

KILGORE NEWS HERALD

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AMERICA'S NO. 1 SMALL CITY | CAPITAL OF THE EAST TEXAS OIL FIELD

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SPORTS: Reality TV and the Dallas Cowboys pretty much already gets played out on ESPN every day. But if you can't get enough, you might want to check out Michael Irvin's new series, which will offer a training camp roster spot to the winner.

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SPORTS: The Texas Rangers have signed longtime MLB short-stop Omar Vizquel.

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Possible A.M. Showers

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KILGOROUND

BRENDA BROWN



Cancun Dave's destroyed by fire

By **BRENDA BROWN**

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Cancun Dave's owners Wayne Simmons and his wife Stephanie aren't sure what they will do since their restaurant was destroyed by fire Thursday night.

The restaurant, in business on U.S. Hwy. 259 since 1990, was fully engulfed in flames when firefighters were called to the scene around 11:30 p.m., said Dennis Gage, KFD operations chief.

The cause remains under investigation, he said.



Cancun Dave's restaurant on U.S. Hwy. 259 was completely destroyed by fire Thursday night. Firefighters called to the scene around 11:30 found flames venting through the roof.

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KISD could receive federal stimulus money

Gregg County schools could receive \$16,263,500 in funding

AUSTIN – Public school districts in Gregg County

could have an additional \$16,263,500 over a two-year period to spend, according to Strategic Partnerships, Inc., (SPI) an Austin-based research and procurement consulting firm.

The totals quoted are part of the \$825 billion economic stimulus package currently being considered by the U.S. Congress. The House Appropriations Committee Wednesday reported its eco-

nommic stimulus bill out of committee and the bill will now go to the House floor for debate.

"This is good news for schools, good news for the economy and good news for companies that sell to government," said Mary Scott Nabers, president and CEO of Strategic Partnerships, Inc. "Not only will the federal economic stimulus funding provide Texas

schools with some much-needed additional funding for facilities, programs and technology, but it will also open up additional contracting opportunities for local businesses to sell their goods and services to school districts – providing a much-needed boost to local economies."

The funding is aimed at improving public school classrooms, laboratories and

libraries for students across the nation and is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan aimed at providing increased educational opportunities for school students, creating jobs and moving the nation's economy forward.

Toward that goal, an estimated \$41 billion in funds could be pushed to local school districts nationwide.

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KC Workforce Development offers machine/metal courses

The Kilgore College Workforce Development Department will offer continuing education courses in machine/metal trades and residential wiring beginning next week.

Lathe Fundamentals, a 12-week course, is set for 6-10 p.m. Monday nights from Jan. 26-April 20. The lathe course focuses on common types of lathes. Topics include engine lathe components, cutting speeds and feeds to materials, and basic lathe set-up. Students will also learn about metal removing operations such as turning, facing, drilling, grooving and turning on center, threading, and machine maintenance. Emphasis will be placed on basic parts, nomenclature, lathe operations, safety and theory.

Machining Fundamentals, a 12-week course, is set for 6-10 p.m. Wednesday nights from Jan. 28-April 22. The machining course focuses on machine shop theory and terminology, shop math applications, basic bench work and part layout using a variety of common measuring tools. Students will also learn application of basic machine

tools such as hand tools, band saws, grinders, drill presses, lathes and mills. Emphasis will be placed on shop safety, house-keeping and preventive maintenance.

Workforce Development will also offer a 16-week continuing education course in Residential Wiring I beginning Jan. 26. The course is set for Mondays from 6-10 p.m. and is a hands-on course that will cover wiring methods used for single family, two family and multi-family dwellings. Topics include computation of circuit sizes needed for the installation of branch circuits, feeders, and service entrance conductors. Students will learn proper installation of wiring devices according to electrical codes, grounding methods, installation of ground fault circuits and residential wiring methods. Emphasis will be placed on safety requirements.

For more information visit the KC Workforce Development Department website <http://www.kilgore.edu/workforce.asp> or call 903-983-8288.

Digital transition could be delayed

By **JOELLE TESSLER**
AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate appeared close to agreement late Thursday on a bill to delay next month's planned transition from analog to digital television broadcasting to June 12 — setting the stage for a vote early next week.

Senate Republicans last week blocked Democratic efforts to push back the Feb. 17 deadline for the analog shutoff. The Democrats cited mounting concerns that too many Americans who rely on analog TV sets to pick up over-the-air broadcast signals won't be ready.

The Nielsen Co. said Thursday that more than 6.5 million U.S. households are still not prepared for the upcoming transition and could see their TV sets go dark next month.

signals sooner than the June 12 deadline if they choose to — a provision consistent with the current law mandating a Feb. 17 transition. It would also permit public safety agencies to take over vacant spectrum that has been promised to them as soon as it becomes available.

In 2005, Congress required broadcasters to switch from analog to digital signals, which are more efficient, to free up valuable chunks of wireless spectrum to be used for commercial wireless services and interoperable emergency-response networks.

But President Barack Obama earlier this month called for the transition date to be postponed after the Commerce Department hit a \$1.34 billion funding limit for coupons to subsidize digital TV converter boxes for consumers. The boxes, which generally cost between \$40 and \$80 each and can be purchased without a coupon, translate digital

KC to host art symposium

The Kilgore College Visual Arts programs will host the annual Secondary Art Symposium for secondary school art teachers and students Friday, Feb. 6. The symposium is set for 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the KC campus.

Students attending the symposium will enter art portfolios to be judged by two jurors, Gary Fields and Jason N. Hearne. Fields is a professor of art at Stephen F. Austin State University, and Hearne is a multimedia designer and co-owner of Video Box Studios, an animation studio in Los Angeles, Calif.

Portfolios will be on display that morning in the Devall Student Center Ballroom, followed by presentations and lectures from the judges in Dodson Auditorium.

Awards will be presented to students for outstanding portfolios, including 10 schol-

arships to KC, ranging from \$800 to \$2,000.

According to Carolyn Fox-Hearne, KC art instructor, the purpose of the symposium is to provide a forum that provides art instructors and students professional consultation and demonstrations to provide insight and renew enthusiasm.

All high school seniors in the region (whether enrolled in a high school art class or not) are eligible. The region includes schools in the following counties: Anderson, Angelina, Bowie, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Nacogdoches, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood.

For more information, call Fox-Hearne at (903) 983-8128 or e-mail her at: cfox-hearne@kilgore.edu.

KISD

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That includes \$13 billion each for both Title I and IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) programs, both of which are based on formula funding and address high poverty schools and special needs students respectively.

Another \$14 billion is estimated to be allocated for school modernization and repairs and an estimated \$1 billion could be allocated for education technology.

"Although these figures are not yet firm," said Nabers, "President Obama has said he intends to move swiftly on the economic stimulus package, as every day it is delayed, thousands of Americans lose their jobs. These millions of dollars estimated to be headed to local school

districts in Texas will not only supplement school coffers, but also provide contracting opportunities that can put local workers back to work."

Revard Pfeffer, business manager for Kilgore Independent School District said he could not confirm yet any information about the funding, but KISD administrators will be attending a conference next week and if this information is true, it should be discussed at this conference.

A breakdown of how much it is estimated that Gregg County public schools will receive over two years from the House version of the Economic Recovery Package follows:

Gladewater Independent

School District	-
\$1,498,300	
Kilgore Independent School District	-
\$1,976,600	
Longview Independent School District	-
\$8,281,700	
Pine Tree Independent School District	-
\$2,664,200	
Sabine Independent School District	- \$456,500
Spring Hill Independent School District	- \$789,600
White Oak Independent School District	- \$596,600

For a statewide look at estimated funding for all school districts in Texas, click here:

<http://www.spartnerships.com/budgets/Texas2009Stimulus.xls>

CANCUN