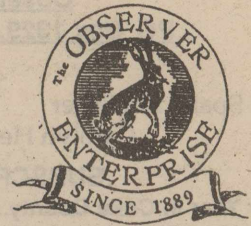


# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE



Serving Coke County

(USPS 467-480)  
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 112, No. 14

Friday, October 29, 1999



These Bronte Health and Rehab Center residents enjoyed the Grandparents Day celebration. They include (from left) Johnnie Pearl Beaver, Christine Myers, Emma Lanier and Ruth Holland.

## Special election slated for Tuesday

Early voting will continue through 5 pm on Friday, Oct. 29, at the county clerk's office in the Coke County Courthouse in Robert Lee for the Constitutional Amendment Election.

Seventeen amendments to the Texas constitution, written in 1876, will be on the statewide ballot. It has been amended 377 times over the years to reward or remove absolute language such as references to county poor houses, aid to indigent or disabled Confederate soldiers and sailors, and frontier protection from hostile Indians. Voters have rejected proposals to produce a more modern version, fearing it will detract from the historic flavor of the document.

The Special Election is coming up on Tuesday, Nov. 2, when polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. In Robert Lee polling places will be precinct 1, Recreation Hall at the county park and the commissioners courtroom at the county courthouse for precincts 3, 9, and 10. Voters in Bronte may cast ballots at the city hall for precinct 2 and at the Old Depot for precincts 4 and 5.

Mary Grim, county clerk, said Monday that only a handful of voters had cast ballots in the Early Voting so far. Typically amendment elections draw small turnouts- as few as 10% of registered voters are expected to come to the polls.

Below are listed a condensed version of the 17

amendments voters will see on the ballot.

Proposition 1, specifying succession for the governor and lieutenant governor.

Proposition 2, revising provisions authorizing reverse mortgages.

Proposition 3, eliminating duplicative and obsolete provisions from the constitution.

Proposition 4, defining charitable organizations and uses exempt from property taxes.

Proposition 5, allowing state employees to be paid for service on local government boards.

Proposition 6, increasing the maximum size of an urban homestead to 10 acres.

Proposition 7, authorizing garnishment of wages to enforce spousal maintenance.

Proposition 8, providing that the adjutant general serves at the pleasure of the governor.

Proposition 9, creating a judicial compensation commission.

Proposition 10, providing that the health and human services commissioner serves at the pleasure of the governor.

Proposition 11, allowing political subdivisions to buy non assessable property and casualty insurance.

Proposition 12, exempting from ad valorem taxation vehicles leased for personal use.

(cont'd. next page)

### BHRC celebrates Grandparents Day

A real treat was in store for BHRC residents on Sept. 12th for Grandparents Day. The Jr. High cheerleaders from Paint Rock brought cake and punch to honor the residents. One of our residents, Halley Allison, has a granddaughter Hanna Allison in their group. She was joined in dance routines, yells and pyramid building by Kicee Leal, Dusty Cook, Jennifer Alexander and Casey Simmons.

The group was accompanied by their sponsor Michelle Alexander and Will and Becky Allison.

After refreshments were served by the girls, they called bingo games for those attending and assisted those who needed help playing. They brought nice prizes for the participants.

Another added treat for the grandparents were silk corsages and boutonnieres made by a friend of the residents who wishes to keep her identity a secret. They were most appreciated by everyone.

### Coke County Courthouse

The Coke County Courthouse will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 2, for the special election concerning the constitutional amendments. The building will serve as the polling site for precincts 3, 9, and 10.

### Lamb and goat validation Saturday

All show lambs and show goats will be validated this Saturday, October 30 from 8:00 a.m. until noon at the County Show Barn. If any 4-H and FFA youth have lambs and goats, they must be validated to be eligible for the county show. Lamb exhibitors MUST be present to sign the state validation form to be eligible for any stock show.

### Election Day November 2, 1999

It is important all Bronte residents remember to VOTE Tuesday. There is one local option on the ballot that is important to you and Bronte. The State of Texas also has many options on the ballot for your opinion. But above all, remember to vote.

### Daylight savings time

Daylight savings time will end at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday of October, the 31st. We will regain the hour's sleep we lost last spring when we "fall back" one hour.

### BHRC trick-or-treat

"Trick-or-treaters" through 6th grade are invited to BHRC on Saturday Oct. 30 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. to visit and be "Treated" by the residents. Spooks are invited to the dining area and conference room to receive their "goodies". We are looking forward to seeing the little "goblins"!

### Bronte's First Baptist slates round-up Sunday

This Sunday, October 31, 1999, has been set aside as "Round-Up Sunday" at Bronte's First Baptist Church.

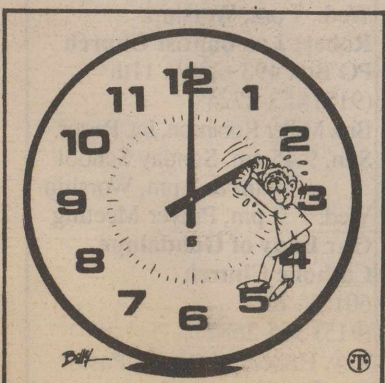
The day's activities will get started Sunday morning with a Chuck Wagon breakfast for any and all who will come. The breakfast will be on the northeast part of the church property and will be served from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. This breakfast, cooked by Ray Barnett and a host of helpers, will consist of biscuits, gravy, bacon, sausage, eggs, coffee, milk, juice, etc. Breakfast eaters will be treated to live entertainment, featuring George Tomes on the trumpet, a men's ensemble, Buster Nielsen, Morris Johnson, Andy Blair and the Youth Praise Band, Jerry McShan on the harmonica, cowboy poetry by Wendell Lee, and more.

At 9:45 a.m., Bible study classes will be offered for all ages (2 years through???) with a nursery provided for younger children. A challenging goal of 200 in attendance has been set for this special

(cont'd. next page)



These Library Storyhour youngsters spooked Robert Lee businesses as they "trick or treated" Tuesday morning, October 26.





**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**  
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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

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Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....	\$22.00
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**...Election** (ct'd. from page 1)

Proposition 13, authorizing \$400 million in general-obligation bonds for student loans.

Proposition 14, allowing state boards to have an odd number of three or more members.

Proposition 15, authorizing

agreements to convert separate property to community property.

Proposition 16, changing county population limits for JP and constable precincts.

Proposition 17, revising Permanent University Fund distribution and investment.

**...Round-Up** (ct'd. from page 1)

Round-Up Sunday which is a part of a statewide effort called "Great Day Texas."

The 10:55 a.m. morning worship celebration will feature congregational singing of favorites (both old and new), special music, and a challenging message by Pastor Morris Johnson entitled "God's Round-Up."

Everyone is invited to be a part of this exciting and special day. Western or casual attire will be most

appropriate for all the activities and services. Pastor Morris Johnson says, "Come at 8:30 a.m. for the breakfast and entertainment and stay for the Bible study and worship times. This could very well be one of the greatest days in the history of Bronte, and you won't want to miss it!"

For more information or transportation, call 473-2331 or 473-5661 or any member of First Baptist Church. First Baptist Church is located at 424 S. Washington in Bronte.

**Obituaries**

**Thelma Barrett**

Thelma "Billie" Barrett, 86, of Robert Lee died October 25, 1999, at the Robert Lee Care Center.

Graveside services were held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 27, 1999, at the Robert Lee Cemetery, officiated by Ray Aldridge. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Thelma was born November

**Mourning Dove season closes**

On Sunday, Oct. 17, mourning dove season limped to a close in Coke County and the Central Zone. Surprisingly, some area shot gunners were able to limit out around waterholes and sunflower patches, but the last couple of weeks has been slow.

The second short season, which often brings larger birds and better shooting, will open Dec. 26, 1999 and close Jan. 7, 2000. Some regs and bag limits apply as stated in the TPW Outdoor Annual. A word of caution for the short season-don't shoot over deer feeders. That would constitute baiting which is not allowed for migratory birds. That rule doesn't apply to resident birds, such as quail and turkey, however.

28, 1913, in New Castle, Oklahoma, to Joseph and Deliah Jane Reed. She married Noah Barrett on September 13, 1930. They lived most of their life in Happy, Texas, before moving to Robert Lee in 1979. She was a member of the Robert Lee Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Noah, and two sons, Gary Barrett and Joe Barrett.

She is survived by two sisters, Zelma Selvidge and Osie Scivally; and five grandchildren, Sydney, Allison, Mike, Dee, and Teena.

14a-11c

**OES meeting**

Bronte Chapter #1048, Order of the Eastern Star held its regular meeting Monday, October 11, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. with Worthy Matron Gayna Eldred presiding. There were 16 officers, 9 members and 14 visitors in attendance. The Chapter was honored to have deputy Grand Matron Dian Coulter for her official visit. For the program she gave a report from the Grand Chapter meeting held in Waco September 23-25, 1999. After the meeting a covered dish dinner was enjoyed by all.

**Glenn's Wedding Anniversary**

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Glenn of Bronte will celebrate their sixtieth wedding anniversary this weekend in Salado, Texas.

Clark Glenn and Mary Frances Russell were married October 29, 1939, in Abilene, Texas. Since their marriage, they have lived in Big Spring, Del Rio, South Dakota, Abilene and Bronte. Mr. Glenn was employed by U.S. Geological survey, Coke County, and worked in the oil field in the fifties. He has also operated his farm/ranch since the forties and retired from Chadbourne Ranch in 1984.

Mrs. Glenn was school secretary of Bronte I.S.D. for twenty-five years. They are members of First Baptist Church in Bronte where Mrs. Glenn taught Sunday School for a number of years. She is also a member of Coke County Retired Teachers Association, Sorosis Study Club, Bronte Economic Development Corporation, and Fort Chadbourne Foundation.

The Glenns have three children. They are Carolyn Kuykendall of Abilene; Dr. Victor Glenn of Dallas, and David Glenn of Houston. They also seven grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

The Glenn's children and spouses will host the Anniversary Dinner at the Stagecoach Inn in Salado on Saturday, October 30, also a Sunday brunch to celebrate Clark's birthday, October 31.



Mr. and Mrs. Clark Glenn

**Coke County Library**

The October 26th trick-or-treat event made all the cowboys, princesses, baseball players, spider men, dancers and other wonderfully costumed children wide-eyed, happy and just about worn out. All downtown businesses and offices participated and surely won't be tricked by any three to five year olds. The Book Nook brought bookmarks for treats to the Library to assure that they wouldn't receive any tricks. To see all the children and volunteer moms and friends going back to the library carrying their treats and flying their orange balloons makes one realize that our part of the world is a great place to be. The treats were appreciated by the kids and the smiles of the adults meant a lot, too.

Every opportunity a child has to be treated with kindness and interest is a plus for everyone. The adults who participated in this event are appreciated.

There is now available a WEB site for ghouls and goblins: www.horrorfind.com is suitable for young folks, but may be too scary for adults.

There are still books available for sale at the library. Most of the books are hardbacks selling for 25 cents a piece. The books will remain at the library until after the sidewalk sale scheduled for Nov. 12.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5 and Fridays 8-12.

**Barbees honored**

C.B. and Wanda Barbee participated in a special program at Howard Payne University last Friday.

Each received an honorary fifty-year degree. In that time span both served the Texas Public Schools- she was a first grade teacher and he as an administrator.

The occasion afforded the opportunity to renew acquaintances. Some had not been seen since graduation fifty years ago.

The ceremony was a part of H.P.U. homecoming activities.

*Churches of Robert Lee*

*Invite You to Worship*

- Emmanuel Pentecostal**  
PO Box 609 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy  
(915) 453-2360  
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
- First United Methodist Church**  
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne  
(915) 453-2417  
Rev. Jim Reeves, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am Worship  
Wed. 7 pm Choir
- Northside Church of Christ**  
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne  
(915) 453-2619 or 453-2270  
Tommy Williams, Minister  
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;  
Wed. 7 pm
- Pecan Baptist**  
PO Box 542 • 12 W. Sterling City Hwy  
(915) 453-4645  
Rev. Dale Patterson, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
- Southside Church of Christ**  
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston  
(915) 453-2176  
Frank J. Daniels, Preacher  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Worship
- Robert Lee Baptist Church**  
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th  
(915) 453-2724  
Bro. Miller Robinson, Int. Pastor  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**  
601 W. 10th  
(915) 365-2687  
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
Sat. 6 pm

**Death Notices**

**McGuire**

Charles Eldred "Papa" McGuire, 82, went to be with the Lord October 21, 1999, in his home.

Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. on October 23, 1999, at the Fairview Cemetery in Bronte. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred; four children, Modene and Jim Yocham, Laura and Jerry Fountain, Charles and Carolyn McGuire, and Mary Ellen and Kerry Brazeal; nine grandchildren; and seventeen great grandchildren. He is also survived by five sisters, Bertie Hash, Mary Upton, Edith Monse, Willie Murphy, Maurene Kelly; and three brothers, Paul McGuire, Edwin McGuire, and Kenneth McGuire.

He was preceded in death by his Daddy; Mother; a grandson, David Fountain; a great grandson, Devin Morrison; one sister, Lois Payne; and one brother, Wayne McGuire.

**AUTO-HOME-LIFE**

HELPING YOU is what we do best.

Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau 453-4505



Texas Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co.  
Texas Farm Bureau Underwriters  
Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.  
Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.

**Kelly's Closet Too!**  
 Great Resale Clothing & Other Fun Stuff  
**GRAND OPENING • November 6th**  
 Kelly Seales, Owner Tuesday - Saturday  
 Stephanie Martinez, Mgr. 10:30 am to 5:30 pm  
**119 W. Main • Bronte • 915-473-2425**



**Walkers celebrate 50th Anniversary**

October 23, 1949, at 8 a.m. on a Sunday morning, the family gathered at the Methodist Church in Robert Lee, Texas, for the wedding of D.J. Walker, Jr. and Audrey Cornelia (Nelia) Boykin. They took a short trip to San Antonio then returned to Robert Lee to set up house-keeping. The house they built in 1950 is still home today. D.J. worked in the oil field and retired from Union Texas Petroleum. Nelia has always been a homemaker, with no plans for retirement. Both continue to be involved in stock farming and ranching.



Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Walker

Four girls were born over the next ten years. Who, in time, furnished them with four son-in-laws, 12 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. The grandchildren are Audra Gaines of Lubbock, Judd and Jerrod Pitcock, Jenny Kneuper, Laura and Kari Purvis, all of San Angelo, Chad Helwig of Nacogdoches, Matthew and Travis Pitcock, Jodee Helwig, and Cooper and Julie Riley, all of Robert Lee. Jessica Gaines of Lubbock is the great-grandchild.

This anniversary was celebrated with a family dinner on Saturday Oct. 23, 1999. The hosts were Sharon and Darrel Pitcock, Audrey and Donnie Devoll, and Cindy and Mark Riley, all of Robert Lee, and Becky and Dennis Purvis of Sonora.

**Do you have Fibromyalgia Syndrome?**

Have you had numerous medical test run just to get a diagnosis of "everything's normal", "there's nothing wrong with you" or "it's all in your head" from doctor to doctor?

The many symptoms associated with fibromyalgia are chronic pain, fatigue, sleep disorder, irritable bowel syndrome, chronic headaches, TMJD syndrome, multiple chemical sensitivity,

chest pains, morning stiffness, memory loss, irritable bladder and swollen hand and feet.

Can you relate to these many symptoms? Or do you have a friend or loved one with these symptoms? If so, you need to educate yourself by attending a Fibromyalgia Syndrome Support Group. An organizational meeting will be held Thursday, October 28, at Bronte Church of Christ, 118 S. Jefferson, at 7:00 p.m. Fibromyalgia patients, families and friends are welcome.

You are invited to be a part of  
**Round-Up Sunday**

at  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Bronte

This Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

**Schedule of Activities**

8:30 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.

**CHUCK WAGON BREAKFAST**

(Biscuits, gravy, bacon, sausage, eggs, coffee, juice, milk, etc.)

FEATURING: Live entertainment

George Tomes (trumpet), Jerry McShan (harmonica), Wendell Lee (cowboy poetry), Men's Ensemble, Buster Nielsen, Morris Johnson, Andy Blair & the Youth Praise Band, & more!

9:45 a.m. — 10:40 a.m.

**BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL AGES**

with more than 200 in attendance!

10:55 a.m. — Noon

**WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

FEATURING:

soul-stirring music

life-challenging message — "God's Round-Up"

— Western or casual attire is most appropriate for all activities & services —

424 S. Washington 473-2331 or 473-5661

**Y'all Come! Everyone Welcome!**

LONE STAR  
CARDS  
WELCOME



LIMIT  
RIGHTS  
RESERVED

501 Commerce - Robert Lee, TX

Store Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 8-8 Sun. 8-6

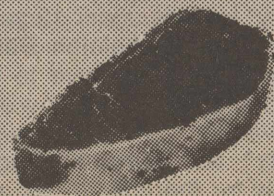
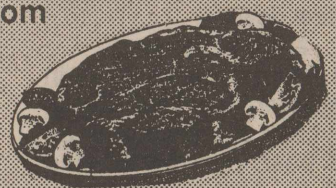
SPECIALS GOOD 10/27 Thru 11/2

Split  
**Fryer Breast**  
Lb. **.79**

Boneless Rump or Bottom

**Round Roast**

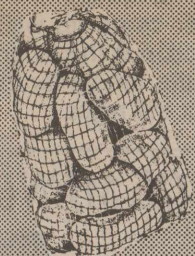
Lb. **\$1.59**



Boneless Top Sirloin  
**Steak**

Lb. **\$1.99**

Russet  
**Potatoes**  
10 Lb. Bag **.99**



Campbell's  
**Chicken Noodle Soup**



2 <sup>10.75</sup> oz. cans / **\$1**

IGA  
**SUGAR**  
4 Lb. Bag **.99**



Asst'd Varieties  
Tropicana

**Pure Premium Orange Juice**



96 oz. Jug **\$2.99**



# Robert Lee School News

## Steers short of victory against Eagles

The Steers went to Sterling City last Friday night looking for their second victory of the season, but came up short once again. The Steers stayed close the first half and were only down by 3 pt. but the Eagles extended their lead by 7 more pts. at the end of the game with the final score of Eagles 24- Steers 14.

### 1st Quarter

There was no score in this quarter, but Deric Brothers came up with an interception that stopped an Eagle drive that had gone deep in Steer territory.

It was not a good quarter for the Steers as they could not get a first down.

### 2nd Quarter

The Eagles scored early in this quarter, but the Steers fought back and scored on an 18 yd pass play from Beau Boxell to Andrew McCabe. Brothers kicked the extra pt. to tie the score at 7 pts. each.

The Steers played good football this quarter and made 4 1st downs.

### 3rd Quarter

The Steers only had 7 offensive plays this quarter, but played good enough defense that the Eagles only scored once. The Eagles had 18 offensive plays.

### 4th Quarter

Beau Blair came up with a key interception in this quarter and set up the Steers for their best drive of the night.

Garrett Brown caught a pass for nine yds. Deric Brothers caught one for two yards and Brown another one for 3 yds. Then it was Joseph Wink who made a 9 yd. reception. The drive was then capped off with a six yd. reception for a TD by Blair. Brothers kick was good.

Two more games Steers. Let's end on a high note.

## Veterans Day program

On Thursday, November 11, 1999, at 2:00 p.m., the Robert Lee schools will host a Veterans Day program in the school auditorium. Community members are invited to attend. Veterans living in the Robert Lee area are encouraged to come and bring the uniforms they wore while serving in the armed forces of the United States. For further information call Janet Wallace at 453-4555.

## United Methodist Church to hold "Hallelujah Party"

Saturday evening, Oct. 30th, from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m., the United Methodist Church will hold a "Hallelujah Party" for kids under 12 years old. The "Hallelujah Party" idea is an alternative to the traditional Halloween activities. The "Hallelujah Party" will feature bagged treats for the children as well as snacks and activities. Children are urged to wear their costumes.

and from motorists who are unable to see young trick-or-treaters clearly.

Parents should keep the following safety tips regarding costumes in mind:

If a mask is worn, cut the eye holes and nose hole large enough to allow full visibility and so breathing is not hampered.

Be certain that masks, wigs, beards, and hats fit securely and are not cumbersome.

An alternative to face masks may be the application of non-toxic face paint or make-up to child's face.

Look for "flame resistant" labels on costumes, masks, beards and wigs. When shopping for fabrics to use in home sewn costumes choose flame resistant fabrics. Sales people can assist in identifying these fabrics.

Avoid costumes made out of flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts. These are more likely to come in contact with an exposed flame or candle than tighter fitting costumes.

Do not allow children to carry knives, swords or other props unless they are soft and flexible.

Buy or make Halloween costumes that are light or bright enough to make them more visible to motorists at dusk and in the dark.

Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling. Children should always wear well fitting sturdy shoes.

Remember to make your child's a safe HALLOWEEN.

## AON to Host Annual Spaghetti Supper

AON Service Club will hold its annual Kirk Bagwell Memorial Scholarship Chicken Spaghetti Supper Friday, October 29 before the Rotan/Robert Lee football game. Everyone is invited to join them in the school cafeteria from 5:00-7:00 for food and fellowship. Take out is also available.

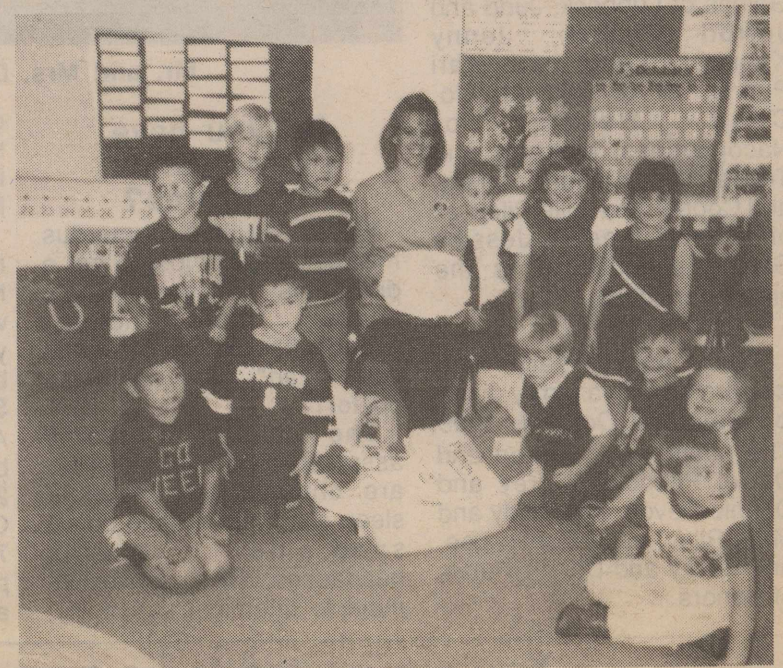
Each year AON gives scholarships to graduating RLHS seniors. This supper is the main source of funding for these scholarships. Approximately \$14,850 has been awarded to 37 high school seniors. By supporting this spaghetti supper you can help another student attend college! See you there!

## Surprise baby shower

The 1999-2000 Pre-K class at Robert Lee ISD surprised



The winner of the Robert Lee Elementary Accelerated Reader candy guess this 6 weeks was 2nd grader Olivia Trejo. Robert Lee Elementary Librarian, Cynthia Dillard, presented the jar of candy.

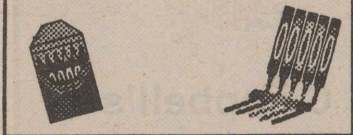


The 1999-2000 Pre-K class at Robert Lee ISD surprised their teacher, Mrs. Treadaway, with a baby shower Friday, October 22. The students brought baby presents for show and tell and told Mrs. Treadaway how she would use the item with her new baby when it arrives. Then everyone enjoyed cake, cookies and punch.

their teacher, Mrs. Treadaway, with a baby shower on Friday, October 22nd. The students brought baby presents for show and tell and told Mrs.

Treadaway how she would use the item with her new baby when it arrives. Then everyone enjoyed cake, cookies and punch.

## SCHOOL MENU



### Breakfast

**Monday, Nov. 1**

Orange Juice, Donut, Cereal, Milk.

**Tuesday, Nov. 2**

Orange Juice, Blueberry Muffin, Sausage Patty, Milk.

**Wednesday, Nov. 3**

Orange Juice, Cinnamon Toast, Cereal, Milk.

**Thursday, Nov. 4**

Orange Juice, Pancake wrapped around Sausage w/syrup, Milk.

**Friday, Nov. 5**

Orange Juice, Breakfast Burrito, Milk.

### Lunch

**Monday, Nov. 1**

Pizza, Corn, Applesauce, Teddy Grahams, Milk.

**Tuesday, Nov. 2**

Steakfingers w/gravy, Creamed Potatoes, English Peas, Homemade Rolls, Fruit Cocktail, Milk.

**Wednesday, Nov. 3**

Chalupas w/cheese, Lettuce & Tomatoes, Tator Tots, Fresh Fruit, Milk.

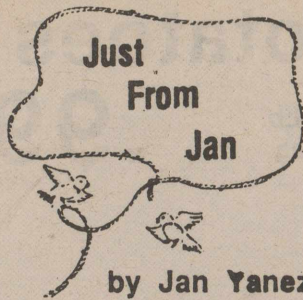
**Thursday, Nov. 4**

Chicken Nuggets, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Homemade Rolls, Pears, Milk.

**Friday, Nov. 5**

Barbecue Burger, Pickles, Potato Patty, Peaches, Ice Cream, Milk.

Just From Jan



by Jan Yanez  
Coke County  
Ext. Agent

## Halloween safety tips

It is almost Halloween, that magical time when witches, goblins, ghosts and skeletons stalk the streets hoping to frighten the unsuspecting. But what is really scary is that this holiday greatly increases the risk of injury to children who plan to go trick-or-treating.

Many Halloween related injuries involve falls caused by environmental hazards, cumbersome costumes and masks, and burns from flammable costumes. In addition, pedestrian injuries can occur to children walking in unfamiliar neighborhoods

## HAUNTED HOUSE

Sponsored by

Robert Lee Project Graduation 2000

Saturday • Oct. 30 • 7 pm - 10 pm  
Sunday • Oct. 31 • 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

ROBERT LEE SHOW BARN

Admission: \$2 Per Person



The Children,  
Grandchildren,  
Great-Grandchildren and  
Great-Great-Granddaughter  
of  
**LORA BELLE BROWN**  
request your presence for her  
**80TH Birthday**  
at Tennyson Community Center  
October 31, 1999  
from 2- 4PM  
come & go- no presents



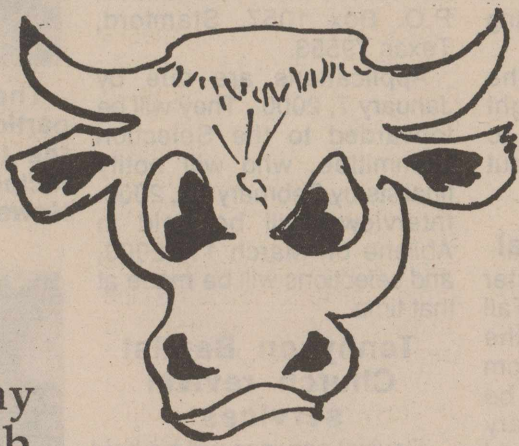
# ROBERT LEE STEERS FOOTBALL

Friday, October 29  
7:30 pm HERE

				RL	
September 3	May	Here	7:30	14	28
September 10	Miles	There	8:00	6	47
September 17	Eden	There	8:00	6	48
September 24	Bronte	There	8:00	0	35
** October 1	Garden City	Here	7:30	30	0
* October 8	Roscoe	Here	7:30	0	6
* October 15	Roby	Here	7:30	21	30
* October 22	Sterling City	There	7:30	14	24
* October 29	Rotan	Here	7:30		
* November 5	Water Valley	There	7:30		

\* District Games      \*\* Homecoming

**ROBERT LEE STEERS**  
VS.  
**Rotan Yellowhammers**



**Shaffer Monument Company**  
**Robert Lee-Silver Lions Club**  
Lane & Nancy Arthur  
Waldon & Judy Millican  
& Family  
Coke County Judge  
Jackie Walker  
West Coke County  
Community Development  
Skinner's Gro. & Station  
Jim & Geanette Skinner  
W.E.B. Construction  
Edwin, Wyndell & Family  
Bell Auto Body Shop  
Doug, Daryi & Jason  
**Bob Wrinkle's Ace Hardware**  
416 Commerce - Robert Lee  
**Robert Lee State Bank**  
Member FDIC  
**S&S Printing & Supply**  
Bruce & Fran Sonnenberg  
**Robert Lee Care Center**  
**Concho Realty**  
**C & W One Stop #14**  
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*Coach Jack*      *Andrew #33 m=love*      *Colby Eubanks #12*      *James #53*  
*Coach M'Loern*      *Finian Mingay*      *Chase #44*      *Post #9*      *Kent #74*  
*Coach Hartman*      *Dincy Brothers #81*      *Curtis Bell*      *Beau Cole #10*      *Rainwater*      *Pal Balley*  
*Coach Alexander*      *Ice #50 m=love*      *Jammy Elliott #21*      *Taylor Clendennen*      *Sam Edging #65*      *Matthew #40*  
*5-11*      *Robert #68 Barrett*      *Adam*      *Adam Carter*  
*Juan Olgain*      *Brandon #78*      *Clifton #62*      *W. Chady #79*      *Cooper Riley*  
*Robert Sailer*      *Van Huss*      *Bohannon*      *Paul Baller*      *Charles*  
*Charles*      *Waylon Hadwhite*



# Bronte School News

## Bronte suffers loss to Eden in overtime

The Bronte Longhorns traveled to Eden last Friday night to battle the Bulldogs. The game had to be one of the most exciting games in the state as the Bulldogs pulled out a 33-27 victory in overtime.

Stats for the game were: Bronte had 12 first downs, 263 rushing yds., 30 passing yds., and 4-41 punts-avg. Eden had 19 first downs, 133 rushing yds., 210 passing yds., and 4-37 punts-avg.

The Horns took a 12-0 lead into the locker room at the half

## Bronte Shorthorns defeat Eden Bulldogs

The Shorthorns won the game against Eden with a score of 36-14. Garrett Fiveash had a 60 yd. run for a touchdown and Cody Lee threw a pass to Justin Moore for the 2 pt. conversion.

Cody Lee then had a 61 yd. run for the second touchdown of the game and Fiveash made the 2 pt. conversion.

The third touchdown was scored with a 10 yd. run by Fiveash and also the 2 pt. conversion was made by Garrett.

Garrett had a 55 yd. interception return but the conversion failed. Fiveash then turned around and had another 27 yd. run to score the final touchdown. The conversion failed.

as Brandon Gibbs and Steve Eldred scored TD's. The lead quickly evaporated as Eden scored 2 TD's and 1 extra point in the 3rd quarter to lead 13-12. The Horns responded by scoring twice and regaining the lead 27-13. However, they could not stop the Bulldogs as they scored, knotting the score at 27 all at the end of regulation and scoring in the overtime, giving the Bulldogs the victory.

The next action for the Horns is this Friday night when they travel to Baird to battle the Bears. Come out and enjoy some football.

## Bronte Fall Festival

Bronte All-Sports Booster Club is sponsoring the Fall Festival to be held at the school on October 30 from 6:00-9:00. All tickets will be sold inside the elementary entrance. Booths will be held on the elementary playground, in the main hall, in elementary classrooms and in the old gym. There will be several booths that you'll recognize from previous years as well as many new booths. A meal will not be served prior to the festival, but there will be a couple of food booths. Come out and enjoy the evening with your family while you support the various classes and organizations.

## Parent Night

Parent Night will be held Friday, Nov. 5, prior to the last home football game. Parents of football players, managers, and cheerleaders are asked to meet in the area by the restrooms at 6:30. Parents will be placed in the order that they will be announced. Their child will join them and the introductions will begin at 6:45. All parents are asked to be punctual since we can not delay any of the pregame activities. The kick-off for the last home football game for the Longhorns will be at 7:30.

## Congressman Stenholm accepting intern applications

Congressman Charlie Stenholm is now accepting applications from college students and educators interested in participating in the 2000 Omar Burleson Intern Program in Washington, D.C.

Completed applications must be submitted in person or postmarked by January 7, 2000, to be considered.

Interns are selected to work in the Congressman's office for one month intervals in June or July. Interns are involved in the daily operation of the Congressman's office and assist the legislative staff in a variety of projects.

The internship program is open to college students from the 17th Congressional district, or those attending college inside the District. Also eligible are local elementary and secondary school teachers and administrators. Interns are paid a \$1,000 stipend to apply

toward basic living and travel expenses.

Intern applications and information can be obtained by contacting Annette Wilson in the Stamford district office at 915-773-3623, from Congressman Stenholm's web page ([www.house.gov/stenholm](http://www.house.gov/stenholm)), or by writing the Omar Burleson Intern Foundation, P.O. Box 1057, Stamford, Texas 79553.

Applications are due by January 7, 2000. They will be forwarded to the Selection Committee, who will notify finalists by February 18, 2000. Interviews will be held in Abilene on March 11, 2000, and selections will be made at that time.

## Tennyson Baptist Church revival services

Revival services will be held October 31 through November 3. Sunday services will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday revival will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Evangelist A.J. Kennemer Jr., music director is Larry Shotwell, and pianist is Jo Ann Kennemer.

## Look who's new! Madison Lynn Rowan

Jackson age 7 and Jordan Rowan age 5 of Bronte are pleased to announce the arrival of their sister Madison Lynn Rowan. Madison was born on October 11, 1999 at 12:13 p.m. at Angelo Community Hospital. She weighed 8lbs. 2oz. and was 19 3/4 inches in length.

The very proud parents are Rodger and Terri Rowan. Grandparents include Mollie Childs of Bronte and Jackie and Betty Rowan of Sweetwater.

## U.S. Census Bureau.

The U.S. Census Bureau will be conducting testing for census enumerators and crew leader positions for the upcoming 2000 census. Testing will be held Wednesday, October 27, and Wednesday, November 10 at 4:30 p.m. in the Bronte City Council Room.

Anyone interested in applying should call 210-590-0254.

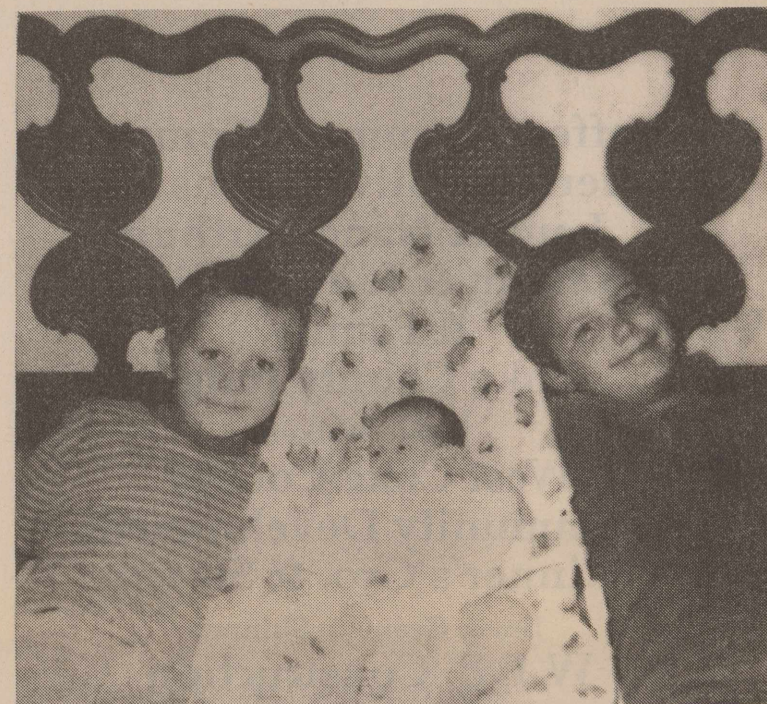
## Preservation effort to include brick sales

In an effort to preserve the original rock pillars in front of Bronte High School, the BHS Class of 2000 is landscaping a sitting area, inlaid with brick, in front of the new school addition. The class is promoting a Brick Sales Campaign to provide Bronte High School faculty, students, alumni and community members the opportunity to be a part of this preservation.

Brick sales will continue through November 8, 1999, and should be in place before the New Year. For more information, please contact Brittany Lloyd at the school (915) 473-2511.

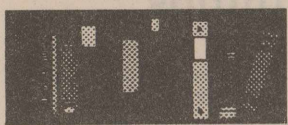


The Bronte NHS Senior Members recently participated in "Make A Difference Day" by repainting the tennis courts at the Bronte Park. The members include (from left) Gale Porter, Tamara Sedden, Wes Howell, Andy Blair and Jerrod McClure.



Jackson, Madison, and Jordan Rowan

## SCHOOL MENU



### Breakfast

- Monday, Nov. 1**  
Cereal, Applesauce, Pop Tart, Milk.
- Tuesday, Nov. 2**  
Sausage, Apple Juice, Pancake, Milk.
- Wednesday, Nov. 3**  
French Toast Stix, Mixed Fruit, Blueberry Muffins, Milk.
- Thursday, Nov. 4**  
Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Toast, Milk.
- Friday, Nov. 5**  
Breakfast Burrito, Grape Juice, Biscuit, Milk.

### Lunch

- Monday, Nov. 1**  
Pizza, Sweet Corn, Tossed Salad, Rice Krispie Bars, Milk.
- Tuesday, Nov. 2**  
Chicken Strips w/gravy, Green Beans, Creamed Potatoes, Mixed Fruit, Rolls, Milk.
- Wednesday, Nov. 3**  
Hot Dogs, Chili & Cheese, Tator Tots, Ranch Style Beans, Bun, Jello, Milk.
- Thursday, Nov. 4**  
Tacos w/cheese, Pinto Beans, Spanish Rice, Lettuce & Tomato, Taco Shells, Apple Crisp, Milk.
- Friday, Nov. 5**  
Cheese Burgers, Potato Wedges, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Bun, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Milk.

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Bronte

473-6791

## BRONTE HIGH SCHOOL Class of 2000 Project Graduation WALK OF PRIDE

### Brick Order Form

LINE 1 (16 LETTERS OR SPACES)  
                 
 LINE 2 (16 LETTERS OR SPACES)  
                 
 LINE 3 (16 LETTERS OR SPACES)

Only 16 Letters or Spaces Per Line  
Only One Brick Order Per Page  
ORDER DEADLINE: NOV. 8, 1999

**\$35  
Per Brick**

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

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1. Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
i.e. Mr. & Mrs. C. B. Barbee
2. Individual Name \_\_\_\_\_  
i.e. Gerald Sandusky  
i.e. Jake Graves Class of 2000
3. In (Loving) Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
i.e. In Memory of Darrell Sharp

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

CASH: \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BRONTE HIGH SCHOOL  
Mail Orders to: Bronte High School, Attn:  
Class of 2000, PO Box 670, Bronte, TX 76933

For More Information, Call (915) 473-2511  
or Contact: Rick Howell, Andra Arrott  
or any member of the Senior Class



# BRONTE LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

Friday, October 29  
7:30 pm THERE

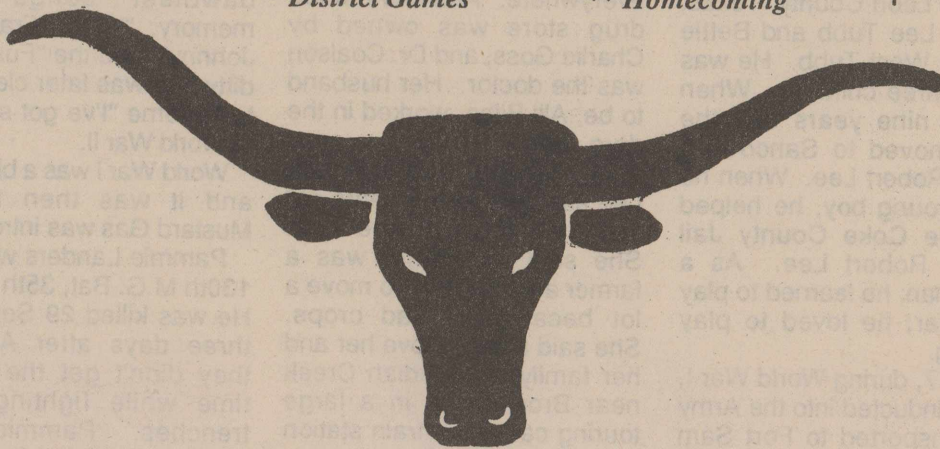
BRONTE LONGHORNS  
vs.  
Baird Bears

Shaffer Monument Company  
Lane & Nancy Arthur  
Key Feed Store  
C & H Auto Parts & Hardware  
Coke County Judge  
Jackie Walker  
Bell Auto Body Shop  
Doug, Daryl, & Jason  
David Rawlings  
Coke Co. Commissioner Pct. 4  
Wackenhut Corrections  
We Support the Longhorns  
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& Carpet Cleaning  
Bob & Patti Frazee  
S&S Printing & Supply  
Bruce & Fran Sonnenberg  
Margaret's Flowers & Gifts  
Eddie & Earlene Alexander  
Bronte Pharmacy  
Hope you have a winning season!  
Shirley's Place  
Shirley Denton

				BHS	
September 3	Menard	There	8:00	6	7
** September 10	Rankin	Here	8:00	21	6
September 17	Roby	There	8:00	41	6
September 24	Robert Lee	Here	8:00	35	0
October 1	Sterling City	Here	8:00	19	3
* October 8	Santa Anna	There	7:30	28	0
* October 15	Cross Plains	Here	7:30	38	0
* October 22	Eden	There	7:30	27	33
* October 29	Baird	There	7:30		
* November 5	Miles	Here	7:30		

\* District Games

\*\* Homecoming



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ACCO & Alderman Cave Feeds  
First National Bank in Bronte  
Member FDIC  
B&K Deer Processing  
& Taxidermy  
Hall's Super Save Foods  
Bob Wrinkle's  
Ace Hardware  
Wayne McCutchen  
Coke Co. Commissioner Pct. 2  
Bronte Health  
& Rehab Center  
Town & Country  
"Backing The Horns All The Way"  
All American Security  
James & Katy Chambers - Tennyson  
Jesse & Doris Sims

*Handwritten signatures and numbers:*  
 Nick Shaw  
 Jeremy Sanchez #28  
 Randy Plam #52  
 Kevin Haddison  
 S.H. #19  
 Josh #2  
 Schofield  
 Wade #74  
 Brandon #15  
 General #7  
 Zik #11  
 Brandon #15  
 Steve #44  
 Fred #10  
 Mike #40  
 Jesse #20  
 Brandon #15  
 Eric #79  
 Jimmy #36





# Reflections of the Past

Material for this write-up was furnished and obtained from Bunyon Millican, Wilbern Millican, Clodene Guillary and Tom Green County Library.

## The experience of World War I

by Ava Lou Davis

My dad, Arthur Milton Tubb, was born November 15, 1894, in Leon County, Texas, to John Lee Tubb and Bettie Beatrice West Tubb. He was one of three children. When he was nine years old, the family moved to Sanco and later to Robert Lee. When he was a young boy, he helped build the Coke County Jail here in Robert Lee. As a young man, he learned to play the guitar; he loved to play and sing.

In 1917, during World War I, he was inducted into the Army and transported to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, along with other Coke County men. He was inducted with Willie I. Tubb and Pammie Landers. The three found San Antonio to be a very colorful place in 1918. They lived in tents and trained with whatever was available for them. There was an epidemic of the flu during that time; a lot of men had to be hospitalized and many died.

Willie I. Tubb was born to George W. Tubb and Sarah J. Tubb in 1894. He grew up in Coke County around the Silver area. He attended school there and graduated there and went to secondary school. He taught school for several years. In fact, he taught some of the men when he was in the service, as they had little education.

Pammie Z. Landers was born 1888 in Thrifty, Brown County, Texas to A.K. and Catherine Landers. He was one of nine children. Later the Landers family moved to a 200 acre farm north of Robert Lee. They became acquainted with other families there, and the area later became known as the Friendship Community.

These three men were good friends, and my dad, Arthur, was a second cousin to Willie I. They were getting ready to be shipped out overseas to France to help in the war against Germany. My dad, like the others, had been equipped with all the necessary gear and had been trained for war. Marching by foot or riding by horseback in the cavalry, my dad, Arthur Tubb, was assigned for certain duties.

The unit was to leave in a matter of days for Europe. My dad was riding by horseback and the pavement was wet.

The horse slid down, falling on my dad, causing injury to his back. The doctors' examinations left no alternative but to keep my dad from joining the unit going overseas, much to his disappointment, because he wanted to be with his buddies.

Alta Bilbo of Robert Lee said she remembered when the men left home to go to

war. She said she was 17 years old in 1918, and it was a sad time. Alta said it was hard times and they couldn't buy certain things. They all got together to help in the war effort. They rolled bandages to send to the Red Cross and Salvation Army. She said there was an epidemic of flu everywhere. Alta told me the drug store was owned by Charlie Goss, and Dr. Coalson was the doctor. Her husband to be, Alli Bilbo, worked in the drug store.

Floy Sawyer, also of Robert Lee said she was 5 years old in 1918 and times were hard. She said her father was a farmer and they had to move a lot because of bad crops. She said a man drove her and her family from Indian Creek near Brownwood in a large touring car to the train station in Brownwood. They went to College Port, Texas, on the bay, to try with new crops.

Meanwhile, more Yanks had started to arrive in a tired Europe. The American Troops had been in Europe since Aug. 1917, when they had paraded down the streets of London. Once in France the Doughboys were put through rigorous training in both trench and open warfare. As they gained skill, they were posted to sentry duty or sent out on small raids. As of Dec. 31, 1917, 176,665 American Troops were in France. America was badly prepared for the war it entered on April 6, 1917. Woodrow Wilson was the President of the United States.

On July 4, 1918, three days after Vaux fell, American G.H.Q. at Chaumont announced loudly that more than one million Americans had arrived in France.

Willie I. Tubb and Pammie Landers had left Arthur Tubb at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio and they shipped out to Europe. They arrived with their division fresh off the boats. They carried the Model 1917 rifle, a weapon so awkward and crudely tooled that their firing was only effective at short range.

They arrived wearing hot O.D. Woolens with choker collars, which in the July heat, only added another atrocity to the Western front. However, when they came down the

gangplank, they radiated vigor and confidence. They stood tall and appeared all powerful, thanks to the campaign hats they were wearing. There has never been a prouder, happier, more talkative army under the American Flag.

As they marched over the Roman Roads, they sang the bawdiest songs within memory: "Lulu", "Frankie and Johnny", and the "Fusiliers", a ditty that was later cleaned up to become "I've got sixpence" of World War II.

World War I was a bloody war and it was then that the Mustard Gas was introduced.

Pammie Landers was in the 130th M.G. Bat, 35th Division. He was killed 29 Sept. 1918, three days after Armistice; they didn't get the word in time while fighting in the trenches. Pammie was a courageous hero; he paid the supreme sacrifice. Pammie was buried somewhere in France, in a place called Ramagne, in a cemetery named Meuse-Argonne. Clodene Greer Guillary of Waco, Texas, one of Pammie's nieces, was able to go to France to visit his grave.

Although Pammie was unable to return home with Arthur and Willie I., his memory lives on. Pammie has two nephews living in Robert Lee, Wilbern Millican and Finis Millican. Wilbern named one of his sons after his uncle Pammie. Other nieces and nephews have kept some memorabilia on Pammie. My dad, Arthur Tubb, was instrumental in naming the local American Legion Post after Pammie Landers. Pammie was the only man killed from Robert Lee during World War I.

After the fighting in the trenches had ended in France and they were told that Armistice was signed, according to Willie I., the Germans and Americans offered one another cigarettes. Willie was able to get acquainted with several families before returning home.

Willie I. lived in Silver, Texas. He became a rancher and was successfully involved in investments in the oil industry until his death. Willie has one nephew, Bunyon Millican living at Silver, along with great nieces and nephews.



In this 1917 photo, Willie I. Tubb is 2nd from left in the front row. Pammie Z. Landers is behind Willie in the second row, first from left.



This is a scene from Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, in 1917 as soldiers prepare to join the action overseas.

After my dad, Arthur Tubb had the accident on the horse at Fort Sam Houston, he was honorably discharged and returned home. He was in the cafe business and later was involved in stock farming. He married Mary Maxwell and raised a family. Arthur was in the American Legion, serving as adjutant for over 35 years in Robert Lee.

My dad, Arthur, never forgot Pammie and the time they spent together while training at Fort Sam Houston. When he played the guitar and sang some of the World War I songs, "Over There" and "It's a long, long, way to Temporary" he always ended with this song he learned while he was in the Army. He taught this to my brother, Mack, and I. It goes like this: "Oh she promised to meet

me.  
When the clock struck seventeen,  
In the stock yard a mile away from town,  
Where the pig feet and pig ears,  
And the tough old Texas Steers,  
Sell for sirloin steaks at 17 cents a pound,

She's my Darlin', my Daisy,  
She's hump back, she's crazy,  
She's knock knee'd, bowlegged and she's blind,  
Oh, they say her teeth are false,  
Just from drinkin epsom salts,  
She's my freckle faced, consumptive  
Susan Brown"  
In memory of Pammie Landers, Willie I. Tubb and Arthur Tubb.

### COKE COUNTY SWCD FINANCIAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR - 1999

	STATE FUND	TRUST FUND
BALANCE SEPT. 1, 1998	\$ 78	\$6137
<b>REVENUE</b>		
State Grants & Reimbursements	6204	
Contributions		702
Other		10797
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 6204</b>	<b>\$ 11499</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Staff Salaries & Benefits	4724	3865
General Administration	1249	8456
Promotion & Education	52	291
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>6025</b>	<b>12612</b>
BALANCE AUGUST 31, 1998	\$ 257	\$ 5024

Submitted by SWCD Board of Directors in compliance with Section 1, Chapter 410, Act of the 55th Texas Legislature, as amended

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**BHS class of 1949 celebrate 50th anniversary**

A fiftieth anniversary celebration was observed Saturday, October 23 by members of the 1949 Bronte High School graduating class. Lonnie and Roma Forman hosted the afternoon party and dinner in their home on State Street in Bronte. The group spent the afternoon reminiscing, talking and looking at pictures and remembering the several deceased members of the class.

A special activity was a guided tour of the school, including the new construction, by Alisa Webb and her daughter, Cheyenne. Alisa, a kindergarten teacher in the local school system and the daughter of LeDrew and Bobbie Arrott, provided an excellent tour. So many changes have been made through the years that the first familiar spot was the hallway to the old gym and stairs that led to the library so many years ago. The group was also pleased to see the preservation of the original rock fence corner posts that

were the location of so many school pictures. They voted to purchase a commemorative brick to go in the memory walk.

The group enjoyed a make-it-yourself taco salad dinner before disbanding. Tentative plans were made to meet again, possibly in conjunction with the 2002 BHS Homecoming.

Class members present were: LeDrew and Bobbie Tomlinson Arrott, Royce Dean Clark, Roma Richards Forman, Odalia Fuentez Martinez, all of Bronte; Wayne Arrott of Tennyson; Warren Beaver of Ingram; Nola Lowrance Brevard and Peggy McCleskey Eudy of San Angelo; Wanda Tidwell Stevens of Wingate; Jean Smith Herring of Maryneal, Dr. Alvin Mauldin of Austin; John Rosser of Arlington. Spouses and family attending were Lonnie Forman, Sandra Arrott, Betty Beaver, Lawton Brevard, E.S. Herring, Mary Mauldin, Janna and James Rouse.

Special guests were Marie Arrott and Flora Smith, both of Bronte, who served as room mothers for twelve years for the group.

**Grand Chapter of Texas 117th Annual Session**

The 117th Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star was held in Waco, September 23, 24, 25, 1999. Several members of Robert Lee Chapter No. 187 and Bronte Chapter No. 1048 attended the session.

Those attending from Robert Lee were Nancy Allen, Bobby and Jeffie Roberts. From Bronte were Grady and Dian Coulter, Ettie Hubbard, Peggy Glascock, and Jack and Earlyne Moore.

Betty Friend of New Braunfels was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Lee Stallings of Houston was elected Worthy Grand Patron for the Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter of Texas for 1999-2000. Mrs. Friend appointed Nancy Allen, Past Grand Matron of Texas, to serve on the Purposes and Policies Committee for 1999-2000; Jeffie Roberts of Robert Lee will serve as Grand Adah; Dian Coulter of Bronte as Deputy Grand Matron, District 5 Section 1; Bobby



Installed as Grand Officers at the Eastern Star Grand Chapter September 25 in Waco were (from left) Dian Coulter, Ettie Hubbard, Jeffie Roberts, and Bobby Roberts.

Roberts of Robert Lee as Grand Escort to Grand Adah; Dolores Roe of Robert Lee as Grand Page to Grand Adah; Ettie Hubbard of Bronte, District 5 Secretary to the Worthy Grand Matron; Peggy Glascock of Bronte Chapter Proficiency Committee; and Grady Coulter of Bronte, Starquest Membership

Committee.

Serving as Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of the two local Chapters are Beverly Sinclair, W.M. and Red Stephens, W. P. of Robert Lee Chapter No. 187 and Gayna Eldred, W.M. and Buddy Eldred, W. P. of Bronte Chapter No. 1048.

**Omega Coterie Club of Blackwell**

The meeting of the Omega Coterie Club of Blackwell met in the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church on Wednesday, October 13 at 9:30 a.m. The president, Shirley Walston, presided. Margaret Stout read the minutes of the last meeting. Dona Sanderson presented an inspirational program. She read portions of Dale Evans' book, "The Way". She also read a story about a family moving to Dawson County at Christmas time in 1917. The door prize was won by Mary Lee, a visitor. The next meeting will be November 10.

We will make tray favors for the Bronte Nursing Home for Thanksgiving.

**Christmas in Bronte**

December 4th will be the weekend of the Christmas in Bronte. It will also be the weekend of the Veterans Memorial Dedication. Any Bronte organization wanting to have food booths downtown should contact Marilyn Bivins at 473-6791 by November 19.

**Archery season ends**

This month's Archery Season closes on Oct. 31. Although hunters can't shoot rifles during the bow season, those who choose to may take game during the general gun season with their bows. Bag Limits for all seasons must be combined. Bow hunters often find the gun season more productive, anyway, due to the more careless rut and strategic feeders to get bucks into shootable range.

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Dear Observer-Enterprise Editor:

The safest place for your money is in your bank. That's true today, and it will still be true in the Year 2000.

While the upcoming date change from 1999 to 2000 has created challenges for all businesses dependent on computers, including banks, you can rest assured that banks will be ready on Jan.1, 2000 and beyond to provide you with the banking services you need.

The banking industry has been a leader in Y2K preparedness. Our bank regulators have worked closely with us to prepare for the Y2K date change. Banks were required to meet certain milestones for identifying, renovating, implementing and testing their mission critical automated systems to ensure that customers receive the quality and timeliness of service they expect after the century date change. As of September, 99.6 percent of FDIC-insured financial institutions were ready for Year 2000.

In addition, 100 percent of the Federal Reserve's mission-critical systems are ready. The Federal Reserve Banks operate the hub of the nation's payments system, providing depository institutions with essential services in cash, checks, and electronic payments. Thus, Americans can have confidence that the nation's basic payments infrastructure is sound and ready to process payments as usual before and after the date change.

One very important point to remember: all customer deposits are guaranteed up to \$100,000 with FDIC insurance, as they have been for many years. That coverage remains in place at all times. In addition, Texas banks have state-of-the-art systems featuring advanced technology and extensive backup records.

If you have any questions, please call us or come by for a visit. You can rest assured that our banks will be ready on January 1 and beyond to provide you with the banking services you need.

Sincerely yours,

*Frank Sanders*  
Frank Sanders, President  
First National Bank in Bronte

*William H. Allen*  
William Allen, President  
Robert Lee State Bank

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Call Dimas. 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.

14a-1tc

**HOT TUB ON PORCH**

3 bedroom home, central H/A, priced in 30's!!!

**ACROSS FROM SCHOOL!**

Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on corner lot! \$50's!!!

**NEAR LAKE SPENCE!**

3 bedroom home with 2 baths, large den with corner fireplace! Almost an acre! \$50's!!!

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Brick 3 bedroom 2 bath home with large rooms and lots of storage! Sun room and fenced yard!

**LOCATED IN BRONTE!** Charming older home near church. Mature pecan trees & lovely yard! \$40's!!!

**EDGE OF BRONTE!**

Country home with 3 bedrooms and corner fireplace in den. Horse stalls and pens in back! \$30's!!!

**ALMOST AN ACRE**

Brick 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, 2 fireplaces! \$60's!!!

**HUNTERS!!!**

- 160 acres Green Mountain!
- 250 acres Yellow Wolf Creek!
- 250 acres Colorado River!
- 590 acres Colorado River!
- 640+ acres - Remote! Scenic!

Other Listings Available

**Concho Realty**

5 E. 6th St.  
Robert Lee, TX 76945  
Contact  
Joe Ash 453-2554  
Marshall Millican 453-9002  
453-5005 Robert Lee  
653-4535 San Angelo

**18 X 80. REPO.**  
Call Lynn. 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.

14a-1tc

**2000 MODEL, 5 BDR.,** Fleetwood. Only \$325 per mo. 5 Year Warranty. Call Jackie at A-1 Homes. 653-1152 or 800-626-9978. \$2560 down or trade, 360 mos. 6.99% Var. apr. W.A.C.

14a-1tc

**ALL METAL PEDAL** cars with solid rubber tires. Five different models available. Layaway for Christmas. \$265-\$285. Call Paul at (915) 473-2026. Bronte.

14b-1tp

**40 HOUSES TO** choose from. 1999 & 2000 model. Overstocked save thousands, 3601 N. Bryant, San Angelo, TX A-1 Homes. Ask for Gary.

14a-1tc

**TIRED OF BEING** told where to park, be quiet, over hearing your neighbor snore? You can own for less than you can rent. A-1 Homes 3601 N. Bryant San Angelo, TX. 915-653-1152.

14a-1tc

**FOR SALE** Oak Creek Lake home. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Large den with fireplace. Nice trees and yard. Beautiful water front. Steve Stewart Realtor. 944-8611, nights 949-3835.

49b-tnc

**COMPUTERS** Complete systems with monitor, keyboard & mouse. Starting at \$200. Pentium Systems starting at \$549. Call Ed at EMCO Computers, 473-3004.

03b-tnc

**CREDIT APPROVAL** Hot Line. Call Big Red. 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.

14a-1tc

**LIQUIDATE NOW.** Must Sell 3 Repo doublewides. Call 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.

14a-1tc

**3 BDR., 2 BTH.** doublewide, 1 acre land, Set-up, 1 yr. Ins. 5% dp., \$375.00 a mo. W.A.C. Call Gary 800-626-9978 or 915-653-1152.

14a-1tc

**FOR RENT**

**HUGE HOUSE ON CORNER LOT** Lease or purchase. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, huge attic. NW Robert Lee. 655-9141.

12a-tnc

**1 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME FOR RENT** Wildcat on Lake. Reasonable. 453-2801.

12-3tp

**FOR RENT** One bedroom small house, stove, refrigerator, carport, water, sewer, trash furnished. \$250 month, \$100 deposit. 1002 1/2 W. 11th. Robert Lee, Texas. 453-4522.

13-1tp

**FOR RENT** 3 bedroom mobile home. \$200 monthly. No pets. Call 453-4659.

13a-3tc

**MISC**

**WANT TO BUY** good used metal tricycle. 2 yr. old grandson coming for Thanksgiving. Jerry Horn 453-2186.

14-1tp

**FREE ORIENTATION** weigh down workshop. Nov. 1, 1999-7:00 p.m. Bronte Church of Christ Annex. 118 Jefferson, Bronte. Christian based weight loss program. Carol Sisco, 473-7038.

13b-2tp

**TREES TRIMMED** Topped or removed. Call 453-9902 after 6 pm.

12-4tp

**THE "BARBER" SHOP** Debora England, 223 N. Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9 am-5 pm, Saturday, 9 am-12 pm.

02b-tnc

**I LOST 47 LBS** with Metabolife 356™. Call Leslie Thurman, Dist. 453-2076.

17a-tnc

**D & L DOZER SERVICE & CUSTOM FARMING** Larry Spivey, owner-operator. PO Box 160, Bronte, Texas. Phone (915) 282-3038.

45b-tnc

**DONNIE'S APPLIANCE & REFRIGERATION** Window Units serviced and repaired. Electrical Troubleshooting. (915) 453-2188.

37a-tnc

Bob Frazer's 944-0010  
473-6603

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24 hr. Emergency  
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**PARKER PLUMBING** Residential & Commercial. All types plumbing repair - new construction, remodeling, fixtures, and sewer service. Licensed Master Plumber. 473-2131, Bronte.

34b-tnc

**BOARDING HORSES & Short Hauling.** Call 453-2796 for J.F. If no answer, leave message.

10a-tnc

**MOWERS REPAIRED** Mowers for sale. 305 E. 3rd, Robert Lee. 453-2363.

08-8tp

**LANDOWNERS!** Don't forget your donations to the annual Hunter's BBQ! Drop donations by Ace Hardware in Robert Lee, or mail to WCCCD P.O. Box 32, Robert Lee 76945.

13a-2tp

**DIRT WORK,** roads and septic systems, all types of dozer work. Circle M, Bronte 473-3474.

11-4tp

**HELP WANTED**

**HELP WANTED**

There will be an opening in the County & District Clerk's office for a part-time position. Applications may be picked up in the clerk's office and will be accepted through October 29, 1999. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

13a-2tc

**CNA'S ALL SHIFTS.** \$6.75 to start, with an evaluation in 90 days, attendance bonus, travel pay if over 20 miles, shift differential, paid holidays, vacation, personal days, and sick pay. Apply in person Bronte Health & Rehab, 900 S. State St. Bronte, TX 76933 or call 915-473-3621. EOE

14b-1tc

**THE CITY OF**

Robert Lee is accepting applications for a position in the water, wastewater, and sanitation departments. A certificate in water or wastewater is preferred, but not required.

Applicants must be willing to attend schools. A high school diploma or the equivalent is required.

Applications can be picked up at City Hall and will be accepted through 5:00 pm November 12, 1999.

The City of Robert Lee is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

14a-1tc

**NURSERY KEEPER**

needed at Robert Lee Baptist Church Sunday morning and night and Wednesday night. Contact Kathy McCown, 453-2788 or Jackie Walker, 453-2641 or 453-2668.

13a-tnc

**HELP WANTED**

CNAs needed for all shifts. Full time and part time. Competitive pay. Contact Sarah Lee, DON, Senior Citizens Nursing Home, Winters. Phone 754-4566.

36b-tnc

**GARAGE SALES**

**GARAGE SALE/ BAKE SALE**

Saturday, October 30, 8:00 to 5:00, 402 W. 17th, Robert Lee. Proceeds to benefit Debbie Conley.

13-2tp

**GARAGE SALE**

Fri 8-5 and Sat. 8-4. 112 N. Jefferson, Bronte. Men, women & children's clothes, dishes, lots of miscellaneous.

14b-1tc

**GARAGE SALE**

Saturday, Oct. 30th 8 am-?. 324 S. State, Bronte.

14b-1tp

**PORCH SALE**

Craftsman 500 generator, hand saw, large and small pressure cookers, small deep fryer, food choppers, post hole diggers, glass cookware, box spring, brass lunch kit, peddle cart, coffee maker, dining table, old chest, canning jars, and fishing junk. 206 & 207 W. 13th, Robert Lee.

14-1tp

**3 FAMILY SALE**

Sat. 30. 8-?. Eucl (16th), Robert Lee. Baked goods, Crafts, Christmas stuff, tool boxes, clothes, lots of misc.

14-1tp

**CARD OF THANKS**

**WE WOULD LIKE**

to thank you for the many expressions of sympathy given to us after the loss of our loved one, Tom Shields.

We appreciate the prayers, food, flowers and plants, cards, memorial contributions, visits, and other expressions of sympathy. We thank the men from Bronte who helped Karla move.

In Christian love,  
The Tom Shields Family

14-1tp

**WE WOULD LIKE**

to thank everyone for the flowers, visits, gifts, food, and most of all for your prayers during my stay in the hospital and while I am recovering.

Love and God Bless All,  
Dwayne & Louise Walker

**Soil and Water Conservation districts resolve to protect landowner privacy**

While attending their 59th annual meeting in Lubbock, directors representing Texas' 216 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) recently backed a resolution to repeal a regulation that requires federal employees to report cultural resources encountered while engaged in conservation work on private land.

"What is at stake here is the confidentiality of private property aspects not specific to soil and water conservation district technical assistance that is typically provided to our cooperators," said George Mills, of Alpine, member of the Big Bend SWCD.

The requirement to report cultural resources (such as American Indian artifacts) affects employees of the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), who have traditionally supplied technical assistance to SWCDs working with private landowners.

Federal employees are required to conduct cultural resources field inspections on all lands receiving federal technical assistance or financial aid from the NRCS. All cultural resource inspections and findings are made available to the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer.

"The recording and reporting of cultural resources to a state agency that has not gained the trust of private property owners betrays the trust developed over many years between soil and water conservation districts and private property owners," Mills said.

"This betrayal of trust will discourage private property owners from seeking conservation district assistance and by doing so will reduce the substantial progress made by districts in the conservation and management of Texas' natural resources," Mills said.

Approximately 600 SWCD directors representing the state's 216 SWCDs and other conservation leaders attended the 59th Annual State Meeting of District Directors, held October 18-20, in Lubbock.





Mr. and Mrs. Mathie (Shorty) Romine

**Romine 50th wedding anniversary**

Mathie (Shorty) and Marie Romine will be honored with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 30, at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Blackwell, TX in observance of their 50th wedding anniversary. Hosts will be their children: Don and Judy Romine of Sweetwater, Sherry & Mike Delano of Roy, NM, and Shelia and Dan Hayes of Blackwell, and grandchildren.

Shorty Romine was born in Sulfur Springs. Marie Gaston Romine was born in Blackwell. They met in Sylvester and were married on October 28, 1949 in Sweetwater, TX. During their marriage, they have lived in Rotan, Hobbs, NM, Sweetwater, and in Blackwell for the last 30 years.

Shorty retired from Flintkote after 32 years. Marie has farmed and is a homemaker. The couple attends First Baptist Church in Blackwell. They have six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Angel Tree at BHRC**

Bronte Health and Rehab Center will have an "Angel Tree" Christmas project to benefit the residents this year. Each Angel will be numbered with a list of the residents needs and sizes on the back of either a Man or Woman Angel.

A corresponding list of names matching the numbers will be kept in the Activity Department office. Individuals and organizations are invited to participate in our "Angel Tree" project to help make this the best Christmas ever for all our residents. For more information please contact Mary Beth Drennan, activity director.

**BHRC cook-out**

October 11th was Department Head "Cook-out" day at BHRC. Hamburgers were cooked outside on the grill by Mary Beth Drennan, assisted by Marcy Holland and Joan Womack. Residents and staff enjoyed the burgers with all the trimmings along with watermelon for dessert.

Joe Lockett and James Tidwell are presently serving on this board. Commissioner Burns made a motion seconded by Commissioner Rawlings to leave the board as is. Motion carried.

The deadline for applying for a TNRCC Grant is October 29, 1999. The Court discussed using this grant for a Community Clean-up county wide. The County would have to match with in kind service. Commissioner Percifull made a motion to look into Community clean-up. Commissioner Rawlings seconded the motion. All for.

Commissioner McCutchen made a motion to set November 8, 1999 as the date to open sealed bids on excess County equipment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percifull. Motion carried.

Commissioner Burns made a motion seconded by Commissioner McCutchen to approve the 1999-2000 salaries for elected officials and County employees. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rawlings made a motion to nominate Luis Charles, Tim Millican and James Tidwell for the Appraisal Board Election. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percifull. Motion carried.

Commissioner Percifull made a motion to allow Project Graduation to use the stock pens at the show barn for a haunted house without charge. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McCutchen. Motion carried.

Judge Walker reported that we do not qualify for the additional 5% for emergency financing for the Antelope Creek Bridge. They are working on the cost and everything is being submitted to where we should to qualify for emergency financing.

Commissioner Burns recommended that a 30 MPH sign be put up from the City limits up to the hill. Commissioner Percifull made a motion seconded by Commissioner McCutchen to allow a speed limit sign of 30 MPH be set up on the Sanco Road. Motion carried.

Judge Walker reported that there will be a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on the Flood Plan Ins. at COG in San Angelo, October 12. On October 14th at 8:15 a.m., Sandra Zeigler, West



September Birthday honorees at Bronte Health and Rehab Center included (from left) Hubert Chance, Gladys Pierson, Fannie Stokes and Faye Bowser. Honorees not pictured were J. R. Watkins and Rupert Robbins.

**BHRC holds birthday party**

The monthly Birthday party at BHRC was held on Sept. 14th. Faye Bowser's sister, Mary Lisso, brought a large chocolate and a large white cake in honor of her sister's birthday. Mary brought decorative party plates and napkins that went nicely with the party decorations of balloons and streamers. Grady and Dian Coulter also brought two cakes honoring his mother Gladys Pierson who celebrated her birthday Sept. 7th. Other honorees for Sept. were Fannie Stokes on the 15th, Hubert Chance Sept. 27, Rupert Robbins on the 18th, and J.R. Watkins on the 30th.

**J.D. Taylor Singers perform at BHRC**

Twenty-eight residents of BHRC were joined by several local citizens for the two hour gospel singing held on Sept. 13th by the J. D. Taylor singers. J.D. brought eleven other members of his group including a pianist and two guitar players. This group is a favorite of the residents and will return to the center on November 1st from 2-4 p.m. The public is invited to join the residents for this event.

**Commissioners Court minutes**

On the 11th day of October, 1999, the Commissioners Court met in regular session in the usual meeting place thereof, the Courthouse in Robert Lee, with the County Judge, County Commissioners, and County Clerk in attendance.

Commissioner McCutchen made a motion seconded by Commissioner Percifull to approve the Treasurer's Affidavit. Motion was carried.

County Agents Tommy Antilley and Jan Yanez presented their reports to the Court.

Sheriff Styles was unavailable at this time to make a report.

Kristy Roe, Tax Collector, reported for the month of September the collection rate was 102.41%. She also reported that Coke County General taxable value is \$179,639,867.00 and with the tax rate of .414495 the actual tax levy is \$744,595.10. The taxable value of the FMFC is \$176,620,507.00. With a tax rate of .101213 the actual tax levy is \$178,759.30.

Judge Walker received a letter requesting an update for Veteran's Land board members. Tim Millican, Billy

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Watch for our children as they celebrate!



**Bell Auto Body Shop**

Robert Lee

453-2640

**IVEY MOTOR COMPANY, INC.**

- 1991 Explorer \$5,750
- 4 Wheel Drive • Black • Leather • Moon Roof
- 1996 Crew Cab • Green & White \$15,995
- 53,000 Mi. • 460 V8 • XLT • Automatic
- 1997 Ranger Super Cab \$9,500
- V-6 Automatic
- 1994 Crew Cab 460 V8 NOW \$8,750
- Auto, Power, & Air
- 1995 Cougar XR7 \$7,995
- V8
- 1990 Mazda 626 \$1,500
- 1996 Wind Star \$10,500
- Pretty Red
- 1994 Ford Super Cab Diesel \$8,975
- Red • Auto • Air
- 1992 Aerostar Extended Wagon \$4,500
- XLT • Red & Gray • Dual Air

**453-2715**





COUNTRY AGENTS  
NEWS

by Tommy Antilley  
Coke County Agent

**The Purple Cow**

This cow is in every beef herd in Coke County. This cow has been palpated OPEN today. She does not have a calf at least 48 days old.

How far down the road or distance, in the future before this Purple Cow delivers you a paycheck if she is bred and conceives today? Gestation time is 283 days, lactation to weaning is 205 days, hauling to sale and selling is 2 days and 3 days to get check in the mail. This is a total of 493 days total time before you can present the check to the banker.

With current estimates on cost of breeding and maintaining a beef cow for one year ranging from \$365.00 to \$425.00, let's assume the cost will be \$1.00 per day for maintaining a cow. With this we can conclude that an open cow bred today costs you \$493.00 to own her from today to selling a calf. Will she raise a calf that will sell for \$493.00- 493 days from now? Palpation can determine these Purple Cows. Every cow must provide cash flow

**Senior fall fest**

Bronte Health & Rehab Center will be joining other Concho Valley Nursing facilities for the 3rd Annual Senior Fall Fest. This event is open to the public, but focuses on the senior population.

The BHRC Act. Department will be manning a carnival type game booth at the event. Several residents have expressed interest in the outing which allows them to visit and have lunch with other residents, along with participating in the games. Date for the event is Nov. 6th from 10 a.m.-2p.m. at the San Angelo Convention Center.

during the year by one of two methods, she produces a calf to be sold or added to inventory or we sell the cow.

Should we keep these Purple Cows in our herds, calving percentage will determine the size of the burden the calving cows must carry to allow this "Free Loader" to grace our cow herds. Say you have 20 cows and have a 90% calf crop, this will result in 18 calves that must carry the burden of the two Purple Cow loss of \$ 986.00 or \$54.77 per calving cow. If calving percentage drops to 80%, the burden per calving cow doubles.

As you can see from this example, these Purple Cows get pretty heavy for her pasture mates and your pocket book before she provides some sort of calf to sell.

**Take time for a fluoride check**

Proper amounts of fluoride are necessary to prevent tooth decay, but can too much fluoride cause concerns?

"We are seeing fluorosis in a large percentage of children in areas with and without fluoride in the water," said Dr. Bruce Carter, a dentist at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. "Many feel this is related to excessive fluoride ingestion from toothpaste."

Dental fluorosis can alter the color and enamel of developing teeth. It occurs when too much fluoride is ingested in childhood when tooth enamel is forming.

Brushing twice a day is important, but children under six should be observed to ensure they use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste and do not swallow fluorinated dental products.



Teri Hayes (left) of Robert Lee caught this huge 21 lb., 7 oz. striper using cut shad Sunday, October 24, 1999. Deb Young of Midland caught two weighing 9 lbs. and 7 lbs. The ladies were fishing with Terry Brown of Brown's Guide Service on Lake Spence.

**JOIN THE FIRM.** EXERCISE.

American Heart Association

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Government Foreclosure Sale**

DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 1999

TIME: BETWEEN 1:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M.

PLACE: North porch area of the Courthouse, being the area and steps in front of the north door of said Courthouse, fronting the north and facing 7th Street, said area outside the Courthouse doors under the overhang of said Courthouse, Robert Lee, Texas

PROPERTY:

114 Parkwood Street  
Bronte, TX

MINIMUM BID AMOUNT:

\$ 27,733.01

APPRAISED VALUE:

3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths  
1,215 Square Feet of Heated Area

\$ 39,000.00

**Robert Lee Therapy Clinic**

8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday through Friday  
Treatment By Appointment Only

**Offering:**

Physical Therapy • Occupational  
Therapy • Speech Therapy

**Assistance With Recovery From:**

Stroke • Sprains • Strains • Post Joint  
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**Accepting:**

Medicare • Workers Compensation •  
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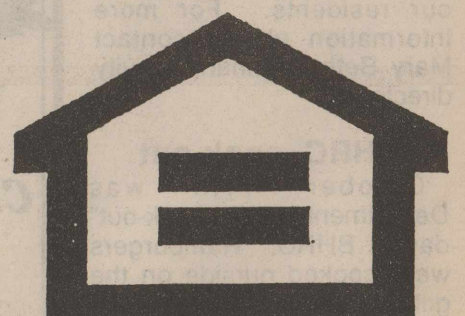
Call For Evaluation or Information:

(915) 453-2529

710 Washington • Robert Lee, Texas 76945  
Located Next to Shamrock Clinic

TOTAL BID IN CASH DUE  
AT THE SALE

PHONE (915) 643-1585  
For further information



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### SPECIALS

**Friday Night**  
All-U-Can-Eat  
Catfish or Shrimp

**Saturday Night**  
K. C. Steak

**Sunday Night**  
Prime Rib or  
Pan Fried Trout



**Weekly Big Buck Contest**  
Big Buck for the week gets  
K. C. Steak  
**FREE!**

Bring verification of size of horns  
to claim your K. C. Steak.

*Located 5 blocks west of the flashing light  
on Hwy 158 in Robert Lee.*

**500 Commerce Street • Robert Lee • (915) 453-2687**  
**Eat In • Take Out • Drive Thru**

COKE COUNTY

## HUNTING & FISHING GUIDE





**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

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Carolyn Hendry • Nikki Digby

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

Per Year in Coke County.....\$20.00  
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$22.00  
Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

with reports of some pretty decent hunts near the first of the season. The winter season for the Central Zone is set for December 26 through January 7, with bag limits set at fifteen per day and thirty in possession.

If you have any questions concerning seasons, daily bag limits, etc., consult a current copy of the Texas Parks and Wildlife's Official Hunting & Fishing Regulations. Also remember to always think hunter safety in all your outdoor endeavors. Best of luck on the upcoming season.

**Special hunting days give kids first shot**

Giving young hunters the first shot this fall is the focus of a series of special youth-only special hunting seasons set by Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW).

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission adopted the early youth-only hunting opportunities two years ago and expanded the offerings with a youth-only squirrel hunting weekend this year.

"We hope these youth hunting seasons will become as much a part of our state's hunting tradition as opening day of dove or deer season," said Gary Graham, TPW Wildlife Division director. "We hope these opportunities will motivate folks to devote some time afield with kids and pass on Texas' hunting heritage to the next generation."

Recognizing the importance of passing the hunting tradition through the generations, the agency has set aside dates for youth/adult hunts on lands managed by Parks and Wildlife. Hunting parties must include at least one hunter under 17. All adults must possess a current Annual Public Hunting Permit.

**Dove/Quail:** A youth/adult mourning dove and quail hunt will be conducted on the Chaparral Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Dimmitt and LaSalle Counties on Oct. 23-24. For more information call the Chaparral WMA (830) 676-3413.

**Squirrel:** A youth/adult squirrel hunt will be conducted at Martin Dies Jr. State Park in Tyler and Jasper Counties on Dec. 11, 12, 18 and 19. For more information call the park headquarters (409) 384-5231.



**Richard Taylor of Robert Lee brought down this monstrous 9 point buck December 8th in West Coke County. The buck weighed in at 128 pounds and boasted an 18 1/2 inch spread.**

**Upcoming seasons discussed**

by Hal Spain  
Last year we were recording record heat during the summer months, along with some extremely dry weather. This past spring started out with some good rainfall amounts (compared to last year), and a good hatch of turkey poults and quail. We also projected that deer populations had increased somewhat with the better conditions in the spring.

Although we did get a break from the heat this summer, Mother Nature decided to send the moisture somewhere else, as the months of July through October have been some of the driest on record. In fact, current conditions have led some of the old-timers in this county to compare this drought with the severity of the one in the 50's. We can't help but think that the current drought, which has had such a negative effect on our livestock, has also impacted our wildlife populations.

The good news is that deer should be coming to feeders early in the season, and that should be the best time to use most of your tags. Bucks (and does) taken later in the season should not be in as good a condition as in the early part of the season due to the rut and lack of abundant forage.

This should also be an excellent opportunity to bag that turkey for Thanksgiving dinner. We have been seeing good numbers of turkey all summer and fall, and I would think that early harvest numbers would be high. You might want to consider wild

fried turkey breast for Thanksgiving this year instead of the traditional fare of oven roasted tame birds.

Archery season for deer (and turkey) is October 2 through October 31, and an archery stamp is required. Special youth gun season has been set for October 30 & 31. Regular gun season runs from November 6 through January 2, 2000. Coke County is also one of 47 counties which has a special muzzleloader season for deer which runs from January 8 through January 16, 2000, for antlerless deer and spike bucks only. Bag limits for all seasons combined is four deer with no more than two bucks per license year. Antlerless permits are not required in Coke County.

Spring turkey season runs from April 1 through May 7, with bag limits for turkey, all seasons combined, being four per license year, with either sex allowed during the fall season, and gobblers only in the spring.

We have also observed a respectable quail hatch in Coke County this year. However, with short moisture and poor range conditions, this year's quail season should be much better during the early part of the season, with a big die-off expected after the first of the year. Quail season (statewide) is set for October 30 through February 27, 2000, with a daily bag limit of fifteen, and a possession limit of 45.

October 17 was the final day of our fall mourning dove season in the Central Zone. Harvest numbers, for the most part, were pretty slim pickins,

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- \* Deer Corn, Blocks, Pellets
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- \* Ammunition
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Owners



**Welcome  
Sportsmen to  
West Coke  
County!**

**HUNTERS & FISHERMEN:  
Attend our**

**11th Annual Hunter  
Appreciation BBQ**

Obtain tickets at no cost to you from participating West Coke County businesses or your lease manager or landowner.

**Robert Lee Rec Hall**

**Saturday • November 6 • Serving 6-9 pm**

**BBQ & all the trimmings!**

**SPONSORED BY WEST COKE COUNTY  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.**



## Hunter barbecues set for opening weekend

Possibly nowhere else in the state treats its hunters as well as does Coke County. Where else in the state can you get up to three free meals on opening weekend? And, some of the finest hunting in West Texas, to boot. In addition, you are reading what most consider the best Hunting & Fishing Guide in Texas. But before we stir up any more controversy, let's talk about each of these topics in detail.

Concerning the barbecues, hunters will be treated to lunch on Saturday and Sunday of opening weekend, courtesy of the Bronte Chamber of Commerce and B&K Processing. Lunch will be served from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm both Saturday and Sunday, November 6 & 7. The location is B&K

Processing (behind Hall's Grocery) in Bronte. The menu will feature deer and elk barbecue sandwiches, smoked sausage, beans, dessert, and soft drinks.

Robert Lee's 11th annual Hunter Barbecue, which annually hosts over 1,100 hungry hunters, will be held this year on Saturday, November 6, from 6:00 until 9:00 pm, at the Big Rec Hall at the park in Robert Lee. If you don't know where that is, just ask around, or follow the long line of cars. The menu for Saturday night will include barbecue beef brisket and sausage, beans, potato salad, dessert, and all the fixins. Free barbecue tickets may be obtained from your landowner or at any of the local businesses in Robert Lee.

Concerning this year's

Hunting & Fishing Guide, we are extremely proud of the combined efforts of our area merchants and our staff in preparing one of the most helpful tools you could have during your stay in Coke County. This year's Guide is loaded with hunting and fishing products and accessories to assist you in your sporting endeavors while in Coke County.

There is an old saying that goes something like this -- "you can eat an apple for supper and read the local paper and then go to bed with nothing on your mind or your stomach either". Fortunately that is not the case on opening weekend in Coke County -- the hunter barbecues and this year's edition of the Coke County Hunting & Fishing Guide should satisfy your needs in both categories.

Please don't forget to thank your landowners and our local merchants for their efforts in making your stay here in Coke County a memorable one. Without their participation, neither the barbecues or this year's Guide would be possible. Here's hoping to see you on opening weekend in Coke County.

### Angling Rights near docks and marinas clarified

In response to reports of confrontations between an-



If you want to get your heart pumping, try reeling in one like this -- a 12.26 lb. black from Oak Creer Lake. Chad Simonton of Monahans landed this black beauty on August 8, 1999, using a goldfish for bait.

glers and waterfront landowners, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) officials have clarified the public's right to fish from a boat on all public waters, providing no game law regulations are being violated.

According to TPW legal counsel Boyd Kennedy, "Waters that are open to the public for fishing include coastal waters, major lakes and rivers, and many smaller streams and lakes," said Kennedy. "If a lake is public water, then all of the lake is public water, including the water around marinas and boat docks. The right to build or

operate a marina, dock, or other structure on or over public water does not carry with it the right to restrict boating or fishing from a boat."

Kennedy went on to note that by law, the basic authority for the enactment of fishing and boating regulations is reserved for safety purposes, but TPW statistics show that fishing around marinas and boat docks is not a safety problem. "Harassment of a law-abiding fisherman is a crime punishable by fine and/or imprisonment," he added.

## O/E welcomes sportsmen

by Hal Spain, Publisher  
It is my great pleasure to welcome you, the hunter and/or fisherman, to Coke County. We know you have a choice about where to spend your hunting and fishing dollars, and we appreciate your decision to spend some time with us here in Coke County.

We would also like to welcome you to our free hunter barbecues, which are held opening weekend, and are explained in detail elsewhere

in this publication. These festivities are provided free of charge to our area hunters as a way of expressing our appreciation for your continued support.

Once again, let me welcome you to Coke County. Our landowners and merchants have made a strong commitment to ensure your stay will be a memorable one. We would also like to wish you much success with your sporting efforts in Coke County.

# WELCOME COKE COUNTY HUNTERS & FISHERMEN!



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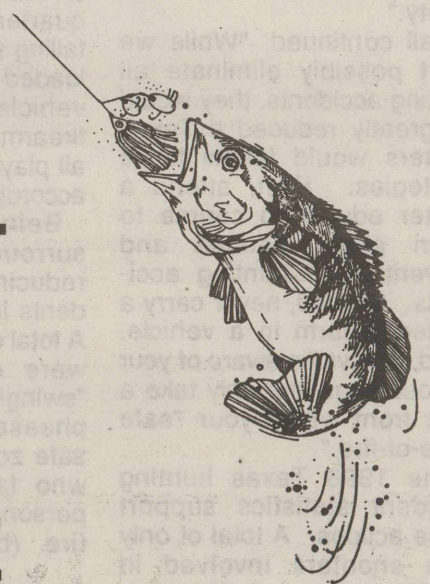
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Tom Francis and Terry Brown of Terry Brown's Guide Service, display two monster stripers snared on Lake Spence. The stripers weighed in at 29 pounds and 28 pounds respectively and struck almost simultaneously.

## Hunting accidents lower

Although still room for improvement, last year Texas experienced its second safest hunting season on record, dating back to 1966. There were a total of 40 accidents including three that resulted in fatalities. The record low of 31 accidents, including two fatalities, occurred in 1996.

While hunting is generally considered to be one of the safest outdoor activities, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) strives to make it even safer. According to Steve Hall, education director, "Virtually every hunting accident could be avoided if hunters would always point the muzzle of their firearms in a safe direction and be sure of their targets: the two primary rules of shooting and hunting safety."

Hall continued, "While we can't possibly eliminate all hunting accidents, they would be greatly reduced if Texas hunters would follow three strategies. First, attend a hunter education course to learn about causes and prevention of hunting accidents. Second, never carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle. Third, always be aware of your surroundings and only take a shot from within your "safe zone-of-fire."

The 1998 Texas hunting accident statistics support these actions. A total of only nine shooters involved in hunting accidents were graduates of the state's mandatory hunter education course. even though hunter education is required in 49 of 50 states and is required of Texas hunters born on or after September 2, 1971, most accidents are caused by people in violation of the law or who are not required to pass the course to legally hunt here. Certain exemptions in the law, such as a minor being able to hunt under adult supervision through age 16, weaken the assurance that every hunter will attend a hunter education course early enough in the learning process. Everyone is encouraged to take the course regardless of age or

requirements.

The primary purpose of hunter education is to present techniques by which hunters can handle firearms safely and competently. A total of 15 (37%) of the 1998 hunting accidents involved careless handling and dropped firearms. "We stress how to safely load, unload, carry and handle sporting arms so that the hunter has muzzle control and knows where the muzzle is pointed at all times," said Hall.

One quarter of accidents occurred in or around a vehicle. Even though it may be legal to carry loaded firearms in or hunt from a vehicle on private land in Texas, statistics show it to be an unsafe practice. "Cramped quarters, careless handling, failing to check if a firearm is loaded and entering/exiting a vehicle while pointing the firearm in an unsafe direction all played a contributing role," according to Hall.

Being aware of one's surroundings is a key to reducing many of the accidents in the Lone Star State. A total of six accidents in 1998 were caused by shooters "swinging on dove, quail or pheasant" outside of their safe zones-of-fire. Shooters who failed to see another person beyond their line-of-fire (background) caused

three additional accidents. "Hunter or blaze orange vests and caps have reduced hunter judgment mistakes by over 50% in states requiring it to be worn," according to Hall. "In Texas, hunter orange requirements affect only hunters on public lands, and they do not show up in these data," he added. "Hunters and guides on private land, especially those hunting quail or pheasant, have an obligation to be seen by their companions. It is a simple courtesy to other hunters to wear blaze orange afield, especially when the bird's actions are quick, low-flying and unpredictable."

Beyond these common problems associated with erroneous judgment, aptitude and/or safety violations, statistics showed data typical from year to year. Rifles were involved in 15 (37%) of the accidents; shotguns in 18 (45%); handguns in 6 (15%); and there was one (3%) archery-related incident.

Shooters age 10-19 years were involved in a quarter (25%) of the accidents, as was the same (25%) for shooters age 30-39. Hunters age 20-29 and 40-49 caused 6 (15%), accidents in each category. Those between the ages of 50-59 were involved in one (3%) accident; 60 and over in 4 (10%); and "unknown" shooters accounted for 3 (7%), of the accidents.

The primary species being hunted at the time of the accident was white-tailed deer with 12 (30%). Following this total were dove with 7 (18%), wild hogs with 6 (15%), quail and pheasant with 6 (15%), rabbits with 3 (7%), and squirrel, turkey and coyotes with 2 (5%) each.

A total of 5 accidents involved people who were violating a hunting regulation at the time of the incident. One person was involved in an alcohol-related accident. A total of 23 (57%) accidents were self-inflicted.

A total of three hunters died of heart attacks while hunting in 1998. While not considered in the "hunting accident" statistics involving sporting arms, the hunter education course stresses outdoor safety, physical fitness, wilderness survival and first aid in parts of the curricula. Hall summarized what hunters should do to prevent being a statistic in a game warden-generated hunting accident report. "If hunters acted carefully, capably, con-



Cody Moore shot this 9 point buck as his dad, Billy rattled him up on the Chadbourne Ranch. Cody's buck scored 128 5/8 and was 5 1/2 years old. At the time (last year's season), Cody was 11 years old and a 6th grader at Bronte ISD. Cody's parents are Billy Moore of Grape Creek and Garland and Lana Richards of Bronte. Cody's grandparents are Bill and Dorothy Moore of Grape Creek.

siderately, and courteously—the four C's of hunting they would experience only the good things associated with hunting and sustain the privilege and heritage for years to come.

### Hunter Education Requirements

Every hunter (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after September 2, 1971, must successfully complete a Hunter Education Training Course.

If you were born on or after September 2, 1971, and you are:

Age 17 and over, you must successfully complete a hunter education course; age 12 through 16, you must

successfully complete a hunter education course or be accompanied by a licensed hunter 17 years of age or older; under 12 years of age, you must be accompanied by a licensed hunter 17 years of age or older (Hunter education training is recommended but not required.)

The minimum age to qualify for hunter education certification is 12 years and costs \$10. Proof of certification is required to be on your person while hunting; it is not required to purchase a license.

For course information call (800) 792-1112, menu 6-2 or consult Texas Parks and Wildlife's Web site at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).

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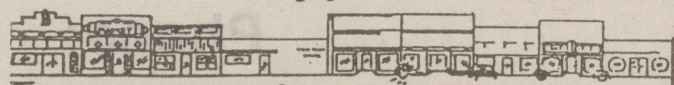


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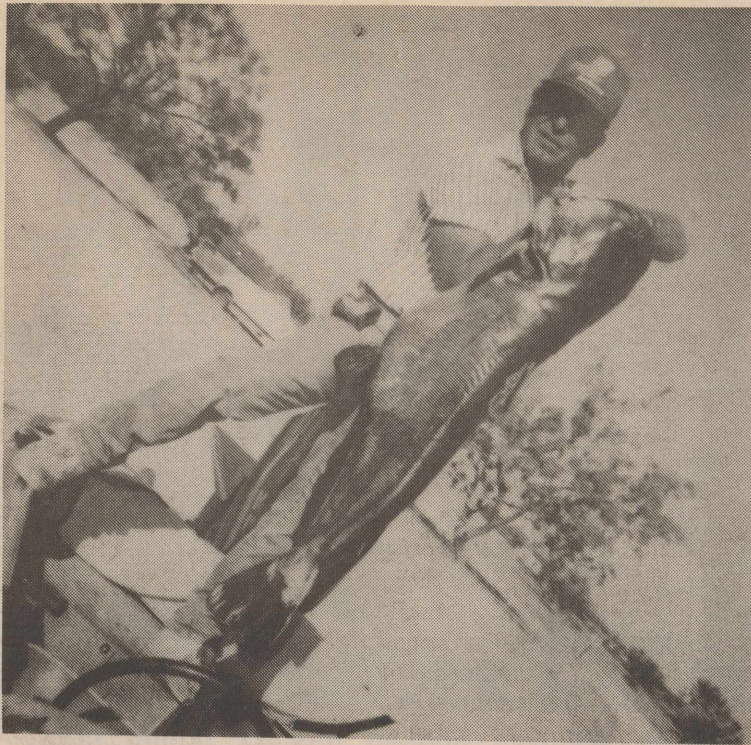
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Kay Gothard







Lake Spence has a new lake record for a blue cat thanks to this monster catch by Larry Walters of Odessa. Walters caught this 54.7 pounder October 2, 1999.

license and go fishing. The contest is open to two-person teams comprised of an angler and a companion who did not hold a 1998-99 Texas fishing license (or any TPW license that contains a fishing license). A licensed angler may enter as often as her or she can recruit a new person to go fishing and purchase their first license in 12 months.

Three grand prize teams will each win a guided fishing trip and a lifetime fishing license. Six first-place winners will each win a lifetime fishing license. Ten second-place winners will each win an angler's camping equipment package. Fishing equipment bags will be given away as third-place prizes.

The grand prize winners will be featured on a segment of the "Honey Hole" television series and in Honey Hole magazine. The guided fishing trips include a two-day bass outing on Lake Fork, a two-day redfish and seatrout trip on the Texas coast and a flyfishing or spincasting trip on a Texas river. The Angler's Camping Package includes a cabin tent, four sleeping bags, propane stove and lantern, cooking utensils, four Zebco rod and reel combos and an Igloo cooler.

"This is such a different outreach effort from anything we've ever tried," Harvey noted. "We've got a lot of youth-oriented programs, such as KidFish, that have been successful in introducing kids to fishing. This is a way to get adults in-



How 'bout this wonderful black, taken from Oak Creek Lake on Oct. 1, 1999, using a Pico Popper. The big black mashed the scales at 9.16 for lucky angler Walter Acklin.

## Promo targets new anglers

Hooking Texans on fishing again or for the first time is the goal behind a unique prize-giveaway promotion from Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW). Through the FISH TEXAS program, agency officials are hoping the enticement of prizes like a lifetime fishing license and guided fishing trip will bolster angler participation.

"Only about one in 10 Texas anglers started their fishing careers during the '90s," said Dr. Bill Harvey, FISH TEXAS program coordinator. "Although we

have 1.5 million attrition. Our fishing license sales data reinforces the findings; we're not seeing newcomers to the sport. It occurred to us that one of the problems people have is not knowing where to go or how to get started in fishing."

An effort to bridge the gap was the genesis of the FISH TEXAS concept. Through this outreach initiative, licensed anglers can qualify for prizes by taking someone fishing. Newcomers to the sport are eligible when they purchase an annual fishing

involved and what better way to kindle a friendship that to take somebody fishing."

The contest runs Sept. 1, 1999 through June 15, 2000. All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, June 15, 2000. A random drawing of all entries will be held by June 29, 2000. Entries must be mailed to: Texas Parks & Wildlife, c/o FISH TEXAS CONTEST, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744. For information about FISH TEXAS, call (800) 792-1112 or visit the web at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishtexas/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishtexas/).

## Fishing stats

In 1996, 29.7 million US residents 16 years old and older fished in the freshwaters of the United States. Black bass were the most popular fish followed by trout, catfish, crappie, and true basses (stripers and white bass). Seventy three percent of anglers who fished in 1996 were male. Seventeen percent of all US residents fished in 1996.

An estimated 11,500 white crappie were harvested at Lake Fort Phantom Hill in 1998, most of which were caught in March, April, and May.

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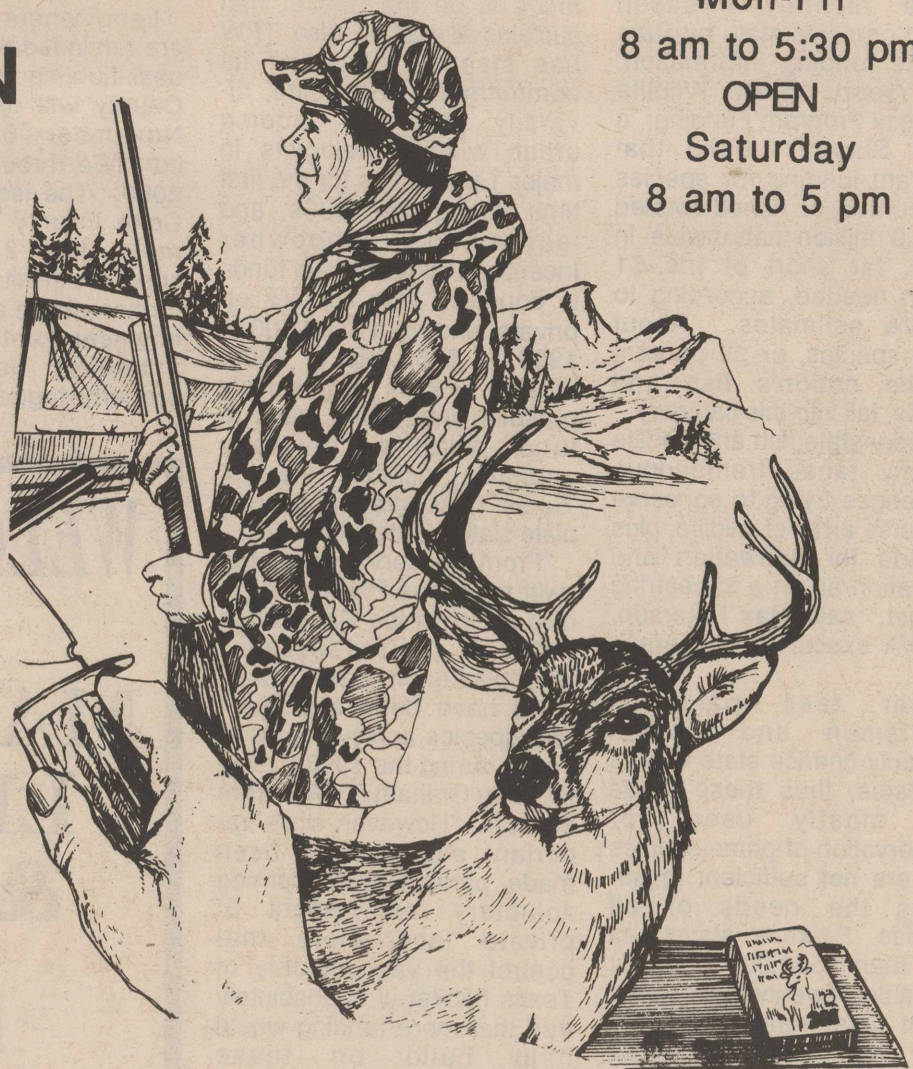
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Chase Roe, 9 years old at the time, shot this nice 8 point buck last year while hunting with his dad, Kevin, on the Roe Ranch west of Robert Lee. Chase is the son of Kevin and Tammy Roe of Robert Lee and the grandson of Billy Wayne and Dolores Roe of Robert Lee and Billy and Beth Haynes of Gatesville, Texas.

### More wildlife funding needed

Most states lack the funding to conserve most of the nation's wildlife species, according to an International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) survey.

The recently released report presents state-by-state wildlife funding information. The report, "State Wildlife Diversity Program Funding: a 1998 Survey," found that program funding for species not hunted or fished totaled \$134.9 million nationwide in 1998, far short of the \$1 billion needed, according to IAFWA estimates. About 2000 species, or 90 percent of the nation's fish and wildlife, fall into this category.

"Every state fish and wildlife agency faces tremendous challenges trying to conserve a diverse array of wildlife, plus provide for recreation and education all on a shoestring budget," said Max Peterson, IAFWA executive vice president.

User fees paid by sportsmen and women primarily finance state wildlife agencies, thus these funds are mostly used for conservation of game species and are not sufficient to address the needs of all species. Fourteen states had less than \$500,000 annually available. Twenty-eight states spent less than \$1 million. Only nine states had \$2 million or more to conserve hundreds of fish and wildlife species.

In Texas, the picture is somewhat brighter. Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) will spend \$3.7 million in 2000. This figure represents direct spending on wildlife diversity programs, but is somewhat misleading. This is because TPW spends tens of millions

more each year on free landowner guidance, wildlife management and law enforcement and other efforts that benefit not only game species, but also a great diversity of species, since the focus is on the habitat that sustains all wildlife. Also, TPW has steadily increased its commitment to wildlife diversity programs, adding urban wildlife biologists in major Texas cities for the first time during the 1990s, and increasing Landowner Incentive Program grant funds to conserve rare species on private land from \$100,000 in 1999 to \$750,000 in 2000. Finally, TPW is aggressively pursuing innovative ways to fund wildlife diversity programs, including the first Texas conservation license plate slated to debut this fall.

"From conservation of the swift fox in the Panhandle, to rare plants in the Rio Grande Valley, to the red-cockaded woodpecker in East Texas, there have been significant rare species achievements in Texas during the 1990s," said Dr. Gary Graham, TPW wildlife director. "However, while important strides have been made, particularly concerning voluntary involvement of private landowners that control the vast majority of Texas habitat, it is absolutely true that more funding would help build on these successes."

More than 1,000 species are listed under the Endangered Species Act with hundreds more in the pipeline. Adequate and reliable funding would help states reverse this trend in a more flexible manner at far less cost. Many agencies have worked hard to find

alternative funding sources at the state level, the report concluded.

Other funding sources detailed in the report include state sales tax, state lottery, trust funds, interest income, private donations and money from merchandise sales. However, one of the main alternative funding sources, state income tax checkoffs, continued to decline since 1992. Even though 35 of the 49 states reporting use checkoffs, for wildlife funding, they raised just six percent of wildlife diversity budgets.

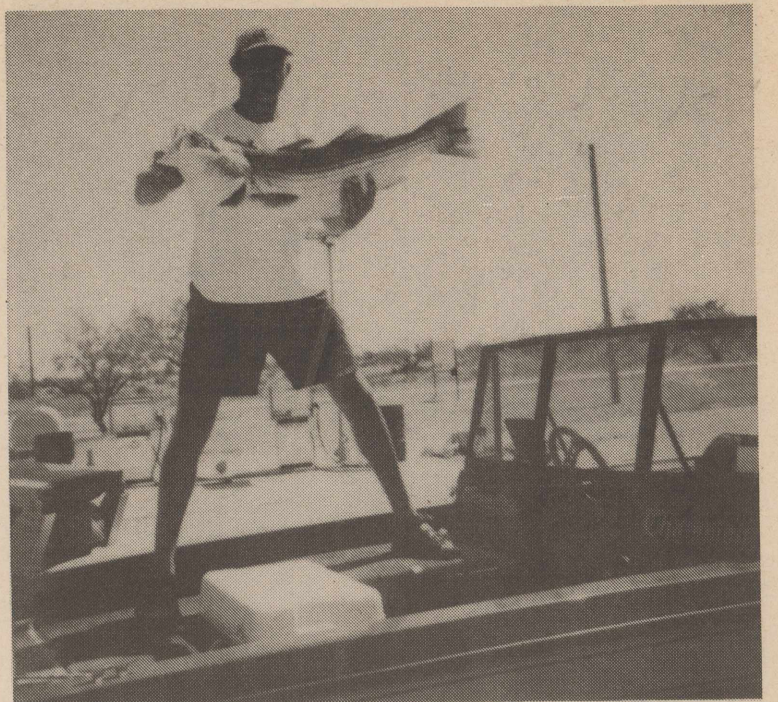
Overall, less than 10 percent of state fish and wildlife funding goes for conservation of 86 percent of the nation's fish and wildlife species. "State agencies have scarcely enough funding for game species conservation," Peterson said. "However, dedicated funding sources make a tremendous difference for those programs derived primarily from hunting and fishing licenses and from excise taxes paid by hunters and anglers. We believe it is time to infuse fish and wildlife agencies with the additional reliable funding they need to repeat the successes stories of the past for all species."

"Congress is considering legislation that promises to go a long way toward reducing the funding shortage before more species become endangered," Peterson said.

For more information and copies of the report, contact IAFWA at (202) 624-7890, or visit their Web site [www.sso.org/iafwa](http://www.sso.org/iafwa).

### 1999-2000 general deer harvest recommendations

Landowners and hunters are reminded that the general deer hunting season in Coke County will open Saturday, November 6, 1999 and continue through January 2, 2000. The legal bag limit in Coke County is 4 deer, no more than 2 bucks. No special permits are required for harvesting antlerless deer, however, both bucks and antlerless deer must be properly tagged with an ap-



Warren Williams hooked this 21 pound striper September 19 at Lake Spence.

propriate tag from a valid hunting license.

Deer populations vary from area to area and even from ranch to ranch. The either sex regulation allows landowners and hunters the flexibility to harvest antlerless deer on his/her property in order to keep deer numbers in balance with available food supply. It does not automatically mean that a heavy antlerless deer harvest is needed. The recommended harvest rates for both bucks and antlerless deer, provided by the department, should be used only as a general guideline for harvesting deer. If more intense management is desired, we suggest that land managers

survey their own properties. This will allow for a more accurate representation of deer numbers on their ranch. Please note that in most cases the department recommends more antlerless deer to be harvested than bucks.

The recommended guideline for harvesting antlerless deer throughout most of Coke County is 1 antlerless deer per 300 acres. The recommended harvest rate on bucks is 1 per 800 acres.

For more information concerning harvest rates or wildlife management planning, contact Wildlife Biologist, Ralph Suarez, at 915-365-2840.

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## Big game award winners told

With less-than-ideal range conditions, wildlife officials were not predicting a repeat of the previous year's hunting season boom. However, this year's entries in the Texas Big Game Awards Program illustrates that even in tough times, successful land managers can have a role in maintaining quality wildlife populations on their property.

As testament to the successes from the 1998-99 seasons, over 1,600 recipients of Texas Big Game Awards were recognized during a series of regional awards banquets. Hunters who took some of the biggest white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorn antelope in Texas last season were honored during these events.

"Nobody believed we could match the kind of year we had in '97 and we anticipated entries to be down overall this year," said Bryan Richards, Big Game Awards program coordinator with Texas Parks and Wildlife. "But we still had several trophy book quality deer entered, including the largest whitetail ever taken in the Panhandle."

Entries in this year's Big Game Awards program included 948 white-tailed deer, 42 mule deer and 49 pronghorns.

Among the highlights for this year's awards banquets: A 13-point typical whitetail taken in Sherman County by Larry E. Anderson of Sunray netted 181 2/8 points as the highest-scoring typical whitetail deer entered in the program this year. The Panhandle also produced the top scoring non-typical whitetail in the program, a 21-pointer that netted 212 6/8 points taken by CD Shackelford of McLean in Gray County. Shackelford's deer is believed to be the highest-scoring whitetail ever from the Panhandle.

A pair of book quality

pronghorns out of Hudspeth County, including one that netted 87 2/8 taken by a Pennsylvania hunter were honored. In addition, Cedar Park hunter David Johnson, who recorded just the fourth ever Texas Slam by harvesting a qualifying whitetail, mule deer and pronghorn in the same season, was recognized for his Hudspeth County mule deer and antelope.

The No. 2 ranking typical whitetail, a 13-point Maverick County buck that netted 179 2/8 taken by Lee M. Bass of Fort Worth topped the list at the Region 8 Banquet. Also honored at the South Texas ceremony was Cuatro Smith of San Antonio's book qualifying non-typical, a 17-pointer from Dimmit County that netted 199 0/8 points.

The No. 3 typical whitetail in the program this year, a 10-pointer taken with a bow that scored 173 7/8 killed by John T. Wright of Vernon in Willbarger County was recognized at the Region 3 banquet in San Angelo on Aug. 14.

The first of two Top 5 deer taken by Jack Brittingham of Palestine, a 156 2/8 net nine-pointer out of Anderson County was recognized at the Region 5 banquet in College Station on April 17. Brittingham also turned in the fourth biggest non-typical in Region 8, a 16 pointer out of Dimmit County that scored 189 2/8.

Hunters and land managers at each regional banquet were recognized for typical and non-typical white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorns. Scoring is based on Boone and Crockett Club guidelines using net green scores.

Minimum entry scores for white-tailed deer vary with each region and range from 125-140 (typical) and 140-155 (non-typical). Mule deer

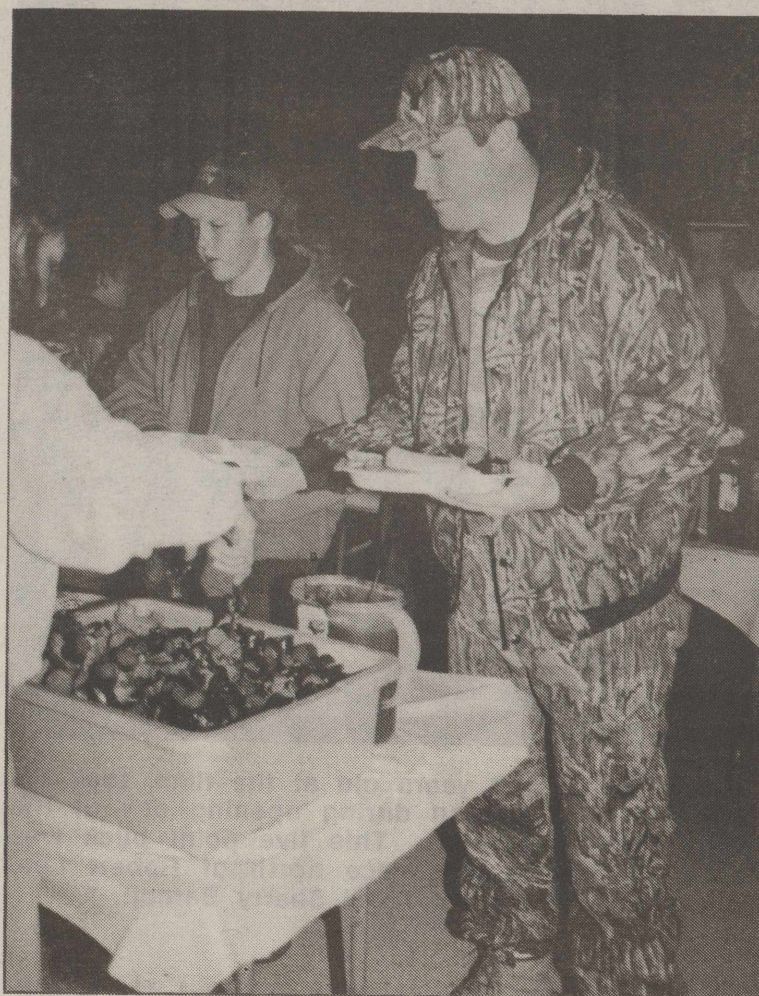
minimum scores are 145 (typical) and 160 (non-typical). Pronghorn antelope must score at least 70.

The program, in its eighth year, was established to recognize the influence of habitat management on antler development of white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorn antelope and the importance of hunting as a management tool. The awards program also recognized the 396 hunters who took their first big game animal this past season, as well as honored young hunters in a newly created youth division.

Entry into the program is open to wild-reared native white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorn antelope that are legally harvested in Texas during the current year's hunting season. The program is co-sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Texas Wildlife Association, Carter's Country Outdoor Stores, The Bass Foundation and Hixon Land and Cattle Company.

### Timely Tips

Contrary to their bad reputations, bats are often beneficial to humans. They are a major predator of night-flying insects. A single gray bat can eat at least 3,000 insects in one night.



One plate wasn't enough for this hungry deer hunter. He had one in each hand as he went through the serving line at last year's Hunter's Barbecue. The annual free feed is held the first evening of deer season, and is sponsored by the West Coke County Community Development.

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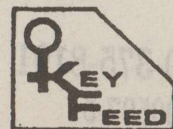
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Sean Barnett, 13 years old at the time, took his first deer last season during opening day of the youth hunting season. This five point buck was taken on the Barnett place north of Robert Lee. Sean's parents are John and Sherry Barnett.

## Poaching penalties published

Poachers be warned. Texas leadership is sending a strong message to those who might think the grass is greener on the other side of the fence, particularly where big game poaching is involved. Recently enacted legislation provides for felony charges and a mandatory jail sentence, even for first-time poachers who violate certain statutes.

The new law, created through HB 2526 in the 76th Legislature, took effect Sept. 1 and establishes severe penalties for poaching activities including hunting or fishing without landowner consent, hunting from a motor vehicle, hunting with a light and hunting at night. The law also carries stiff consequences for using or possessing a fish shocking device and for failure to retrieve and keep big game carcasses in an edible condition. In addition to the stiffer criminal penalties, the law also provides for mandatory loss of hunting and fishing licenses for a period of one to five years.

According to law enforcement officials with Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW), HB 2526 is one of several pieces of new legislation aimed at curbing abusive and illegal poaching activities involving the state's wildlife resources. "These game laws have some sharper teeth now and hopefully the

enhanced penalties will be an effective deterrent," said TPW Law Enforcement Director Jim Robertson. "Outlaws are going to have to ask themselves if the risk to poach a deer is worth going to jail for two years and paying a \$10,000 fine."

Under the new TPW State Jail Felony classification, individuals convicted of taking a desert bighorn sheep, white-tailed deer, pronghorn antelope or mule deer without the consent of the landowner are subject to incarceration for 180 days to two years and a possible fine of \$1,500 to \$10,000. A second conviction carries a fine of up to \$10,000 and incarceration for two years to 10 years. Stiffer penalties will also apply if a poacher is convicted of wasting a big game animal carcass, as is often the case with poachers known as "head hunters" who take only the trophy racks. On first offense for wasting a big game carcass the violator is subject to confinement in jail for up to one year and a fine of \$500 to \$4,000. Upon a second conviction for wasting a big game carcass, the violation becomes a TPW State Jail Felony.

While taking big game without landowner consent was the focus of the new law, other illegal hunting and fishing activities were also addressed. A second conviction for hunting from a

motor vehicle, hunting at night, hunting with a light or wanton waste of wildlife resources carries a TPW State Jail Felony charge. The legislature also created provisions in the law allowing for the confiscation and forfeiture of equipment used in the commission of these violations, including weapons and other personal property (e.g. knives, spotlights, etc.), aircraft and vessels.

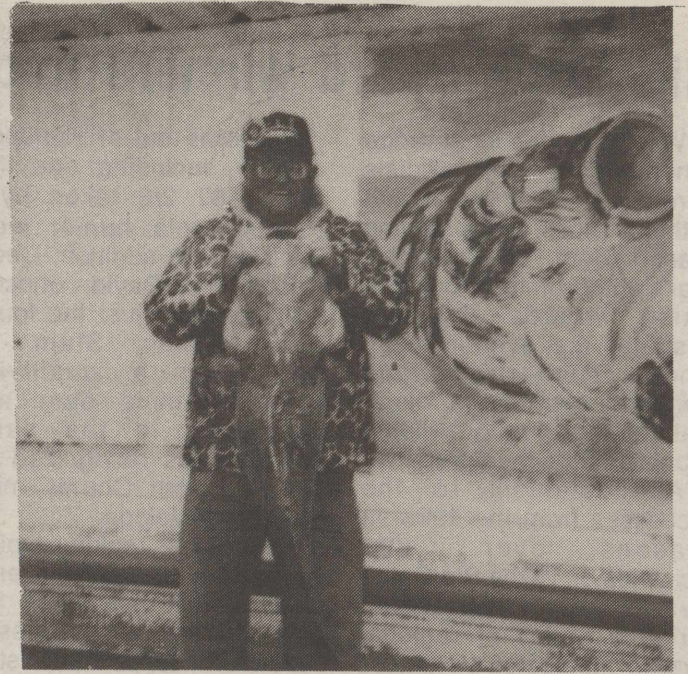
Other enacted legislation having an impact on hunters, anglers, boaters and outdoor resources include:

Commercial Finfish Limited Entry-SB 1303 provides TPW with a management tool to address overcapitalization and overfishing problems in the commercial finfish fishery and helps create a more stable finfish industry. TPW will have the authority to implement a voluntary commercial finfish license buyback program similar to those currently in place for shrimp and crab fisheries.

Alcohol Limits For BWI-SB 114 provides that a person boating is intoxicated if he or she has an alcohol concentration of .08 or more.

Conservation Education Projects-HB 1 appropriations riders established funding for several TPW projects, including the Community Outdoor Outreach Program, World Birding Center and Texas Rivers Center.

License and Permit Denial-SB 1302 allows TPW to refuse to issue a license, tag or permit to persons who have been finally convicted of a



Although lake levels are at all-time lows, both Spence and Oak Creek fishing has been good recently. Evidence of this is this 35 lb. yellow taken from Oak Creek on October 17, 1999. The lucky fisherman is A. J. Betterton of Stanton, who was trotline fishing using carp as bait.

violation and has failed to fully pay court-ordered civil restitution.

Aquatic Weed Control-HB 3079 directs TPW to establish an aquatic vegetation management plan in coordination with other agencies to ensure water quality standards when implementing aquatic weed control measures.

Conservation License Plates-HB 1906 gives TPW the authority to issue specially designed conservation license plates for cars and light trucks to support agency program.

Inspection of vessels/motors for issuance of HIN/serial number-HB 3462

gives TPW the authority to require an inspection of a vessel/motor that does not have, or has an altered, destroyed, or removed HIN/serial number by a game warden prior to the issuance of a number. The inspection/application process for a HIN/serial number, which carries a \$25 fee, will verify ownership and validity of reason for not having a HIN/serial number.

### Timely Tips

Hang gallon plastic jugs of water in trees at your hunting or fishing camp. Pierce each one with a wooden golf tee and leave it in - plugging the hole. Pull the plug for washing hands, knives, etc. and re-plug.



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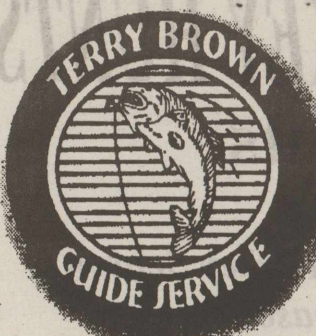
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Lance Pickett, son of Merrill and Cindy Pickett of Abilene, brought down this 8 point buck during the youth only weekend just before last year's season on the Clark Ranch east of Bronte. Lance was a seventh grader at the time at Madison Middle School. Bobby and Billie Jean Clark and Ellarine Schuknecht are his grandparents. His great-grandmother is Willie B. Edmiaston.

**Javelina hunting set for County**

Javelina hunting is more popular now than it's ever been. In some parts of Texas, the hogs can be taken year-round, but in Coke County, javelina season is October 1 through February 27. Two per season are allowed. They are fun to hunt but a certain

**Hunters BBQ set for Nov. 6**

West Coke County Community Development's annual Hunters Appreciation BBQ is set for Saturday, Nov. 6, opening day of the fall hunting season. It will again be held in the Rec Hall in the county park in Robert Lee and as in the past local volunteers will prepare the food. Serving hours are 6-9 p.m.

The supper will include plenty of meat-brisket and sausage- with all the trimmings including dessert. The event is at no cost to hunters but tickets are necessary. Tickets are available to your party from the landowner or land manager where you are hunting or from participating businesses or individuals who have supported the BBQ by donations. Hunters-ask for them from the people you trade with or deal with around town.

Deer, turkey, and quail hunting has become increasingly important to Coke County during the drought and sagging economy. The Hunters Appreciation BBQ is the way that West Coke County welcomes back the visitors. It has grown from about 300 hunters to nearly 1,000 fed the last two years. It's become a family affair; many wives and children join their husbands in camp. Everyone has a good time and the big feed usually spills over into the adjoining stock barn and park.

Local volunteers will be needed to help with cooking, setting up, serving, and cleaning up. Chairman over the event for about 10 years, Bob Wrinkle is ill this year but information and questions can still be directed to his business Ace Hardware on Commerce Street in Robert Lee or call 453-2414. Be a part of this community undertaking.

in the same areas. They may be taken from a stand or can be walked up because of poor vision, if the wind is favorable.

The hogs are affected by drought and disease. A large portion of South Texas javelinas died out in 1984 from an outbreak of encephalitis but populations may now be at an all-time high. Their diet is estimated as 90% prickly pear cactus and they forage by rooting and mooching from deer feeders. They will also dine on small animals. Many times ranchers will let hog hunters in to be rid of them as they are hard on fences and are pests in general. The musk hogs have twins which are reddish in color when born.

They are called collared peccary due to the light ring around their necks. An adult stands about 21 inches at the shoulder and appear to be all head and shoulders. They sport black grizzled stiff hair, white or gray tipped. A teat-like musk gland located on the javelina's back in the loin area gives off a strong, rancid odor when disturbed or excited. Normally, they will scurry away from vehicles or humans but can be bad-tempered if

amount of caution should be taken when hunting the aggressive animals.

Most javelinas are killed during deer season because they are found co-habiting



Bart Campell and Wade Gilliam of Odessa took these nice stripers using cut shad. The fish weighed in at 13 pounds and 20 pounds and were taken on Lake Spence July 4th.

cornered or wounded. The animals run in small herds of up to 10 or more, with all sizes and ages together. It is not unusual for several hogs to charge a hunter if he shoots into the herd. They can be vicious and have razor sharp tusks which they clatter when aggressively advancing.

**SAUTEED TURKEY BITS**


Cube turkey. Brown in bacon drippings, using heavy iron skillet. Serve with honey mustard dip or your favorite dip.

\*\*\*\*\*

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## Boater ed course now on-line

Boater education is now more accessible to Texas residents with the introduction of an on-line course available through the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) Web site, [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us). This new version of boater education adds a third way to become state-certified, in addition to the classroom course and a home-study video product.

TPW education staff spent several months developing the Internet course to make boater education convenient for all boaters-but especially for those who live in rural or outlying areas. For some people living in outlying areas of the state it has been difficult to attend the classroom courses, most of which are taught in urban areas. When a new law mandating boater education for certain operators went into effect in late 1997, it became even more important for boater education classes to be available to everyone in the state.

"Because most of our classroom courses are taught by volunteers, it is difficult to take a course when and where you need one," said Tim Spice, TPW boater education coordinator. "This on-line course provides an affordable and convenient solution for those unable to travel to attend a classroom course."

Although not everyone has a personal computer, nearly every county offers free Internet access in public libraries and public schools, noted Spice.

The on-line course material is exactly what is covered in the classroom course. The only difference is that instead of being led by an instructor through the material, boaters can read through the material and take the test at their own pace. To receive the state-certification card, boaters pay the standard \$13 fee by charging with their credit cards through a secure-connection over the Internet.

In addition to the classroom and on-line versions of the boater education course, BOAT TEXAS offers a home-study and video product, A Home Study Guide to Responsible Boating, which complements the classroom and on-line versions. The BOAT TEXAS product may be ordered by phone at (800) 460-9698.

"The best thing people can

do to get ready for a fun and safe time on the water is to take a boater education course," said Spice. "We encourage the entire family to take the course together."

The U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Accident Report Database (BARD) released in January showed that fatalities caused by reckless, inexperienced operators were up in 1997, with 87 percent more fatalities reported on boats where the operator had not completed a boating safety course.

Boating safety and responsibility are stressed throughout all three versions of the boater education course. Instruction also includes legal requirements, navigation rules and aids, getting underway, docking, anchoring, water safety, trailering, emergencies and water sports.

For information on dates and locations of classroom courses, contact Texas Parks and Wildlife at (800) 792-1112 or check the website, [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us) for a list of courses by city or date.

### 1999-2000 hunting seasons calendar

Alligator, by permit, is Sept. 10-30. White-tailed deer, by archery is Oct. 2-31.

#### General

Special Youth Season is Oct. 30-31 in all counties that have an open season for those species, North TX; Nov. 6-Jan. 2, 6 Panhandle Co.'s; Nov. 20-Dec. 5, South TX; Nov. 13-Jan. 30, and Antlerless and Spike; Jan. 17-Jan. 30.

#### Muzzleloader (47 counties)

Antlerless and Spike is Jan. 8-16. Mule deer, by archery is Oct. 2-31.

#### General (Mule deer)

Panhandle is Nov. 20-Dec. 5, Trans-Pecos; Nov. 27-Dec. 12, Panhandle (6 Counties); Nov. 20-24.

Javelina in some counties is Oct. 1-Feb. 27 and squirrel in some counties May 1-31; Oct 1-Feb. 6.

Special youth season is Sept. 25-26 in all counties that have an open season for those species.

Prairie Chicken in some counties is Oct. 16-17 by permit. Pheasant in the Panhandle is Dec. 11-26, Coastal; Oct. 30-Feb. 27.

Quail statewide is Oct. 30-Feb. 27.

Rio Grande Turkey, by archery is Oct. 2-31.

Fall general season

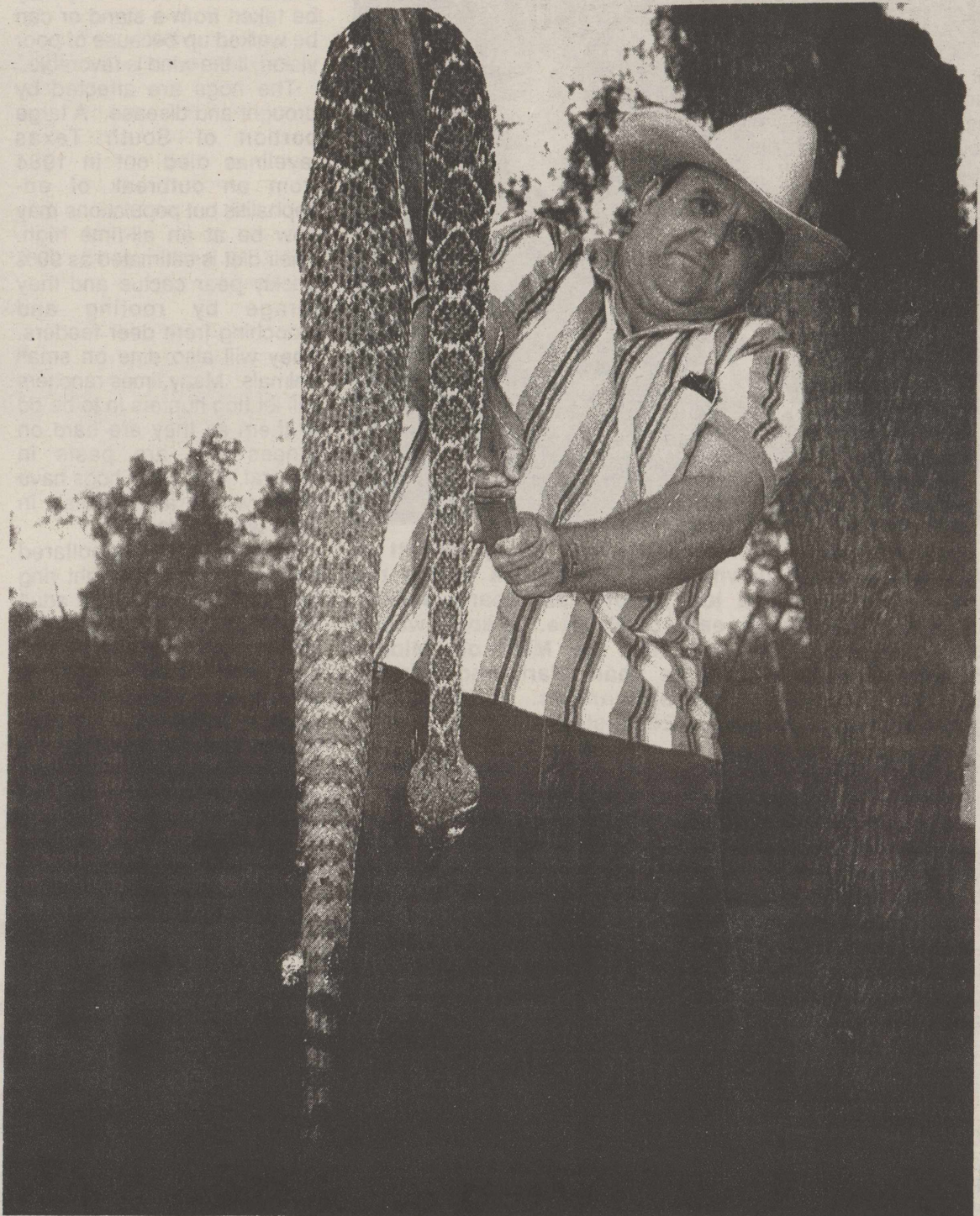


Photo by Jerry O'Bryant

San Angelo weatherman Les Hiesler wasn't too happy when he found this monster rattlesnake just outside his hunting cabin in Coke County about half-way between Robert Lee and Bronte, near the Colorado River. When approached, the six-footer never rattled but did rear its fist-sized head. His partner dispatched the snake with a pistol, the pair's only weapon. The bulge near the rattler's mid-section is a rabbit, recently swallowed. Hiesler says the area is snakey; a few years ago, he found 13 small snakes in the outhouse.

Special youth season is Oct. 30-31 in all counties that have an open season for those species. North TX; Nov. 6-Jan. 2, South TX; Nov. 13-Jan. 16; Brooks, Kenedy & Kleberg Cos.; Nov. 13-Feb. 27.

Spring General season North TX; Apr. 1-May 7 and South TX Mar. 25-Apr. 30.

Eastern turkey, spring season only, (portions of 25 East TX counties), Apr. 17-30.

Chachalaca, some counties, Oct. 30-Feb. 27.

Rabbits and hares no closed season.

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## Fork bass die-off investigated

State fisheries biologists are conducting an intensive investigation into a relatively small but significant fish die-off on one of the nation's premier trophy bass fisheries. Small numbers of dead and dying largemouth bass, the largest measuring 27 inches, have been observed by anglers recently on Lake Fork, a 27,000-acre impoundment in Northeast Texas.

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) biologists, a majority of the dead fish are 16 inches or longer and were found scattered throughout the main body of the reservoir. Fisheries crews have observed upwards of 50 dead bass during random shoreline counts on 80 different sites on the lake; decomposition indicated most of the fish had been dead for several days. Fish samples have been submitted to the Texas A&M University diagnostic lab for analysis, but results were not immediately available.

"The number of dead largemouth we observed is extremely low when compared with the total number of bass in the lake," according to TPW biologist Steve Poarch, who is heading up the investigation. "This incident is not expected to have an impact on Lake Fork's bass fishery."

Fork is the second popular Texas bass fishery to be hit with an inexplicable fish kill. A combination of stress and

heat last summer caused the deaths of an estimated 1,800 adult largemouth bass on Sam Rayburn, according to TPW findings. And following recent observations of unusual growths on bass reported by anglers at Sam Rayburn, TPW sent fish samples to Texas A&M for analysis. Preliminary reports revealed an infestation of Epistylus, a protozoan.

"This is a common microbe found in most waters, and its presence on fish is not a human health concern," said Larry McKinney, TPW director of aquatic resources. "Epistylus is most often associated with conditions of poor water quality. We will be conducting additional viral assessments, but they can take some time to complete."

Epistylus is a parasite that feeds on bacteria and attaches itself to sportfish. Occurrences are more common during the spring and fall and usually thrive during periods of high temperatures when fish become more stressed and prone to infection. Despite the red sore-like lesions that accompany the parasite, it carries no human health risks.

"The cause of the die off at Fork is still a mystery right now," said Poarch. "Water quality tests conducted by the Sabine River Authority indicate that dissolved oxygen was probably not a factor. There were lesions on some of the fish we recovered

and this could be stress-related. These fish went through a tough winter and came into the spawn stressed."

Although TPW crews are continuing to monitor the lake, anglers who observe a fish kill are encouraged to contact Dan Jones with the TPW Kills and Spills Team at (903) 566-2518 or their local TPW fisheries biologist.

### Applications for next Game Warden school available

Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) is taking applications for a game warden cadet class scheduled to start in July of 2000. Applications will be available starting Oct. 26 and will be accepted through Dec. 2.

The 47th Game Warden Academy is scheduled to begin its seven-month training on July 3, 2000. More than 400 people applied for 25 positions in the previous cadet class that will graduate Jan. 17, 2000.

Applicants must be at least 21 years old on or before July 3, 2000 and have a bachelors degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in criminal justice, natural resources, environmental science, fish or wildlife management, parks and recreation or a closely related field. The degree requirement must be met before the starting date of the cadet class.

To be accepted applicants must meet the minimum eligibility requirements and



A bass minnow yielded this 5.35 lb. black bass, taken by Jeremy McWhorter from Oak Creek Lake on September 22, 1999.

successfully complete a written examination, regional interview, final interview and physical agility test in Austin, as well as extensive background investigation.

After graduation, the new game wardens will be assigned to vacant stations throughout Texas to protect the state's natural resources. Game wardens also enforce the Water Safety Act and perform standard peace officer duties.

Applications may be obtained after Oct. 26, 1999, from TPW regional law enforcement offices or by contacting TPW, personnel office, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744,

(800) 792-1112/ (The vacancy announcement can be viewed and applications can be downloaded from the TPW Web site [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).

Packets may also be picked up at the Game Warden Training Academy, 100 W. 50th Street, Austin, TX 78751 or by calling (512) 454-5619.

To reach TPW regional law enforcement offices in Corpus Christi call (361) 289-5566; Fort Worth (817) 831-3128; Houston (281) 931-6471; Lubbock (806) 761-4930; Mount Pleasant (903) 572-7966; Rusk (903) 683-2511; San Angelo (915) 651-4844; San Antonio (210) 348-7375; and Temple (254) 778-2851.

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## Game warden field notes

Following are some excerpts from recent field reports filed by Texas Game Wardens.

### It's a boat, it's a car...

The Midland Texas Parks and Wildlife Law Enforcement Office received a telephone call from a couple asking how to register a six-wheel ATV. When they were advised to contact the Department of Motor Vehicles about titling the vehicle, the woman informed the office personnel that she was planning to drive it into the lake and fish from it. After further investigation, it was discovered that the vehicle was amphibious and could, indeed, float on the water. Eventually, it was determined that the ATV should be registered and tinted through TPW so that TX numbers could be issued.

### Here come da judge...

A Gray County game warden received a call in November about shots fired from a roadway. At the location he met a deputy along with the husband and wife landowners who had reported the violation. They had apprehended a father and one of his sons, with another son hiding in the brush. After some coaxing from the father, the other son soon appeared and led everyone to the doe they had shot. Upon returning to the warden's vehicle, the father noted how mad "the lady landowner" seemed to be and asked what would happen? The warden explained that they would have to go see the judge. Now sounding worried, the father asked, "Well, how bad do you think it's going to be?" The warden calmly stated that he thought it was going to get pretty bad. "Why is that," the father asked. The warden replied, "Because 'that lady is the judge.'"

### Rude behavior at the feeder not tolerated

During the opening weekend of deer season, a Travis county warden was called to respond to a hunter harassment complaint. The person doing the harassing

was able to see a deer blind and deer feeder from his house. When he would see deer at the feeder, he would jump in his car, drive around honking his horn, discharge fireworks, whistle loudly, and anything else that would scare the deer away. The warden tried to persuade the guy to stop the harassment, but to no avail. A case was filed against the man for the harassment of a person while hunting.

### Funny, you don't look like granny...

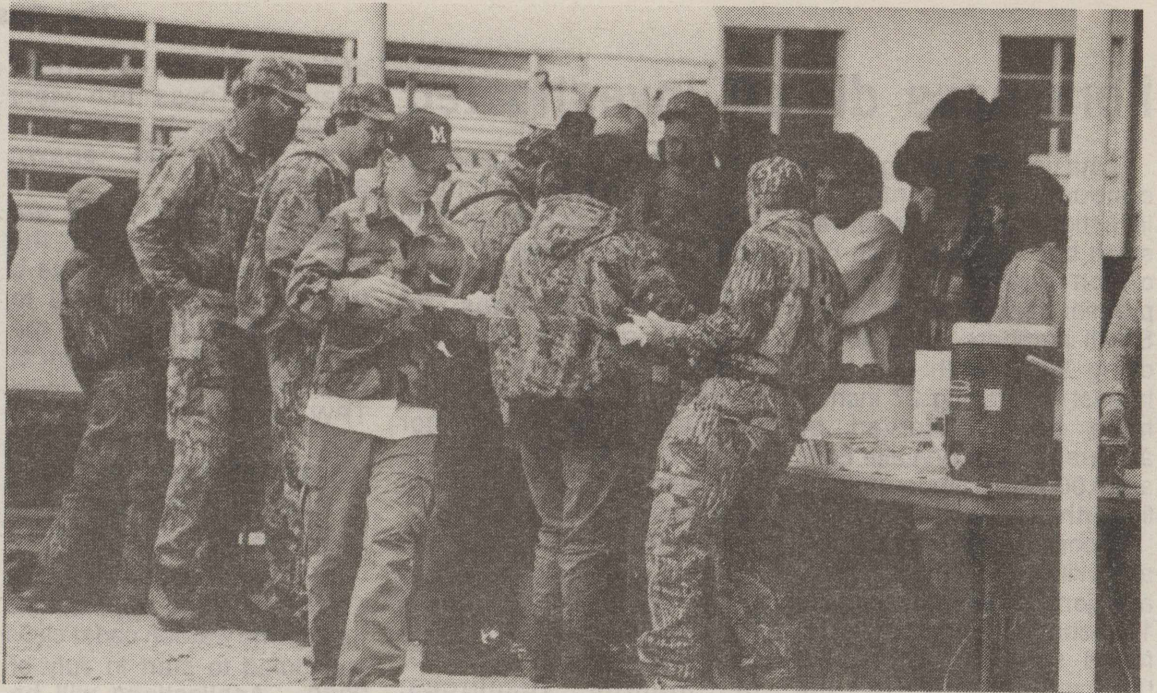
A Lufkin man was cited for hunting under the license of another person his 91-year-old grandmother. Interestingly, the man had been cited for the exact violation by the same warden seven years earlier when he was using the grandmother's tag.

### Can't say they weren't warned...

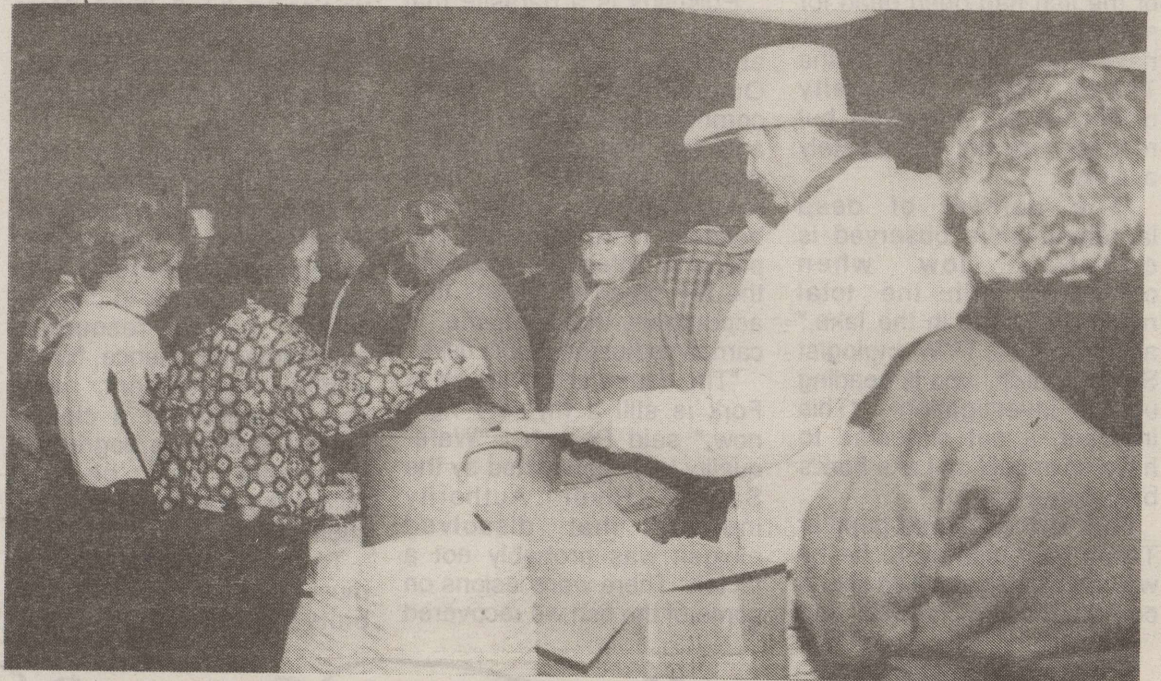
Just after Christmas, a Willacy County warden encountered two men in Port Mansfield and one of the men asked, "What's to stop someone from shooting a deer off the highway, because there are so many?" The warden replied, "Only the game wardens, and that would not be a good idea." About 30 minutes later, Warden Martinez apprehended the same two men for shooting deer from a public road. The local judge assessed fines totaling \$1,000 and a stern lecture. Yes, that would be a problem...

A Grayson County warden recently cited a duck hunter for hunting with an unplugged shotgun and confiscated the illegal weapon. While explaining the procedure for retrieving the gun, the man asked, "What if the shotgun is stolen? Would I be in trouble?" A computer check revealed the gun was indeed stolen. Additional charges are pending.

**Did You Know?**  
Butterflies taste with their feet?



Hungry hunters crowd in to get their plate during last year's barbecue lunch, sponsored by B&K Processing and the Bronte Chamber of Commerce. A free lunch is served to area hunters on the Saturday and Sunday of the season's opening weekend.



Hunters line up for the free barbecue dinner at last year's Hunter's Barbecue in Robert Lee. The annual event, which serves 1000+ hungry hunters, is sponsored by the West Coke County Community Development.

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## Monarchs pass through state

Millions of monarch butterflies are migrating through Texas en route to Mexico and researchers attempting to plumb the mysteries of monarch migration are asking the public for help through Texas Monarch Watch.

"Reports to the Texas Monarch Watch Hotline indicated monarchs have been seen in Texas in low numbers throughout August and September," says Bill Calvert, Texas Parks and Wildlife's (TPW) coordinator of the Texas Monarch Watch.

Some monarchs will arrive bearing tiny tags that indicate where they came from. Texans can help in a nationwide effort to solve the mysteries of the migration by finding tagged monarchs, tagging more of them and by keeping track of their numbers and location during migration.

Why tag Monarchs? The monarch migration is a well-known phenomenon, but still much needs to be learned. The mystery is how monarchs coming from many different breeding sites from Colorado to New England all find the same tiny over-wintering areas in the high fir forests of central Mexico without having ever been there before.

Keeping a migration calendar of the presence and abundance of monarchs and tagging monarch butterflies helps researchers keep track of where monarchs go from

year to year. Scientists compile data from the calendars and tag reports sent to Monarch Watch Centers by monitoring volunteers. Monarchs are not harmed by being caught and gently examined for presence of tags. To participate in the Texas Monarch Watch program, call TPW at (800) 792-1112, press 5 for wildlife, then 3 for wildlife diversity. A brochure about monarch migration is also available. For an update on the status of the migration and an opportunity to report your personal observations call (877) 818-1237.

### TPW seeks public comment on turkey season proposal

In an effort to address concerns brought forward at recent public meetings, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) has modified a proposal to include all or portions of five South east Texas counties for a spring hunting season for eastern turkey. In addition, TPW is proposing to allow legal archery equipment for the taking of turkey in East Texas.

The current proposal would establish a spring eastern turkey season beginning in 2000 in the following counties or portions of counties: Tyler (north of Hwy 190), Polk, San Jacinto, Montgomery (north of Hwy 105) and Walker counties.

"In our original proposal,

we overlooked a portion of the Sam Houston National Forest that extended into Montgomery County," explained Dr. Jerry Cooke, big game wildlife and upland ecology program director with TPW. "We intended to open that country to turkey hunting. Conversely, we found strong opposition to opening a season in southern Tyler County and believe the highway boundary revision addresses those concerns."

In addition to these counties, the proposal to include the use of legal archery equipment includes all counties currently having a spring eastern turkey season.

In addition, anyone wishing to submit comments on proposed regulation changes may call Robert MacDonald at (512) 389-4775.

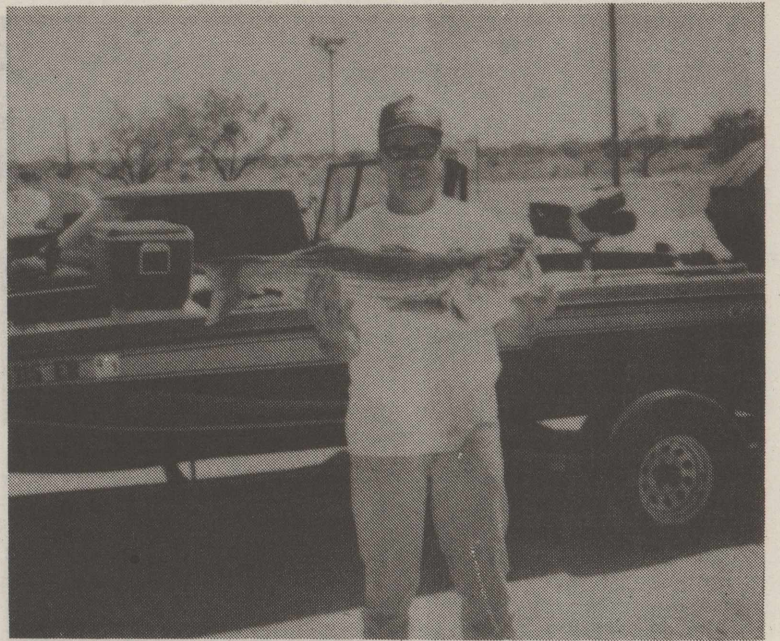
### Migratory Birds good news-bad news

#### The good news

Many migratory game bird populations have reached record high levels! For the time being, Texas migratory bird hunters can enjoy bountiful populations of waterfowl, dove, and other migratory game bird species.

#### The bad news

Due to the growing numbers of migratory bird hunters here in Texas and across the Nation, it is becoming more and more difficult to accurately estimate the annual harvest of these birds. So, we need your help in accomplishing this important task. We need you to register for the Migratory Bird



Lake Spence yielded some nice stripers this summer despite drought conditions. This 15 pounder was taken by Carl Porter.

Harvest Information Program. It is very easy to become HIP certified. Just make sure that when you are buying your hunting license this season that your license clerk or store clerk takes a few minutes to ask you if you hunt migratory birds and to answer a few simple questions about the number of migratory birds you hunted last year. Upon answering the questions, you will become automatically (and painlessly!) HIP certified for the upcoming season. It's that easy. But be sure the clerk asks you the information so your license shows you are legal.

#### How to check your license

"HIP" must appear near the

top of your Texas hunting license to verify that you are HIP certified. If you are hunting migratory birds this season and are not HIP certified, you could be ticketed. Don't let it happen to you!

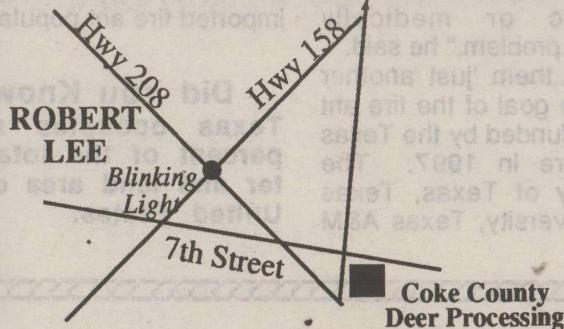
### Roast Quail

Dressed quail  
Salt and pepper  
Butter  
Bacon slices  
Ground pepper and sage

Split, salt and pepper quail. In each cavity insert a nut of butter, rolled in ground pepper and sage (easy on the sage). Wrap birds in bacon to seal the cavities. Put breast up in oven. Turn frequently. When bacon is nicely browned, birds will be done.

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Exotic animal prices vary.

\$30.00 Deposit Per Deer

Each deer individually processed!

Field Dressing \$10.00 extra

Sausage: Breakfast \$1.50

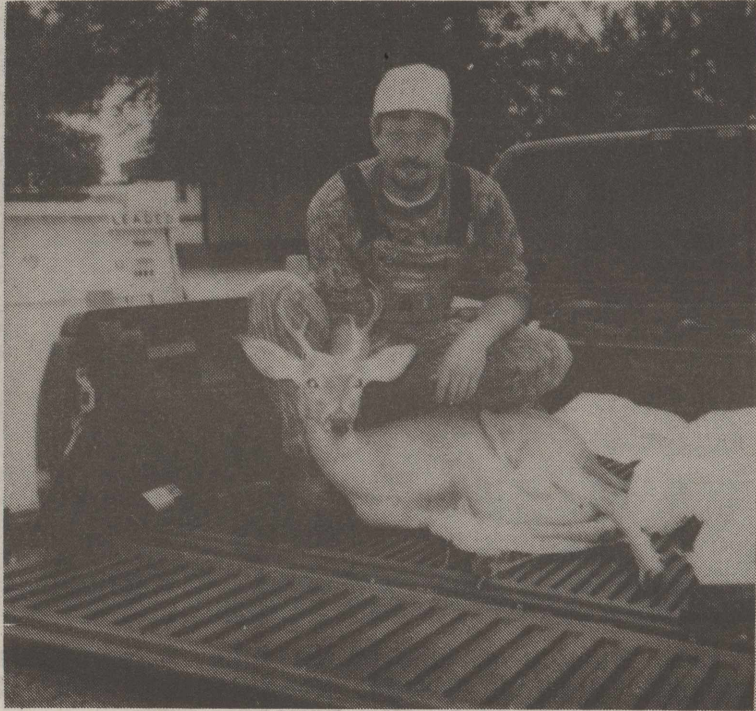
Link: Regular or Polish \$1.75

Smoked Link: Regular or German \$1.75

Sausage charge is for pounds of deer meat only. Pork trimmings, grinding, seasoning, stuffing, smoking, and packaging are included.

Deer Storage: \$5.00 Per Day





Eric Ramsey of Dallas displays this 6 point buck that he took with a bow and arrow on October 3, 1999, at Oak Creek, during the early archery-only season.

## Hunters may donate venison

With deer hunting season just around the corner, it's time again for hunters to consider what to do with their game. One option is to donate deer meat to the statewide Hunters for the Hungry program.

"Last year 50,000 pounds of venison were donated to feed our fellow Texans, and this year can be even better," said Stella Rodriguez, executive director of the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies (TACAA), administrators of the program. This low-fat, nutritious meat has been greatly appreciated by the food banks and pantries that serve Texans in need. In addition to the food donation, it's also a great way for hunters to promote a positive aspect of hunting to the community at large, Rodriguez said.

It's very easy for hunters to participate. Hunters simply tag their legally harvested deer, take it to one of the participating meat processing plants around the state and pay a tax-deductible processing fee of \$20 per deer. Participating meat processors handle the meat at a fraction of the usual fee, package it and distribute it to established charitable agencies, such as food pantries and soup kitchens. The food banks and pantries receive the venison in frozen plastic 2-pound packets donated by the Hargro Packing Company of Chicago. Donations are covered by the state "Good Faith Donor Act" and by the federal "Emerson Good Samaritan Act."

TACAA, with funding from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, has worked with Hunters for the Hungry program for almost 10 years. This includes operation of the toll-free hotline (800) 992-9676, where hunters or other interested parties can call to find the participating processors in their area, for program information or to request a brochure about the program. Currently there are 100 participating processors, but additional meat processors are needed in many parts of the state. The hotline will

also provide information to processors who are interested in joining the program.

Dr. Lee Jan, director of the Meat Safety Assurance Division of the Texas Department of Health (TDH), suggests that hunters, processors and food providers should all remember that "the objective of the Hunters for the Hungry program is to provide a healthy protein source to the less fortunate. We must rely on all participants to contribute to the assurance that the venison we distribute is indeed safe for human food." He goes on to suggest the following field care tips for hunters: Remember at all times that the venison will be food for a Texas family, do not harvest animals for the program that are acting abnormally (i.e. they have a limp, appear extremely thin or are lying down and are reluctant to get up), do not transport the game long distances on the hood of the car or in the back of a truck, as soon as is safely possible, retrieve the animal and transport it to an appropriate field-dressing area. Dressing areas should be protected from excessive

dust and other forms of contamination-if under a tree, select a grassy area as opposed to a dusty area, and be sure the tree is not a common roost for birds. Remove the hide and intestines, taking care to avoid spillage of intestinal or bladder contents on the carcass, if the temperature is cold (below 50 degrees F), the carcass may be hung if protected from external contaminants such as flies or dust, and if the temperature gets above 50 degrees F., move the carcass to a refrigerated storage cooler or cut it into quarters and keep the meat cold by packing it in ice. When packing in ice, place a layer of ice between parts (quarters). Keep the ice chest drained and well-iced until delivery and/or packaging.

Providing venison to feed the hungry requires teamwork. Ideally, the hunters will provide clean, cold meat. The processors will process only healthy-looking meat, and the organizations that serve the venison will handle and cook the meat to an appropriate temperature as measured by a meat thermometer. The Federal Drug Administration Food Code recommends that venison should be cooked until it reaches a temperature of 165 degrees F for at least 15 seconds.

In addition to hunters, processors and food providers, other organizations have contributed to the success of the program. The End Hunger Network of Houston, the Texas Association of Second Harvest Food Banks, the Texas Wildlife Association, the Exotic Wildlife Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife, TDH and Housing and Community Affairs all provided valuable information and support over the years. Any volunteer organizations, corporate sponsors or processors that are interested in working with the Hunters for the Hungry program are encouraged to contact either Mike Rhodes or Derrin Lemieux of the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies at (800) 992-9767.



Kinlee Hoyt took this "6 point" buck opening weekend of last year's deer season while hunting with his uncle, Danny Hoyt, and cousin, Mason Hoyt (front).

## Biological control offers hope for fighting fire ants

This isn't the Lone Ranger television show, and there isn't just one "silver bullet" for the bad guy.

One of those "silver bullets" being investigated to manage "the bad guy" -- red imported fire ant populations in Texas -- is biological control, said Dr. Bart Drees, coordinator of the Texas Imported Fire Ant Plan. "Biological control holds great promise for suppressing red imported fire ant populations," said Drees, Texas Agricultural Extension Service entomologist. "It does not promise to eradicate them. They are, after all, still present in their native South America where they live with dozens of parasites, predators and diseases.

"However, in South America, the red imported fire ant is 'just another ant' and rarely becomes numerous enough to become a serious economic or medically important problem," he said.

Making them 'just another ant' is the goal of the fire ant plan first funded by the Texas Legislature in 1997. The University of Texas, Texas Tech University, Texas A&M

University and the Texas Department of Agriculture have teamed up to study long-term solutions to the problem.

Researchers are hoping that classical biological control will soon be one of those preventive measures. It is the practice of finding parasites, predators and diseases-called natural enemies-and reintroducing them to exotic pest species. Red imported fire ants have few of their natural enemies in the United States. On the other hand, the native fire ant species have their own set of natural enemies and cannot successfully compete with the imported species.

Drees said, "If scientists can carefully select, import, mass produce, release and establish a number of natural enemies from the imported fire ant's homeland, or better preserve, protect and encourage the natural enemies already here, collectively they can suppress imported fire ant populations."

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Terri Hayes of Robert Lee, with the assistance of Terry Brown's Guide Service, displays a nice striper taken on Lake Spence. The fish weighed in at 21 1/2 pounds and was caught April 17th.

## Eagle numbers increasing

The banning of the pesticide DDT in 1972 and the passage of the Endangered Species Act in 1973 is credited with the dramatic recovery of the bald eagle species. Interior Department officials say the American bald eagle, national symbol since 1782, has recovered from an estimated 450 pairs in the late 1960s to 5,000 pairs today.

Celebration of the majestic bird being removed from the endangered list will take place July 4, 2000 at the White House. Congress enacted the Bald Eagle Protection Act in 1940 to make it illegal to kill, harass, possess or sell the birds. Farmers and ranchers killed thousands of the eagles contending they targeted their livestock. Many were harvested for sale for their unique feathers and claws.

The eagle was adopted as the national symbol shortly after the Revolutionary War.

With the changing face of the oil industry, as well as other hits to our community, the extended drought has added insult to injury. By weakening our tax structure due to sagging oil activity and people moving away for various reasons, the county is suffering. An aid to our economy was E.V. Spence Reservoir which has become a wide place on the Colorado River.

The one bright spot over the last few years has been our hunting and fishing which brought new blood to the community. The long dry spell has made it difficult to attract hunters or fisherman. Some ranchers have heard from hunters who are relocating to another area to hunt.

Ranchers and land managers, if it will just rain, need to begin work to make hunting and pleasure leasing

more attractive. The focus of rangeland is shifting away from livestock grazing and cultivation. Many ranchers are shifting forward in priority to recreation.

If ranches have been cleared in the last 10 years, letting them grow up for wildlife is helpful. If clearing is needed, some sort of pattern may be the answer, leaving areas of brush in checkerboard, meandering strips, or island brush habitat. Sowing native grasses could give the landowner more control over genetics.

Even encouraging hunters to walk more instead of driving through areas of cover might be helpful. Hunters and leasers need a contract agreement even if it is just an informal understanding-then leave the hunters to their outing. Tend to work and ranching chores at a minimum or during the middle of the week. Some kind of shelter, even a small barn, trailer, or

shed would be good for sudden fronts with adverse weather. Most deer hunters prefer rustic conditions but a nearby source of water would be a plus, too. If hunting leases bring in more than livestock, cut back on your inventory.

### Reservations now available via Internet

Making overnight camping reservations at Texas state parks is now as easy as a click of an electronic mouse. Texas Parks and Wildlife has implemented a new park reservations option that allows customers to book campsites and other facilities at places like Inks Lake and Garner state parks through the agency's Internet site.

Internet customers are charged a \$6 non-refundable convenience fee to make or cancel a reservation via the Internet. There is no charge for customers to check campsite availability at 75 Texas state parks. Texas joins California, New York and Oregon as offering on-line park reservations, but charges the least for the privilege.

Park customers may still reserve campsites and shelters by calling the State Parks Central Reservation Center (CRC) at 512-389-8900 during operating hours Monday through Saturday, but now can access the park reservations system 24 hours a day by logging onto TPW's website: [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us). CRC officials say the new Internet system will save customers time and money since callers from outside Austin will avoid long-distance phone charges that can add up during peak calling times when all 48 incoming lines can be busy.

"Customers will be able to zero right in on the type of site they want at their favorite parks, check availability 21 days in advance and reserve a campsite 333 days out," CRC manager Luke Thompson said. "They'll also have the advantage of being able to make reservations 24 hours a day, seven days a week on the Net."

TPW began offering park reservations through the CRC more than four years ago, and has booked well over a million reservations, averaging about 350,000 reservations per year. Customers can reach



This 32 pound yellow cat is quite a hefty handful to display, not to mention trying to get him in the boat off a trotline. Ronald and Joseph Jett are the lucky anglers who took this nice yellow using a perch for bait on May 16, 1999, at Oak Creek Lake.

reservation agents from 9 am to 8 pm Monday through Friday, and from 9 am to noon on Saturdays. Beginning May 1, 1998, the CRC began charging customers for canceling or transferring campsite reservations to cut down on the abuses of the system.

The new Internet booking policy allows customers to reserve only single campsites and shelters, not group facilities, cabins or other park facilities. A credit card must be used to confirm a reservation on the spot.

Most state park facilities can be reserved through the CRD as early as 11 months prior to the arrival date and as late as two days prior to arrival. Only Indian Lodge and the Texas State Railroad handle their own reservations.

### Quail Special

8 dressed quail  
2/3 cup honey  
2 tsp. curry powder  
1 cup dry sherry  
4 tsp. cinnamon  
1 1/2 tsp. garlic salt

Place quail in shallow baking dish. Blend all other ingredients well and pour over quail. Marinate at room temperature 2 to 3 hours or overnight in the refrigerator. Drain off marinade and save. When charcoal briquettes are covered with white ash, place quail on grill, breast up. Turn every 10 minutes, basting with reserved marinade. Cook slowly 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 hours or until done. Quail will be dark brown.



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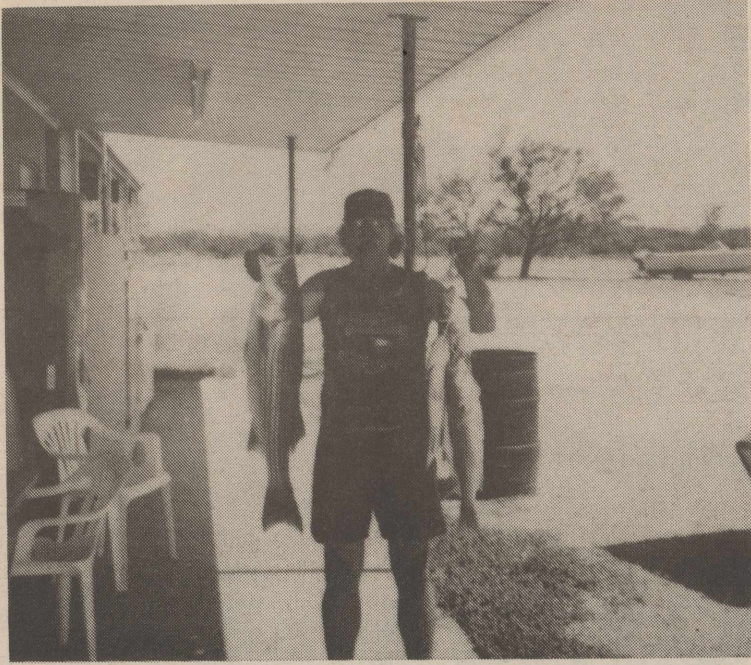
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Gene Wheless shows off his catch taken on Lake Spence August 10th. The biggest striper weighed in at 11.4 pounds while the rest of the stringer varied from 3 to 4 pounds.

## Sharelunker sets new goals

It's time to kick Texas' trophy bass management into overdrive, according to state fisheries biologists, who point to the Budweiser ShareLunker program as the catalyst.

The ShareLunker program is an integral component of a unique new Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) initiative to produce a new world record largemouth bass in Texas. Program officials believe the knowledge and experience gleaned from 13 years of borrowing trophy bass from Texas anglers for hatchery production and research, combined with resources at the state-of-the-art Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC), make this an attainable goal.

But, first things first, explained Allen Forshage, TFFC director. "Our ultimate goal is to break the world record in Texas. To increase our chances, we want to stock lunker bass fingerlings in every suitable water body in the state," said Forshage. "To be able to do that, we have to have the broodstock first and the ShareLunker program is a proven and effective means to deliver those fish."

Since 1986, 298 bass weighing 13 pounds or more including two state record fish have been loaned or donated to the ShareLunker program. The trophy bass are used by

TFFC's hatchery staff in research and to produce potential trophy-sized bass for stocking in Texas. In this way, the best, big-fish genes will be captured and passed on to improve bass fishing in Texas.

Because not all trophy bass are caught during the spawn, biologists are hoping to increase fish hatchery production by extending the time frame the TFFC will accept ShareLunker entries. The season will now run Oct. 1, 1999 through April 30, 2000, giving anglers two more months to participate.

"This should help us bring in more broodstock at a time of year when the bass aren't as stressed as during the spawn," offered David Campbell, TFFC hatchery manager. "Thanks to conservation-minded anglers who know how to handle big fish properly, and the facilities here at the center, we're getting good survival and production and can handle a bigger load."

Several high-water marks were established at the TFFC during the 1998-99 Budweiser Sharelunker season, according to Campbell. The 17 fish entered into the program last year produced a record 13 spawns. This resulted in production of 130,591 lunker eggs. In a precedent-setting move they hope to continue,

biologists have stocked the fingerlings from these lunkers in every lake producing an entry in the program last year.

Anglers will be offered the option of permanently donating their lunker catches to the program for ongoing research and hatchery production. In exchange, the Sharelunker program provides anglers with a fiberglass replica of their catch. This year, the ShareLunker program is offering additional incentives to participating anglers. Texas residents who donate or lend their catch to program will receive a \$600 Lifetime Resident Fishing License and recognition at the annual awards banquet at the TFFC. Non-resident anglers will have \$600 donated in their name to the Parks and Wildlife Foundation's ShareLunker endowment fund. Anyone catching a 13-pound-plus largemouth bass is eligible to participate by calling (903) 670-2226 weekdays or by paging (888) 784-0600 weekends and evenings.

The Budweiser ShareLunker program operates under the auspices of the Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas Inc. and is sponsored by Anheuser Busch. The mission of the Budweiser ShareLunker program is to involve the public in the conservation and enhancement of trophy bass fishing in Texas. "For more information on the Budweiser ShareLunker program, call the ShareLunker staff at (903) 676-BASS.

## TPW awards grants

Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) has announced \$500,000 in grants for 30 local groups throughout the state to increase outdoor opportunities for youth and minorities. This is the first year that half a million dollars in grant money has been distributed - twice the amount of previous funding cycles.

The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) was created by the department in 1996 to assist and provide grants to non-profit organizations whose programs introduce young people, minorities and adults to outdoor services, programs and facilities.

CO-OP grants range from \$2,000 to a maximum of \$20,000. The total dollar



Donna Scott (from left), Brittany Barrett, Jolene Henderson, and Elaine McKee take a break from helping with last year's Hunter's Barbecue Lunch at Bronte. The barbecue lunches are served free of charge to hunters on Saturday and Sunday of opening weekend. The annual feeds are sponsored by B&K Processing and the Bronte Chamber of Commerce.

amount of grants awarded has now reached \$1.25 million to 81 organizations.

"The Community Outdoor Outreach Program is our flagship outreach program," said TPW executive director Andrew Sansom. "The success of this program is measured in the quality outdoor experiences provided for a large number of children."

Organizations eligible to participate include local non-profit groups, non-political groups representing underserved populations, local governments and TPW-related programs. The types of programs eligible for grants include outdoor education, recreation, wildlife/nature/environmental education, recreation safety, and other initiatives related to the mission of Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Projects providing service to participants such as ethnic minorities, youths, rural populations, women, low income, or persons with physical or mental disabilities are encouraged to apply.

"The goal of this program is to assist local groups who are already reaching out to young people and getting them involved in outdoor activities,"

stated Darlene Lewis, CO-OP coordinator for TPW. "These groups are usually working on shoe-string budgets and these grants make a huge difference in terms of equipment and additional field trips."

The next CO-OP grant application deadline is December 1, 1999. Grant applications are available by mail or through the TPW website. Write to Texas Parks and Wildlife, Attention: Darlene Lewis, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, Texas 78744 or call Ms. Lewis at (512) 912-7145. Or visit the TPW website at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).

## Timely Tips

You know those big pecan trees are full of squirrels but you don't see any - nothing but nests. When you're hunting alone they pull that old "other-side-of-the-tree" trick on you. Carry a spool of monofilament fishing line with you. Unroll about 25 foot and tie off to a limb or bush on the other side of the tree from you. Give it a good tug several times and sit back and watch. See if that brings your supper to your side of the tree.

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## Changes in rules approved

Striving for simplification of fishing regulations and increased hunting opportunity, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission at its April 15 public meeting adopted several changes as part of the 1999-2000 Statewide Hunting and Fishing Proclamation. The changes took effect September 1.

Most of the alterations to this year's hunting regulations involve opening additional hunting seasons in certain counties, maintaining landowner management flexibility and increasing hunting opportunity. In particular, the commission eliminated the doe tags in five north Texas counties, increased doe days in 36 others and rejected proposals to restrict deer harvest in nine counties, approved a bonus deer tag system, established a youth-only squirrel season and created an archery-only deer season in another county.

The bonus tag option approved by the commission is designed to allow increased flexibility for landowners and land managers when hunting activities aren't enough to meet management goals. The tags can only be used in conjunction with Managed Lands Deer Permits, Landowner Assisted Management Permits or special drawn hunts on departmental lands. Under the regulation, individuals who meet the above criteria may purchase up to five either sex bonus tags for \$10 each wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold.

In an effort to stay on the leading edge of fisheries management, Texas fisheries biologists have not hesitated to implement changes in regulations they hope will improve fishing. Some of these experiments have paid huge dividends for the

fisheries as well as the anglers. "But, if we do not see the results we're looking for, we don't have a problem changing our regulations back to simplify rules for anglers," explained Phil Durocher, director of inland fisheries with Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW). In addressing some of the regulation experiments that have not fulfilled the agency's expectations, the commission approved the following changes designed to standardize fishing regulations for freshwater and salt-water fishing:

- \*A change in harvest regulations for blue catfish at Fort Phantom Hill Reservoir and E.V. Spence Reservoir from the current 18 inch minimum length limit and 5 fish daily bag to a 12 inch minimum length limit and a 25 fish daily bag for blue catfish and channel catfish in any combination.

- \*A change in harvest regulations for largemouth bass at Lake Brownwood, Champion Creek, and Coleman from the current 16 inch minimum length to the statewide 14 inch minimum length limit. Daily bag will remain at 5 fish a day.

- \*A change in harvest regulations for largemouth bass at Lake Striker, Tyler State Park Lake, and Weatherford from the current 14-18 inch slot length limit to the statewide 14 inch minimum length limit. Daily bag to remain at 5 fish a day.

The commission also adopted a regulation aimed at improving fishing quality through the creation of a 14-21 inch slot limit for largemouth bass at Lake Murvaul with a 5 fish daily bag of which only one fish 21 inches or greater may be harvested.

- \*Modification of king mackerel size limits from 23 to 27 inches total length to be comparable to those currently

proposed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

- \*A reduction in the red snapper daily bag limit from 5 fish to 4 to be comparable with federal regulations. This regulation is already in effect under emergency rule and will be extended by this commission action.

The commission also made it possible for anglers on three popular catch-and-release-only lakes greater opportunity to weigh in a trophy bass by reducing the minimum size limit required to retain a fish until weighed in. The change affects Purtil Creek State Park, Gibbons Creek Reservoir and Lake Raven. The minimum length will be changed from 22 to 21 inches.

Other fisheries regulation changes adopted include:

- \*A change in statewide harvest regulations for walleye to a 5 fish daily bag and no minimum length limit, however, only two of which can be under 16 inches in total length.

- \*Prohibition of the taking of fish underwater with a hand-held device other than a spear or spear-gun.

- \*Prohibition of the possession while fishing or use of certain baitfish in the Trans-Pecos. The only fishes that could be used for bait would be common carp, fathead minnows, gizzard and threadfin shad, Mexican Tetra, Rio Grande cichlid, silver-sides, sunfish (Lepomis), goldfish, and shiners.

Among the new regulations designed to increase hunting



Lloyd Walker hooked this 7.5 pound black bass August 1 on Lake Spence. The bass hit on an artificial worm.

opportunity, include the following:

- \*An open general season for white-tailed deer in Grayson County from the 1st Saturday in November through the 1st Sunday in January, restricted to lawful archery equipment and cross-bows only. Hunters in this county would be exempted from having to purchase a Special Archery Stamp. The bag limit will be three deer, no more than one buck and no more than two antlerless deer (antlerless by Managed Land Deer Permit only).

- \*An open white-tailed deer season in Archer, Baylor, Clay, Montague, and Wise Counties to run from November 6 through January 2 with a three deer bag limit, no more than one buck and no more than two antlerless

deer.

- \*An increase in the number of doe days from six to 16 in 36 Panhandle counties.

- \*Creation of a youth-only squirrel season during the weekend prior to the archery-only deer season in counties having a restricted squirrel season.

The commission rejected three proposals brought forward by the public that would restrict landowner flexibility and hunter opportunity in several counties. In Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Lavaca counties, proposals to restrict buck harvest to spike bucks (at least 4 inches), and bucks having more than 8 points, and to open the white-tailed deer season from Saturday nearest November 15 through the 2nd Sunday in January, was denied.

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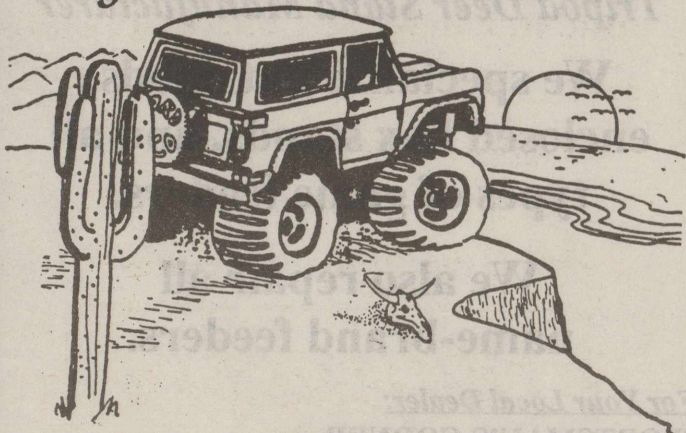
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## Biologists address concerns

Responding to recent public concerns about a scientific study on the impacts of modified regulations for bass tournaments, state fisheries officials reassure that where Lake Fork's bass fishery is concerned, protecting this goose and its golden eggs are high priorities.

Recently, about 150 concerned anglers, fishing guides and merchants at Lake Fork shared their views and questions about Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) plans to study biological, social and economic impacts of tournament waivers. The agency is conducting the study at the direction of several state legislators concerned about the effects of a bill introduced during the last session that would have exempted bass tournaments from certain harvest restrictions.

"A lot of people are concerned that this study will have a significant negative impact to Lake Fork's trophy bass fishery," said Bill Provine, chief of inland fisheries management and research with TPW. "We're not going to let that happen. If bass mortality levels during the first tournament are high, we'll report that information to the legislators. If they feel there is enough information to

### Antler growth explained

A buck deer's antlers are the fastest growing bone known to man. He will grow them from slick head to a full term, hardened rack in about 6 months. A young deer's rations are needed for body growth and he will only be a spike. As his body becomes more mature, the nourishment he takes in is used for antler growth. Therefore a normal buck's antlers get progressively better as he gets older and usually reaches a peak in 5 1/2 years. Growth proceeds in this manner only if conditions (rainfall, nutrition, etc.) remain constant.

Individual animals' basic configuration remains the same year to year unless injury or breakage interrupts their form. Antlers grow independently of one another. An injury to one doesn't affect the other. It is a documented fact that if a buck injures, say, a rear leg on his right, the left antler will be deformed the rest of his life.

As a buck's hormone level drops after age 6 or so, his antlers may decrease in size.

Studies have been made by researchers who have removed a gland (pineal) from a buck deer's head, which is said to control the release of the hormone melatonin, and it reverses the time period he develops antlers. Removal of the pituitary gland, which triggers the production of the male sex hormone testosterone, prevented a deer from developing antlers at all.

A buck is extremely vain and uses his finely developed rack to establish a pecking order among smaller males and to stake out his mating territory.

make a determination, they can request we end the study at any time."

By using Texas' premier bass fishery as the testing grounds for this study, biologists can reasonably say these results would be applicable on any lake in Texas. "If we held it on any other lake, would the findings be accepted at Fork?" asked Provine. "Probably not, due to Fork's popularity and fishery characteristics such as larger average bass size and incidence of other variables like largemouth bass virus. We know the virus is present at Fork and results from a lake without the virus would not be applicable to Fork."

The study will encompass six TPW-permitted bass tournaments on Lake Fork, one of the best trophy bass fisheries in the nation and a favorite with competitive anglers. Because TPW has no experience in running bass derbies and seeks to ensure the data accurately reflects the impacts of an actual event, the Lake Fork Merchants Council will be coordinating

### State park, license revenue increases in 1999

Revenue from Texas state park fees and hunting license sales was up significantly in 1999, according to the latest figures from Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW).

State park revenues increased more than \$850,000 in the 1999 fiscal year (Sept. 1-Aug. 31) for a total of \$21.1 million, a 4.3 percent increase over 1998. The revenues include fees for entrance, use, recreation, concession and facilities, plus license sales. Park entrance and use revenues increased 8.7 percent, indicating that more people may be visiting state parks.

License sales from Aug. 11, when new season hunting licenses went on sale, through Sept. 22, showed an increase of more than 63,000 license items, generating a revenue increase of more than \$1 million over the same period in 1998. Total license revenue so far for the 1999-2000 season is \$24,730,405 compared to \$23,564,024 for the same period last season.

"The increase in items sold is at least as important as the revenue increase, as it indicates that we have more people buying hunting licenses in Texas," said Jayna Burgdorf, chief financial officer at TPW. "This is the second year running that we've seen small but significant increases in hunting participation in Texas."

the tournaments. "For the results of this experiment to be useful in making future decisions about allowing slot limit exemptions, the measurement of fish mortality needs to be conducted on fish caught and handled by actual tournament anglers," said Provine.

The first exempted tournament is scheduled in early October, with the remaining test cases to be scheduled during the next year. Previous studies have confirmed that bass die in warmer water, so no tournaments will be held in the summer. "We would never consider issuing permits during the summer, so there's no reason to conduct experiments during that time," Provine said. Researchers plan to complete the study before the start of the next legislative session in January 2001.

Provine added that the study is not designed to undermine or set back trophy bass management efforts at Lake Fork. "Just the opposite; the goal of this study is to obtain sufficient information to understand the impact of slot waiver tournaments on the ability of Lake Fork to maintain its current trophy status. If this status is determined to be in jeopardy, we will strongly recommend this issue be dropped."

Conversely, Provine said, if the biological impacts are insignificant then state leadership will have to rely on the economic and social impacts.

"We realize there's an economic benefit to the local community from bass tournaments and will be measuring these six events to determine what that is," noted Phil Durocher, TPW inland fisheries division director. "The biological aspect of the study will be to determine total bass mortality associated with bass tournaments beyond what could be expected from catch and immediate release of slot-sized fish. We also want to gauge the attitudes and opinions on exempted bass tournaments from among our constituents, including Lake Fork anglers, business owner, fishing guides and property owners in the counties surrounding Lake Fork."

As a result of a suggestion during the public meeting, researchers will be reviewing tax revenues from the counties surrounding Lake Fork to see if the local economy is in decline. An economic impact study showed Lake Fork's bass fishery contributed \$27.5 million annually to the area's economy five years ago.

For more information on exempted tournaments on Lake Fork contact the Lake Fork Merchants Council, PO



Oak Creek Lake gave up this 4.89 lb. black to Eric McWhorter on October 5, 1999, while fishing with a bass minnow.

Box 155, Emory, TX 75440. Public comment on the tournament exemption issue may be made to Texas Parks and Wildlife, Inland Fisheries Division, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744 or by filling out a form online at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/doform?inld](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/doform?inld).

### New Lake records

At Lake Brownwood a hybrid striped bass was caught by Lee Buchanan, on 3-27-99. It weighed 5.97 lbs. Lake Coleman a white crappie was caught by Steven Goetz, on 3-23-99. It weighed 0.92 lbs. Lake Ft. Phantom Hill a bighead carp was caught by Andy Tapia on 3-5-99. It weighed 65.0 lbs. and is the state record. Lake McCarty a white crappie was caught by "Country" Hughes, on 4-18-99. It weighed 1.39 lbs. Lake O.H. Ivie a hybrid striped bass was caught by Gregorio Costa, on 2-20-99. It weighed 8.01 lbs. Lake O.H. Ivie a blue catfish was caught by Jim McKelvy, on 2-10-99. It weighed 25.4 lbs. Lake Ringling a channel catfish was caught by Cody Terry, on 5-15-99. It weighed 1.77 lbs. Lake Ringling a largemouth bass was caught by Jason

Williams, on 5-15-99. It weighed 1.36 lbs. Lake Ringling a black bullhead was caught by Andrew Dale, on 5-15-99. It weighed 0.50 lbs. Lake Sweetwater a channel catfish was caught by Jenna Lee, on 5-14-99. It weighed 1.18 lbs. Lake Sweetwater a white bass was caught by Robyn Cole, on 5-14-99. It weighed 1.05 lbs. Lake Sweetwater a warmouth was caught by Robyn Cole, on 5-14-99. It weighed 0.12 lbs. Lake Texas & Pacific a white crappie was caught by Bob Dean, on 4-19-99. It weighed 2.64 lbs.

### Believe it or Not...

An Upshur County warden attempted to pull over a DWI suspect who had run several cars off the road. The suspect at first refused to pull over, then finally pulled into a gas station where officers had to physically remove him from the vehicle. The warden then had to control a crowd of angry motorists who had witnessed the events and wanted to whip the suspect for endangering other motorists. On top of it all, the suspect was wearing a MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) t-shirt.



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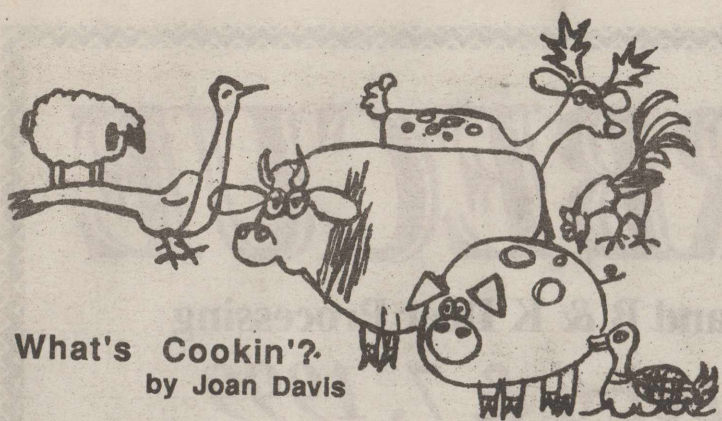
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**What's Cookin'?**  
by Joan Davis

**Quail With Rice**

4 bacon strips, halved  
8 quail (about 2 lbs.)  
1 c. shredded carrots  
1/2 c. sliced green onions  
1/2 c. minced fresh parsley  
2 1/2 c. chicken broth  
1 c. uncooked long grain rice  
1/2 t. salt  
1/4 t. lemon-pepper seasoning

In a large skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until partially done. Remove bacon; drain, reserving 2 T. drippings. Brown quail in drippings. Remove and keep warm. Saute carrots, onions and parsley in drippings until tender. Add broth, rice, salt, and lemon-pepper; bring to a boil. Place quail over rice; place one bacon strip on each. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 25-30 minutes or until rice is tender and quail is cooked. Makes 4 servings.

**HONEY SMOKED PHEASANT**

2 (2 lb.) whole pheasants  
Fresh sliced lemons  
1 scant C. dry meat-seasoning mix, divided  
1/2 C. dry white wine  
1/2 C. honey  
1/3 C. mild picante sauce  
1/2 C. barbecue sauce

Salt and pepper to taste  
Preheat smoker to 200°F. If pheasants are freshly killed, wash in cold water until chilled and pat dry. Rub whole birds with lemon slices. Hand rub each bird inside and out with 1/2 cup dry seasoning mix. Place pheasants breast side down in smoker and cook 2 hours. Meanwhile, in saucepan combine wine, honey, picante sauce, and barbecue sauce, stirring over low heat. During second hour of cooking, baste pheasants every 15 minutes. Remove from cooker and wrap loosely in foil. Cook another 30 min-

utes. Salt and pepper to taste. Makes 6-8 servings.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ROASTED WILD TURKEY**

1 turkey, 8 to 10 lbs., ready to cook  
Salt and pepper  
8 C. partially dry bread cubes  
3/4 C. finely chopped celery  
1/2 C. chopped walnuts  
2 to 3 tsp. sage  
1 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. pepper  
1-1/2 C. chopped onion  
1/4 C. butter or margarine  
1/4 C. water

Sprinkle turkey inside and out with salt and pepper. Combine bread, celery, walnuts, and seasonings. Cook onion in butter or margarine until tender, but not brown; pour over bread mixture. Add the water and toss lightly. Spoon stuffing lightly into body cavity. Put remaining dressing in a greased casserole. Cover and bake in oven with turkey during last 30 minutes of roasting time. Truss the bird. Cover breast with

bacon slices and cheesecloth soaked in melted bacon fat. Place turkey, breast up, on rack in roasting pan. Roast at 325°F for 20 to 25 minutes per pound or until tender, basting frequently with bacon fat drippings in pan. Remove cheesecloth, skewers, and string. Serves 8-10.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Enchiladas**

12 corn tortillas  
oil  
1 large onion, chopped  
2 cups grated cheddar cheese  
1 (4-ounce) can chopped green chilies  
2 cups venison chili

In a large frying pan, heat each tortilla in hot oil until limp. Fill center of each tortilla with a mixture of onion, cheddar cheese and chilies. Roll up and place seam side down in a 11 3/4" x 7 1/2" glass baking dish. Cover with chili.

Sprinkle with additional grated cheese. Bake at 350°F until hot and cheese is melted.

**Mexican Stew**

3 tbsp bacon drippings or vegetable oil  
1 1/2 lbs venison round, coarsely chopped  
1 small onion, chopped  
2 cups canned tomatoes with green chilies  
1 tsp ground cumin  
1 tsp garlic powder  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp black pepper

Heat bacon drippings or oil in heavy fry pan. Saute venison and onions in drippings. Mix all of the spices with the chili tomatoes and add to the venison. Reduce heat to simmer; cover and cook 1 1/2 hours. To thicken, mix 2 tbsp flour with 1/4 cup water and stir into stew. Serve over cooked rice or spoon onto hot flour tortillas and roll them up like enchiladas.

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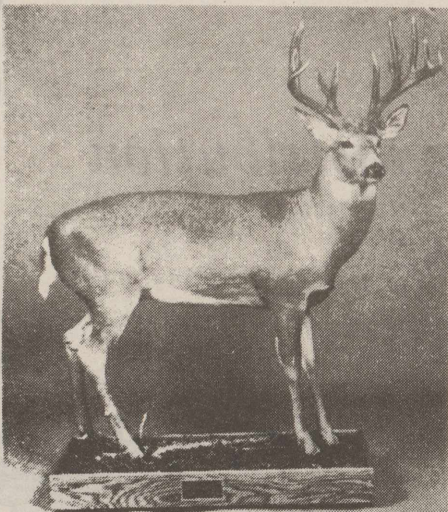
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