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MARY JANE YOUNG

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# THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF BOB AND DEBRA SOSOLIK

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2013

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75 CENTS

## Former county worker sentenced for embezzling

By Wayne Hodgins  
The News-Courier

BENJAMIN — A Knox County woman accused of taking nearly \$40,000 in funds while serving as a high-level county employee has been sentenced to 10 years in state prison.

Michelle Solis Esquivel, 43, of Knox City, entered a guilty plea Nov. 6 to an enhanced third-degree felony charge of theft by a public servant before the Honorable W.H. Heaty, judge for the 50th District of Texas.

In a negotiated deal with District Attorney David W. Hajek, Esquivel will serve 10 years in a state correctional facility and be ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$38,422.06 and court costs of \$455.

However, because she had no prior criminal history, Esquivel will be eligible to petition the court for community supervision after serving no more than 180 days of her sentence.

Esquivel turned herself into Knox County sheriff's officials last October after a grand jury indicted her and a warrant was issued for her arrest stemming from charges she, while serving in the county's employ, embezzled more than \$20,000 but less than \$100,000 from the county's "hot check fund" between Dec. 28, 2008, and Nov. 4, 2011.

In her capacity as secretary for the county judge and the county attorney, Esquivel was the administrator of that fund.

After her arrest Oct. 29, 2012, she was released later that day on a \$25,000 bond.

She was arraigned Nov. 28 in 50th District Court and had at that time entered a not guilty plea.

The sentencing brings to a close a nearly five-year ordeal, which has been tirelessly investigated for more than a year by the Texas Rangers, the Knox County attorney and the Knox County treasurer, while the adjudication process was backlogged, bottlenecked and dragged out by the district attorney's office.



Michelle Esquivel

## Knox Notes

Events are listed free of charge as a service by this newspaper for nonprofit groups, civic organizations, churches, schools and select community events. Listings should be submitted at least two weeks in advance and will run as often as possible through the date of the event. News staff does not guarantee placement of events. Emailed submissions are preferred to kcnewscourier@gmail.com.

### Thanksgiving supper

The Knox City High School junior class Thanksgiving supper will be at 5:30 p.m. today at the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children. Take-out orders may be picked up at 5 p.m. For tickets, call Danielle Bass at the high school office, 940-657-3565, or contact a junior class member.

### Retired teachers

The Knox County Retired Teachers will meet at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in Fellowship Hall at Knox City First Methodist Church. The program will be presented by H&R Organic Farm.

### Recipe exchange

The News-Courier is asking for Christmas cookie recipes from our readers to be printed in an upcoming edition. Share your family's favorite recipe for shaped/molded/rolled/refrigerator/no-bake cookies or drop cookies or bar cookies. Three recipes per person — one per category — will be published. Email submissions preferred to kcnewscourier@gmail.com or left in the box outside the Munday Chamber of Commerce office.

### Christmas in November

The Knox City Christmas in November will be 4 to 7 p.m. Nov. 30 in downtown Knox City. Local merchants are selling raffle tickets for cash drawings. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus will be at the Chamber of Commerce for photos.

### Breakfast with Santa

The Munday Church of Christ annual Breakfast with Santa event will be 9 to 11 a.m. Dec. 7. Free breakfast, free photos with Santa and free crafts. For information, contact Becky Offutt at becko@windstream.net.

### Angel Tree

The Knox City-Benjamin Chapter of the Knox County Child Welfare Board is asking local residents to participate in this year's Angel Tree by taking an angel from the Christmas tree at Citizens Bank in Knox City and shopping for a deserving child. All gifts should be delivered to Citizens Bank by Dec. 4. Donations will be accepted to P.O. Box 123, Knox City 79529.

## Corrections

Homer Lowrance was drafted at age 20 during the Korean War, but never actually served in the crisis. During his military service, he served in Germany two years and then returned stateside to San Diego for six years. A story on page 1 of last week's News-Courier was inaccurate.

To our readers: Due to a number of issues last week with our veterans profiles, we will be re-printing many, if not all, of those profiles in next week's Thanksgiving edition. We apologize for the errors.

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

## News on the go



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

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Volume 36 No. 17  
USPS 439-620



## New nurse knows small-town medicine

By Geoffrey Baumgartner  
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — Knox County residents now have the option of seeing a family nurse practitioner this winter season when coughs, colds, runny noses and aching fevers set in.

Debra Sosolik has joined the medical staff of the Knox County Hospital District and will be seeing patients not only at the hospital and emergency room, but also at the district's clinics in both Knox City and Munday.

"It has just been fantastic," Sosolik said. "The experience has been great, because I get to learn about and become familiar with both communities."



Geoffrey Baumgartner/The News-Courier  
Debra Sosolik, family nurse practitioner with the Knox County Health District, sits at her desk in her new office inside the Munday Clinic. Sosolik practiced in San Angelo and Mineral Wells before coming to Knox City.

See NURSE, Page 8

## Kennedy's challenge to Americans remains a call to action

By Charles Keaton

When dawn broke on Nov. 22, 1963, it promised to be a mild, fall day in Dallas. By sundown, it had become a dark, gloomy day that had changed history not just in this country but around the world.

The youthful exuberance and good looks of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy had captured the hearts of the residents of the United States as well as many nations around the world, but so had the beauty and elegance of his wife, Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy. The President and first lady allowed the world to see everything that was good about our nation — even as he faced the day-to-day tensions that normally surround the office of president of the United States.

With the world still recovering from World War II and the Korean War, the threat of Communism continued to heighten tensions around the globe. Within our own borders, other tensions were mounting brought on by other aspects of life, including civil rights and a growing unrest as black Americans sought equality.

These growing concerns weighed heavily on the mind of the young president as he awakened that fateful day on Friday, Nov. 22, 1962, compounded by the threat of nuclear weapons in Cuba and the expansion of the military into the small, Southeast Asian country of Vietnam.

See CHALLENGE, Page 8

## Playoffs



Terry Messer/For the News-Courier

Top - L.J. Collier (7) dashes for the end zone during Munday's bi-district win against Roby last Friday night at Jim Ned High School in Tuscola. Above - Ian Lagway (15) rushes through the hole his offensive line opened for him while Day'veon Dockins (2) makes the key block.

# Moguls roll over Lions 41-8 in first round

By Geoffrey Baumgartner  
The Knox County News-Courier

TUSCOLA — After what started out as a less-than-stellar season, compounded by the untimely death of a coach, the Mogul football team has clamored its way back into the champions circle with a win last Friday that garnered a bi-district title.

Meeting at a halfway neutral site at Jim Ned High School, the Moguls handily pilfered the Class 1A Division 2 bi-district championship from the hands of the Roby Lions in a lopsided 41-8 victory.

The first quarter of play was evenly matched between the two teams. While Roby managed to run in a touchdown midway through the first quarter, they also were able to drive in a successful two-point conversion attempt.

However, before the quarter could come to a close, Munday countered back with a touchdown and successful two-point conversion of their own, run in by quarterback Alfonso Nunez. The first quarter ended with both teams gridlocked at 8-8.

The second quarter would see Munday break away offensively, while keeping the Lions at bay defensively. With the score evened up after the first, Munday would eventually drive two touchdowns in during the second quarter. In addition, Nunez would have another successful two-point conversion, putting the Moguls ahead 24-8 to end the first half.

The Moguls came back after the half and brought even more intensity, driving home three touchdowns in the third quarter thanks to L.J. Collier's fumble recovery and 55-yard runback for

a touchdown and a later interception for a 44-yard touchdown return as well.

Collier was effective all night on both sides of the ball.

The Moguls ended the third quarter on top of the Lions 41-8. Both teams would remain scoreless during the fourth quarter.

The Munday defense did not allow any points to go on the board during the second half and only eight during the first half. With the win, the Moguls are now the Class 1A Division 2 bi-district champions.

Munday's current season record now sits at 6-5. The Moguls rushed for more than 200 yards. Day'veon Dockins rushed for 95 yards on 11 carries with one touchdown, while Ian Lagway had 83 yards rushing on 15 carries for one touchdown. Nunez rushed for 51 yards on nine carries with one touchdown and two two-point conversions, while Zac Edgar rushed for 15 yards on four carries.

Munday also had more than 100 yards receiving. Collier had two receptions for 56 yards and one touchdown, while Edgar had two receptions for 28 yards. In addition, Temerick Reagins managed one reception for 11 yards.

Nunez passed for 95 yards with five completions on 10 attempts and one touchdown.

The Lions were kept out of the Munday end zone with spot-on tackling from Collier, Temerick Reagins and Mitchell Lawrence.

Munday will face off against the Iraan Braves in a Class 1A Division 2 area game to be played at San Angelo Stadium at 7:30 p.m. Friday.



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

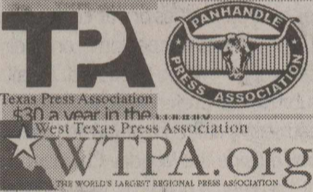
Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Munday, Texas, 76371.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Knox County News-Courier, P.O. Box 151, Munday, TX 76371.

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The Knox County News-Courier

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

**DEADLINES**  
Advertising: 5 p.m. Fridays



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**Deaths**

**Lola Mae McGregor**

Funeral services for Lola Mae McGregor, 100, of Midland, formerly of Lamesa will be held on Monday November 18 at 10:00 a.m. at Second Baptist Church with Gerald Parsons officiating.

Burial will follow in Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held on Sunday November 17, 2013 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home.

Lola Mae passed away on Thursday November 14, 2013 in Sulphur Springs.

She was born on October 21, 1913 in Bonham Co. to



**LOLA MCGREGOR**

Barney and Melissa (Young) Lawrence.

She married Johnie McGregor in 1934. He preceded her in death in 1956; they were married for 22

years.

Lola Mae is survived by her children, Barbara Powers and husband, Max of Midland, Betsy Schaeffer of Sulphur Springs, Tyrus McGregor of Lamesa, Nancy Scharnberg and husband, Ken of Spencer, Iowa, Judy Walton and husband, Elmer of Lamesa, and Kim Green of Lamesa; 13 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great grandchildren.

She is also preceded in death by her parents; 3 brothers; 1 sister; and one grandchild Randy Schaeffer.

To send condolences online please visit www.branonfuneralhome.com

**Mavis Jeanette Olson**

Mavis Olson joined her parents on October 25, 2013 at the age of 63. She was born on August 16, 1950 to Girth and Louise (Bigelow) Dykes in St. Francis, Kan.

Mavis and her brothers, Dallas, Allan, and Roger grew up in Limon, Colo. She met and married Ron Weeder of Hugo, Colo. on February 14, 1966. They had 2 children: Jay of Elm Creek, Neb. and Sherry of Brighton, Colo. They divorced after 14 years.

Mavis met and married Chuck Olson on September

10, 1988. They were married for 25 years and resided in Hugo, Colo.

Mavis is survived by her devoted husband, Chuck; son and daughter-in-law, Jay and Skye, their 7 children and 11 grandchildren; daughter, Sherry and her 3 children and 2 grandchildren; stepson Derek of La Junta and his children. She was also the neighborhood mom and grandma of several kids. She is also survived by nieces and nephews of her brothers.

Mavis was preceded in

death by her grandparents, parents, one sister and father-in-law, Bob Olson.

There was no visitation due to cremation, but the family is appreciative of the expressions of sympathy and for those who attended the memorial service celebration in honor of her, which was held November 2, 2013, 2 pm at the Eastern Trails Depot Facility located at 635 4th St. in Hugo, Colo.

Brother Dallas and wife Dorothy attended the services in Colo.

**Menus**

**Week of Nov 25-29**

**Knox City-O'Brien Breakfast**

Monday: Biscuits with sausage and gravy or cereal bowl, toast, peaches, juice, milk

Tuesday: Cinnamon toast with Sausage or cereal bowl with sausage, pears, juice, milk

Wednesday: Mini corndogs or cereal bowl, toast, mixed fruit, juice, milk

Thanksgiving Break TH-F

**Lunch**

Monday: Italian lasagna or antipasto salad with salami or bologna and cheese, peas, corn, fruit, slushy, milk

Tuesday: Chicken fried steak or fajita chicken salad or turkey and cheese, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, slushy, milk

Wednesday: Chicken quesadilla or garden pasta salad, ham and cheese, Mexican corn, beans, lettuce, orange, slushy, milk

Thanksgiving Break TH-F

**Munday Breakfast**

Monday: Biscuits with sausage gravy, honey graham, applesauce, slushy, juice,

milk

Tuesday: Cereal bowl with sausage, mixed fruit, slushy, juice, milk

Thanksgiving Break W-F

**Lunch**

Monday: Italian lasagna or bologna and cheese, peas, corn, apple, slushy, milk

Tuesday: Chicken fried steak or turkey and cheese, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, slushy, milk

Thanksgiving Break W-F

**Knox County Aging Center**

Monday: spaghetti / meat sauce, Italian vegetables, broccoli, garlic toast, Jell-o

Tuesday: Ham sandwiches, tomato/lettuce/pickles, broccoli salad, fruit cup

Thanksgiving Break W-F

Come eat with us and support your aging center program.

Please call in your orders by 10:00 a.m. to 657-3618.

Orders can't be taken after 11:00 a.m. please pick up by 11:00 a.m.

**Benjamin News**

By Gladene Green

Good Monday morning to one and all. It has dawned a beautiful late fall day — the type of weather I love! Thanksgiving plans are under way for many and, badly as we need moisture, I do hope for a dry, pleasant holiday. There will be folks traveling and I pray for their safe trips.

**Our ill**

News of our ill is encouraging. Linda Griffith had her eye surgery (hole in the retina), last Tuesday and each day she seems to be doing a little better. She's still in Lubbock, and she sees her doctor later this week, and maybe after that she can return home. She said the worst part of the recuperation process is the part that she has to have her head down 45 minutes out of each hour. I suspect that would get tiresome, but to have good eyesight, it would definitely be worth that bother for a few days.

Jim Cox had his heart tests last week — had a blockage so had to have a stent and so far, so good. He is doing much better and that's good to report.

**Here 'n' there**

The Veterans Day program last Monday was well attended even though the day was cloudy and the wind was blowing just enough to make it pretty uncomfortable, especially if one had failed to bring a jacket. The hamburgers, beans, and cobbler meal that followed was simply delicious. The benefit from the meal goes to the operating maintenance, etc. of the Museum.

I can't say enough for the Historical Commission that work so hard to make all these programs a success. I have said it before, but it's worth repeating. These things don't just happen. There's lots of to be done before, during and after each event.

I got a call from Joann Hamilton on Thursday. She and Gary still live in Salem, Mo., and she said they were doing pretty well. Like all of us, the aging process is catching up with them. Said they both have lots of the usual aches and pains that go with the passing of birthdays. They send their best to their friends here.

Also, Dolores Dykes called on Friday. She is David's wife and they are pretty well known here. Dolores' mom is the former Leota Golden. She said she is 93 and still maintains her own home and is doing OK. They always make it to the Homecoming and come out periodically to do work at the cemetery. It was good to hear from both of these former residents.

Larry and Kathy Conner of Thalia were here Wednesday for a visit with his brother, Bud.

I saw Junior and Virginia Barrientez on Friday night. Junior is the son of Reyes and the late Raul Barrientez. They live in Stamford and were in Knox City for the Jayton-Northside playoff game. Their son Michael was with them. He is teaching in the Jayton school system. It was good to see them.

Patti and Bob Tavernia of Fredericks, Md., were here a few days last week to visit her mom, Earlene Meinzer, and her brothers Wyman and Rick and their families.

Weekend guests of Reyes Barrientez was her daughter, Lupe Palacios of Johnson City and Lupe's daughter Consuella who lives in Vernon.

Laura McCanlies is still making trips to Wichita Falls helping their daughter Gina and her family to get settled into another apartment after their recent misfortune when a fire broke out in the adjoining apartment to theirs. Their damage was a result of the attempt to extinguish the flames next door to them. They did not have any fire damage but they lost nearly everything from smoke, water, etc. According to other family members, they are slowly getting things back to normal.

Judy and Randolph Barnett took her mom and Aunt Philomae Roberson and Corrine Parrish to Wichita Falls one day last week to take care of some business and at the same time they are just enjoyed a day out. Both Philomae and Corrine are doing better. Both have had some health problems during the last few months.

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

**Angel Tree projects underway in Munday and KC**

The Munday-Goree Chapter of Knox County Child Welfare Board needs your help to give children of Knox City and Benjamin a special Christmas.

The Angel Tree decorated at First Bank Texas in Munday. Please take an angel from the tree and shop for a deserving child. Each child will receive a suit of clothes and a toy from their wish list. All gifts should be delivered to Munday Tire and Appliance by Dec. 7. If you don't have time to shop, donations will be accepted.

In addition, the Knox City/Benjamin Chapter is conducting a simultaneous Angel Tree campaign at Citizens Bank in Knox City. All gifts should be delivered to the bank by Dec. 4!

The Knox County Child Welfare Board is a non-profit organization to help children in Knox County. Donations may be deposited at the bank, given to a Knox County Child Welfare Board member or you can mail your donation to P.O. Box 123, Knox City, TX 79529.

The News-Courier

*We want to thank our community family for the loving support you have provided to us during the loss of our beautiful daughter, sister and aunt, Rhonda. Words are not enough to express the gratitude in our hearts for your loving thoughts, prayers and many acts of kindness.*

*God bless each of you,*

*The Rhonda Albus Family*

**Confused** about the Medicare Drug Benefit?  
Enroll now through December 7!  
Benefits begin January 1, 2014  
Plans Change? People Change. Shop & Compare.  
Before you select a Medicare drug card program, please call us at The Drug Store and let us help you select the best plan for you. There are major changes in the 2014 plans. Please call The Drug Store (940) 864-2673 or come by before selecting a program. Medicare Website: www.medicare.gov

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**Munday, TX 76731**  
**P: 940-422-4559**  
**Pastor Shane Kendrix**

**Service Times:**  
**Sunday**  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Awanas, Pre-K to 6th grade: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Youth: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**When I was pregnant, I found out I had diabetes.**

**Now, I am at risk for diabetes for the rest of my life. So is my child.**

**But we can take steps to prevent it.** Gestational diabetes is diabetes that is found for the first time when a woman is pregnant. If you had gestational diabetes, tell your health care team and get tested. Tell your child's doctor.



## 4-H News

# Youth participate in Veterans Day, district food challenge

The Knox County 4-H Club met for our November meeting at the courthouse in Benjamin on Veterans Day.

Veteran Jason Duron was our guest speaker. He told of his time in the Marines and also about men who were brave enough to act on what they believed was right.

We enjoyed his speech and were thankful he spent the time to come and talk to us about veterans.

As a craft to end our 4-H meeting, we all decorated a feather to be part of a giant turkey that we will hang inside the courthouse to show how thankful 4-H is for Knox County!

Earlier that morning, 4-Hers supported the veterans who had served our country

by helping out at the Veterans Luncheon in Benjamin. There was an excellent turnout with a quilt raffle won by county Extension Agent Lorrie Coop.

Nov. 13 was the annual District 3 4-H Food Challenge in Jacksboro. The Food Challenge is a team event where the contestants are given a sack of ingredients and challenged to come up with a creative recipe and present it to the judges — all in 40 minutes. Knox County had three teams that participated, and all did extremely well.

If you have any interest in hearing more about 4-H, please contact the Knox County Extension office at 940-459-2651.

Corrie Earthman



Submitted photo

Knox County 4-H and Junior 4-H members keep busy throughout the falls in various events, such as the District 3 4-H Food Challenge recently in Jacksboro.

# Local DPS train for the worst

ASPERMONT — Regional state troopers with the Texas Department of Public Safety trained Monday at the Double Mountain Motor Sports Arena for different scenarios in which their expertise could save lives.

Sgt. Jodie Tullos, who heads up the regional DPS headquarters in Haskell, conducted the quarterly training for seven of the troopers under his command.

Tullos said a number of situations are covered in reality-based sessions that teach

troopers to deal with possible threats experienced while in their patrol vehicles as well as face-to-face contact.

On Monday, the young troopers trained with several attack dummies as well as target dummies.

"We hope to never have to use this training in real-life situations, but we have to be prepared for anything when the lives of our residents could be in jeopardy," Tullos said.

Patti Walker



Patti Walker/The News-Courier

Sgt. Jodie Tullos, who heads up the regional Texas Department of Public Safety headquarters in Haskell, advises troopers in his charge of how best to handle an attack situation when faced with a potential threat in the field. The quarterly training session Monday was conducted at the Double Mountain Motor Sports Arena in Aspermont.

## Museum News

# 'It was truly a day of remembering'

By Mary Jane Young

The Knox County Veterans Day celebration at 11 a.m. Nov. 11 was truly a day of remembering and honoring the men and women of our armed forces.

The beautiful music by the Munday High School Band filled the air prior to the program.

Ben Grill acted as the master of ceremonies and opened the program by requesting a moment of silence in memory of all veterans who have passed on.

The invocation was given by Dennis Duke, followed by the welcome delivered by Judge Travis Floyd.

Current military personnel from Knox County were recognized by Knox County Veterans Service Officer, Charles Langford, and then he requested a show of hands from veterans from each war that were present that day.

Veterans from Knox City and Munday posted the colors. Elementary students from Benjamin School directed by Nancy McGreger, then marched onto the memorial site, saluted the flag, and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance, before marching off in military formation.

The three first place winners of the Veterans essay and poster contest presented their speeches and displayed their poster. Speakers from each school were: Valec Landini from Benjamin; Emily Cottinham from Munday; and Ainsley Manning from Knox City. These speeches are a great tribute to the veteran that they have chosen to write about, and the highlight of

the program.

C.J. "Jack" Kelton from Truscott was the Gold Star Honoree for 2013. Kelton was with the Fifth Tank Battalion D. S. Troops of the Fifth Marine Division on the Volcano Islands of Iwo Jima, and was killed February 24, 1945. Posthumously, he was awarded the Navy Cross and the Purple Heart. The Gold Star Family, nieces of Pfc. C. J. "Jack" Kelton, Wanda Hardin, Norma Matthews, and Doris Wilson, carried the beautiful wreath of red, white, and blue flowers to the archway, standing there while the soft, sad notes of "Taps" was played by the Munday Band.

Lyndle Reeves ended the program with a beautiful a cappella rendition of the National Anthem with all standing at attention, honoring all Veterans.

After the conclusion of the program, everyone enjoyed a hamburger, beans and homemade cobbler lunch at the Ex-students building. The beautiful quilt "Rose Wreath", pieced by Mary Cartwright and quilted by Marjorie Lake was won by Lori Coop.

For several hours before and after the program, many people enjoyed the Military exhibit at the Wichita Brazos Museum, a display of pictures, uniforms, and memorabilia from Knox County veterans, making us realize how fortunate we are to have had these men and women fighting for our freedom.

Mary Jane Young is curator of the Wichita-Brazos Museum in Benjamin and the director of the Knox County Historical Commission.



Submitted photo

Area residents who attended the annual Veterans Day program in Benjamin wander through the Wichita-Brazos Museum afterward.

The News-Courier makes a great gift!  
(940) 422-5350

# Christmas Open House

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013  
DURING NORMAL BANKING HOURS COME IN FOR CHRISTMAS GOODIES, VISITING AND SHARE A GOOD TIME WITH ALL YOUR EMPLOYEES OF

**CitizensBank**<sub>N.A.</sub> (940) 658-3527  
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www.citizensbank-texas.com Knox City, Texas

Haskell Young Homemakers  
Annual Arts and Crafts Show  
Saturday, November 23rd  
Haskell Civic Center  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Admission \$2 for Adults  
\$1 for Children Ages 6-12

We have many **NEW** vendors this year, and all our spaces are completely full!

**Come Prepared to Be Overwhelmed!**

Visit booth after booth of great arts and crafts from vendors near and far!

Concession lunches will be available. To-go orders welcome.

**Try a Delicious Chicken Spaghetti Lunch** with all the trimmings for only \$7.



## Munday Community Thanksgiving Meal

Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> 2013  
First United Methodist Church  
11:00 am - 1:30 pm

Turkey, Dressing, and all the trimmings!

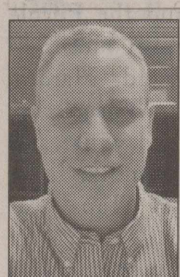
**Free to the Community!**



# The Paperboy

## Keep chipping away at imperfections

Sometimes in our newspapers we make mistakes. Sometimes we even butcher a page or two.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

Do we like it? Absolutely not. Neither myself, nor my staff likes mistakes. We want our readers happy with the product.

I wish I could promise you that we will be perfect. Unfortunately, in the print business, that's an impossibility.

However, I can promise you we will do our best with the resources

we have. And when we do make mistakes, we will work to make it right.

Thank you for the positive feedback

on last week's column. I'm thrilled the country's lack of leadership has not gone unnoticed.

We live in a time where one side labels the other side, then neither side wants to be associated with the other side. It's maddening.

I hear how crazy members of the Tea Party are. I hear horror stories about liberals. If you're conservative, you are said not to care. If you're a liberal, people say you're unpatriotic. If you're moderate, you don't go far enough. If you're independent, you can't make up your mind.

Honestly, who cares? As long as everyone in the room can point to one or two things that need fixing, that's a start.

If everyone agrees that all U.S. residents need food, make that work. If we can all agree that we need more jobs, let's make this country as attractive to busi-

nesses as possible. If education is important, let's be great at it — in every state.

Get the idea?

If we're ever going to get the ball rolling in terms of leadership, there are some fairly easy fixes to some major things.

I can tell you this: I'm not letting the morons on television make my mind up for me. I will take a look at candidates myself. We need people that can communicate, compromise and lead. That's what I'm looking for.

A quick thought on Facebook:

I'm not sure if anything as divisive as Facebook has ever existed. I see it hurt communities all of the time.

We live in a time where people's opinions can be spread instantly and sometimes people can let an irrational thought escape before really thinking it through.

I'm no longer on Facebook, but I keep up with it through employees and friends. Every story I hear about in a negative light makes me cringe.

So, if you're mad, don't post. Give it a few hours. In the end, you'll be glad you did. Words can hurt. Sometimes much worse than we intend. And our towns are too small for us to be hateful.

We're supposed to be family, are we not?

Chris Blackburn is CEO of Blackburn Media Group, owner of The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, Hall County Herald, The Hollis News, The Knox County News-Courier, The Post Dispatch, The Childress Index, Wellington Leader and The Stonewall Courier. Email him at [chris@blackburnmediagroup.com](mailto:chris@blackburnmediagroup.com) and follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.

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Varsity hoops

# Hounds wax Cowboys in first preseason game



Senior guard Kelsey Vasquez (32) goes up for a layup over a Jayton defender. Knox City's record is now 2-0 in preseason play.

WOODSON — Knox City's Greyhound varsity basketball squad were hosted by Woodson last week in their first pre-season game. The Greyhounds rolled passed the Cowboys with little effort, defeating them 55-24. Knox City put up 10 points in the first quarter, 19 in the second, 15 in the third and 11 points in the fourth. Individual standouts during the game were senior point guard Zach Carter, who put up 22 points and sophomore guard Elias Nevezarez, who put up eight points.

In addition, senior post Krys Campos also scored eight points, while sophomore post Ryan Heard put six points on the board during the game. All in all, the Greyhounds were 5-of-20 on free-throw attempts. The Greyhounds were to face the Trent Gorillas on Tuesday and will then be participating in the annual Double Mountain Basketball Tournament in Aspermont today through Sunday.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

## KC girls eke preseason win over Jayton

KNOX CITY — The Houndette varsity basketball team hosted the Jayton Lady Jaybirds last week in their first non-district game of the year. While it was a hard-fought battle throughout, the Houndettes eventually took the game by three, 41-38. The Houndettes outmaneuvered the Lady Jaybirds the entire first quarter and went into the second on top 19-14. The second quarter was more difficult and at the half the score was 25-21 with the Houndettes leading. They went on to put 10 more points on the board during the third and six more points during in the

fourth. The major contributor for the Houndettes were sophomore point guard Shailee Manning with 10 points, four field goals and was two for two on free throws while senior guard Leighton Pepper had 10 points, two field goals and went six for eight on free throws. In addition, sophomore post Makaylie Steele had 17 points, with 8 field goals and went one for six on free throws. The Houndettes were to face Trent on Tuesday and will begin participating in the annual Double Mountain Basketball Tournament in Aspermont today through Sunday.

Geoffrey Baumgartner

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# Girls hoops Moguettes notch victories in early matches

MUNDAY — The Moguette varsity basketball squad began its non-district matchups this week with dual victories against the Crowell Lady Wildcats and the Abilene Christian Lady Panthers.

While the Moguettes defeated Crowell, 54-38, their game against Abilene was closer, winning 34-21.

Even though they were not district games, the Moguettes obtained their victories by wide margins and established dominance.

For the game against Crowell, the Moguettes put up 11 points in the first quarter, 10 in the second, 22 in the third and 11 points in the fourth quarter.

The individual standouts from that game were Kaylan Urbanczyk, who had five points, four assists, five rebounds and four steals and Tatum Bufkin who had 22 points, one assist, five rebounds and nine steals. In addition Maria Vega had 13 points, one assist, six rebounds and one steal while Rebecca Serrato had four points, one assist, two rebounds and four steals.

During their game against Abilene

Christian, the Moguettes scored five points in the first quarter, 12 in the second, 15 in the third and 2 points in the fourth quarter.

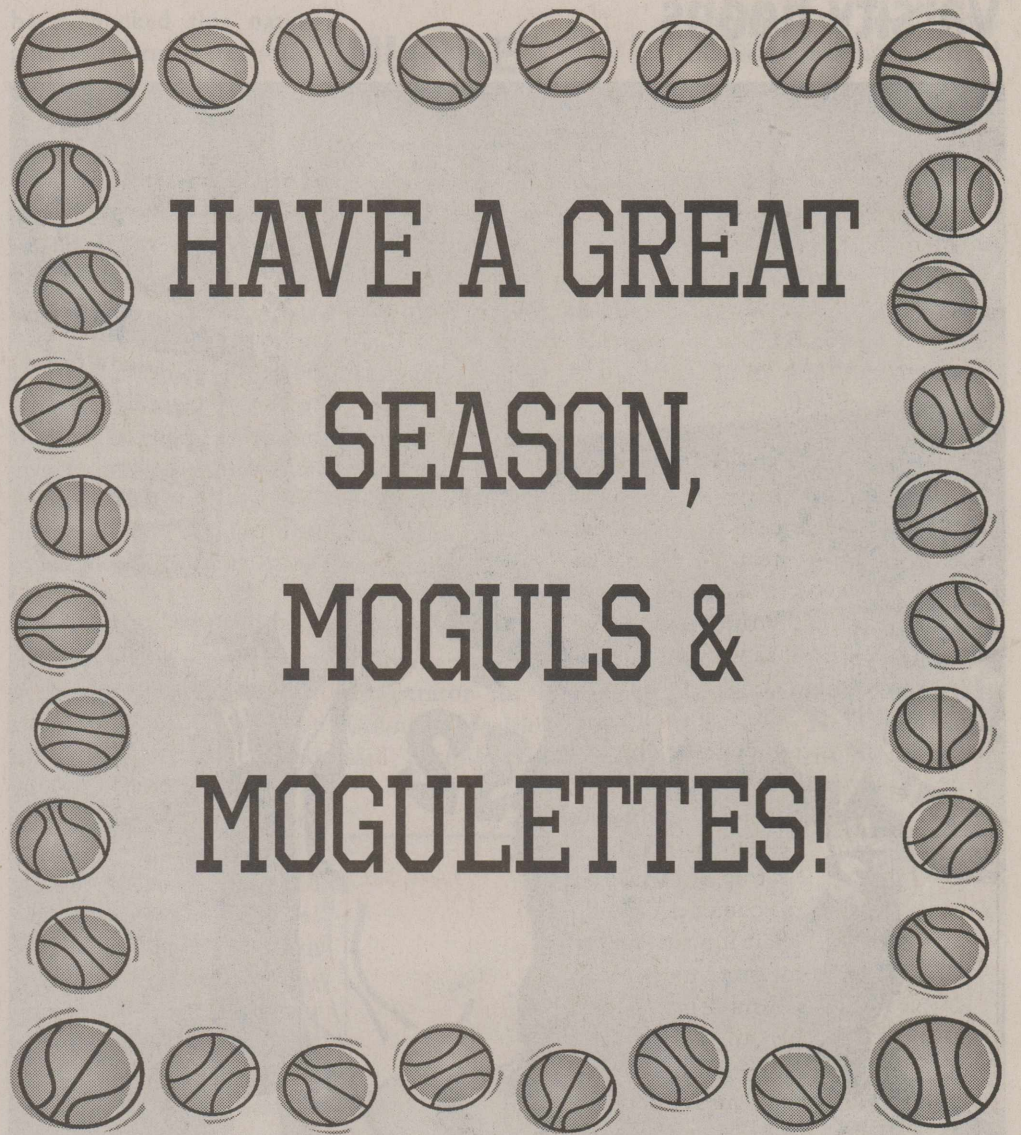
The major contributors for the Moguettes during the Abilene Christian game were Urbanczyk with nine points, one assist, seven rebounds and two steals and Bufkin with 11 points, five assists, four rebounds and seven steals.

Tiffany Serrato put up six points, one assist, four rebounds and three steals while Brenley Waters had six points, two rebounds and two fouls.

The Moguettes managed to put up a total of only 34 points during the Abilene game, but only allowed 21 points to be scored, with no points being scored against them during the third quarter; a testament to their defensive ability.

The Moguettes traveled to Newcastle on Tuesday and next will host Petrolia at 4 p.m. Nov. 26.

Geoffrey Baumgartner



# TxDOT program helps drivers stay safe during winter weather

Special to the News-Courier

CHILDRESS — The winter season will soon be upon us. Last February proved the Texas Panhandle can receive severe winter weather conditions and the dangers those conditions can be to motorists who are unprepared.

The Texas Department of Transportation works year-round to ensure roads remain passable and safe, said Marty Smith, engineer for the Childress district, a 13-county region that includes Knox and King counties.

“Road crews are especially prepared for improving road safety during extreme winter weather conditions,” he said.

With this in mind, TxDOT officials have developed a winter weather awareness program to prepare motorists for the extreme conditions they may encounter when traveling across Texas dur-

ing the winter months.

The WinterSafe program encourages motorists to take precautions and incorporate a few safe driving habits to reduce the risk on the road. This can be as easy as:

- Planning your trip by checking current road conditions on-line or by calling 1-800-452-9292 or visiting TxDOT.gov.
- Staying off the roads if travel is an option.
- Wearing your seatbelt.
- Ensuring your vehicle is properly maintained.
- Observing traffic signs and weather alerts.
- Taking extra precautions when approaching bridges, shaded spots, overpasses and turns.
- Preparing an emergency road kit.
- Not using your cruise control during ice and snow storms.
- Keeping a safe distance between your vehicle and snowplows.

• Not driving through snow clouds and other weather conditions that produce conditions of little or no visibility of the road ahead.

• If stranded, calling the Texas Department of Public Safety’s toll-free hotline at (800) 525-5555.

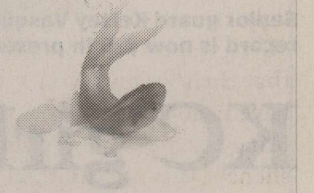
For the latest information on Texas roadways, be sure to check the Texas Department of Transportation’s website at drivetexas.org.

“TxDOT works very closely with local agencies across the state to ensure potentially hazardous roadways are treated quickly during seasons of extreme weather,” Smith said. “Using a variety of environmentally safe treatment methods and equipment, TxDOT acts fast to improve road traction, remove accumulated snow and prevent roads from icing up.”

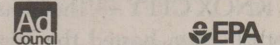
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The Idle American

# Baylor: From bell ringers to clappers

It is, by many measures, the most delicious season. The general populace — both serious diners and others in the amateur ranks — dream of Thanksgiving dinners. They waken salivating, comforted by assurances that within hours — or certainly days — aromas wafting from ovens are announcement enough that turkeys and other holiday fare will soon be served.

For the sports-minded, the November scene is likewise heralded, and for the hardcore fan, it is might near as sacred. It is the “put up or shut up” time for contenders, and “wait’ll next year” cries for pretenders.

And it is a month — like all the rest, really — when our minds must make room for unexpected news, sports or otherwise. Much of it makes us weep, or at the very least, shake our heads in disbelief.

Who could have dreamed, pray tell, that “bullying,” a topic painted vividly in bold type and big headlines — would rear its angry noggin’ in professional football locker rooms?

NFL brass will try to extinguish this ugly fire as quickly as Red Adair took on oil-rig blowouts. Some of them mutter that their plates are full. They really don’t have time to handle media hordes clamoring for more details about locker room shenanigans and football head injuries.

The late Abe Lemons — colorful collegiate basketball coach for almost a half-century known as much for his gentle humor as he was for coaching — would have had a field day coining one-liners. Some of them apply to sports; all of them can help us keep life in perspective.

The NFL brouhaha reminds us that Lemons had the rare ability to keep life well-ordered. Those who knew him best say World War II experiences helped him greatly in the arrangement of his priorities. The jagged edges of war helped him remember that games are indeed just games. We could hope that something short of war would serve the same purposes today.

Lemons opined one day that if he were allowed to add two staff positions, he probably wouldn’t add more coaches. He figured better hires would be a hair-dress-

er and a psychologist.

What would he suggest today? Maybe tattoo artist, jeweler or interpreter? The philosophical mentor’s comments are worth researching. He compared coaching and medicine, saying that when a coach finishes last in the league race, he’s called “an idiot.” And when a guy finishes last in medical school, he’s called “doctor.”

Baylor University faithful are still pinching themselves, just to make sure football fortunes introduced by Haskell County native coach Art Briles are real.

Even the most ardent are in various shock stages that the Bears are now 9-0, and one of four undefeated major college teams in the country. One fan bragged — of all things — of gratefulness for daylight-saving time. “It gave us an additional hour to brag,” he joked.

Earlier this month, my 101-year-old Uncle Mort provided a sage comment about Baylor football. “For at least a century, the Bears have been much involved in ‘bell-ringing’ on the football field. What the Bears are trying to get used to now is being the clapper.”

Coaches remind fans to get over games completed, won or lost, and to “press on” to the next game on the schedule.

Baylor fans won’t soon forget the Bears’ dominance of Oklahoma. One crowed that the sun still came up in the Sooner State the next day, but it was an hour late. And the wind did a mild sweep across the plain, but missed its cue, arriving before the rain.

The groan of one disappointed OU fan is worth repeating: “I was so disgusted that when it was obvious on TV that things were only going to get worse in the second half, I changed channels to watch Billy Graham.”

Through it all, thousands of people — far in excess of the number of seats in old Baylor Stadium — will one day tell their grandchildren stories about the game. “I was there,” they’ll claim.

In lean years up the way, they’ll boast about how good things were “when Art Briles was here.”

That’s what they said about another coaching legend Grant Teaff. He, like Briles, proved that Baylor University can sometimes be the clapper in gridiron bell-ringing.

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



DON NEWBURY

The 501

# Chasing Oswald and Booth

Are we out of the woods yet? Have you ever wondered about the origin of that expression? I haven’t.

It’s a metaphor we all use unthinkingly. Metaphors are like that.

Ferretting out the origins of such expressions makes for interesting linguistic adventures, but the Internet makes everything too easy. Better to challenge yourself at least to take a guess before turning to Google. Otherwise, your brain will turn to mush sooner rather than later. Motto du jour: “Think first, Google second.” Seriously.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

That’s our high point. Quit reading now, or stick with me as we chase a few rabbits through the woods and maybe into a

clearing.

First, what picture does “getting out of the woods” paint in your mind? I see at least two people being pursued by other people through a mediocre forest. Finally they reach a clearing, meaning they don’t have to jump over logs and stuff to run really fast. But conditions also improve for the pursuers when they reach the same place. So, that illustration doesn’t hold water, metaphorically speaking.

GOOGLE PAUSE.

A search for “out of the woods” produced these results:

CONTINUED PAUSE.

Well, guess what — no results yet. After 30 long seconds, I’m still waiting. That’s the great thing about the farm — a very slow connection to omniscience. I’m forced to think for myself.

What do I know about woods? Very little. Our farm has pseudo-woods in the form of tree rows, a.k.a., shelterbelts, planted circa 1940 by the Civilian Con-

servation Corps to combat wind erosion. Each shelterbelt is a narrow forest. At age 70-plus, they’re askew with dead limbs and rotting logs, not to mention live low-hanging branches, some with thorns. Watch out for low-hanging branches.

Isn’t that a great expression? It means you should watch out for low-hanging branches.

Or does it?

We could Google that one too, but since we’re nine minutes into the “out of the woods” search, changing horses in midstream seems ill advised.

GOOGLE RESULTS.

After 11 minutes of suspense, the answer has arrived: “Out of the woods” means “past a critical phase.” Hmmm. That’s a pretty dull definition, devoid of anyone chasing anyone else and no interesting origin noted. A tidy no-frills explanation is no fun at all. It’s like a shadowy forest giving way to a plain old meadow.

Makes me think of the Kennedy assassination. Wandering around in the Conspiracy Woods is more intriguing than reaching the Oswald-Did-It-By-Himself Clearing.

Maybe I just invented a new metaphor. Or we have the makings of an allegory. I get them confused.

Either way, the Oswald-Did-It theme is lackluster compared to the conspiracy theories. And more keep surfacing.

Yep, when it comes to knowing everything about John F. Kennedy’s assassination, we’re a half-century down the road and not out of the woods.

Unless human nature changes, we never will be.

Case in point, speculation still surrounds Abraham Lincoln’s death. Assassin John Wilkes Booth is said to have escaped to Granbury or Japan.

I like to think it was Granbury.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a contributor and columnist for Blackburn Media Group newspapers.

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## CHALLENGE

From Page 1

Fifty years ago, I sat in the second-grade classroom of Mrs. Wanda Houk. Just like other 8-year-olds, I had little to no interest in the politics of this nation; I was more concerned about baseball or football. On this day, just like any other Friday, especially the one right before Thanksgiving, I was ready to enjoy my weekend and looked forward to a short school week, but shortly after lunch, our principal, Mr. P.E. Davis, made an announcement that changed my day, my weekend and Thanksgiving 1963.

As Mr. Davis made the announcement of the tragic news the president had been shot and killed, little did I realize the change that was about to come to this nation. Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson was sworn in as the chief executive and within a few months signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1964. President Johnson also escalated the U.S. involvement in Vietnam in 1965, which would last for 10 more years.

As an 8-year-old, most of my free time revolved around playing with friends and watching Saturday-morning cartoons, but things were different this fourth weekend in November 1963. For those who are younger than 50, you have to understand Lubbock had only two television stations in 1963 (and they only broadcast in black-and-white), so to have your Saturday mornings interrupted with all-day, all-

weekend coverage of the assassination of JFK was tragic in my small world. But just like everyone else that weekend, I watched it all, trying to understand the significance of what had occurred in Dallas.

I remember hearing the reports of the killing of Dallas police officer J.D. Tippitt as every law officer in the Dallas area searched for the person or persons responsible for shooting the president. This concerned me, even though we lived more than 300 miles away, because my dad was a police officer in Lubbock. My young mind couldn't grasp the concept of distance and that he was safe from what was happening in Dallas.

I was concerned because there were rumors the Soviet Union was preparing to invade the United States. I was concerned because adults were upset and scared of what would or could happen to our country. What would happen if the Soviets invaded? What would happen to the world around me, the one I lived in every day?

The events that continued through the weekend, held me captivated. I missed the live murder of Lee Harvey Oswald on Sunday morning because we were at church. I do remember the discussions that took place on television as to why Jack Ruby did it. Even as early as two days later, the conspiracy theories were being discussed. Ruby denied the world the answers that Oswald might have provided, but even more so, he raised more questions regarding a conspiracy or other shooters.

As Monday, Nov. 25, 1963, began, a nation was

in mourning. School was canceled so everyone could stay home and watch the solemn ceremonies and proceedings taking place in Washington, D.C. My mom and I watched everything from the funeral procession to the final interment in Arlington National Cemetery.

The pain and loss was etched on the faces of everyone from the Kennedy family to the news commentators to the throngs that stood in silence as the horse-drawn caisson proceeded from the Capitol to the White House to St. Matthew's Cathedral and finally to Arlington National Cemetery.

I remember the image of John Jr. saluting his father's casket as it left St. Matthew's. I remember the slow progress from the Cathedral to Arlington National Cemetery. I can still hear the clip-clop of the horses as they made the slow march to the steady beat of the drums. I remember it as if it was yesterday and the impact it had on the world and the nation in 1963.

Even though the rumors of an impending Soviet invasion disappeared over the weekend, the impact of this event changed my life and changed a nation. For me, it awoke an interest and desire to understand what was happening in the world.

I'm not a 24-hour news junkie, but I do want to know what's happening. I'm drawn to the tragedies that over the last 50 years have struck this nation from time to time. Many of which I have watched for countless hours. I'm not a historian, but I want to know the historical significance of the events that

have shocked this nation and transformed its future.

"What if ...?"

What if JFK wasn't assassinated? What if Oswald wasn't murdered? What if the Warren Commission wasn't at the mercy of J. Edgar Hoover?

"What if ...?"

Fifty years later, an event that transformed a nation still dwells in the minds of those who were alive and aware of the tragic events. Many feel there are still unanswered questions, most of which will never be known.

Where were you when JFK was assassinated? Most of us older than 50 can answer this question without hesitation. We understand what we lived through was a tragic page in the history of this great nation. As a nation, we were changed forever. The challenges JFK issued to this nation were attacked with vigor that day — challenges that eventually would be met and achieved by this great country, which continues to evolve.

In his inaugural address, JFK spoke those now immortal words, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."

Today, we need to be reminded, that though he served a short time, JFK challenged the nation to continue to be great, to be the leader of the world, to work for peace and to look forward to the future.

What can you do for our country today?

Charles Keaton is a reporter for the Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, a sister publication to The Stonewall Courier. He is a retired educator, a local sports announcer/analyst and a history enthusiast.

## NURSE

From Page 1

Graduating cum laude in 2003 from Texas Women's University in Denton, Debra completed her master's in nursing in 2007 from Hardin Simmons University in Abilene.

Sosolik comes to Knox County with experience in emergency medicine, intensive care and primary health care. Her areas of expertise are family, geriatric, pediatric, psychiatric, urgent care and women's health.

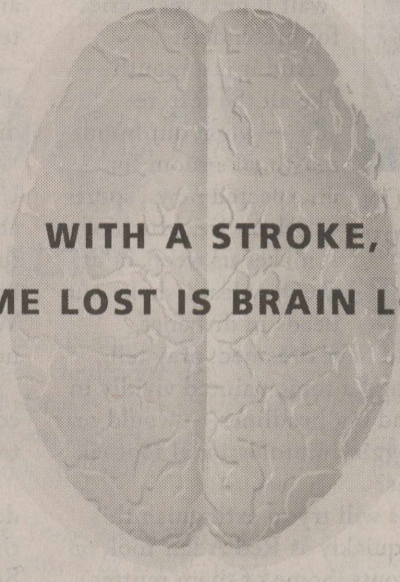
Stephen Kuehler, administrator for the Knox County Health District, said Sosolik is not unac-

customed to small town medicine, having practiced in San Angelo and Mineral Wells.

"We are excited about the opportunity to add Debra to our staff," he said. "We believe she will help us grow and expand our mission."

Sosolik comes to Knox County via her husband, Bobby Sosolik, who is the senior vice president and branch manager for Capital Farm Credit in Munday.


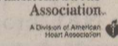
The Knox City Clinic is also staffed by Dr. Ezekiel Duke, Nurse Practitioner Jamie Caldwell, and Dr. Shirley Barretto. The Munday Clinic is staffed by Dr. Kevin Finley and Nurse Practitioner Chris Scott.



**WITH A STROKE,  
TIME LOST IS BRAIN LOST.**

If you suddenly have or see any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately:  
Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body • Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding • Difficulty seeing in one or both eyes • Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination • Severe headache with no known cause

Learn more at [StrokeAssociation.org](http://StrokeAssociation.org) or 1-888-4-STROKE.

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Made possible in part by a generous grant from The Buehler Foundation.

# Knox County Hospital District

*Congratulates the Following Recipients of the 2013*

## Touching Hearts Awards

Linda Abila  
Diana Baxter  
Renita Brown  
Shelly Cox  
Sylvia Espinosa  
Erica Gray  
Debbie Harrington  
Cassidy Lerma  
Haley Morrow  
Lissa Myers  
Lupe Perez  
Amy Rogers  
Cheryl Sciba  
Rosa Sosa

Delores Angerer  
Lupe Bejar  
Ronnie Brown  
Eric Earthman  
Dr. Kevin Finley  
Rachel Gray  
Linda Hearn  
Tonya Lewis  
Bill Myers  
Rickie Myers  
Rommel Quevedo  
Jan Rolston  
Chris Scott  
Traci Blair

Michele Barrientez  
Kyle Bibb  
Jamie Caldwell  
Larressa Earthman  
Brandon Gray  
Cindy Guess  
Sheila Kuehler  
Sue Marion  
Kelly Myers  
Dan Offutt  
Dwayne Redder  
Jayla Sanchez  
Amy Sigala

This program provides opportunities for individuals to recognize employees of the District who 'Touched Your Heart'. Nomination cards are located throughout District facilities including: Knox County Hospital, Knox City Clinic, Munday Clinic, Seymour Medical, Inc., and Munday Nursing Center.



# Reward offered in Swenson home burglary

The Knox County News-Courier

SWENSON — Stonewall County sheriff's authorities and other law enforcement agencies in the area are investigating the Nov. 10 burglary of a home in the Swenson community, and a reward is being offered for information in the crime.

According to reports, a home was broken into and numerous items reported missing, including guns, ammunition, binoculars, scopes, an ivory-handled knife collection and other

handmade knives, a coin collection, a crock collection, assorted jewelry, three laptop computers, a handmade quilt, a fiddle and bow in its case and luggage. In addition, Jimbo Humphrey and Trammell bits also were reported stolen.

Sheriff Bill Mullen said his deputies were still investigating and tallying up an estimated monetary figure for the missing items, but, he said, it would be in the thousands of dollars.

This past week, Clear Fork Crime Stoppers was offering a \$1,000 re-

ward for information leading to an arrest for the crime. The agency works with the public and law enforcement from Stonewall, Fisher, Kent, Jones, Haskell and Shackelford counties to help solve local crimes.

Anyone with knowledge of the incident is asked to call local sheriff's authorities at 989-3333 or the Crime Stoppers tipline at 1-800-222-TIPS. Information also may be sent via mobile text messaging to CFCS@CRIMES. As always, callers do remain anonymous.

Thanks for reading the  
Knox County News-Courier!

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**TALKTEXT! CRASH**

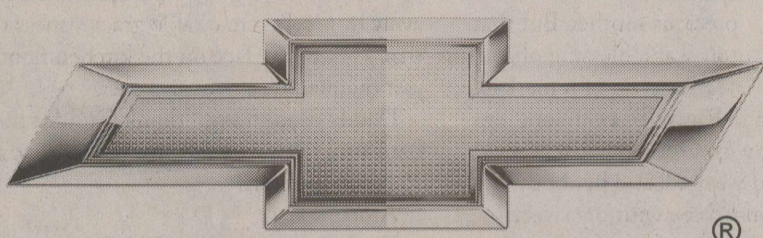
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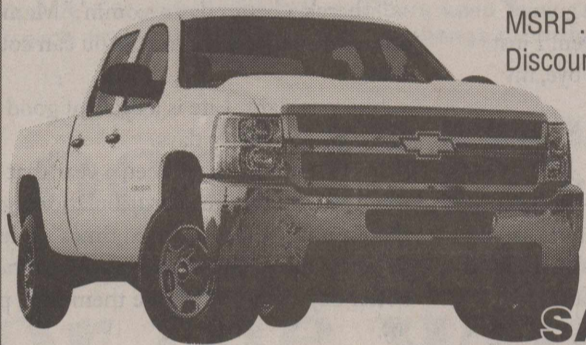
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Black-Brown Cloth, V8, LT Convenience Pkg, Texas Edition. #8784



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Discounts & Rebates ... \$5,095

**SALE PRICE**  
**\$34,100**

### 2013 CHEVROLET 2500HD CREW CAB 4X4

Silver-Black Cloth, 6.0L V8, LT1, Steering Wheel Controls, Pwr Seat, HD Tow Pkg, Positrac. #8763



MSRP ..... \$43,785  
Discounts & Rebates ... \$7,985

**SALE PRICE**  
**\$35,800**

### 2013 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LTZ

White Diamond-Tan Leather, Front & 2nd Row Skylight, V6, Rear DVD. #8732



MSRP ..... \$45,275  
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**\$40,825**

### 2014 CHEVROLET 1500 CREW CAB 4X4 LTZ

White-Brown Leather, V8, Navigation, Bose, Heated and Cooled Front Seats. #8883



MSRP ..... \$50,175  
Discounts & Rebates ... \$4,975

**SALE PRICE**  
**\$45,200**

### RKI Service Body Bed

Good Condition #51021 Call for details or pictures. .... **\$2,000**

### 2002 Ford F350 Crew Cab 2WD

White-Tan Cloth, Diesel, Manual Transmission, Flat Bed, #50698 ..... **\$9,500**

### 2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer EXT

Gold-Tan Leather, 3 Seats, Heated Seats, 84K, #51090 ..... **\$7,250**

### 2004 GMC 1500 Ext Cab 2WD SLE

Maroon-Charcoal Cloth, Bucket Seats, 97K, #51070 ..... **\$9,350**

### 2004 Toyota Sequoia SUV 4x4

White-Tan Leather, Sunroof, Navigation, DVD, 3rd Row Seat, #51069 ..... **\$11,850**

### 2007 Toyota Camry 4DR LE

Lt. Blue-Gray Cloth, Sunroof, 78K, #51091 ..... **\$10,500**

### 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4 Z-71

Black-Black-Gray Leather, Heated Seats, 155K, #51039 ..... **\$16,500**

### 2008 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 4x4

Red-Charcoal Cloth, V8, Work Truck, Tow Pkg, 120K, #51051 ..... **\$14,000**

### 2009 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 4x4 Texas Edition

Silver-Black Cloth, V8, Bedliner, Grille Guard, Step Rails, 42K, #51083 ..... **\$24,000**

### 2009 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4

White-Black Cloth, 6.0 V8, Pwr Seat, 28K, #51053 ..... **\$30,500**

### 2009 Chevrolet Impala LTZ

Red-Charcoal Leather, Sunroof, V6, 130K #51064 ..... **\$7,950**

### 2010 Chevrolet Equinox LT

White-Black Cloth, 4 Cyl, Auto, LT1, 10K, #51089 ..... **\$19,500**

### 2010 Ford Edge SUV SLE

Silver-Gray Leather, 2nd Row Bench, Good W/S & Tires, 74K, #51073 ..... **\$16,000**

### 2010 Nissan Murano SUV

Black-Tan Leather, Heated Seats, Sunroof, 35K #57012 ..... **\$23,000**

### 2011 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4

Silver-Charcoal Cloth, LT1 Package, Bedliner, Grille Guard, Step Rails, 89K, #51077 ... **\$26,500**

### 2011 Chevrolet Suburban 4x4 LT

White-Black Leather, Sunroof, Navigation, DVD, 2nd Row Buckets, 63K, #51079 ..... **\$30,800**

### 2011 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab 2WD

Blue Granite-Black Cloth, 5.3 V8, Bed Liner & Cover, Assist. Steps, 19K, #51034 ..... **\$24,000**

### 2011 Chevrolet Camaro 2SS, V8, 6 Speed Manual

Red-Gray Leather, Sunroof, 20" Wheels, RS Pkg, 4K, #51056 ..... **\$28,500**

### 2011 GMC Sierra Denali Crew Cab AWD

Diamond White-Tan Leather, 6.2L V8 Auto, Bose Stereo, 16K, Like New, #50827 ..... **\$38,500**

### 2011 Ford F150 Crew Cab 4x4

White-Gray Cloth, V6, EcoBoost, RhinoLiner, 86K, #50931 ..... **\$22,000**

### 2012 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 2WD LTZ

Brown-Black Leather, V8, NAV, 20" Wheels, Rear View Camera, 21K, #51086 ..... **\$30,000**

### 2012 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4 Short Bed

White, Pwr Win/Locks, Flatbed, Front Bumper Replacement, 70K, #51002 ..... **\$27,500**

### 2013 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4

LS Pkg, White-Charcoal Cloth, 6.0 V8, 20K, #51085 ..... **\$34,500**

### 2013 Chevrolet Impala LS

White-Charcoal Cloth, 4 Cyl, 16K, #30107 ..... **\$14,775**

### 2013 GMC Terrain

White-Tan Cloth, V6, Aluminum Wheels, 26K, #30117 ..... **\$24,500**

### 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe 2WD

LT Pkg, Crystal Red-Black Leather, 2nd Row Bench, DVD, Luxury Pkg, 17K, #30115 ..... **\$39,800**

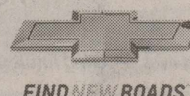
### 2013 Chevrolet Captiva SUV

White-Charcoal Cloth, 4 Cyl, Pwr Windows/Locks, Cruise, XM, 18K, #30108 ..... **\$20,500**

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Nancy's Notions

# Turkey Basics: Safe Cooking

With more than 248.5 million turkeys raised worldwide, 219 million of these were consumed in the United States. It is thought that of those 219 million, about 46 million were eaten on Thanksgiving. In addition, about 22 million are eaten at Christmas and another 19 million were eaten at Easter.



NANCY MCDONALD

Questions always arise concerning cooking turkeys and food safety, so I thought I'll elaborate this week with a few details from the USDA Food Safety website.

Most importantly, a food thermometer should be used to ensure a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees has been reached to destroy bacteria and prevent food-borne illness.

Following are a few variables to consider concerning the roasting time of a whole turkey:

- A partially frozen turkey requires longer cooking.
- A stuffed turkey takes longer to cook.
- The oven may not heat food unevenly.
- Temperature of the oven may be inaccurate.
- Dark roasting pans cook faster than shiny metals.
- The depth and size of the pan can reduce heat circulation to all areas of the turkey.
- The use of a foil tent for the entire time can slow cooking.
- Use of the roasting pan's lid speeds cooking.
- An oven cooking bag can accelerate cooking time.
- The rack position can have an affect on even cooking and heat circulation.
- A turkey or its pan may be too large for the oven, thus blocking heat circulation.

Wow. Those are the concerns that only show the following roasting instructions are general. Adjustments may be necessary.

1. Set the oven temperature no lower than 325 degrees. Preheating is not necessary.
2. Be sure the turkey is completely thawed. Times are based on fresh or thawed birds at a refrigerator temperature of 40 degrees or below.

3. Place turkey breast-side up on a flat wire rack in a shallow roasting pan 2 to 2 1/2 inches deep.

(Optional steps: Tuck wing tips back under shoulders of bird (called "akimbo"). Add one-half cup water to the bottom of the pan. In the beginning, a tent of aluminum foil may be placed loosely over the breast of the turkey for the first 1 to 1 1/2 hours, then removed for browning. Or, a tent of foil may be placed over the turkey after the turkey has reached the desired golden brown color.)

4. For optimum safety, cook stuffing in a casserole. If stuffing your turkey, mix ingredients just before stuffing it; stuff loosely. Ad-

ditional time is required for the turkey and stuffing to reach a safe minimum internal temperature (see chart).

5. For safety and doneness, the internal temperature should be checked with a food thermometer. The temperature of the turkey and the center of the stuffing must reach a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees. Check the temperature in the innermost part of the thigh and wing and the thickest part of the breast.

6. Let the bird stand 20 minutes before removing stuffing and carving.

**APPROXIMATE COOKING TIMES**

(325 °F oven temperature)

**UNSTUFFED (time in hours)**

4 to 6 lb. breast — 1 1/2 to 2 1/4

6 to 8 lb. breast — 2 1/4 to 3 1/4

8 to 12 lbs. — 2 3/4 to 3

12 to 14 lbs. — 3 to 3 3/4

14 to 18 lbs. — 3 3/4 to 4 1/4

18 to 20 lbs. — 4 1/4 to 4 1/2

20 to 24 lbs. — 4 1/2 to 5

**STUFFED (time in hours)**

8 to 12 lbs. — 3 to 3 1/2

12 to 14 lbs. — 3 1/2 to 4

14 to 18 lbs. — 4 to 4 1/4

18 to 20 lbs. — 4 1/4 to 4 3/4

20 to 24 lbs. — 4 3/4 to 5 1/4

Remember: Always wash hands, utensils, the sink and anything else that comes in contact with raw turkey and its juices with soap and water.

When the feast is over and everyone is "stuffed," how should you store your leftovers? Discard any turkey, stuffing and gravy left out at room temperature longer than two hours; one hour in temperatures above 90 degrees. Divide leftovers into smaller portions. Refrigerate or freeze in covered shallow containers for quicker cooling. Use refrigerated turkey, stuffing, and gravy within three to four days. When freezing leftovers, use within two to six months for best quality.

Cooked turkey may be eaten cold or reheated. If reheating in the oven, set the oven temperature no lower than 325 degrees. Reheat turkey to an internal temperature of 165 degrees. Use a food thermometer to check the internal temperature.

To keep the turkey moist, add a little broth or water and cover. If reheating in the microwave, cover your food and rotate it for even heating, allowing standing time. Check the internal temperature of your food with a food thermometer to make sure it reaches 165 degrees. Consult your microwave oven owner's manual for recommended times and power levels.

For information on other methods for cooking a turkey, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854).

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service in Garza County.

Dixie Divas

# A thanksgiving for blessings and troubles

If New Year's is a time to regroup and look toward the upcoming year, then Thanksgiving is a time to gather and reflect on the year that has passed. In our family, it is a time when we thank the good Lord for both the heartaches and the blessings.

We thank him for the grace that upheld us and saw us through the troubles and his beautiful goodness in the gifts and blessings he bestowed.



RONDA RICH

As I look back at this year, I can cheerfully declare it to have been one of the happiest, most blessed years of my existence. Yes, there were little aggravations and stresses here and there, but it was overwhelmingly good even in spite of the death of Tink's precious mother. But that, too, was a blessing of sorts.

A woman of remarkable, steadfast faith, Miss Ruth had been longing — even pleading with God — to go home. She was tired and wearied, and her body was failing her. "Oh, just to be with my sweet Lord and Savior," she would say repeatedly.

She called us one morning, and Tink put her on speaker phone in the car. Brightly and happily, she sang out, "I just called to say good-bye, dear."

"Good-bye?" Tink asked quizzically. She rarely left home. "Where are you going?"

"Well, today I'm going to heaven! I just wanted to call and tell you good-bye, my dear."

"OK," Tink replied in a comical tone. "Have a good trip."

Miss Ruth did not have any loss of mind. She had all her mental facilities, but she was a woman so steered in faith she really believed she could will her way, through faith, to heaven at a time of her choosing.

Tink called her that evening, and when she answered, he said, "Well, I see you didn't go to heaven today."

"Maybe tomorrow!" she intoned enthusiastically.

So, when the angels came to gather her up,

through our sadness we saw the blessing. She was where she had spent her life trying to get. Her "tomorrow" had finally arrived.

It's been a happy year, personally and professionally, filled with blessings both simple and complex. The unusual rainy year filled our streams and small river, while grass grew abundantly for the horses, and Dixie Dew lost a pound of dachshund. Tink spent most of the year working from home and not in Los Angeles. I liked that a lot. My only novel was filmed for a television movie that will broadcast in January. I had a cameo in the movie, and Tink's childhood crush, Valerie Harper, co-stars. Our time spent with her and her husband, Tony, has turned into a precious friendship. I adore that remarkable woman.

Unexpectedly, I got an offer to open for the wonderful comedian Bill Engvall at a show in Canada. When I got that call, I was so blown away by God's remarkable graciousness to me that I fell to my face on the kitchen floor and just thanked him over and over.

Daddy used to say, "Thank God for the hard times, because they make the good times so much sweeter."

Amen. For I remember other Thanksgivings when death and tribulations had rained down with hurricane-like force and wearied me to the point I could barely put one foot in front of the other. I begged for a break from all the tearful challenges.

"There's a better day a-comin'," Mama said always during those times. "You can count on that."

She was right. Life is a cycle of good days, bad days and better days.

So, whether this has been a year that leaned more toward blessings or tribulations, give thanks for it. Even the hard times are leading to better times, and when you get to those better days, you'll celebrate them with pure joy.

Maybe you'll even fall to your knees on the kitchen floor like I did.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Coming," is available at rondarich.com or

Find the Thanksgiving words below in the grid:

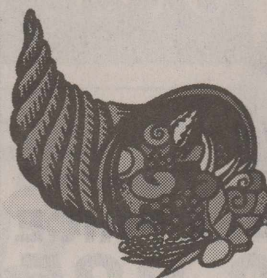
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PANQNLARPFMRZCC  
KROCXGASAOZAYCY  
IRNSBXOHHYTLEROD  
NOTWGRAPESYAAYLD  
PTHZUSLXALVYTYZIQ  
IREDDINNERROLLOUN  
EXCBAKEDPOTATOES  
WXOCRANBERRIESAS  
FJBCORNUCOPIAKBD

Thanksgiving Feast



- apple sauce
- baked potatoes
- beet
- broccoli
- butter
- carrot
- cauliflower
- corn on the cob
- cornucopia
- cranberries

- dinner roll
- grapes
- gravy
- mashed potatoes
- onion
- pumpkin pie
- squash
- sweet potatoes
- turkey
- yam



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**THANK YOU**

Thanks to the active military and veterans of Knox County and the families and friends who came to honor them, to make our annual Veterans Day program and meal a success.

Thanks to all the faithful volunteers who prepared and served the delicious meal, and to those who contributed services, supplies, and monetary donations.

Thanks for helping us honor our veterans  
Knox County Historical Commission



# News-Courier Classifieds

GOT SOMETHING TO SELL? SELL IT IN THE NEWS-COURIER CLASSIFIEDS!

**HELP WANTED**

259. 112113c

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

Stonewall Memorial Hospital is hiring an Admissions/Medical Records Clerk. Applicants should contact Billie Carter at 940-989-3551 ext 1876.

Home for sale in Seymour, Texas. 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. (806) 259-1200 or (806) 204-1876.

For Sale, Rent, or Rent to own - 4 bedroom, 2 bath house on 10 acres in great shape. News barn and fences. Well and City water. Please call 325-513-4135.

**DIETARY AIDE**

Prepare/deliver meal trays, clean dining room, other kitchen duties, etc. Must be reliable & dependable. EOE/MFHV. Apply in person, Mon-Fri, 9:00am to 5:00pm. **HASKELL HEALTH CARE CENTER**, 1504 North First St, Haskell

The Munday and Knox City Housing Authorities have apartments available for immediate occupancy. It the intent of both to rent the units to high income households when there are no eligible low or very low income applicants on the waiting list. Flat rent is \$200 for 0-1 bedroom units and \$250 for 2-4 bedroom units. Income based rent may be lower. Call Munday at 940-422-4941 or Knox City at 940-657-3612 for more information. Both are equal opportunity providers. 071113-tfnc



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**1101 SE 5th St., Knox City**

3/3, two living areas, finished basement, new windows, well, patio and carport. (\$104,500)

**\$99,500 REDUCED**

**409 W G, Munday**

3/2, with game room. (\$42,500) **NEW**

**811 North Munday Avenue, Munday**

3/2, large Historic rock home on corner lot, original refinished wood floors, granite counter tops. (\$79,500) **REDUCED**

**2410 CR 183, Rochester**

3/2, well maintained older home on 1.56 Ac. Located at corner of CR 183 and Hwy. 6 (\$59,900)

**610 S. 3rd, Knox City**

3/2/2 Corner lot, recently updated (\$47,500) **SALE PENDING**

**120 and 122 North Central Knox City**

This is a turnkey restaurant and bar with all the equipment and supplies needed. It is located in the newly remodeled downtown of Knox City. Please go to www.rikerealestate.com for photos. (\$182,500) **REDUCED**

**Lake Stamford, Earles Camp Road**

2 bedroom, 2 bath, C/H/A, new dock. (\$25,000) **NEW**

**311 N. Fir, Munday**

3/1 brick home with central heating and cooling. Immediate possession \$34,500 **NEW**

**608 6th St., Rochester**

2/2 brick home ready for new occupant. Very Clean. (\$47,900) **NEW**

**301 W. Oak, Goree**

A classic rock with 2/1 on two lots and wood floors. (\$25,000)

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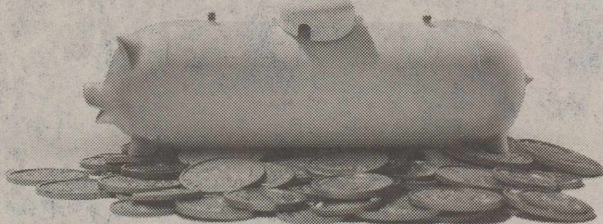


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## Where have the quail gone?

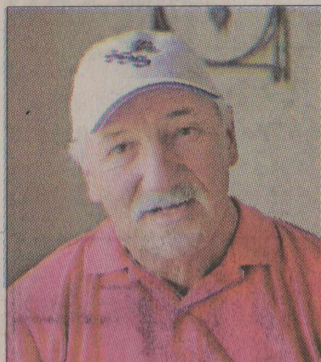
# Mysterious decline in game bird population prompts the largest research project of its kind

*(Editor's note: This article on the declining quail population is the first of a multi-part series. Throughout West Texas and particularly this region of the United States was once considered the epicenter of the nation's best quail hunting. Quail season in Texas began Oct. 26 and runs through Feb. 23.)*

**By John Davis**  
Special to the News-Courier

SWENSON — The well-worn, topless Jeep pulls out of the carport by the horse barn and starts down a dirt trail flanked by sage and mesquite.

As the wheels bounce over the sandy terrain of his 6,000-acre quail ranch in Stonewall County, Rick Snipes starts out seeking the familiar and iconic bird call. The ranch sits in an area known for some of the



Rick Snipes

nation's best quail hunting.

Only 7:30 a.m., and already the air hangs heavy with heat on this bright morning in

West Texas — a harbinger of the strangling temperature to come. Weathermen have warned to prepare for 105 degrees on this day, and Snipes wonders how lucky the group will be at tracking its quarry.

He pulls into a meadow and shuts off the engine. Sitting silent for a bit, the bird rings out and heads turn to detect its location.

"Bob-white!"  
"That's a beautiful sound," Snipes says as he scans the ground. The call is close, and the brown-and-white bird appears from the grass close to the Jeep. Numbers have improved slowly this summer, both on his ranch and in other parts of the state. But they're still nowhere near the anticipated bumper crop of 2010 that seemed to almost vanish prior to the opening day of hunting season.

In June of that year, Snipes said so many quail called in the mornings that he couldn't even tell how many were in the area. For the past 20 years, the former insurance executive cleaned up his over-grazed patch of Big Country and sculpted it into the perfect quail habitat. It seemed all his hard work paid off, and he awaited an excellent hunting season by October.

That never happened.  
By August, the silence was deafening. The bobwhite had evacuated Snipes' feathered Eden. Stumped and concerned, he checked with other ranchers around him. They, too, had lost their birds. It made no sense, he said,

because his carefully planned ranch had sustained so many bobwhites only a few months prior.

Soon, hunters, landowners and state officials realized they had a population crisis on their hands. Throughout the Plains region of Texas, western Oklahoma and even into Kansas, quail had flown the coop. Some estimated between 70 and 90 percent of bobwhites had disappeared.

Not only did this mean bad news for the birds, but also rural areas that cash in during quail season would feel the negative economic impact. Quail hunters in Texas spent an average of \$8,600 in pursuit of quail in 2010, and half of that was spent in the destination county, according to a Texas A&M Agrilife Extension survey of quail hunters in Texas.

The Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch, of which Snipes was a founding member and is now the current president, responded to the crisis. The ranch's foundation receives private donations from quail hunters and Park Cities Quail, a Dallas-based conservation organization.

The organization originally was conceived to fund science that would help landowners better manage the quail on their property. Then, studies done in 2009 and 2010 at the research ranch found high levels of parasitic worms prior to and during the population decline. That prompted the ranch's foundation to recruit scientists from Texas Tech, Texas

A&M and Texas A&M-Kingsville universities to discover other possible causes that might play a role.

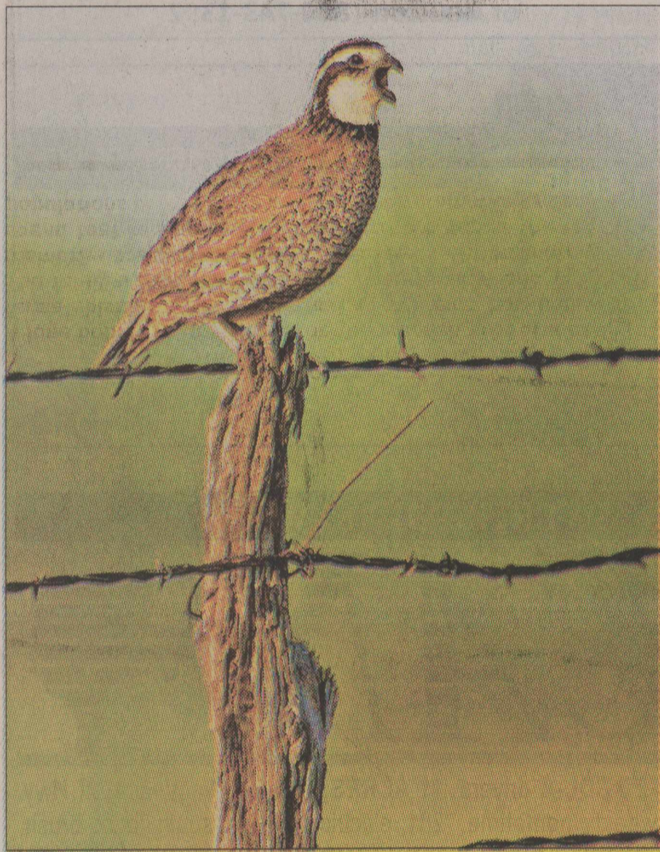
This culminated in a historic effort to examine the role of diseases and parasites in the decline of quail.

Dubbed "Operation Idiopathic Decline" as a nod to doctor-speak for a decline of "unknown cause," the ranch's foundation has given a total of \$2.75 million to fund the project. About half the proceeds have gone to The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech.

Scientists began looking for answers on 35 ranches or wildlife management areas located in 25 counties in West Texas and 10 in western Oklahoma, as well as at the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch, a 4,700-acre habitat near Roby. Project organizers estimate the total coverage area of this study includes about 19 million acres of land.

In the past two years, scientists have collected data from 647 birds. While the answer still remains elusive, some of the factors they discovered in the largest quail research project ever undertaken have surprised them and landowners alike.

The good news is that populations in most areas have appeared to make a small rebound during the summer of 2013, the scientists say. Results from this summer's collections and research could be the most telling of the three-year effort.



Russell Graves/Special to the News-Courier

A lone bobwhite quail sits atop the wooden post of a barbed wire fence whistling its namesake mating call, "bob, bob, bob-white." The familiar upwardly sweeping sound holds fond yet fading memories for many West Texas residents. Unfortunately, it's a sound that has become increasingly rare across the region as populations of the Texas bobwhite has dramatically declined.



John Davis/Special to the News-Courier

The sandy terrain and vast scrubbrush-covered ranchland on Rick Snipes' 6,000-acre quail ranch once was known for some of the nation's best quail hunting.

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A rusty sign along U.S. 380 in the Swenson community just west of Aspermont advertises for quail hunts.