner family reunion.

Several from Benjamin attended the graveside rites for Alfonso Del Hierro at O'Brien Sunday. Among them were Charles and Linda Griffith, Gloria West, Loraine Powers, Bud Conner, Carol Dickson, Susan Jones, Dicky McCanlies, Gilbert & Bertha Navarez & Gladene Green. Also Troy Culpepper of Haskell who pastors Benjamin First Baptist Church.

Judy Roberson Barnett is in surgery now (Mon) to repair some damage to her hip from an accident several years ago. She's in St. Luke's Hospital & it is hoped that she won't have to be there many days. We'll know more about it after the surgery.

# Knox City Fire Fighters Attend Annual Fire School



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### State Capital HIGHLIGHTS



By Ed Sterling

**Governor vetoes 35 bills before June 21 deadline**

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry signed the 2010-2011 state budget and vetoed 35 bills two days before Sunday, June 21, the deadline for approving or vetoing legislation passed by the 81st Texas Legislature. The budget leaves the state's \$6.7 billion rainy day fund untouched but includes \$12 billion in federal stimulus

money. Perry said the final outcome of all bills would "move Texas in the right direction." Now, here are samples of a few bills the governor vetoed: •&#8194;HB 130, creating a pre-kindergarten education grant program. In his veto statement, Perry said a similar grant program already exists, and the new state budget contains \$25 million earmarked for HB 130, so the Texas Education Agency should use those funds to bring 21,000 more students into the existing program. •&#8194;HB 821, mandating that television manufacturers collect and recycle a quantity of televisions to be determined annually by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. •&#8194;HB 1293, creating disclosure requirements and consumer education standards relating to the sale and marketing of life insurance and annuities. "Although the bill establishes

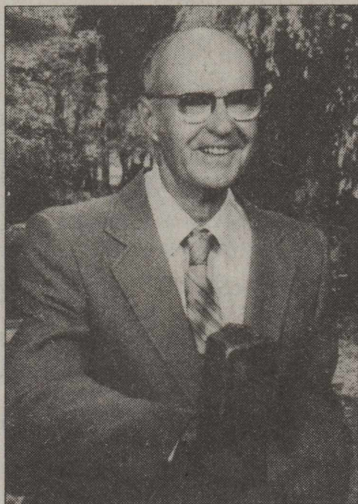
standards of transparency and improvements that are important, I believe it will do more harm than good" because it would create more opportunities for frivolous lawsuits, Perry said. •&#8194;HB 3481, authorizing the expunction of criminal records, including law enforcement case files, 180 days after an arrest if no formal misdemeanor or felony charges have been filed. •&#8194;HB 3485, relating to certain county, municipal, district, and other governmental functions, procedures, powers, duties, and services, including certain criminal procedures. "The bill's provision regarding physician liability was neither debated nor discussed, but rather amended onto this bill late in the session. "It risks unraveling the progress we made in curtailing excessive liability and ensuring that patients who need physicians will be able to find them," Perry said.

•&#8194;SB 1440, clarifying guidelines on how the Department of Family and Protective Services takes children into custody. Perry said he vetoed the legislation because it could infringe on the rights of parents and guardians. •&#8194;SB 2558, allowing beer and malt beverage tastings to be held in a branded vehicle on the premises of a retailer with a permit to sell alcohol, therefore allowing alcohol consumption in a vehicle. "The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission would be required to increase its on-site inspections to ensure the proper precautions are taken to prevent serving to minors and over-consumption," Perry said, in explaining his veto. And, here are a few samples of bills the governor approved: •&#8194;HB 4586, the supplemental appropriations bill that includes \$150 million in funding to help the University of Texas Medical Branch

in Galveston recover from Hurricane Ike. •&#8194;HB 4409, reforming the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association "to ultimately reduce the burden of catastrophic storms on the state and eventually establish TWIA as an insurer of last resort," Perry said. •&#8194;HB 4765, tripling the small business franchise tax exemption from \$300,000 to \$1 million, thereby lowering the tax burden for more than 40,000 small businesses across Texas. •&#8194;HB 4294, allowing public schools to purchase electronic textbooks. Perry backed up the bill with an executive order that underscores the State Board of Education's role in the electronic textbook approval process. **Website parades tax evaders** Texas' top tax evaders are featured on a new web page posted by the office of the Texas

comptroller. The Comptroller's Criminal Investigation Division focuses on tax fraud cases involving sophisticated schemes to dodge sales, motor fuel, tobacco and other taxes. The site also allows online reporting of suspected tax fraud and highlights indictments and convictions. **Unemployment rate increases** Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased in May to 7.1 percent and continued to trend below the national rate of 9.4 percent, the Texas Workforce Commission reported. U.S. labor statistics show Texas recorded a net loss of 222,600 jobs in the past 12 months, compared with job losses of 5.4 million nationwide during the same period.

## Obituary



### Lacy Headrick

Mr. Lacy Headrick, 102, of Knox City passed away Wednesday, June 17, 2009. A graveside service will be held Saturday, June 20, 2009, 10:30 am at the Knox City Cemetery under the direction of Mansell Smith Funeral Home. Visitation will be Friday, June 19, 2009

from 5 to 6 pm at the funeral home. Mr. Headrick was born on March 2, 1907 in Lafayette, Tenn, to the late Wm. Franklin and Rachel Lou Ann Headrick. They moved to Texas in 1912. Mr. Headrick was a machine operator with Santa Fe Railroad. He married Florene Rucker in 1936 and she passed away in 1979. He was also preceded in death by two brothers and five sisters. Survivors include, two daughters Cheryl Daniel and the late Ed Daniel of Knox City and Carol Ann and James Harvey Duke of Throckmorton; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. The family asks that memorials be made to Knox County Aging Center, Box 306, Knox City, Texas 79529.

### Golda Morton

Mrs. Golda Morton, 86, of Knox City, formerly of Wyoming passed away Thursday, June 18, 2009. A funeral service was held Sunday, June 21, 2009, 2 pm at the O'Brien Baptist Church with Rev. Jim Reid officiating. Arrangements made by Mansell Smith Funeral Home. Mrs. Morton was born on February 27, 1923 in Duke, OK. She was married to the late William Zollie Morton and he passed away on June 7, 1996. Mrs. Morton had worked as a bank teller. She was a member of the Methodist Church and belonged to the order of the Eastern Star in California. Survivors include a daughter Phyllis Shahan and husband Alan of Knox City; a son Ronald Lee Morton and wife Nina of Garland; seven grandchildren; twenty great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. She will later be interred in Evanston, Wyoming

**4-H** assembly where the awards were presented. Afterwards scholars attended a celebration banquet with their respective scholarship donors. District 3, which includes the 24 counties in the Rolling Plains area, had 18 members apply for Foundation scholarships. Together, those 18 4-Hers brought home \$195,500. This was made possible by many years dedicated to project work, community service, leadership, good school work and test scores on the ACT and SAT. Those receiving scholarships from Knox County were: Leah Vanderpol received a \$15,000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo scholarship and Brittany Coop received a \$5,000 4-H Foundation scholarship.

**MELON** to step up to the plate and help keep this tradition alive. Gail Turner requested public feedback several weeks ago concerning the parade and whether there was interest in having it this year and has thus far not heard from anyone. If there is interest, Ms. Turner hopes to find a local volunteer to help organize said parade, which takes place before the annual street dance Friday night. So far, the Car Show which coincides with the Watermelon Fest, is far into their planning stages. The car show will be located on the 222 hwy beginning at Glendale Large's garage/ museum (on the corner of Central and Main) and heading west. Cars will be shown all day. Jack Sanders and Jason Smart have partnered up and volunteered to run the annual horse-shoe contest on Saturday. Knox City Citizens Bank has sponsored a band that will play on and off throughout the whole day festival on Saturday. There is another Go-Kart race scheduled to take place on the Saturday of Watermelon Fest. Yet, there is still a lot to be done and bodies are needed to do it. One of the most amazing things about Knox City residents is the heart of the volunteer which lives in many people here. Knox citizen's can accomplish much in little time when they find the desire within themselves. The fire department is renowned and trusted past the borders of the county, but works only because of the heart of the volunteer fuel-

ing several brave men. Recently, a Go Kart racetrack was built as a labor of love for the city and the desire to have something unique in Knox for kids to do. Yet, whether anymore people step up to help, or not, the show (as they say) will go on. The parade and street dance are scheduled for Friday night, July 24th; the actual Watermelon Fest, Car Show and Go Kart race will be held all day Saturday July 25th. How good the festival is this year is in the hands of the Knox City Chamber of Commerce, and all the local Knox City residents who love the Watermelon Festival and desire to see the tradition live on. As Gail Turner puts it, the Watermelon Festival is an opportunity for others to "come experience our brand of Texas". If one has any feedback on the Watermelon Festival, the events scheduled wishes to volunteer or have a booth, please call Gail Turner at the Chamber of Commerce office at (940)658-3442. Leave a message if no one is available!

**CATTLE** gation this bill will surely create is beyond reason," Scott continued. "There is no doubt ranchers like me will be the ones forced to cover the costs, not to mention the huge administrative burdens of endless government red tape." The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is asking the Senate to stop this bill should it come up for a full Senate vote. The Texas and Southwestern

Cattle Raisers Association is a 132-year-old trade organization and is the largest livestock association in Texas. TSCRA has more than 15,000 members who manage approximately 4 million head of cattle on 51.5 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma. TSCRA provides law enforcement services, livestock inspection, legislative and regulatory advocacy and educational opportunities for its members and the industry. **SUCCESS** sworn into McMurry University Supreme Court by McMurry Chief Justice and Attorney General... oh, and she's found time to be a McMurry cheerleader for the last 3 years and is on the Deans List as well. This past year, Kayla has picked up her small town roots and traveled all over the country. In January, Kayla visited Chicago to participate in the American Model U.N. for 8 days. In April, Ms. Martin was the head delegate for the National Model U.N. in New York for 9 days. In August, Kayla will travel a little further and leave the country for Switzerland to attend the World Model U.N. These travels have left Kayla desiring to attend law school after graduating in May 2010 and work toward a Juris Doctorate and ultimately be involved with the United Nations. Next year, Kayla's brother, Casey will transfer from Vernon College to join Kayla at McMurry.

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**BUDGET** crease in spending has only occurred once since World War II. This 2010-11 budget continues several key investments, including water infrastructure and border security, which are essential to the growth and security of the state; and funding for the Texas Enterprise Fund and the Emerging Technology Fund, which allow the state to maintain a competitive business climate, invest in new technologies and attract world class researchers to the state's institutions of higher education. The budget also makes a significant increase in funding for financial aid for higher education as well as the Skills Development Fund, which are critical to helping more Texans realize the dream of a college education, and ensuring the state has an educated

and trained workforce to compete in the global marketplace. Additionally, the Legislature left the state's Rainy Day Fund untouched; the fund is projected to grow to \$9 billion by the end of the 2010-11 biennium. Lawmakers also took steps to reduce diversions from the State Highway Fund, providing an additional \$378 million for road construction and maintenance, and expanded highway and debt service payment line items in the Texas Department of Transportation budget for greater transparency. Gov. Perry reiterated that agencies and organizations receiving funding in the budget from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act should not expect to see these funds renewed by the state in the next biennium, and should use the funds only for one time expenditures. The governor also expressed concern regarding the lack of transparency of certain appropriations. The governor remains committed to truth-in-budgeting as an important part of the state's commitment to transparency. Although the Legislature took steps to reduce diversions in the budget, the governor emphasized the need to continue to reduce and eliminate additional diversions in future budgets to ensure that Texas taxpayer dollars are spent wisely. The budget for FY 2010-11 takes effect September 1, 2009.

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