APUB-County County County Countrier

HOME OF GWEN SWEARENGIN

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

KCNEWSCOURIER.COM

75 CENTS

Lack of rain stresses wheat crop Knox Notes

By Robert Burns For the News-Courier

The Texas wheat crop remains below average, and very little cotton has been planted throughout the state.

Dry weather is the culprit for the poor wheat crop, while lower-thannormal soil temperatures have been the primary reason for the delay in the planting of spring crops, said Travis Miller, AgriLife Extension agronomist and Texas A&M University soil and crop sciences associate department head, College Sta-

"Much of South Texas corn and sorghum crops are planted, while cool weather and wet soils on the coast delayed planting," Miller said. "Much of the dryland wheat crop in the High Plains and Rolling Plains remains in very poor shape, with 87 percent of the crop rated from fair to very poor conditions. However, the irrigated crop is in relatively good shape. In my opinion, it (dryland wheat) will be a below-average crop because of dry weather."

It's unusually cold weather that Plains and parts of Central Texas. has slowed the planting of spring crops, he said.

"The state climatologist says Texas averaged three degrees colder over the last couple months than normal," he said. "I don't know if that will equate to any difference in yields, but we could have some stand problems associated with the cold weather."

Miller said that though drought conditions have improved somewhat -particularly in the Coastal Bend and South Texas — drought continues for a fourth year in the Panhandle, South Plains, Rolling

See CROP, Page 8 mid-March.



Low soil temperatures were still delaying spring planting throughout much of Texas by

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.

One Act Play

Knox City High School One Act Play Dinner Theater is presenting Flowers for Algernon, March 20th. Taco meal served 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., performance at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$7-adults, \$5-children may be purchased at the High School, Terra Martinez 940-657-

Republican Meeting

Members of the Knox County Republican Party will have their County Convention at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 22nd at the Knox County Aging Center, 107 N. Ave. E, Knox City. Members will elect delegates to attend the state convention in Fort Worth in June among other details. All county Republicans and others interested are encouraged to attend. For information, email Lou Vail at loudentonvail@gmail.com.

Democratic Meeting-

Members of the Knox County Democratic Party will have its County Convention at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 22nd at 304 SE Fourth St., Knox City. For information, contact Reed Underwood at reed@fm2279.com.

Rifle Raffle

The Orient 905 Mason Lodge A.F. & A.M. is holding a raffle for a Smith & Wesson M&P 15 Sport "black rifle." Tickets are \$5 each, 12 for \$50 or 25 for \$100. All proceeds benefit local scholarships and charities. Contact Steve Pepper 940-256-0028, or Greg Oliver at 361-877-6165 for more information. The drawing date is to be determined. The winner does not have to be present to win but MUST be legal age to possess a firearm in the state of Texas.

T-Shirts on Sale

Knox Prairie Ranch Rodeo t-shirts are now for sale! \$15.00 each. Call 940-203-2411 to place your order. Sizes--youth(x-small)-

Relay for Life Auction

The "Holy Walkamoles" Relay for Life team will host a Mexican Stack Meal and Silent Auction from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Sunday, March 30th in Fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church--Munday. All proceeds benefit the Haskell-Knox Relay for Life. For information, call Mary Huffman at 940-422-4541.

Relay for Life Bake Sale

Desechado el Cancer aka Castaway Cancer team is having a casserole and bake sale Friday, April 4th at Lawrence Brothers--Munday. To place order call Leann Harlan @ 940-203-0142 or John White @ 940-481-0304. 4 p.m. or until sold out.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgin 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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Knox County News-Courier

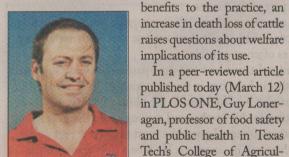


Tech expert: Drug aids efficiency, raises death rate in cattle

By Leslie Cranford Special to the Courier

Use of certain animal drugs known as beta agonists in cattle production has received considerable national

A Texas Tech University veterinary epidemiologist has found that although there are significant societal



Loneragan



tion and this improvement

efficiently."

provides important societal benefits,"Loneragan said. "The beta agonists approved by the U.S. Food and

Drug Administration for use in cattle increase muscle growth and may reduce the amount of fat the cattle accumulates," he said. "This means the cattle converts

In a peer-reviewed article

tural Sciences and Natural

Resources, adds to this ongo-

the efficiency of beef produc-

"Beta agonists improve

ing national dialogue.

more of the feed it eats into beef, and it does this more The article is co-authored by Daniel Thomson and Morgan Scott of Kansas State University and is titled "Increased mortality in groups of cattle administered

the - adrenergic agonists ractopamine hydrochloride and zilpaterol hydrochloride." The manuscript is freely available at: http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal. pone.0091177. With the use of beta agonists, cattle require less feed

and less water to produce the same amount of beef than if no beta agonists were used. Less land would be used to grow the crops used to feed the animals and, therefore, less fuel to produce the same amount of beef. The improvement in the efficiency of production has meaningful societal benefits.

"However, through our extensive analysis, we found that the incidence of death among cattle administered beta agonists was 75 to 90 percent greater than cattle not administered the beta agonists," Loneragan said. "This increase in death loss raises critical animal-welfare questions. We believe an inclusive dialogue is needed to explore the use of animal drugs solely to improve performance, yet have no offsetting health benefits for the animals to which they are administered. This is particularly

Fundraiser



Gwen Swearengin walks away with cash in hand from the Munday First Baptist Church van driven by



Jeff Robertson hands off a basket of food to Sherry Shahan while she attempts to organize the dinners for the drive-through customers outside First National Bank of Munday.

leams gearing up for R4L events

By Geoffrey Baumgartner The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY - The American Cancer Society will be putting on their annual Relay for Life charity event for Haskell and Knox Counties. Relay for life is a localized event that enables participants to celebrate cancer survivors, caregivers, and the entire community in order to make a difference in the

The event will be free and open to every member of the public who wishes to participate. It will be held on May 3-4 from 2p.m to 2 a.m. The relay will be held at the Munday High School track facility. Several fundraising benefits will be taking place

in between now and the time of the event.

See **TEAMS**, Page 8

See CATTLE, Page 8

Affordable Care Act Many unaware of significant March 31 deadline

By Wayne Hodgin

The Knox County News-Courier

While most of the attention in recent months on the Affordable Care Act has focused on its bumpy rollout and the deadline to gain coverage by this past Jan. 1, the approaching open enrollment deadline this month may be far more significant than many Americans realize.

A recent Enroll America survey found that more than 80 percent of Americans did not know of the March 31 deadline to enroll in a policy at the Health Insurance Exchange Marketplace

According to the law, anyone who has not purchased ACA-compliant coverage by March 31 will be unable to do so for the remainder of the year unless they experience a "qualifying event" such as a marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, or loss of a job. Those who do not qualify for special enrollment after March 31 will have to wait until Nov. 15, when open enrollment begins for 2015, in order to purchase coverage.

Unless exempt from the requirement to obtain coverage, those who do not obtain ACA-compliant coverage for 2014 by March 31 could face a

penalty of \$95 or up to 1 percent of their household income, whichever is higher.

Penalty vs. real cost

A lack of health insurance could prove more financially devastating for Americans than that first-year penalty if they should experience a health care event or illness after the deadline.

Mark Bellman, president of the Texas Association of Health Underwriters, an organization of state professionals that advocates for the health

See ACA, Page 8

121 E. B St., Munday P.O. Box 151, Munday, Texas

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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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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Dedaration 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 Editorial: Noon Mondays

SUBSCRIPTIONS \$30 a year in the county \$35 a year outside the county





Letter to the Editor

We have seen many changes take place in politics and our economy. However, one constant is that many people are battling cancer and many others are supporting their loved ones each and every day. These realities make dollars donated and hours volunteered to the American Cancer Society in Knox and Haskell County so im-

Local volunteers are a huge part of the nationwide effort to save lives and create a world with less cancer and more birthdays. But additional volunteers are needed to help finish the fight. Plans are underway for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Knox/Haskell County set for Saturday May 3, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Munday CISD Track Field.

Money raised at Relay for Life helps the mission of the American Cancer Society to help people stay well and get well, find a cure, and fight back against cancer. Relay for Life supports the efforts of the Society,

as well as programs for patients, including transportation assistance and free lodging at Hope Lodge facilities. Relay for Life also makes it possible for the American Cancer Society to provide helpful information on cancer, treatments, support seryear at 1-800-227-2345 and cancer.org.

Now is the time for Knox and Haskell there is a computer within arm's length for much of the day. I County individuals, families, groups, churches and businesses to help finish the fight against cancer through Relay for Life. Celebrate survivors. Remember loved ones no longer here. Pledge to fight back against this disease. Form a team and volunteer for the American Cancer Society and Relay for Life today. Visit Relayfor-Life.org for more information about local opportunities.

LEANN HARLAN

Knox/Haskell County

Event Chair

American Cancer Society

Menus: Week of March 24-28

Knox City-O'Brien Breakfast

Monday: Pork sausage biscuit or cereal bowl, toast, mixed fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday: Biscuits with sausage gravy or cereal bowl, toast, pears, juice, milk

Wednesday: Breakfast pancake wrap or cereal bowl with sausage, applesauce, juice, milk

Thursday: Waffles with syrup or cereal bowl, toast, pears, juice, milk

Friday: Breakfast pizza or cereal bowl, toast, pineapple, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday: Rib sandwich or antipasto salad or bologna and cheese, corn, green beans, mixed fruit, slushy, milk

Tuesday: Frito chili pie or fajita chicken salad or turkey and cheese, carrots, lettuce, peaches, slushy, milk

Wednesday: Chicken Quesadilla or garden pasta salad or ham and cheese, Mexicali corn, refried beans, applesauce, slushy, milk

Thursday: Steak fingers or zesty tuna salad or tuna salad, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, slushy, milk

Friday: Pizza or chef salad or po-boy combo, tator tots, baked beans, pineapple, slushy,

Munday

Breakfast Monday:

Biscuits with sausage gravy, honey graham, applesauce, slushy, juice, milk

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

dogs, honey graham, cinnamon apple slices, slushy, juice,

Wednesday: Mini corn-

Thursday: Cereal bowl with sausage, pineapple, slushy, juice, milk

Friday: Pancakes with syrup, honey graham, peaches, slushy, juice, milk

Lunch

Italian beefy Monday: macaroni or bologna and cheese, carrots, corn, grapes, slushy, milk

Tuesday: Chicken nuggets or turkey and cheese, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, slushy, milk

Wednesday: Soft beef tacos or ham and cheese, Mexican style beans, lettuce topping, orange, slushy, milk

Special to the News-Courier

age payment this spring.

MUNDAY — Capital Farm Credit

stockholders will soon receive an all-

time record \$65 million cash patron-

The customer-owned lending coop-

erative continued its track record of

strong earnings in 2013, enabling it to

maintain its long tradition of returning

profits to stockholders through its pa-

tronage program. Since 2006, Capital

Farm Credit has returned over \$385

Thursday: Hot dog or tuna salad, mashed potatoes, applesauce, peaches, slushy, milk

Friday: Pepperoni pizza or po-boy, tator tots, pork and beans, grapes, slushy, milk

Knox County Aging Center

Monday: Baked ham and pineapple, lima beans, chuck wagon, corn, cornbread, chocolate chip cookies

Tuesday: Charbroil beef patty with peppers, onions, garlic mashed potatoes, beets, rolls, cake

Wednesday: Homemade turkey pot pie, corn, tossed salad, whole wheat rolls, am-

Thursday: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, mixed fruit cocktail

Friday: Hot dog on a bun, baked potato, broccoli, oatmeal cookies

Come eat with us and support your aging center pro-

Please call in your orders by

10:00 a.m. to 657-3618. 11:00 a.m. please pick up by

Capital Farm Credit distributes largest-ever refund

1.10 percent on an average loan.

to an effective annual rate reduction of

"Capital Farm Credit is committed

to the cooperative principle of man-

aging our capital, and our business in

general, for the benefit of our custom-

ers," said Ben Novosad, chief executive

officer. "Our ability to return patron-

age each year sets us apart from other

financial institutions. We believe this

is a benefit that strengthens customer

relations and reinforces our mission to

CHRIS

BLACKBURN

The Paperboy Real quality time

Thave a 10-year-old son who is a good boy. The fact is, he's been sheltered some and I would not trade it for the world. Children are exposed to much more than we'd like them vices, and more 24 hours a day, 365 days a to be. During the "Little House on the Prairie" days, you could control what your children had access to very easily. Today,

count smart phones as computers because that is exactly what they are.

Back to the boy. Jackson is an interesting child. While he likes sports, he has yet to take them on to the point where he's calling his buddies up to go and play. His younger brother has to twist his arm to get him outside and play ball. He loves being on the team, but he's not accustomed to putting in the hours it takes to make oneself good at something athletically.

What he is good at is school. He's gifted in the brain department and we place our expectations there. He enjoys school and learning. He's been blessed to have teachers

that have challenged him and since he's a crowd pleaser by nature, he rises to the occasion.

The other day, Sutton Hawk, 8, had been invited to stay over at a friend's house. Jack decided he wanted to have someone over that same evening. Unfortunately, it was a little late in the day for his plan to work out. His friends were either gone or had made plans.

Jackson and his brother share my wife and I with a couple of beautiful great-nieces and a baby great-nephew several days a week so I decided to make myself available to him.

Jackson asked me to play a video game so we decided to play Madden and be on the same team - the Houston Texans. It was a blast and we came from behind to defeat the Seattle Seahawks 28-21 in the Superbowl.

Jack hasn't had much success on the real football field yet, but he was pretty amazing on the television.

And by the way, I don't know if you've taken the time to look over the shoulder at what your children or grandchildren are playing, but their ability in the gaming spectrum is impres-

Anyhow, Mom went to bed that Friday night and my son and I hung out and had a good time. I'd like to think those kind of nights are endless in number, but we all know what's coming. That boy is growing up and his old dad is going to be replaced by some other equally important things. But that's okay. It's part of the process.

In the meantime, it's my job to recognize a good opportunity to spend some quality one-on-one time with each of my children as often as possible.

It's hard to believe how fast time passes. Ten years ago I held vegetable, whole wheat rolls, a 6-month-old baby boy in my arms giving him a bottle while staring into his big blue eyes. In the blink of an eye, he's cooking breakfast for his brother and reading faster than his father.

In another 10 years I guess the most important part of my job with him will be complete. He'll be a man ready for the challenges that the rest of his life will bring him.

I do love the ride. I just wish I could make it last a little bit longer...

Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, Hall County Herald, The Hollis News, The Knox County News-Courier, The Post Dispatch, The Orders can't be taken after Childress Index, Wellington Leader and The Stonewall Courier. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.

borrowing costs."

to support Texas agriculture - while

affording our membership lower net

Capital Farm Credit has provided

financing to Texas farmers, ranchers

and rural property owners for nearly

a century. Headquartered in Bryan, it

has nearly 70 offices spanning most of

For more information about Capital

Farm Credit and its patronage pro-

gram, visit CapitalFarmCredit.com.

million to its stockholders — equating provide financing and related services

Thank

Thank you for your votes in the Republican Trimary on March 4th. As you know, there will be a runoff election on May 27th, and I would sincerely ask that you vote for

me again. I will perform the duties to the best of my abilities. I want to continue earning your trust and serving the citizens of Knox County. Sincerely

Travis Floyd Pol. adv. paid for by Travis Fl





Beat the winter blues and get ready for spring with SRTC! During the month of March, receive waived standard installation and connection fees on all new or additional services. When you sign-up for service, you will be

WITH SRTC

entered into a drawing to win 4 tickets to a Texas Rangers game of your choice during the 2014 season! Stop in and sign-up

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

Awanas, Pre-K to 6th grade:

P: 940-422-4559

Pastor Shane Kendrix

Service Times:

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Youth: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



Flat Roofs 'One Company, One Job, ·Siding One Price!"

 Additions Major remodels

"The only job worth doing, is the one well done" Jim Reid, Owner Knox City · Munday · Haskell · Stamford



Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

Just seems we can't get "leveled out" to nice, still, warm spring-like days, but probably about July we will be wanting some of this cool weather. The wind this past week and today has really moved things around from sand to outside furniture. It's March, though, so what can we expect? About Our Ill

Donnie Ryder had shoulder surgery Wednesday and is doing ok. Just sort of limited on what he can do as it's his left shoulder, and he's left handed, so it's pretty awkward for him to do anything. He had his surgery in Lubbock. It was an outpatient procedure, so he came home Wednesday evening. He goes back Tuesday to see his doctors and find out what progress he has made. Meanwhile, Barbara (his wife) is at home "humoring" a broken arm. The night before his surgery she fell, and after a trip to the emergency room, found out her left arm was broken. She's also left handed, and this is her left arm, so it's the same situation as Donnie. (Their right hands don't work too well!) She sees the doctor tomorrow (Monday), and will probably be seeing an orthopedic doctor in a few days. Keep them in your prayers as they continue to recover.

Mike Young is still in the hospital in Abilene and doing pretty well. His mom and sister, Imagean and Deann, visited him Monday and said he seemed to be in a pretty good frame of mind. Just tired of the hospital.

My grandson, Dillon, is doing well but still in the hospital in Dallas. He is still on strong antibiotics, but maybe by the end of the week he will be able to come home. The doctors there won't release him until he is ready. He was very sick, and they want to be sure all the infection is gone before they let him go, and that's what we all want. He's (like Mike) pretty tired of the hospital.

Philomae Roberson is doing much better. She still gets blood work done regularly, and so far all's ok. She's still staying pretty close to home but does get out and to go the post office, beauty shop, and grocery store--(All those very important places!) But it's sure good to talk to her and learn she's doing as well as she is.

And aside from the usual aches and pains, (as I've said before) and all this respiratory "stuff" going around, I'm not aware of any more illnesses in the area. We all need to keep each other in our thoughts and prayers as we may not always be aware of the needs in each others' lives.

Here 'N There Bubba and Wendy Benson and little girls, Chastity and Lily, have moved to Royston to make their home. Bubba's job is in that part of the country, and the driving every day was getting to be a big chore. The girls will be going to school at Roby, and I think are pretty excited about it. Wendy said she plans to come back a couple of days a week to work at the post office, at least for a while. They have sold their house here to Jarrett Ferguson. Jarrett is a Guthrie boy but went to school here and is pretty well known, especially among the younger crowd. We welcome him and hope he enjoys living here. But we sure will miss the Bensons and hope they enjoy their new home.

I was in Munday on Saturday for a baby shower for Sanjuana Gallegos. The new baby girl is due in late March. She will have lots of pretty things to wear when she gets here. It was a nice shower. And on Sunday, I attended my great granddaughter Taylor Herring's 6th birthday party, also in Munday. Lots of little friends and their parents and cousins and their parents were there as well as grandparents and great grandparents. The out of town guests were Lynn, Michael and Kaylie Rogers of Snyder, Jessica Hutchinson and Noah of Abilene, Will Moorhouse, also of Snyder, Megan Kimbrough of Haskell (and Texas Tech), Bobbye Moorhouse of Seymour, Alicia and John Hostas, Briley and Bryston of Seymour, and myself. You may remember Briley was diagnosed with leukemia a few years ago and underwent months of chemo, spent lots of time in Cook Children's Hospital in Ft Worth, and had

lots of recovery time at home. She is now just doing great, is very active, and just does everything a normal 6 year old does. It was good to see her doing so well.

I saw Mark Oxford on Tuesday. He was here for the funeral of Betty Mancille. He said he lives in Bowie now and works in Wichita Falls. Billy Carl Benson of Seymour was also here for the services, as were Jeff Conner and Brandi Jones Busby, who live in Wolfforth. It was good to see them all.

Harry Cox, who lives near Waco, visited his brother and sister, Jim Cox and Reba Morrill and Charlie during the weekend.

Ronnie and Susan White and Tim had a houseful of guests this weekend. They were here for the wedding of their daughter, Hannah and Joseph Rowland. The original plan was for an outdoor wedding on Saturday, but after the threatening clouds moved in and light rain began to fall, they moved it to the Believer's Chapel at Munday. It was at 6 pm, and a reception and meal followed. Hannah's family who were here to attend the ceremony were Steve White and family of Austin, Jim White and family of Arlington, Connie Provost and family of Bowie, Ronnie White and family of Flower Mound, Melissa Osborne and baby of Corpus Christi, Joshua White of Bryan, Jessica White of El Paso, John and Sara White of Munday, and Jessie Mass, who lives in Ohio. Hannah and Joseph will live in Knox City. We congratulate them and wish them a lifetime of happiness.

Tammy Lyles had a birthday Friday, and her family honored her with a birthday supper at Bud's Cafe in Knox City Friday night. On hand to enjoy the evening and sing "Happy Birthday" were Stasia Antilley of Wingate, Ricky Joe Carver, Bella and Ashburn, who have been living in Irving but are moving back to Knox City, Tyler Collins and his girlfriend, Kelly, of Lubbock, Jacy Collins of Munday, Cassie Wainscott of Liberty Hill, and Callie Laird of Knox City, and Mike and Tammy. I hope I'didn't miss anyone. I visited with Cassie, and she said Cody is working overseas—should be home in mid April if all goes well. Said she's going to school in Austin to become a dental hygienist. It was good to see her, as I don't see her very often.

Hunter Meinzer of Weatherford was home for the weekend to visit his dad, Wyman and Sylinda. I had not seen Hunter in a good while, so it was good to see him.

Jan Carver, Callie Laird of Knox City, and Stasia Antilley of Wingate were in Irving recently for the baptismal service for Bella Carver, who is Jan's great granddaughter. Bella and her brother, Ashburn, came home with them and spent their spring break with Stasia and Gary and Callie's son, Ryder, who also spent his break with his grandparents.

Carol Dickson was in Houston last week to see her doctors at MD Anderson for tests and evaluation. She got good results. Nothing else has shown up in her workup, so needless to say, she and her family are thankful for the good report as are all her friends. We love to get good news about our friends.

Jill Jackson and sons, Daniel and Grant, spent part of their spring break visiting in Temple. On Saturday, they and their husband and dad, James, spent the day in Wichita Falls. James said it rained pretty good on them, something he had not seen in a while around here!

Stacia Propps spent a few days of her spring break with her son, Chance, in Los Angeles, California. Her time out there was short but seems she got to see a lot of interesting places and do a lot of interesting things.

Faye Railsback just called to tell me of the death of Vera McGaughey Vines. Vera was the daughter of the late Merick and Ruth McGaughey and was a graduate of Benjamin High School. She was living in Olathe, Kansas at the time of her death. She is survived by her husband, John, and two daughters, Cherie and Pam. I was sorry to learn of her death and extend belated sympathy to her family.

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

30.025.00

Students in the News



Ryder Cude

Cude named to Dean's List at Texas Tech

LUBBOCK — Ryder Cude, a 2013 graduate of Munday High School, was named to the Dean's List at Texas Tech University for the fall 2013 semester. The Dean's List is composed of

students carrying a minimum of 12 semester hours who have a 3.5 GPA. Cude carried 16 hours toward a degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics with a 4.0 GPA.

CHECKING THESE VITAL SIGNS CAN SAVE A LIFE. Drive FRIENDLY Drive SAFE.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM MEETINGS SCHEDULED

CHILDRESS – The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Childress District will conduct two public meetings to receive comments on the FY 2015-2018 Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Childress District. The Childress District includes Wheeler, Collingsworth, Childress, Hardeman, Foard, Knox, King, Dickens, Motley, Briscoe, Hall, and Donley Counties.

The TIP is a mechanism used by TxDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to fund projects for the next four years and includes all federally funded projects. This meeting is being held pursuant to Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, Section 16.102, which calls for an opportunity for public comment concerning the program.

The first meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at the Guthrie Community Center, 610 2nd Street in Guthrie, TX.

The second meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 400 Madison Avenue in Childress, Texas.

Persons wishing to speak at the hearing may register in advance by notifying Barbara Seal, Public Information Officer, at (940) 937-7288 not later than April 7, or they may register at the hearing location beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the hearing.

These public meetings will be conducted in English, and both the Guthrie Community Center and Hampton Inn & Suites are handicap accessible. Any request for language interpreters or other special needs should be made at least two days prior to the public meeting by contacting Barbara Seal, or Chuck Steed, Director of Transportation, Planning and Development, at (940) 937-7191. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Any comments following the public meeting may be submitted in writing to Marty Smith, Childress District Engineer at 7599 US 287, Childress, Texas 79201-9705. To be considered, a 10-day public comment period to submit written comments will close at the Childress District office by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 2014.

Texas Department of Transportation

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Munday will hold a public hearing to adopt the proposed 2014-2015 Fiscal Year budget on April 8, 2014. The hearing will be opened at 6:30 PM at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting. All interested parties are encouraged to attend and be heard. The combined 2014-2015 Fiscal Year budget is listed below. If a line item detailed budget is required or you have questions, please contact the City of Munday at the Munday City Hall and one will be supplied.

City of Munday

Fiscal 2014-2015 Proposed Budget

Total Income-Enterprise	\$ 620,710.00
Total Income-Operating	\$ 521,110.00
GENERAL FUND TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,141,820.00
Total Expense-Enterprise	\$ 616,000.00
Total Expense-Operating	\$ 495,775.00
GENERAL FUND TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,111,795.00

GENERAL FUND PROJECTED

The 501

ng wills and warranties

The next time I buy a new car, I'm going to turn down optional warranties. I'll ask for a living will instead — something like this:

• If my transmission starts slipping, do not repair (DNR).



• If my joints need replac-

ing, do not repair (DNR). • If my timing belt needs changing (if it has a timing belt), do not repair.

• If my paint fades, do not repaint (DNR).

Yep, nothing is harder for HANABA me than giving up a beloved car when vital systems start MUNN to fail. To wit, the '77 gold Cadillac, a.k.a. the Hail-Bent Car, a.k.a. The Sofa (the

ride was smooth), is parked in the pasture. The stalwart '66 Chevy pickup is anchoring a spot by the old grain drill. Yep again, I have a hard time getting rid of farm implements too. I know all the previous owners of the drill as well as the previous owners of the vehicles mentioned. Most are dead.

Back to cars.

I'm in the Hyundai waiting room while experts are running sophisticated diagnostic scans and are otherwise checking the health of my aging 2004 Santa Fe, a faithful vehicle with 215,613 showing on the odometer, except the odometer isn't counting all the miles now that the transmission seems to be slipping. Note that transmission troubles are at the top of my living will list.

The mood is somber here. All we need is a chaplain. At least there's coffee.

A dealership guy just stepped in, beckoning the man across the room.

"I've got some news for you if you want to

step out here," he said, sounding ominously confidential.

"That don't sound good," the customer said as he went out into the hall, bracing himself

Eavesdropping, I heard the customer's response. He said he didn't have enough money to pay for all repairs needed.

Then it came to me in a flash. What this country needs is an Affordable Car Care Act.

All car owners would sign up on behalf of their vehicles. Everybody would pay a premium, but the rates would be reduced for old people with old cars and for all people with multiple cars. Old people with multiple cars would fare best. Young people with young cars would pay the most.

To make the whole system palatable, the premium could be lumped in automatically with the price of the car, meaning that buyers need be concerned only with the amount of their monthly payments — not the total price being paid. Car salesmen wouldn't have to advertise the extra cost as part of the price. It could simply be tacked on when financing is arranged. Something like that. I'm feeling better just thinking about it.

But why are they taking so long with my

HOURS LATER.

Finally, an answer. Rats!

On the farm, it's always rats. This time they gnawed some critical wiring. It's not the transmission!

Forget all that Affordable Car Care Act stuff. Forget the living will. My car is gonna make it!

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

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KC athletes score high at PK Relays in Graham

By Geoff Baumgartner The Knox County News-Courier

GRAHAM - Knox City's varsity Greyhound and Houndette track and field teams traveled to Graham, Texas this past weekend to participate in the Possum Kingdom Relays. While the event was met with severe weather conditions and eventually called early due to that fact, the KC track teams really scored big in certain events and came away with a high position.

Girls Results

Caitlyn Baxter placed sixth in the 200 meter

Essence Ward placed well in the 100 meter

Jordyn Eaton placed fourth in discus with a distance of 98.7 ft.

Makaylie Steele placed fifth in shot put with a distance of 31 ft.

Shailee Manning placed seventh in the two

Leighten Pepper placed eighth in the 300 meter hurdle.

Sprint Relay saw KC net fifth place: Jordyn, Essence, Andrea, and Kimlee Lanvert.

Boys Results

Jacoby Thomas placed second in the 200 me-

Zach Carter placed first in 400 meter dash while Sheldon Baty placed third and Anthony Estrada placed fifth.

Krys Campos placed second in the shot put. Campos also placed second in 1A discus. Division two discus (bigger schools) 4A and 3A - Tylynne Eaton placed second.

Head girls Coach for Knox City Jason Josselet could not have been more proud with the way his team defeated larger competition.

"We ran well against our division of competition, we did beat some 2a schools in the relay. We just have to keep improving," said Coach

Head boys Coach Colin Howeth was also proud, but was disappointed in the rain delay, since his team was doing so well in the event.

"The track meet got called early due to rain and we hated to see that happen. Our team was excited about getting to run the mile relay, but missed out due to the early cancellation," said Coach Howeth.

"With three athletes in the top six in the 400m we thought we had a great chance to win that relay. Either way we had a great day and I am extremely proud of the students that took time from their spring break to go compete," said Coach Howeth.



Houndette Kursten Tuckness (23) kicks up dust in the triple jump at the PK Relays at Graham last week.



Greyhound Jacoby Thomas (71) takes off in the 200m dash at



Greyhound Jordyn Eaton (72) hands off to Kinlee Lambert in the 800m relay event at Graham.



Houndette Andrea Lynn (34) in the 100m dash at the PK Re-



Greyhound Zac Carter (51) takes first in the 400m while Sheldon Baty takes third at the PK Relays.

KC Baseball Club nets first win of season, Carter proud

By Geoff Baumgartner The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY - Knox City's varsity Greyhound baseball team managed to get their first win of the season this past Tuesday, and it was a huge margin win. The Greyhounds took home a 19-9 win against the Westbrook Wildcats.

Chris Lewis managed one single and 4 runs scored while Zach Carter went three for three with two singles and a double, and three runs scored.

Skylar Neill managed a triple and 3 runs scored while Adrian Silva had 2 runs scored. Sam Schnable went two for three with a single, a double, and two runs while Krys Campos brought in one run. Nate Wiggins had two runs while sophomore Ryan Heard went one for three and ran

However, while the sluggers did their jobs, winning pitcher Payne Stanfield threw a complete game with seven strikeouts, demonstrating his improvement and his accurate fast ball ability from the

Coach Jordan Carter could not have been happier to see his team not only win, but win with such a large margin against a competitive school. It was a fitting first victory considering the effort and improvement recently made by the Hound's

"I was proud of the effort of the kids tonight. It was good for them to put a complete game together and get a win. We really swung the bats well tonight and were aggressive on the bases," said Coach Carter about his team's big first win.

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Honor Roll 4th Six Weeks

A Honor Roll

Grade 1 Abigail Aguilar Desiree Carrasco Mackinzi Castille Talan Collins Campbell Corcoran Eryn Cottingham Itxel Davila Alexis Garcia Kierslynn Myers Zenaida Nunez

Grade 2 Melissa Carmona Isaac Garcia Kyson Latham Caramey Ledezma Dalaney Leija Luis Marmolejo Daniela Nunez Kayton Shahan D'Keydren Toliver

Winners!

Grade 3

Jaxon Bowman Dustin Cottingham Conner Moore Stephanie Scott Cheney Thompson

Grade 4 Karley Myers Elli Oustad Allie Willison

Grade 5 Destyn Mauldin Claire Redwine Trinity Rodriguez Carlie Willison

Grade 6 Bryanne Cude Evan Hunter Madelyn Mendoza Isabella Nunez Karsyn Sanders Sydney Thompson Ryleigh Waters

A-B Honor Roll

Grade 1 Ann'Elyse Clark Evelyn Garcia Natalie Garcia Noah Kendrix Bayley Lyles Mance Phillips Aaron Quintero Jacob Ramos Connor Willison Christina Zavala

Grade 2 Raehanna Hardeman Brooklyn Rodriguez

Grade 3 Jase Brown Anthony Exiga Alondra Gonzalez Hunter Jaggers Diana Marmolejo

Brice Thompson Bryson Wilson

Grade 4 Joe Jasso Reymie Monasterio Andrea Nunez Manny Nunez Chris Rodriguez Corbin Rogers Justin Tidwell Julie Valk

Grade 5 Kelton Carver Christopher Den-Jonah Hernandez Alexa Vega

Grade 6 Emily Cottingham Zoe Harris Rianna Manning Cayden Rogers

4th six week perfect attendance winners:left to right: Daniella Nunez, Carmen Llamas, Olivia Myers, **Emily Cottingham, Aaron** Quintero, Reymie Monasterio, Kanyn Mauldin, **Mary Navarrette**

2014 MHS Varsity Golf



Mary Murphy/Special to the News-Courier Girls team: Kathryn Cude, Taylor Thompson, Benley Waters, Reagan Sanderson, Bergen Waters



Boys team: Holt Bivins, Mitchell Lowrance, Heath Bivins

Mary Murphy/Special to the News-Courier



4th Six weeks AR winners **Left to right: Christopher** Dennis, Aleeya Urbanczyk, Anna Urbanczyk. Not pictured: Ricardo Carranza, **Kierslynn Myers**

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NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARGARET L. ATKINSON, DECEASED. Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the estate of MAR-GARET L. ATKINSON were issued on March 14, 2014, in Cause No. 2589, pending in the County Court of Knox County, Texas to: JERRY DAN ATKINSON. The address of the Independent Executor is: JERRY DAN ATKINSON, 281 Lakeview Drive, Killeen, Texas 76542. All persons having

claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED March 17, 2014. BOBBY D. BURNETT, State Bar No. 03434000, P. O. Drawer 390, Munday, Texas 76371, (940) 422-4525, (940) 422-5544 (fax). ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE. (0320c)

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CROP From Page 1

"Meanwhile, there is some hope on the horizon in the form of the possible development of an El Niño climatic pattern this year," he said. "Current models are showing a chance of this development by midsummer.

A strong El Niño typically causes wetter and cooler conditions in Texas.

"Right now, they're giving about a 50 percent

CATTLE From Page 1

needed for those drugs that appear to adversely impact animal welfare, such as beta agonists."

At a recent symposium held at Texas Tech, the world renowned animal behaviorist and welfare expert Temple Grandin headlined a discussion of beta agonists and animal welfare.

In a recent joint NPR interview with Loneragan and Grandin about beta agonists' chance for an El Niño, which is a little better than a coin toss," he said.

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force website at agrilife. tamu.edu/drought/.

LOCAL SUMMARY

Dry and windy conditions continued across the region. Cotton farmers were preparing for the upcoming season by fertilizing irrigated fields. Wheat

affect on animal welfare, Grandin said, "These problems have got to stop. I've laid awake at night about it. I've worked all my career to improve how animals are handled and these animals are just suffering. It has

Grandin generally speaks on issues at the slaughter houses with lame cattle due to beta agonists, whereas Loneragan's work covers beta agonists in feedlots, which is the topic of the newly published paper.

"To paraphrase Dr. Grandin,

was moisture stressed; a good rain was needed soon to make even an average crop. Livestock generally remained in fair to good shape despite the poor condition of wheat for grazing. Some livestock producers were taking cattle off wheat. Many cattle will be Methodist Church in Munsold soon if rain does not come. Producers continued to supply supplemental feed and hay to livestock. Peaches were just beginning to bloom. Ponds and stock tanks still needed

we owe the animals we raise for food a decent life and a decent death," Loneragan said. "We certainly need to better understand the manner in which animals fed beta agonist die at the feedlot and work out how to balance the societal benefits of beta agonist use with societal expectations concerning the welfare of animals raised for

On the web

See more online at today.ttu.

TEAMS From Page 1

Sunday, March 30: **Mexican Stack Lunch** and Silent Auction

Where: First United

What: Enjoy a Mexican

stack lunch (donations only) and silent auction When: Noon

Friday, April 4: Casserole and Bake Sale Where: Lawrence Broth-

Team: Holy Walkamoles

What: Stock up on homemade casseroles and baked

ACA From Page 1

insurance needs of individuals and employers, cautioned consumers about taking that risk.

"While a quick analysis of the low first-year penalty versus paying for the cost of coverage might seem like a no-brainer, a more important consideration might be, 'Can I handle the cost of a broken limb or serious illness should that occur?" he said. "When these considerations are weighed, most consumers realize very quickly the risk is greater than they are willing to take."

According to AFLAC's Real Cost Calculator, without health insurance the average cost to treat a broken leg is more than \$10,000. The average cost of treating breast cancer, the second leading cause of cancer death among women, is \$128,556. For a severe heart attack, the average real cost is about \$1 million.

The Healthcare Bluebook reports the average cost for appendicitis without insurance is \$10,091.

In the past, Texans unable to obtain health coverage were able to do so through the Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool. THIRP has served as a safety net for about 20,000 Texans, but will be closing its doors on

When: 4 pm Team: "Desechado El Cancer" AKA Castaway Cancer Saturday, April 19:

Hamburger Dinner Where: Munday Fire De-

partment

What: Fill up on grilled burgers with fixings!

When: Noon Team: MVFD

Leanne Harlan, this year's event chair was thrilled about the upcoming relay and wants everyone involved.

"I am very excited for the community to gather and I am determined for those facing caner to be supported and for those who have lost their battle to be remem-

March 31, leaving no oth-

er alternatives aside from

private options offered in-

side and outside the state's

Health Insurance Exchange

A key component of the

Affordable Care Act allows

for access to coverage re-

gardless of any pre-existing

health condition an indi-

vidual may already have. To

ensure that consumers did

not wait until they were ill

to purchase coverage, the

open enrollment periods

were included to promote

responsibility and to allow

insurers to spread the risks

and costs of providing cov-

erage among a broad pool

of healthy as well as sick

Without those time-

frames, Bellman said, the

vast majority of consum-

ers would wait until they

were about to incur medi-

cal costs before they pur-

chased coverage. The result

would be exorbitant pre-

mium rates that would be

required to fund the costs

of mostly sick individuals

who would comprise an in-

"There are a lot of mov-

ing parts to the new law,

and those purchasing cov-

erage will be well-served

to ensure they have the

full picture of their op-

tions and the consequences

of their decisions," he said.

"Their choices could deter-

surance pool.

individuals.

Key to affordability

Marketplace.

bered and that together we will continue to fight back, so that one day no one will have to hear those dreadful words 'you have cancer."

This was not Harlan's only message. While it is important to spread the word, it is even more important to participate and donate for the cause.

"We raise money and all that money goes to research, and current cancer survivors have benefited greatly from that research," Harlan con-

More information can be obtained about the upcoming event at relayforlife. org/knoxhaskelltx or on Facebook at RFLKNOX-HASKELLTX

the care needed to remain healthy, manage an unexpected injury or deal with a life-altering illness."

No obligation advice

Consumers interested in locating a professional benefit adviser in their community who can assist with questions about the Affordable Care Act are encouraged to visit the Health Insurance Marketplace, the federal website administered by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to help uninsured Americans determine what type of policy is best for them and their

The online resource also provides a feature to connect individuals with a local benefit adviser in their community who will be able to assist them with the process and answer questions before applying.

According to the website, most all Americans could qualify for reduced health

"Accessing the services of a professional benefit adviser does not add to the cost of coverage, so it's essentially a free service that provides professional advice and guidance," Bellman said.

Texas Association Health Underwriters can be accessed at tahu.org, which also features a local mine their ability to afford benefits adviser locater.

Updated Property Tax Information Now Available for Texas Taxpayers

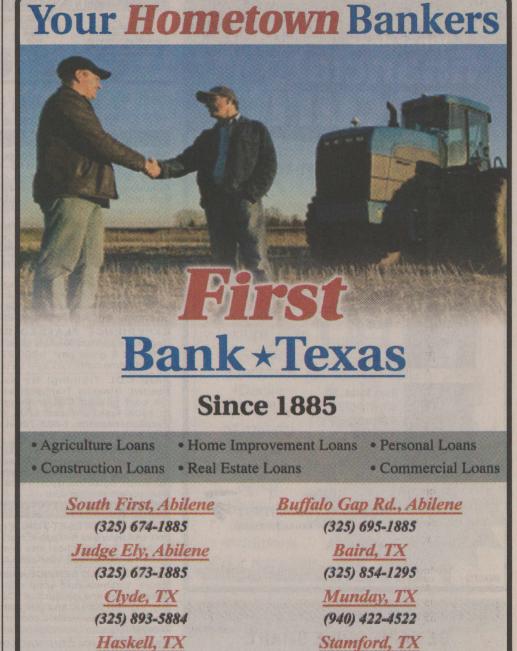
Knox County - New and updated property tax information has just been compiled by Knox County Appraisal District and is available now to assist taxpayers. This property tax information is current and covers a wide range of topics, such as taxpayer remedies, exemptions and appraisals, and is of value to select groups, such as disabled veterans and persons who are age 65 or older.

"Whether you are a homeowner, business owner, disabled veteran or a taxpayer, it's important you know your rights concerning the property tax laws." said Mitzi Welch, Chief Appraiser of the Knox County Appraisal District. "You can contact us about any property tax issues with full confidence that we will provide you the most complete, accurate and up-to-date available information to assist you."

This includes information about the following programs:

- Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by veterans who are disabled, spouses and survivors of deceased disabled veterans. This includes homesteads donated to disabled veterans by charitable organizations at no cost to the disabled veterans. The amount of exemption is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability. The law also provides a 100 percent exemption for 100 percent disabled veterans and their surviving spouses, beginning in 2009, and for surviving spouses of U.S. armed service members killed in
- Property Tax Exemptions Non-profit organizations that meet statutory requirements may seek property tax exemptions and must apply to their county appraisal district by a specific date. Businesses that receive tax abatements granted by taxing units; ship inventory out of Texas that may be eligible for the "Freeport" exemption; store certain goods in transit in warehouses that are moved within 175 days; construct, install or acquire pollution control; own and operate energy storage systems; or store offshore drilling equipment while not in use may also be eligible for statutory exemptions.
- Rendering Taxable Property If a business owns tangible personal property that is used to produce income, the business must file a rendition with its local county appraisal district by a specified date. Personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property such as church property or an agriculture producer's equipment used for farming.
- Appraisal Notices If a taxpayer's property value increased in the last year, the Texas taxpayer will receive a notice of appraised value from the appropriate local county appraisal district. The city, county, school districts and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set property taxes for the coming year.
- Property Taxpayer Remedies This Comptroller publication explains in detail how to protest a property appraisal, what issues the county appraisal review board (ARB) can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the option of taking a taxpayer's case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or binding arbitration if the taxpayer is dissatisfied with the outcome of the ARB hearing.
- Homestead Exemptions A homestead is generally defined as the home and land used as the owner's principal residence on Jan. 1 of the tax year. A homestead exemption reduces the appraised value of the home and, as a result, lowers property taxes. Applications are submitted to the appropriate local county appraisal district.
- Productivity Appraisal Property owners who use land for timber land production, agricultural purposes or wildlife management can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to their local county appraisal district for an agricultural appraisal which may result in a lower appraisal of the land based on how much the taxpayer produces, versus what the land would sell for in the open market.
- Residence Homestead Tax Deferral Texas homeowners may postpone paying the currently delinquent property taxes due on the appreciating value of their homes by filing a tax deferral affidavit at their local county appraisal district. This tax relief allows homeowners to pay the property taxes on 105 percent of the preceding year's appraised value of their homestead, plus the taxes on any new improvements to the homestead. The remaining taxes are postponed, but not cancelled, with interest accruing at 8 percent per
- Property Tax Deferral for Persons Age 65 or Older or Disabled Homeowners Texans who are age 65 or older or disabled, as defined by law, may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit. Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred, but not cancelled, as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Interest continues to accrue on unpaid taxes. You may obtain a deferral affidavit at the appraisal district.
- Notice of Availability of Electronic Communication In appraisal districts located in counties with more than 200,000 populations or that have authorized electronic communications, and that have implemented a system that allows such communications, chief appraisers and ARBs may communicate electronically through email or other media with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and other documents to be delivered electronically in place of mailing.
- Protesting Property Appraisal Values Property owners who disagree with the appraisal district's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's ARB.

For more information about these programs, contact Knox County Appraisal District at 940-459-3891. Information is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/.



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