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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF LINDA ABILA

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2016

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\$1.00

City-wide cleanup a success



Vonda Carter, James McAfee/Knox County News-Courier

Before and after photos of a property at Cisco and South 7th in Munday showed how last Saturday's city-wide cleanup definitely was a success. In addition, tree limbs were shredded and other trash loaded into dumpsters by volunteers at the recycling center.



Flautists receive 3 rating



Courtesy photo

The Purple Cloud flautist quartet of Ana Vega, Alexis Nunez, Rebeca Carranza and Denise Araujo received a 3 rating in the ensemble state competition in Austin last week. Kamille Redder earned silver medals with 2 ratings in piano and twirling.

Energy bill in jeopardy Knox Notes

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON —A partisan dispute over oil drilling, water for drought-stricken California and a potential rollback of wildlife protections has put Congressional efforts to approve a major energy bill in jeopardy.

The Senate bipartisan bill that would boost oil and natural gas production while encouraging renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, and

increased energy efficiency was approved earlier.

However, the bill's prospects dimmed after the House approved a series of election-year amendments in May that promote Republican priorities such as increased drilling for oil and gas and overriding protections for the gray wolf and other species under the Endangered Species Act.

The White House strongly opposes or has threatened to veto at least seven of the House proposals.

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

Baker scholarship fundraisers

KNOX CITY —The fourth annual Bill Baker Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled July 2 here at the Knox City Country Club. The format will be a two-person scramble with an entry fee of \$100. Call 940 256-2114 to register. A volleyball tournament will be held June 18 to also benefit the Bill Baker Scholarship Fund. Call Michelle Stanfield at 940 256-0318 to enter.

Benjamin reunion

BENJAMIN —The Benjamin School Reunion is scheduled here Saturday. A complete schedule is available with the Benjamin News on pg. 3.

Carwash fundraiser

MUNDAY —The First Baptist VBS will end Friday night. The youth and pre-teen kids will have a carwash fundraiser next Wednesday.

News on the go



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

Rain slows wheat harvesting



Wheat is usually harvested around here in May, but heavy rain and high humidity slowed things down as it was just too wet in the fields to get the equipment out to do harvesting. Farmers usually get less money on crops the longer it takes as grains lose weight over time. Harvesters were busy this week trying to catch up. Another problem with the delay is that some wheat may sprout.

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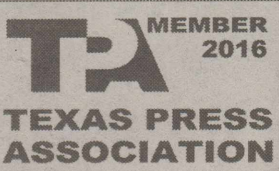
OFFICE STAFF
Vonda Carter
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The Knox County News-Courier

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

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

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



CHANGES

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Seymour TX 76380

From the Preacher's Desk

Work for unity

God has blessed me with 53 years of preaching and teaching His Word—the Bible. I have had the opportunity to talk and study the Bible with many individuals in many different countries. Several have said to me, "When all you Christians get together and teach the same thing, then come back and talk with me."

In John 17, Jesus prayed that all His followers would be one, just as He and His Father are one. He says the reason they should all be one is "so the world will believe the Father sent Him (Jesus) to earth to save mankind from sin and live with Him in heaven. In 1 Corinthians, chapter 1, we are told that followers of Christ should agree and that no divisions should exist between Christians. In Ephesians 4:4, we are told of 7 "ones: one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father. In that passage it says Christians should always work for unity among themselves.

There are hundreds of churches all over the world. On a recent trip to Apam, Ghana in Africa, I witnessed billboards advertising dozens and dozens of different churches with different names and which I had never heard of before. Now, friend, all the churches in the world may be wrong BUT, they cannot all be right! Not if what Jesus said, and all the other verses say, about being one and those verses which say there is only one body (church), one faith, and one baptism, because all these different churches teach many different doctrines.

If someone says, "Well we can't all understand the Bible the same way," then they insult God! They are really saying that God was not smart enough to give us a book that everyone could understand the same.

"Study to make yourself approved unto God, a workman that does need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of God" (2 Timothy 2:15). Please let us study!

—Wayne Speer, Munday Church of Christ

Obituaries
Alma Brown

Alma Ruth Brown passed away Tuesday, May 31, 2016 in Wichita Falls at the age of 76. Alma was born Oct. 17, 1939 in Knox County to Alois and Emma Duesterhaus.

Alma was preceded in death by her husband Gerald and sister Emma Jane Fetsch.

She is survived by sons Kenny Joe Brown and wife Mandi and Allen Brown and wife Charlette, all of Rhineland; daughter Beverly Hollar and husband Monte of Guthrie; five grandsons: Jade Brown, Kevin Brown, Shane Decker, Shawn Decker and Kenneth Hollar; seven



ALMA BROWN

granddaughters: Stephanie Brown, Katelyn Brown,

Kolbey Brown, Kandis Rocha, Keramie Knezek, Shai Gree and Andrea Hollar; eight great-grandchildren; five sisters Gail Day, Sharon Pettit, Rosie Ball, Theresa Valdez and Annette Brown; three brothers Al Duesterhaus, Tony Duesterhaus and Ernest Duesterhaus. Also, several nieces and nephews.

Rosary was held last Thursday, June 2, 2016 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Funeral mass was held Friday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rhineland. Interment followed in St. Joseph's Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home in Munday.

Sheriff's report

Arrests May 2-June 6

1. Ramirez, Traycee, 5/2/16, Dob 3/6/81, Probation violation: theft (Misc.) Wichita County. warrant (Knox County)
2. Sosa, Mark, 5/3/16, Dob 4/4/73, Child Support (SJF) (Scurry County warrant), Theft (SJF) Stonewall County warrant (Knox County)
3. Inglad, Nocona, 5/5/16, Dob 10/11/72, MTR: DWI w/child, (SJF), MTR: Credit card abuse (SJF), Theft of Service (M-B) (Taylor County warrants (Knox County)
4. Culver, Samuel, 5/6/16, Dob 6/6/64, Parole violation/injury to elderly person (F-3), Baylor County
5. Munoz, Jesse, 5/6/16, Dob 8/2/80, Theft (SJF), Stonewall County warrant, Evading arrest w/vehicle (SJF) Knox County
6. Craven, Jason, 5/7/16, Dob 4/21/89, Assault/Fam-

- ily violence, (M-A) Baylor County
7. Loyda, Sergio, 5/8/16, Dob 4/28/82, DWI w/child under 15, (SJF) Foard County
8. Moore, Sergio, 5/8/16, Dob 11/7/68, DWI 1st, (M-B) Foard County
9. Romine, Terry Lee, 5/8/16, Dob 10/3/68, Burglary of habitation (F-2), Criminal trespass (M-B) Knox County
10. Mulcahy, Todd, 5/8/16, Dob 9/7/89, Public intoxication, (M-C) Knox County
11. Walton, Omard, 5/10/16, Dob 8/25/82, Theft (M-A), Knox County
12. Pope, Jennifer, 5/11/16, Dob 4/7/84, Disorderly conduct/Obscene language, (M-C), No Drivers License (M-C) Baylor County
13. Phillips, James, 5/13/16, Dob 5/31/79, Theft (SJF) 5 day layout, Knox County
14. Harlan, Zachary, 5/13/16, Dob 6/7/87, Unlawful possession of firearm by felon (F-3) Baylor

- County
15. Romine, Terry Lee, 5/17/16, Dob 10/3/68, Theft (M-B), Knox County
16. Castorena, Osiel, 5/18/16, Dob 11/3/82, Criminal non-support (SJF) Knox County
17. Vaden, Michael David, 5/18/16, Dob 11/14/87, MTR: Escape from custody (M-A) Knox County warrant (arrested in Stephens County)
18. Reyes-Miranda, Bernardo, 5/22/16, Dob 5/19/84, MTR: DWI 1st, Knox County warrant (arrested in Harrison County)
19. Silvas, Misty Michelle, 5/24/16, Dob 1/25/79, TBC (M-B) Knox County warrant (arrested in Haskell County)
20. Hembree, Savannah, 5/30/16, Dob 6/27/89, Assault/Family violence, (M-A), Foard County
21. Durham, Wendy, 6/3/16, Dob 1/15/96, Possess Drug Paraphernalia, (M-C), Terroristic Threat, (M-A) Foard County

Dean W. Homstad,
Sheriff Knox County

Texas Cowboy Reunion adds Matched Horse Race

STAMFORD— The cowboys of old took pride in seeing who had the fastest horse in the west, and now today's cowboys will have the same chance.

The Texas Cowboy Reunion is continuing its tradition of bringing the Old West to the present by adding a new event, Matched Horse Races, to the 2016 TCR lineup. "The TCR is known for unique and exciting events that reflect the life of cowboys in the Old West," says James Decker, the race chairman. "We wanted to provide an opportunity for horsemen and horsewomen to show off their horses like they have been doing since those days."

The new event will join the lineup of Saturday afternoon events on July 2, with

the books for the race opening at 2 p.m. The races will begin at 3 p.m. at the racetrack at the southwest corner of the TCR grounds.

Those interested in participating in the event can register early for only \$10 until June 20, or for \$15 up to the day of the race. The race has a \$1,000 purse, as well as a commemorative buckle for the champion. The event will be limited to the first 40 paid entries, so riders who are interested should sign up soon.

Want to cheer on your favorite horseman or horsewoman in the race? The TCR is also selling reserved trailer viewing spots for attendees to park flatbed trailers along the race track for viewers to watch the races from with their friends and family. These

Cypert top angler

MILLER CREEK Randy Cypert of Munday claimed first place in the Haskell Bass Club's recent tournament with 10.29 pounds.

501

Don't whine, do something

"Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."



HANABA
MUNN
WELCH

Back when John F. Kennedy said it, I heard it. Maybe we watched his inauguration at school. Or maybe I heard that part on the evening news. Who knows?

Either way, his rhetoric went in one ear and stayed in my head. I pondered the concept. What did he mean?

I didn't think he was talking to me. I wasn't asking my country for anything. I was a high school freshman. Mother and Daddy were taking care of me. They weren't asking for anything either, as far as I knew.

So who was he talking to? Ne'er do wells who wanted the government to take care of them? Was he saying they should be givers instead of takers? Did he think they were listening to his inaugural address? They probably were. We all were.

Regarding the second part of his statement, what did he want us all to do anyway? All I could think of was going off to war and getting killed. I wasn't planning on it. I was a girl.

Or maybe he just wanted us to pay taxes, stay out of jail and work. Shouldn't that have been a given?

I was surprised the phrase caught on. I think maybe it was how he said it that did the trick. From the heart. Heart counts.

And now, 56 years later, I still wonder exactly what he meant. Maybe John F. Kennedy simply wanted to be president of a country where doers outnumbered grippers. If I were president, that's what I would want.

Id whittle it all down to four words:

Don't whine. Do something.

Mea culpa. I've been known to whine some. But aren't we happiest when we shut up and take action instead? Case in point, I have a jar of pickle slices in my car. Instead of complaining about McDonald's stinginess with pickle slices — just one per small hamburger — I add two or three slices from my own jar. Yum.

Yes, I'm asking you to compare McDonald's to the federal government. Both are big and powerful. Both get blamed for stuff.

But sometimes it's better for us little people to take care of ourselves than depend on either of those mega-entities to keep us perfectly happy.

No doubt, one pickle fits McDonald's profit margins exactly. If everybody asked for and got extra pickles, it would be like raising the minimum wage. McDonald's would fall apart. Then where would I eat?

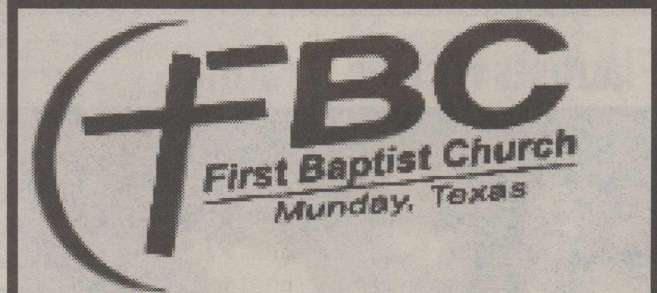
When I unscrew the lid on my personal pickle jar, I taste the power that comes with taking action. What's more, whether I admit it or not, I'm doing something for McDonald's. I'm giving them a few pickle slices to make their burgers better.

If President Kennedy were alive today, he might tell me Id missed his point. Or suggest I join the Peace Corps.

Id offer him a burger and pickles and ask him what he really meant.

Lake Creek Golf Schedule

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| June 25: 3 Lady Scramble | Aug. 21: 1 Person Scramble |
| July 9-10: 3 Person Scramble | Sept. 10-11: 3 Person Scramble |
| Aug. 7: Guys & Dolls | |



220 South 5th Ave.
Munday, TX 76731
P: 940-422-4559

Service Times:

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Kidz Impact, Pre-K to 6th grade:
5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Youth: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

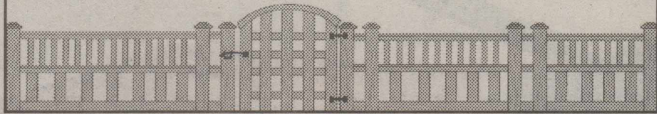
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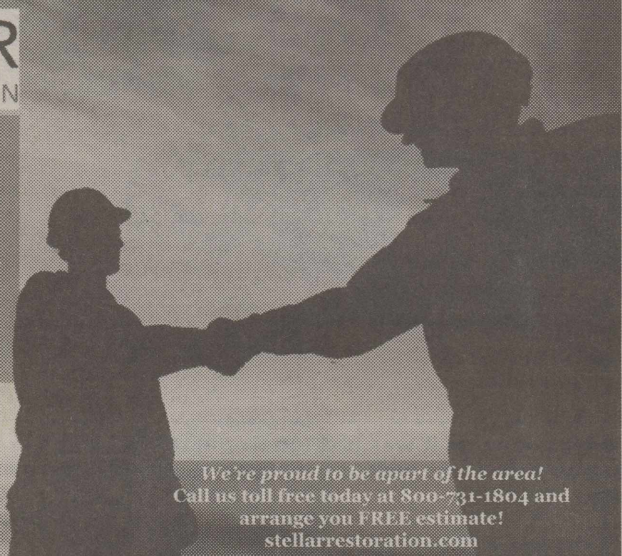
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Special thanks to everyone who sent cards, phone calls, food, flowers and donations during our time of grief. Thanks to all of those who sent donations to Hospice of Wichita Falls. A very special thanks to the medical staff and Dr. Ezekiel Duke, Chris and the nurses at Knox City Hospital and also to Smith Family Funeral Home for the care of our loved one, your compassion was amazing. Billy loved the community and appreciated all that supported him while he was in business. He will be greatly missed. God Bless all of you. Psalm 121:1 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help"

—From the family of Patricia and Billy Young and the Ward family

People are DYING to hear from you.

Really. 😞

You are TWENTY THREE TIMES more likely to crash when you text while driving. Is sending an LOL text message really worth killing someone? Park the phone when you drive.

TALKTEXTORASH

Save a Life

Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

We are enjoying a few days of sunny, dry weather after the good rain we had for several days. Although everyone is thankful for the moisture, to have the rains come a little less frequently is also appreciated. We are just very, very thankful that we didn't have the flooding so many places had. Our prayers are certainly with all those people who are suffering from the results of such heavy rains.

Regarding our ill

Rayburn Layton is a patient in the Knox Co. Hospital. I'm not certain of the cause of his problem, but they are running some tests and hopefully can get him on some medication to get him on the road to better health. Please remember him in your prayers.

Dorothy Spikes is having some good days and some not so good. She's residing in the Seymour Nursing Center at this time, undergoing therapy necessary from surgery to repair a broken hip recently. Please pray for her and her family also.

Susan White said Ronnie is still recovering from his recent sick spell. He was finally diagnosed with a form of food poisoning. (There's a medical name for it, but I can't remember what she said.) She said he is very weak, and I can understand why.

He's been sick about two months and has not been able to eat. Susan said he's gradually getting his appetite back, and she's hoping after all the antibiotics he's taking, he will begin to improve. We hope so.

Here 'n there

School has been out a couple of weeks, but no mention has been made of our eighth grade honor graduates and high individual honor winners. Valedictorian this year was Jalyn Barrientez with an average of 94.9. Salutatorian was Braeden Garza. His average was 94.6. High individual honors in junior high went to Madison Barrientez, who had an average of 95.71. We did have a transfer from Crowell who had a 95.8 average, but she was only here for six weeks. She is Arasely Nunez. Benjamin Vanderpol was the high point student in high school with an average of 96.18.

Pet Talk

Many of us consider pets a member of the family, but this does not always mean treating our pets like humans. For example, there are many habits humans choose to indulge in that can harm pets — including smoking, drinking and a lack of regular exercise. Unlike people, animals are unable to make the conscious decision to participate in these habits. Although pets may be considered a furry family member, it is important to remember our pets' special needs and how human behavior can impact their health.

In the past, the consequences of smoking were not given much thought by those who smoked. However, doctors and researchers began identifying a strong association with smoking and certain cancers in humans, causing a wave of concern in recent generations. Despite the concern of smoking negatively impacting human health, smoking is still a common habit. In addition to harming humans, secondhand smoke can contribute to the development of many diseases in pets. Dr. Michael Ciepluch, lecturer at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, offered some insight.

"Secondhand smoke can be harmful to pets," Ciepluch said. "Inhaled irritants, such as cigarette smoke, aerosol sprays and perfumes can contribute to the development of chronic bronchial disease — similar to asthma in humans — which requires lifelong medication. Cigarette smoke also contains carcinogens — substances which can cause cancer. Recent veterinary studies have identified a higher risk of certain cancers in pets living in a smoking households compared to non-smoking households. Bottom line: don't expose your pet to secondhand smoke — take it outside."

Allowing your pet to safely join in on holiday celebrations is always fun, but sometimes it may be beneficial to keep an extra eye on your pet at the celebration or leave them at home. If your pet takes a few sips of an alcoholic beverage that was left

Congratulations to all these students and all the rest who did well this year. We look forward to another good year next year.

Taylor Bohannon made a trip to Nebraska in late May to see her family and attend the high school commencement of her friends. She said she had a good time and enjoyed seeing everyone.

Pancho and Emilia Acevedo of Sweetwater were in town over the weekend. Janice Tolson said they stopped by to see them and are doing well.

I saw Brother H. B. Graves Saturday night. He wasn't feeling the best in the world, but was out and about. It's always good to see him and JoAnn.

The Knox City Homecoming seemed to be pretty successful. I saw a lot of people who had come to town for it. Of course, I don't know them all but did see several that I knew, and it was good to see them.

Benjamin Homecoming

Homecoming week is here! And I think nearly all the plans are complete. No word on how many they are really expecting. It's very hard to determine that fact because circumstances change in people's lives that cause plans to change. We hope to see a lot of folks "come home" for the weekend.

The schedule for the weekend activities:

- Friday**
- 7 p.m.: Ranch Rodeo
- Saturday**
- 7:30 a.m.: Breakfast on the Porch, Wichita Brazos Museum
- 8 a.m.: Ex-students Building opens, registration
- 10 a.m.: parade
- 11 a.m.: basketball games, lunch
- 12:30 p.m.: fiddlers contest
- 1 p.m.: Exes roping
- 3 p.m.: business meeting
- 5:30 p.m.: BarBQ supper
- 7 p.m.: Ranch Rodeo
- 9 p.m.: dance, featuring Tommy Hooker Band
- Sunday**
- 10:30 a.m.: Church services, Church of Christ, pot luck lunch to follow

on the ground or someone allowed your pet to taste their drink, the consequences can be deadly.

"Alcohol is toxic to pets and humans at high doses and alcohol toxicity is heavily dependent upon body weight. Most pets weigh less than humans, so it takes less alcohol to be toxic," Ciepluch said. "Clinical signs of alcohol toxicity include vomiting, diarrhea, incoordination, central nervous system depression, difficulty breathing, tremors, abnormal blood acidity, coma, and even death."

Sometimes pets mirror the bad habits of their owners, such as sitting on the couch all weekend. However, just like in humans, being a couch potato and lacking regular exercise can lead to conditions such as obesity.

"Exercise and physical activity are critical for both physical and mental well-being in our pets and for overall longevity," Ciepluch said. "Pet obesity is a growing problem in the United States. In fact, in 2014, 50 to 60 percent of dogs and cats

were overweight or obese. Obesity takes a toll on bones and joints, and daily activity and exercise can help prevent or correct weight gain in pets. Maintaining a lean, healthy body condition allows pets to remain active and comfortable even into the later years of life. On the other hand, older and overweight or obese pets often have a much harder time getting around the house, let alone being active, because the chronic extra weight on their joints with each step accelerates the development of arthritis."

Even if you notice your pet is experiencing soreness from a condition such as arthritis, it is not safe to treat your pet with over-the-counter pain relievers. If your pet needs treatment for pain, Ciepluch recommended pain medications that have been approved for use in pets by the FDA. "While it is tempting to give something to your pets to help with pain, pet owners frequently do much more harm than good with over-the-counter, at-home pain rem-

Vonda's Recipe Corner

By Vonda Carter

This week I'm giving you a recipe from my new friends Mike and Donna Nichols in Knox City. I told you about them a few weeks ago. They told me about this one and sent it to me, it sounds so good I'm ready to try it. I know what you're thinking "you haven't tried it"? Well, no I haven't but I am definitely going to and I suggest that you do, too. I'm giving it to you just as they sent to me because the cooking process is described perfectly. This recipe is not complicated at all, few ingredients and easy to put together. I thank Mike and Donna for sending it to me and hope they will send me more. That's it for now, you guys "Rock."

Italian Hot Sausage Sandwiches

- 1 package of hot or mild Italian sausages
 - 2 green bell peppers
 - 1 medium yellow onion
 - 2 small cans of tomato sauce
 - 1 teaspoon Italian seasonings
 - 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder (to taste)
 - 1 package of Bollilo rolls, sub rolls or similar
- If you don't prefer the Hot (spicy) sausages you can use the mild ones, but be aware that much of the spicy quality of the sausages will transfer to the vegetables and sauce so they will not be quite as hot to eat when prepared this way. We find a hard crusted roll is usually better for these than soft buns.
- In a large skillet place the sausages in a ring around the

outside, poking each of them several times with a fork to allow for the juices to escape. Slice the onion into thin rings and place in the center of the skillet. Slice the bell peppers into thin rings, removing the seeds and add to the center of the skillet. Add a half cup of water or a bit of cooking oil - we use light olive oil usually. Cover and bring the heat up on the skillet and allow the sausages and vegetables to cook so that the onions are starting to clear. Turn the sausages over after maybe five to seven minutes.

After the sausages have been turned and cooked another five minutes or so, add the tomato sauce to the center of the ingredients and the garlic powder and a teaspoon of Italian Seasoning. We have done these in many slight variations. Experimenting is fun when cooking something like this.

Cover loosely and reduce heat to simmer. If you can muster up enough will power to wait about 30 minutes then you can serve them. The aroma will often win out before that, but the longer you simmer and let the juices blend the better this will be.

Open your rolls and place a partial spoon full of the sauce on the inside, then place a sausage and using tongs or a fork put a good amount of the

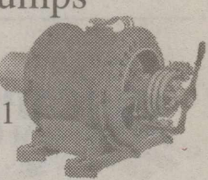
peppers and onions over the sausage. Close it up and enjoy. A napkin or bib may be a useful addition at this time. Serve with a simple salad, your favorite beverage and you will find this one fits into your "comfort food" category and is so easy to throw together using only one pan.

Now, most recipes would be done at this point, but this one continues to give. As most packages of the sausages have five links, and we usually eat only three or four, we often have one or two sausages and some of the peppers, onions and sauce left over. We usually cut the remaining vegetables into smaller chunks, slice the meat into bite sized pieces, then add a half cup or one cup of water. Bring to a boil then put in the same amount of minute rice. Cover and remove from the heat. Five minutes later stir and serve a very tasty single dish dinner. Optionally you can put the leftover sausages, sauce and veggies over fresh pasta and serve. This basic recipe is from my wife's family from the Pittsburgh, PA area, and I love it as it's so easy even I can do it.

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

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HOME OF THE TEXAS RANGERS

Parton participates in FCA game

Special to The News-Courier

BROWNWOOD—Munday's Cole Parton participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes all-star basketball game here last Saturday at the Brownwood High gym, scoring two points on his only field goal attempt.

The South claimed an 84-79 victory over the North in the boys game. Jeremy Ayers of Wylie claimed MVP honors, scoring eight points, grabbing four rebounds and handing out five assists.

In the girls game, the North claimed a 50-34 win as Dakkia Morris of Abilene High took MVP honors, scoring 10 points.

The games were moved from the Brownwood Coliseum after pieces of the ceiling fell on the court.

Baseball and softball games are scheduled Friday in San Angelo while the volleyball match and the Myrle Greathouse football game will be played Saturday in Abilene.

Munday's Brenley Waters will be on the cheerleading squad for these events.

USDA extends deadline to July 1

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced a one-time, 30-day extension to the June 1 deadline for recording farm organization structures related to Actively Engaged in Farming determinations. This date is used to determine the level of interest an individual holds in a legal entity for the applicable program year. Farming operations will now have until July 1 to complete their restructuring or finalize any operational change.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued the extension in response to farmers and ranchers who requested more time to comply, and to assure that everyone has enough time to provide their information under the new rules.

"Most farming and ranching organizations have been able to comply with the actively engaged rule," said Vilsack. "This one-time extension should give producers who may still need to update their farm structure informa-

tion the additional time to do so."

The 2014 Farm Bill provided the Secretary with the direction and authority to amend the Actively Engaged in Farming rules related to management. The final rule established limits on the number of individuals who can qualify as actively engaged using only management. Only one payment limit for management is allowed under the rule, with the ability to request up to two additional qualifying managers operations for large and complex operations.

The rule does not apply to farming operations comprised entirely of family members. The rule also does not change the existing regulations related to contributions of land, capital, equipment or labor, or the existing regulations related to landowners with a risk in the crop or to spouses.

Producers that planted fall crops have until the 2017 crop year to comply with the new rules. The payment limit associated with FSA farm payments is generally limited annually to \$125,000 per individual or entity.

USDA offers special loan funding

Special to The News-Courier

COLLEGE STATION

—USDA Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director, Judith A. Canales, reminds producers that FSA offers targeted farm ownership and farm operating loans to assist underserved applicants as well as beginning farmers and ranchers.

"Each year, a portion of FSA's loan funds are set aside to lend to targeted underserved and beginning farmers and ranchers," said Canales. "Farming and livestock production are capital intensive business ventures and FSA is committed to helping producers start, expand and maintain their agricultural operations."

USDA defines underserved applicants as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of

the group without regard to their individual qualities. For farm loan program purposes, targeted underserved groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Underserved or beginning farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank can apply for either FSA direct loans or guaranteed loans. Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA.

Guaranteed loans are made by lending institutions who arrange for FSA to guarantee the loan. FSA can guarantee up to 95 percent of the loss of principal and interest on a loan.

The FSA guarantee allows lenders to make agricultural credit available to producers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria. The direct and guaran-

teed loan program provides for two types of loans: farm ownership loans and farm operating loans.

Farm ownership loan funds may be used to purchase or enlarge a farm or ranch, purchase easements or rights of way needed in the farm's operation, build or improve buildings such as a dwelling or barn, promote soil and water conservation and development and pay closing costs.

Farm operating loan funds may be used to purchase livestock, poultry, farm equipment, fertilizer, and other materials necessary to operate a successful farm.

These loans can also be used for family living expenses, refinancing debts under certain conditions, paying salaries for hired farm laborers, installing or improving water systems for home, livestock, or irrigation use and other similar improvements.

USDA offers to help producers

Special to The News-Courier

COLLEGE STATION

—The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Texas State Executive Director Judith A. Canales reminds farmers and ranchers, families and small businesses affected by flooding, high winds and hail in Texas, that USDA has several programs which provide assistance before, during, and after disasters. USDA staff in regional, state and

county offices are ready to help.

FSA administers many safety-net programs to help producers recover from eligible losses.

Producers located in counties that received a primary or contiguous disaster designation are eligible for low-interest emergency loans to help them recover from production and physical losses. Compensation also is available to producers who purchased coverage through the Noninsured

Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

USDA encourages farmers and ranchers to contact their local FSA office to learn what documents can help the local office expedite assistance, such as farm records, receipts and pictures of damages or losses.

Producers should use form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, to report prevented planting and failed acres in order to establish or retain FSA program eligibility. Prevented planting acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA). Producers must file a Notice of Loss for failed acres on all crops, including grasses, in a timely fashion, often within 15 days of the occurrence or when the losses become apparent. Producers of hand-harvested crops must notify FSA of damage or loss within 72 hours of when the date of damage or loss first becomes apparent.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) also can help producers with damaged agricultural lands caused by natural disasters such as floods. The NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial assistance to repair and prevent excessive soil erosion that can result from high rainfall events and flooding.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **LEO KOENIG**, Deceased, were issued on May 18, 2016, in Cause No. 2625, pending in the County Court of Knox County, Texas, to Kyle Josselet and Kent Josselet.

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

Kyle Josselet and Kent Josselet, Co-Executors of the Estate of Leo Koenig, Deceased
c/o James M. Decker
Shahan Guevara Decker Arrott
127 East McHarg Street
Stamford, Texas 79553

DATED the 23rd of May, 2016.

/s/ James M. Decker
Shahan Guevara Decker Arrott
Attorney for Applicant
State Bar Number: 24069593
127 East McHarg Street
Stamford, Texas 79553
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Facsimile: (325) 773-2277

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING
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City of Knox City
Contract No. DR 713177

The City of Knox City will hold a public hearing at 5:30 PM, June 23, 2016, at City Hall, for the purpose of reviewing its performance on a recently completed TxCDBG grant, Contract No. DR 713177. All citizens, particularly low and moderate income residents, are invited and encouraged to attend. Individuals with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at 940-658-3313 to arrange for assistance. Written comments will also be accepted at City Hall prior to the meeting or during the meeting at City Hall.

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Mac's Views Moving to Mexico?

My friend in Hawaii Norm Guenther recently sent me an interesting take on how someone who wanted to consider moving to Mexico asked to get some of the same benefits that Mexicans coming to the United States now get:



**JAMES
MCAFFEE**

Dear Mr. Obama, Senate and Congress: I'm planning to move my family and extended family into Mexico for my health, and I would like to ask you to assist me. We're planning to simply walk across the border from the U.S. into Mexico, and we'll need your help to make a few arrangements. We plan to skip all the legal stuff like visas, passports, immigration quotas and laws. I'm sure they handle those things the same way you do here. So, would you mind telling your buddy, the President of Mexico, that I'm on my way over?

Please let him know that I will be expecting

the following:

1. Free medical care for my entire family.
 2. English-speaking Government bureaucrats for all services I might need, whether I use them or not.
 3. Please print all Mexican Government forms in English.
 4. I want my grandkids to be taught Spanish by English-speaking (bi-lingual) teachers.
 5. Tell their schools they need to include classes on American culture and history.
 6. I want my grandkids to see the American flag on one of the flag poles at their school.
 7. Please plan to feed my grandkids at school for both breakfast and lunch.
 8. I will need a local Mexican driver's license so I can get easy access to government services.
 9. I do plan to get a car and drive in Mexico, but I don't plan to purchase car insurance, and probably won't make any special effort to learn local traffic laws.
 10. In case one of the Mexican police officers does not get the memo from their president to leave me alone, please be sure that every patrol car has at least one English-speaking officer.
 11. I plan to fly the U.S. flag from my housetop, put U.S. flag decals on my car, and have a gigantic celebration on July 4th. I do not want any complaints or negative comments from the locals.
 12. I would also like to have a nice job without paying any taxes, or have any labor or tax laws enforced on any business I may start.
 13. Please have the president tell all the Mexican people to be extremely nice and never say critical things about me or my family, or about the strain we might place on their economy.
 14. I want to receive free food stamps.
 15. Naturally, I'll expect free rent subsidies.
 16. I'll need income tax credits so that although I don't pay Mexican taxes, I'll receive money from the government.
 17. Please arrange it so that the Mexican Government pays \$4,500.00 to help me buy a new car.
 18. Oh yes, I almost forgot, please enroll me free into the Mexican Social Security program so that I'll get a monthly income in retirement.
- I know this is an easy request because you already do all these things for all of his people who walk over to the U.S. from Mexico. I am sure that the President of Mexico won't mind returning the favor if you ask him nicely.
- Do you see how stupid this looks when you put it in writing? There's a lot of truth here, but I personally do not want to move to Mexico as I would not feel safe with all the violence being created by the drug cartels.
- The PGA Tour recently moved one of its major events to Mexico City, taking away a tournament held at one of Donald Trump's resorts, Doral.
- Trump reportedly tweeted, "I hope none of the professionals are held for ransom."
- As I recall, several professionals on the Champions Tour were held up at gunpoint while dining at a restaurant in Mexico City a few years ago.

The Paperboy Coming to terms with mortality

As Americans, one of our favorite pastimes is fighting age.

Being a human is great, especially if we are blessed enough to die gracefully. However, I'd say the vast majority of us will not go peacefully in our sleep.

We are more likely to suffer during our final years, months or days.

I've often joked that "it's not the model, it's the mileage." It's a saying I picked up somewhere in reference to automobiles and their value. As humans, if we've treated ourselves well during the course of our lives, we are more likely to stay healthy longer and have a higher quality of life.

Is that accurate? Scientists say it is for the most part. We all know of those individuals who beat the odds. For all of the proof you'll ever need, look at The Rolling Stones or Willie Nelson. These gentlemen have never been regarded as the picture of health. In fact, between Keith Richards and Willie, they probably consumed enough alcohol and drugs to light up a small town. Regardless, they are still around and they are active.

I guess there are anomalies in most studies and Keith and Willie would certainly have to be considered anomalies.

As a guy closer to 50 than 40, I notice

I once heard of a lady well into her hundreds. She drank a glass of wine before she went to bed each night. If memory serves, her doctor told her to do that when she was pregnant because she was having a hard time keeping her weight up. She continued to drink the wine daily ... for over 80 more years!

Life expectancy in the United States is currently 78.74 years. That's not bad.

In England, it's now 81.5. Japan's is 83.10. That's amazing to me.

As we age and begin to come to terms with our own mortality, it's hard not to judge oneself. If I'm not careful, I can be a little too hard on myself to the point where it's detrimental. Like you, I have goals and dreams and when you feel like you are underperforming, it is not good psychologically.

To me, by far the worst part of aging is losing people. Seeing those family and friends pass is difficult in our society. If you've had a good life, it's likely you were surrounded by good people who taught you many things. It hurts when those people pass.

Another thing about mortality and your comfort level is whether or not you believe you have a destination after death. Most of the world believes in life after death, but there is a significant number of people who do not. I wonder which group is happier when they age, those with faith or those without it?

As a guy closer to 50 than 40, I notice

things about myself that I'd rather not. But if I had to name a few, it would be stiffening joints, inability to read small print and sun damaged skin on my face and hands.

At the beginning of the year, I wrote about my New Year's Resolution and my goal was to lose 30 pounds. I have not accomplished that goal. I have a couple of friends who made the same resolution, they've been successful. I've lost five pounds. I can sit here and give you several "reasons" while I've failed, but I'd be fooling you. I've failed because I have not put in the work to be successful.

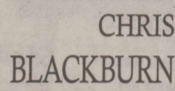
None of us knows when our day is coming. What we do know is that it is and that it will be here much sooner than we'd probably like.

As for me, I still plan to lose the weight and keep a close eye on myself. I'd sure like to be around a couple of more generations to see how my children and their children turn out.

And hopefully, I'm a little more like Keith and Willie than I am my mom or grandmother, who didn't even make it to 65.

One thing is for sure ... time will tell.

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Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of The Red River Sun, The Floyd County HesperianBeacon, The Knox County NewsCourier and The Post Dispatch. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmedia.com



**CHRIS
BLACKBURN**

Spradlin, Sexton, Bernal win Wild Hog

Special to The News-Courier

KNOX CITY—Paula Spradlin, Kelly Sexton and Carrie Bernal posted an 11-under-par 61 at the Knox City Country Club to capture the championship flight title in the 22nd annual Wild Hog Classic here last Saturday. Settling for second place after losing a scorecard playoff were Temi Webb, Betty Starnes and Marcia Maloney.

Angela Herricks, Melissa Garcia and Vicki Wilson won a playoff to win the first flight while Linda Abila, Lezli Molina and Lisa Rodriguez took the second flight.

Erica Gray claimed closest-to-the-pin honors while Rebecca Harris won the long drive contest.

Wild Hog Classic results
Championship flight
Spradlin-Sexton-Bernal 61

Webb-Starnes-Maloney 61
Smith-Johnson-Bufkin 63

First flight
Herricks-Garcia-Wilson 66
Adkins-Klontz-Allen 66
Howard-Howard-Werzba 67
Second flight
Abila-Molina-Rodriguez 71
Shifflet-Hobson-Fikes 72
Wojcik-Latham-Newson 72

Advance preparation needed for hurricane

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding residents that hurricane season has begun and continues through Nov. 30. The department also is warning Texans to not delay in developing their emergency plans in advance of possible hurricanes or tropical storms.

"Many of our communities have already been impacted by severe weather events this year," said Texas Governor Greg Abbott. "As we enter

the 2016 hurricane season, I urge residents to start preparing now for these possible storms – if they have not done so yet – and to make it a practice to monitor weather conditions and to heed directives from their local officials."

"It is critical that Texans have an established hurricane plan and emergency kit in place before a hurricane or tropical storm ever forms or enters the Gulf of Mexico," said DPS Director Steven

McCraw. "Advance preparation is a critical game-changer in helping protect lives and property, and we urge residents to remind their family, friends and neighbors of this life-saving step."

All Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coastal areas are subject to hurricanes or tropical storms. It is possible for a storm to severely impact our state, even prior to or without making direct landfall in Texas. Additionally, the rainbands associated with a trop-

ical system have an extremely wide reach, so monitoring changing weather conditions during hurricane season is critically important for all Texans.

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines, and winds can vary from 74 to 157 miles per hour (or higher). In addition, hurricanes and tropical storms can also spawn tornadoes, create dangerous coastal water conditions including storm surges along the coast, and cause extensive damage from flooding.

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Knox City CC Golf Schedule

June 18: Par 3 Classic I
July 2: Bill Baker Memorial
July 4: July 4th play day
July 30: Knox City Festival
Aug. 13: Ag-Oil
Aug. 27: Glow ball
Sept. 5: Labor Day play day
Sept. 10-11: Guys & Dolls
Sept. 24: Par 3 Classic II
Oct. 8: Guys & Dolls

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