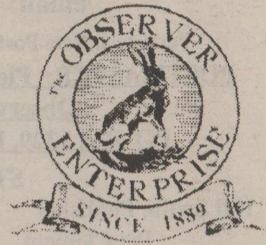


# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

Single Copy 50¢



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(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 123, No. 16

Friday, October 29, 2010

## General election slated for Tuesday, November 2

The General Election will be held Tuesday, November 2, 2010.

The polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. Voting locations include:

Precinct 1 - Robert Lee Senior Citizens Building, 225 County Park Road, Robert Lee;

Precinct 2 - Bronte Senior Citizens' Building, 613 E. Oliver Avenue, Bronte;

Precinct 3 - Coke County Courthouse, 13 E. 7th Street, Robert Lee; and

Precinct 4 - Bronte City Hall, 114 S. Washington, Bronte.

Although this is an off-year for a presidential election, there are a couple of races of interest on the state level, and a couple that are being contested locally. Kathi Cox and Hal Spain are vying for the county treasurer's position, and Jackie Walker and Leroy Casey are running for the Justice of the Peace, Precinct #1 post.

In addition, the race for governor is heating up, with incumbent Rick Perry being challenged by former Houston mayor Bill White. Others of interest locally on the ballot are U.S. Representative, District 11 Mike Conaway and State Representative, District 27 Drew Darby.

Other uncontested races in Coke County include: County Judge - Roy Blair; County and District Clerk -

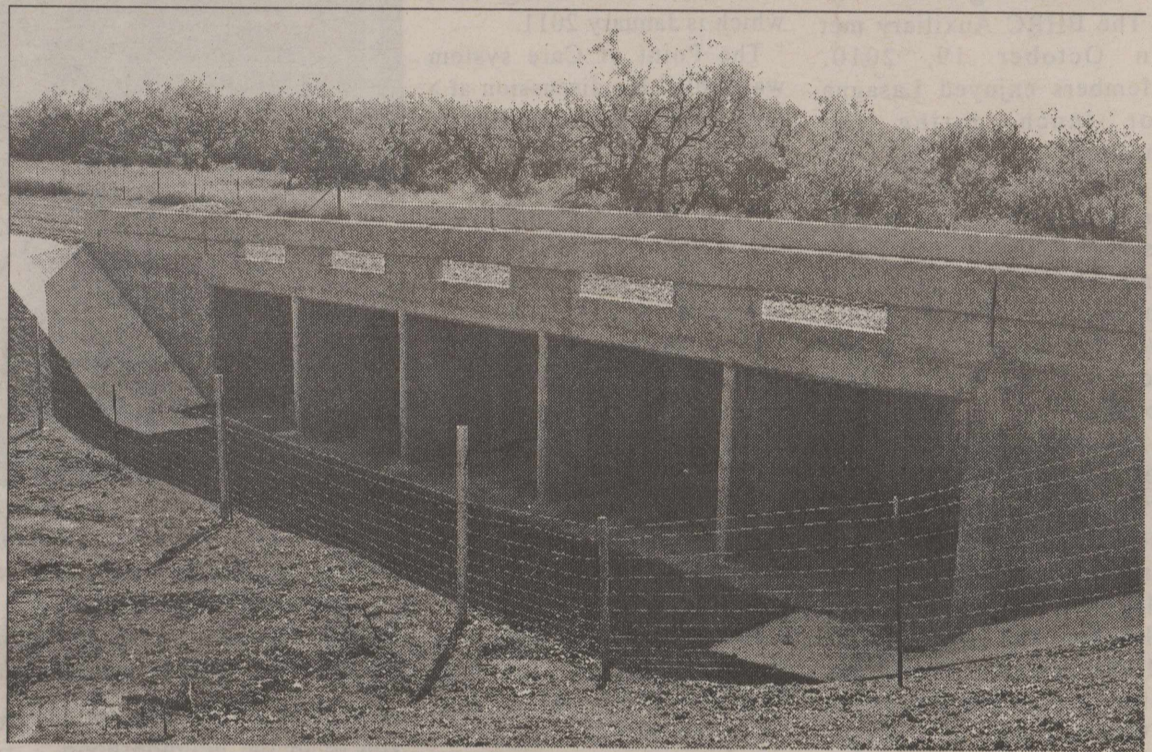
Mary Grim; County Commissioner, Precinct 2 - Wendell Lee; County Commissioner, Precinct 4 - Bobby Blaylock; and Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 - Grady Coulter.

County/District Clerk Mary Grim wants to remind voters that in this election, they may vote for whomever they want, regardless of party affiliation. In the primary election last spring, voters were restricted to casting their ballots in the democratic or republican primaries. In the upcoming general election, voters may cast a ballot for whomever they like, regardless of party affiliation. Voters may still cast a straight party ticket on the general election ballot; however, they are urged to go through the whole ballot and make sure that all their preferences are within that party.

### Fort Chadbourne TV special to air October 31

On October 31, 2010, Channel 12 - KTXS Abilene, and its sister channel KTXE San Angelo, will be broadcasting the hour long video, "The Lost Fort" at 3 pm.

It is the story of Fort Chadbourne. The production was filmed at the fort and other areas around Texas. It was produced by David Carter and Rusty Spur Productions of Richland Hills, Texas. It is narrated by



**Denman Lane Bridge Completed!** According to Coke County Precinct 1 Commissioner Gene Montgomery, the new bridge on Denman Lane has been completed at a cost to Coke County of only \$14,587.62. Over 96% of the project was funded through federal and state monies.

actor Barry Corbin. Mr. Carter has earned several emmies for previous productions, and this one should add another one to his list.

### Bridge construction completed

By Gene Montgomery  
Coke County Commissioner,  
Precinct 1

I am pleased to inform everyone that the Denman Lane Bridge in Precinct 1 is completed. It is open and ready for use, although, the county precinct hands will be working on the road due to the years of being closed.

The existing bridge was structurally deficient and closed down. The proposed project to replace the bridge was approved by Texas Department of Transportation and Coke County. The state and county entered into a funding agreement of 80% federal funds, 10% state funds and 10% local (county) funds. Cost estimate was \$400,000.00.

Note that Coke County is currently listed by the department as an economically disadvantaged county. This reduced the county funding part to 3.7% of total project cost; or the cost estimate would have been \$40,000.00 but at 3.7% it was \$14,587.62.

The Engineering cost was \$94,260.00 and the Construction cost was \$300,000.00 for a total of \$394,260.00. Coke County

Pct. 1 contribution was only \$14,587.62.

Others involved in the project include the Texas Department of Transportation, San Angelo; Gary Enos, P.E. Bridge Engineer; Matthew Wingfield, Project Manager; Reese Construction Company, out of Texas and Kansas; Supervisor Benjamin Ortega and his crew; and Field Supervisor "Ringo". They completed the project in 70 days, two days short of the 72 days listed on their bid.

### Potato Bake Luncheon set for November 2

Sorosis Study Club will hold its fourth annual potato bake luncheon on Tuesday, November 2nd at the new First Baptist Church fellowship hall. The luncheon will be from 11am until 1pm. All money raised from the luncheon will go into the club's high school scholarship fund. Tickets may be purchased in advance from any club member. The club members are excited to be able to use the church's new fellowship hall. For those who cannot stay, to-go containers will be available.

### Come to the movies at the Texas Theater in Bronte

There will be a fund raising event on Saturday, October 30, at 2 pm. It will feature "How to Train Your Dragon".

On Saturday at 7 pm, the feature will be "House on Haunted Hill".

There will be drinks, popcorn, & hot dogs. There will be a drawing for 2 bicycles at the 2:00 pm matinee and lots of other giveaways for the 7:00 pm. This will be sponsored by the Coke County Dive & Recovery Team.

### 4-H Fundraiser slated

The Coke County 4-H clubs are participating in their annual fundraiser. 4-H members from Bronte and Robert Lee 4-H clubs are now selling the RADDE Knives and Gifts.

Anyone wanting to place an order should contact any 4-H member in Bronte or Robert Lee.

Deadline for orders is Monday, November 22, and orders will be in before the holidays. Contact the Texas AgriLife Extension office for more details.

### Desserts needed for Bronte Barbecue

The annual Hunter's Wild Game Barbecue in Bronte will be held Saturday, November 6, from 11 am until 2 pm.

Coordinator Kerry Hall would like to make an appeal to area cooks to provide a dessert for the benefit barbecue. If you would like to donate a dessert, please call Kerry Hall at 473-2065.

## Coke County Football!

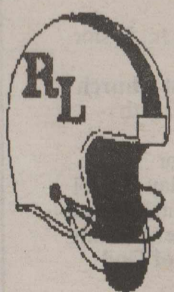
Robert Lee Steers

vs.

Water Valley Wildcats

Friday, October 29

Robert Lee, 7:30 pm



BRONTE LONGHORNS

vs.

Christoval Cougars

Friday, October 29

Bronte, 7:30 pm





**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

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Pat Clement Wayne McCutchen

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

Per Year in Coke & Sterling Counties.....\$25.00  
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$30.00  
Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$32.00

**BHRC Auxiliary meeting held**

The BHRC Auxiliary met on October 19, 2010. Members enjoyed Lasagna for lunch during the meeting.

Plans for the Halloween party were discussed as well as the Thanksgiving Party and Christmas gifts for residents. The Auxiliary will be purchasing a few new recliners for residents to enjoy.

Members present were: Jesse Sims, Doris Sims, Ed Cumbie, Jane Cumbie, Royce Fancher, Jean Fancher, Lee Wommack, Marilyn Bivins, Lanette Fletcher and Kathi Cox. Misty Ball, Activities Director, was also present.

**West Coke County Hospital District Board Meeting**

By Pat Stephens

The Board of Directors of the West Coke County Hospital District met in regular session, Monday, October 25, 2010, in the conference room at the Robert Lee Care Center. Members present included President Mary Bessent, Dessie Kendall, Marilyn White, Mike Lomas, and Pat Stephens. Others present were Janie Munoz, Business Office Manager, and Roger Alexander, Administrator. President Bessent called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM and declared there was a quorum. Pat Stephens gave the invocation. There were no visitors.

Absent Board member, Mike Lomas, was excused from the previous meeting, and minutes from that meeting were approved. In the staffing update, Roger informed the Board of the on-going need for part time employees in the areas of housekeeping, laundry, and helpers in the kitchen. There are currently 46 residents in the Care Center. There are 9 residents in the Alzheimer's Unit.

As the Board discussed accounts receivable and collections, Roger reported the facility closed the year with a balance well within the area it should be. Advancing to capital projects, the renovation of the dining room was again discussed, and Roger informed the Board the

progress continues to draw closer to the starting date, which is January 2011.

The Point of Care system was tabled for discussion at a later date, as was the inquiry into the new doors for the facility.

For October, 18 employees were reimbursed for the HRA. The total reimbursement year to date is \$17,756.

The financial statements were discussed and approved. The Board was gratified to learn that in spite of the economy, the facility is in better shape financially than last year. The auditors will be in the facility for the yearly audit November 2.

The Board discussed and finalized plans for the Thanksgiving meal and Christmas parties.

Future agenda items were discussed, and the next meeting date was set for November 29, 2010. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM, and the Board enjoyed a delicious lunch at the facility.

Sharing the Care Center calendar for the month of November, it looks like everyone is already counting their blessings. The Assembly of God church will host a gospel singing



**95th Birthday!** Virginia (Ginny) Fikes recently celebrated her 95th birthday with family and friends. Ginny was born in Kaufman, TX on October 25, 1915. She served as Howard County Auditor, and later moved to Austin to work for the State Comptroller of Accounts in the local government division. Virginia was elected as one of the first Silver Haired Legislators from San Angelo. She also served on the Silver Haired Legislature Foundation Board for twelve years. She now shares life on the farm with some of her children, Wes and Farrell Jean Washam.

November 13 at 3:30, so if you're in the neighborhood, stop in and enjoy. On November 16, Alice Beaty, Ginger Preston, and Augusta Higginbotham will be celebrating birthdays. They would love to have everyone drop by, have some goodies, and sing them a resounding chorus of 'Happy Birthday'!! And while you're in a singing mood, the monthly Sing-A-Long is scheduled for November 19 at 3:30, so come join all the 'melody

makers' for a rollicking good time. The annual Family Thanksgiving Meal for the residents and their families will be November 21, at 12:00 noon. It will be a

wonderful time of fun, food, and fellowship for all who are involved. Everyone at the Care Center extends best wishes for a blessed and wonderful Thanksgiving to all.

**Area Churches**

*Invite You to Worship*

**Bronte**  
**Bronte Church of Christ**  
PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte  
(325) 473-3291  
Preacher John V. Driggers  
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

**Central Baptist Church**  
324 S. Franklin • Bronte  
(325) 473-4811  
Dale Patterson, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am & 6 pm Worship  
Wed. 6 pm

**First Baptist Church**  
424 S. Washington • Bronte  
(325) 473-2331  
Bro. Corey Cornutt, Pastor  
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,  
10:55 am Worship,  
6 pm Youth  
and Worship  
Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting

**First United Methodist Church**  
Corner of Washington & Holmes  
Bronte  
(325) 473-3281  
Rev. Matt Pennington, Pastor  
Sun. 9:30 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship

**Forgiven Ministries**  
117 W. Main, Bronte  
Russ Frasier, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am

**St. James Catholic Church**  
215 N. Washington, Bronte  
(325) 365-2687  
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
Sun. 5 pm

**Coke County  
Pecan Baptist**  
PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of  
Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy  
(325) 453-2482  
www.pecanbaptist.org  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship

**Robert Lee  
Emmanuel Pentecostal**  
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2360  
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

**First United Methodist Church**  
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne  
Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417  
Steve Peyton, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am Worship  
5:00 pm Choir Practice

**Iglesia Bautista Bethel**  
101 Houston • Robert Lee  
(325) 763-9208 • 320-1354  
Sun. 10 am • Worship  
11 am & 6 pm • Service  
Wed. 7 pm

**Southside Church of Christ**  
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2176  
Jordan Arnold, Preacher  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 6 pm, Worship

**Northside Church of Christ**  
PO Box 508  
9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee  
(325) 655-9784 or 453-2685  
Services: Sun. 10 am & 1:30 pm;  
Wed. 6 pm

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**  
601 W. 10th, Robert Lee  
(325) 365-2687  
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
Sat. 6 pm

**Robert Lee Baptist Church**  
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th  
(325) 453-2724  
Danny White, Pastor  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**Victory Assembly of God**  
PO Box 638  
6th & Houston, Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2208  
Rev. Irving Smith, Pastor  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**Tennyson  
Tennyson Baptist Church**  
Hwy 277 • Tennyson  
(325) 473-2040  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

**Elect  
Kathi Cox**

**Coke County Treasurer.**

My plan as a candidate has been to meet as many Coke County citizens as I could. I am still working on it, and to the people I have not gotten to, I apologize.

I am ready, willing and qualified to devote all my time and energy to serving you as  
**Coke County Treasurer.**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Doris Sims, Treasurer, PO Box G, Bronte, Texas 76933

**Elect**

**JACKIE WALKER**

**Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 & 3**

**I would appreciate your vote and support.**

*My qualifications are  
judicial training and experience.*

**I welcome your calls if you have any  
questions. 325/453-2668**

**GENERAL ELECTION • November 2nd**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Beth Prather, Treasurer, PO Box 72, Robert Lee, Texas 76945



**Hunters Barbecue tickets available**

Tickets are now available for the 22nd Annual Hunters Barbecue, set for Saturday, November 6, 2010, at the Rec Hall in Robert Lee. Area landowners and hunting lease managers may make a donation and pick up barbecue tickets for their hunters at the following locations in Robert Lee: Cindy's Grocery, Massey Hardware, or Wink Insurance.

Donations may also be mailed to WCCCD, PO Box 226, Robert Lee, TX 76945. Please have your donation in by Friday, October 29, 2010, if possible.

For more information, contact Robert Wink, Chairman, at 453-2713 (office) and 453-2003 (home). According to Wink, "our deer hunters bring a lot of dollars into the local economy, and we would like to express our appreciation to them for their continued support."

In addition, there is always a place for local folks to help with the appreciation barbecue, whether you want to volunteer as a cook, server, ticket taker, the set-up or clean-up crews. Those wishing to volunteer may contact Robert Wink at the phone numbers listed above.

**Annual Bloodsuckers blood drive to kick off Saturday**

Halloween is near and it's time once again for the annual KIXY Bloodsuckers Blood drives in San Angelo.

On Friday, October 29, from 4:30 - 7:30 pm they will be located at Wally's Party Factory located at 4151 Sunset Drive. The big Bloodsuckers finale is on Saturday, October 30, from 10 am - 6 pm inside Sunset Mall next to Dillard's Men's store.

Each donor will receive the limited edition Bloodsuckers t-shirt and a bag of goodies courtesy of Wally's Party Factory at each location listed above.

Also, each Bloodsuckers Blood drive donor will automatically be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing that includes a \$500 Gift Certificate and a LCD Flat Screen TV.

Call 325-223-7500 or 800-756-0024 and ask to make an appointment for the blood drive.

**Bronte Convenience Center Grand Opening slated for November 6**

The City of Bronte will have the official grand opening of the Convenience Center Saturday, November 6. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at 8 am on that day. The Convenience Center will be open the 1st and 3rd Saturday from 8 am to 12 noon.

Bulk items such as furniture, appliances, microwaves, dishwashers, and mattresses can be disposed

of at the Convenience Center.

Metal and scrap iron can also be disposed of at the Convenience Center. Washers, dryers, stoves, freezers and refrigerators (with compressors removed), and fence wire (must be rolled up, clean, no posts, weeds, or grass) can be taken to the center.

The Convenience Center will be free to residents of Bronte and East Coke County.

Among items you cannot take to the Convenience Center are:

- no household trash
- no paper
- no tires or oil
- no florescent lightbulbs
- no batteries
- no chemicals or paint
- no hazardous materials
- no solvents
- no commercial construction materials
- no e-waste (tv's, monitors, printers, computers, laptops, fax machines, etc.)

For more information, please contact City Hall at 473-3501.

**Robert Lee extending free tire disposal period**

The City of Robert Lee is extending the free tire disposal. Anyone who has tires to get rid of can call or drop by City Hall. The final date is November 5th.

**RL Methodists to host Thanksgiving dinner**

Robert Lee First United Methodist Church will have a Community Wide Thanksgiving Day pot luck from 12 noon to 2 pm.

**Red Hat Society to meet**

The Red Hat Mamas (Red Hat Society) will meet at 11 am on Tuesday, November 2, for the Sorosis Club Potato Bake at First Baptist Church in Bronte. There will be a few long tables set up for us Red Hatters. You will get a baked potato, butter, sour cream, cheese, and a selection of LOTS of delicious



**McCown Inducted into Hall of Fame!** Ron McCown, a former Robert Lee High School graduate, was inducted into the 2010 Hall of Fame class at Stephen F. Austin State University on October 15, 2010. McCown graduated from SFA in 1996. A three-year letterman, McCown was a two-time NCAA qualifier who finished seventh in the nation during the 1994 season to earn All-American honors. A two-time NCAA qualifier, McCown recorded a personal-best score of 7,564 points in the decathlon. He was also selected to compete in the 1995 U.S. Olympic Festival and the Team USA vs. Canada decathlon.

McCown just completed his 10th season as an assistant coach with the SFA men's and women's track and field teams. McCown's athletes have been a huge factor in helping SFA win eight conference titles. McCown has coached 13 Southland Conference individual champions, 68 all-conference athletes and 13 NCAA qualifiers during his time in Nacogdoches.

Ron is the son of Sid and Kathy McCown of Robert Lee.

of delicious salads and desserts. All for a reasonable cost. Money raised from the luncheon will go to the Sorosis Club's high school scholarship fund.

You are welcome to join this group where there is fun after fifty (and before) for

women of all walks of life. to--no dues, no rules, no business, no nothing really, but Red Hat is one of the things lots of good fun and fellowship. Hope to see you there.

**Exercise your constitutional right. Vote on November 2, 2010.**

**LEROY CASEY**  
for **Justice of the Peace Precincts 1 and 3**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Jami Casey, Treasurer, PO Box 73, Robert Lee, Texas 76945

**"TRUNK OR TREAT"**

**Welcome All Children!**

**Saturday • October 30  
6:30 to 9:00 pm**

**Treasure Chests filled with Candy!  
Fun in the Bounce House!  
Hot Dogs for All!**



**Victory Assembly  
Corner of 6th & Houston,  
Robert Lee**

**See You There!**

*In the last few months, I've tried to visit all the citizens of the county.*

*If I missed you, I apologize and I*

*want to ask for your vote in*

*Tuesday's general election.*

*If elected, I promise to put*

*my experience to work*

**FULL TIME**

*for you in the*

*County Treasurer's office.*

**Elect**

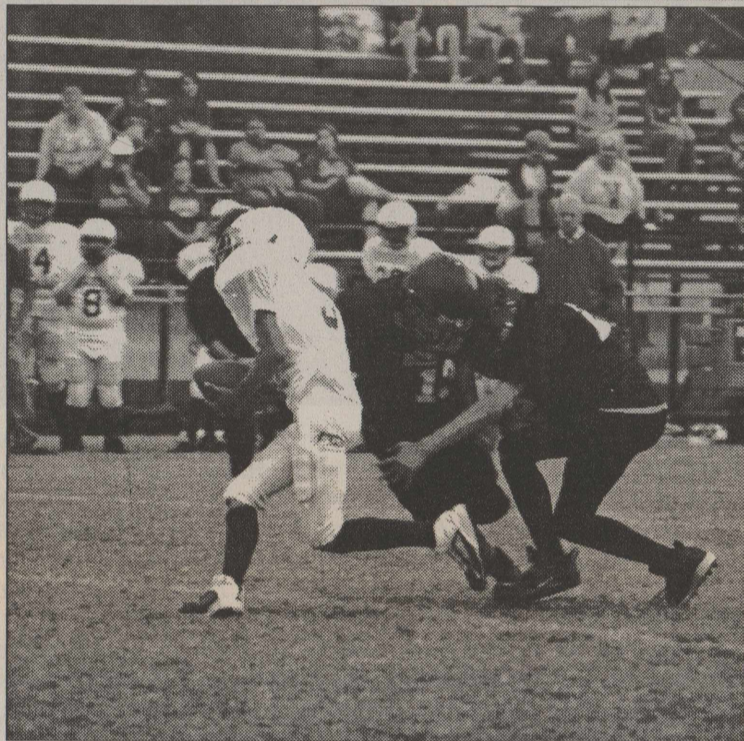
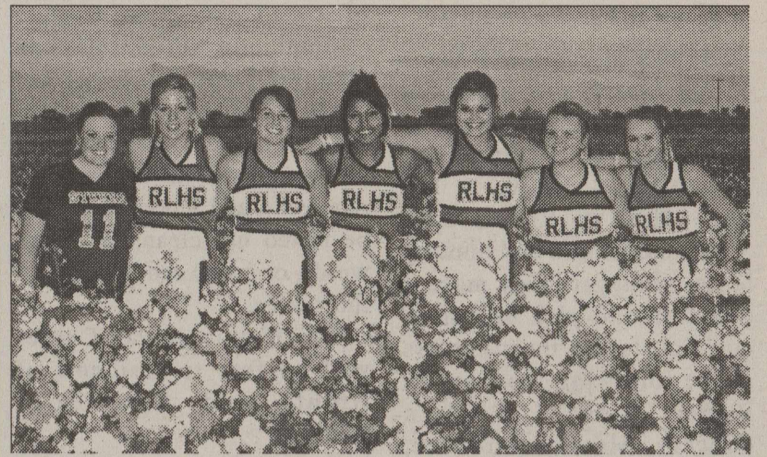
**Hal Spain**

**for Coke County  
Treasurer.**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Hal Spain, PO Box 1329, Robert Lee, TX 76945



# ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



**Great Week at RLISD!** The RLHS Steers (above left photo) celebrate their district win over the Veribest Falcons Friday evening, October 22. The Dogies wrap up a Veribest ball carrier during their game Thursday evening, October 21. The RLHS Cheerleaders and mascot pose amid the cotton near the Veribest stadium. Dogie cheerleaders welcome the Veribest cheerleaders to their side of the field.

12 passing for 137 yards with 2 TD's

Bailey Smith: 16 carries for 232 yards with 2 TD's

### Robert Lee Senior parent meeting set

There will be a Project Graduation 2011 meeting for Robert Lee High School seniors and their parents on Monday, Nov. 1st at 6:30 pm in the cafetorium. All seniors and their parents are urged to please attend this meeting.

### RLISD to sponsor Veterans Day program

The annual Veterans Day Program sponsored by the Robert Lee Independent School District will be held on November 11th at 9:30 pm in the school cafetorium. The program will include patriotic speeches, entertainment by the elementary choir and a touching slide show presentation. A reception is planned immediately following the program in the school cafeteria.

All Coke County veterans are urged to attend and be recognized for their unselfish contribution to our nation's security. Please notify the RLISD office at 453-4555 so that they can be properly recognized during this year's program.

### Robert Lee Seniors to hold fundraiser

The current Robert Lee Seniors of Project Graduation 2011 will be having a fundraiser with Schwan's products in November. This is a new fundraiser and one that we hope everyone will enjoy and benefit from, so please save your holiday shopping and help support the seniors of Project Graduation 2011.

For more information, call

Cynthia Dilliard or Robin Allen at 453-4555, Toni Rainwater at 453-4317, or Kim Philley at 453-2213.

### RLISD board meets in regular session

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session Thursday, October 21, 2010, at 7 pm. The meeting was called to order by President Washam with the following members present: Wes Washam, Jeffie Roberts, Beverly Sinclair, Tod Reed, Tom Sawyer, Irma Torres, and Brandi Brosh.

The Invocation and pledge were led by Jeffie Roberts.

The Board recessed at 7:02 pm for a tour of the new gym foyer and reconvened into open session at 7:15 p.m.

Tom Sawyer made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2010, meeting, seconded by Tod Reed. All voted for.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to accept the financial report as presented by Robin Allen and to pay the bills. It was seconded by Irma Torres. All voted for.

Matters related to 2008 Construction Project were discussed. Dale Parker, Rusty Hodges and Tyler Mercer all attended the meeting.

Elementary enrollment for September was 139 students and 98% ADA. Austin Crawley, High School Principal, gave his report; enrollment for grades 7-12 was 105 and ADA was 97% for the month of September.

Superintendent Hood reported that RLISD Staff is 100% Highly Qualified.

Austin Crawley gave TELPAS results for RLISD.

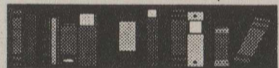
Jeffie Roberts made a motion, seconded by Beverly Sinclair, to approve Board Policy DEC Local with changes as presented by Supt. Hood. All voted for.

Supt. Hood gave a presentation on the School Finance System.

The next meeting for the RLISD School Board will be held Thursday, November 18, 2010, at 6 pm with plans for a Board Picture.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

## School Menu



### Breakfast

#### Monday, November 1

Pancake on stick, cereal, juice, milk

#### Tuesday, November 2

Pigs in blanket, cereal, juice, milk

#### Wednesday, November 3

Cinnamon rolls, cereal, juice, milk

#### Thursday, November 4

Biscuit, sausage, cereal, juice, milk

#### Friday, November 5

Pizza, cereal, juice, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, November 1

Pizza, corn, salad, applesauce, teddy grahams, milk

#### Tuesday, November 2

Salisbury Steak, new potatoes, green beans, jello w/fruit, bread, milk

#### Wednesday, November 3

Chicken A La King, rice, egg roll, apple crisp, ice cream, milk

#### Thursday, November 4

Chicken fajitas, beans, salad, pineapple, milk

#### Friday, November 5

BBQ on bun, French fries, pickles, cheese stick, orange, milk

### Steers open district play with great victory

The Steers opened district play against the Veribest Falcons on October 22 and came away with an impressive team win. The Steers were firing on all cylinders, producing 523 yards of total offense. The defense also played a solid game, allowing only 5 scores and blocking 3 extra points. This was a very solid team performance on both sides of the ball. The final score showed the Steers with 60 points on the board to the Falcons' 34 points.

The Steers look to remain unbeaten in district play as they take on the Water Valley Wildcats on October 29th. The game will take place at 7:30 pm at Robert Lee Stadium. Come out to the game, fill up the stands, and cheer the Steers on to another district win!

### Individual Stats

Foster Allen: 1 carry for 14 yards, 4 receptions for 49 yards

Justin Gartman: 2 carries for 14 yards, 2 receptions for 38 yards with 1 TD, 4-6 passing for 71 yards

Haden Dillard: 14 carries for 56 yards with 4 TD's, 7-

## WINK INSURANCE AGENCY



Home • Auto  
Life • Commercial

715 Austin • 453-4551

## HAUNTED HOUSE

Saturday, October 30, 2010  
8 pm to close

AEP Building across from the Bank  
Robert Lee

\$5/Person



Money raised will go to the  
Daddy Daughter Dance.

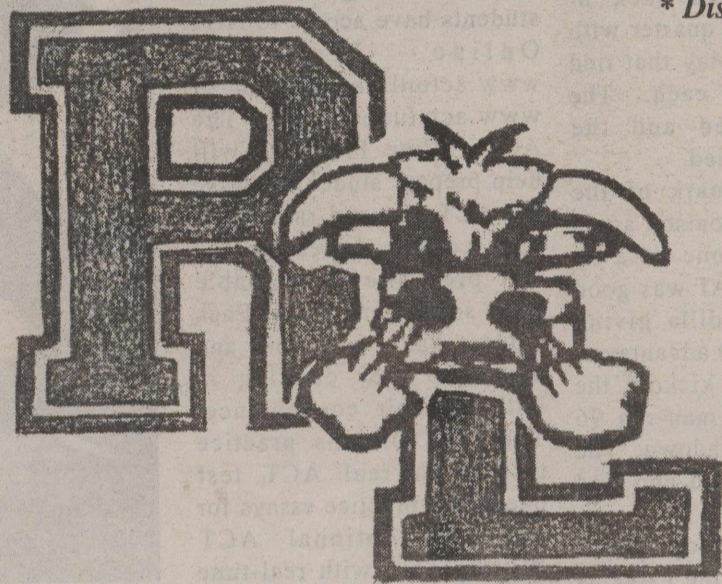


# ROBERT LEE STEERS FOOTBALL

		RLHS	
August 28	Fort Davis	McCamey	3:00 24 70
September 3	Paint Rock	Here	7:30 80 92
September 10	Loraine	There	7:30 20 67
September 18	Blackwell	There	7:30 26 56
September 24	Sterling City	Here	7:30 0 48
October 1	Santa Anna	There	7:30 80 54
** October 8	Zephyr	Here	7:30 24 71
October 15	OPEN		
* October 22	Veribest	There	7:30 60 34
* October 29	Water Valley	Here	7:30
* November 5	Eden	There	7:30

\* District • \*\* Homecoming

Friday,  
October 29  
7:30 pm  
Robert Lee



ROBERT  
LEE  
STEERS  
VS.  
Water Valley  
Wildcats

Daryl's Body Shop  
Shaffer Monument  
Company  
Robert Lee-Silver  
Lions Club  
West Coke County  
Community Development  
Mountain Creek  
Mercantile  
Ivey Motor Company, Inc.  
Glenn-Bivins Insurance  
Marilyn, Mary, Lucretia, & Lanette  
Massey Auto & Hardware  
& PARTS 4 PLUS • 453-2911  
Robert Lee State Bank  
Member FDIC  
John & Jeanette Jacobs

Super H Grocery  
501 Commerce • 453-4639  
Joan Davis  
The Best Connection  
The Drennan Family  
D. J.'s Merle  
Norman Studio  
Debbie McCabe  
Concho Realty  
Bill & Linda Burns  
Gaylon & Kaye Pitcock  
Coke Co. Commissioner Prec. #3  
Cindy's

Key Feed Store  
Robert Lee Baptist Church  
"Let God be your Head Coach!"  
Twister's Restaurant  
809 Commerce • Robert Lee • 453-2266  
W.E.B. Construction  
Edwin, Wyndell & Family  
Robert Lee Care Center  
Rock Solid Communications  
Roy & Judy Blair

Coach A  
Coach Aunts  
Elevation origin  
#25  
Fisher #5  
Baker #16  
Walt #20  
Sosh mgr  
Justin Southern  
T. Mike  
Cookman #12  
Hester  
Dillon #12  
Zach  
Slinner

Nickel  
Cory  
Foster  
Kevin  
Walt #11M  
D. J. Merle  
D. J. Merle  
Kevin  
Fisher #5  
Baker #16  
Walt #20



# BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

## Longhorns win over Bulldogs, 33-27

By Head Coach Kevin Burns  
The Bronte Longhorns won a very hard fought 33-27 game against the Miles Bulldogs this past Friday night. The game was back and forth all night long with neither team having more than a seven point advantage at any time.

Creed Coalson scored on a one yard run with one minute left in the first quarter and the 2 point conversion failed. Miles' first possession of the second quarter was stopped when Coalson intercepted a Bulldog pass. The Horns were unable to cash in on the steal.

Miles would tie the score with 8:45 left in the second quarter on a 68 yard run. The PAT failed.

On Bronte's next possession, Dakota Rawls scampered 49 yards for a touchdown and once again the 2 point conversion pass failed.

Miles would take a 14-12 halftime lead when they scored from 5 yards out with 2:58 to play and the 2 point conversion was successful.

At the 7:23 mark of the third quarter, Coalson ripped

through the Bulldog defense on a nifty 80 yard scoring run, followed by a successful conversion from Jordan Baumann to give the Horns back the lead at 20-14.

Miles answered back at 4:13 in the third quarter with a 60 yard pass play that tied the game at 20 each. The PAT was missed and the teams remained tied.

At the 7:59 mark of the fourth quarter, Coalson again found the end zone on a 30 yard run. The PAT was good from Adrian Padilla giving the Horns a 27-20 advantage.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Bulldog's return man ran 96 yards for the touchdown. The PAT kick was good and tied the score at 27-27.

The winning score came with 1:34 left in the game as Dakota Rawls ran 74 yards for the touchdown. Following a personal foul penalty, the Horns went for the 2 point conversion, but it failed.

On the Bulldogs' final possession, Beau Rousseau recovered a fumble, and the Horns were able to kill the clock for the victory.

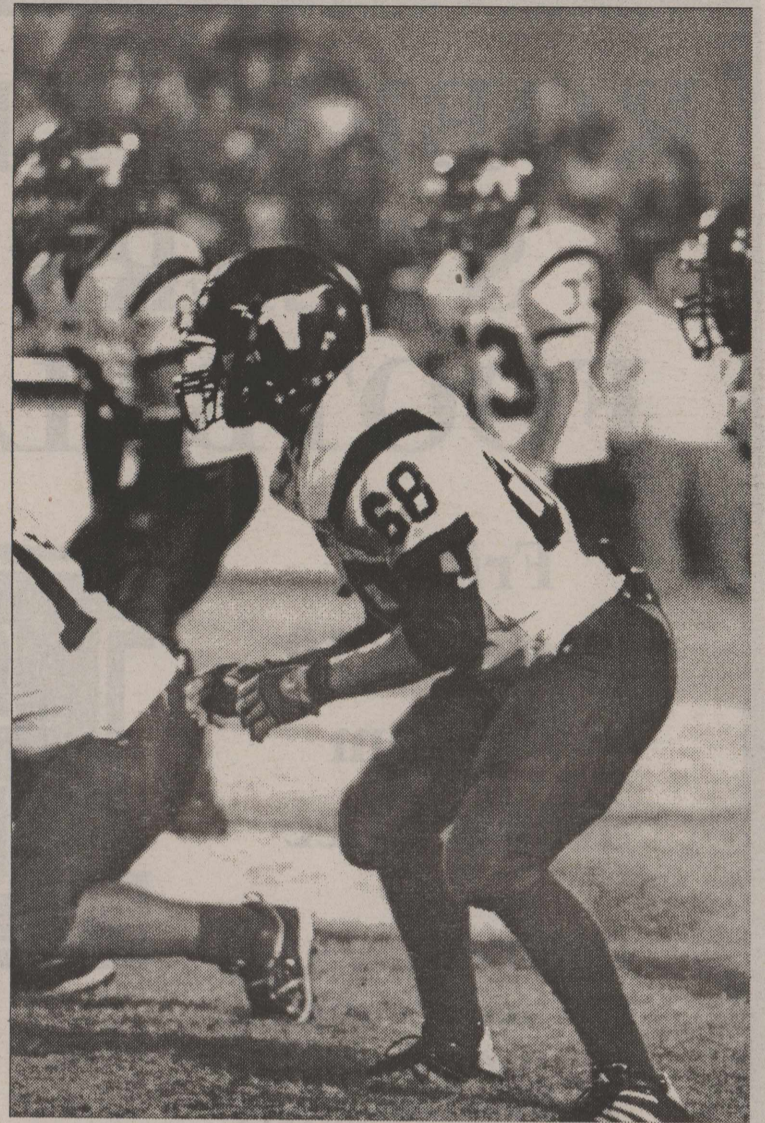
The win improved the Longhorns' record to 5-3 on the season and 3-0 in district play. Friday, October 29, the Horns play their final home game as they host the

Christoval Cougars at 7:30. See you at the game.

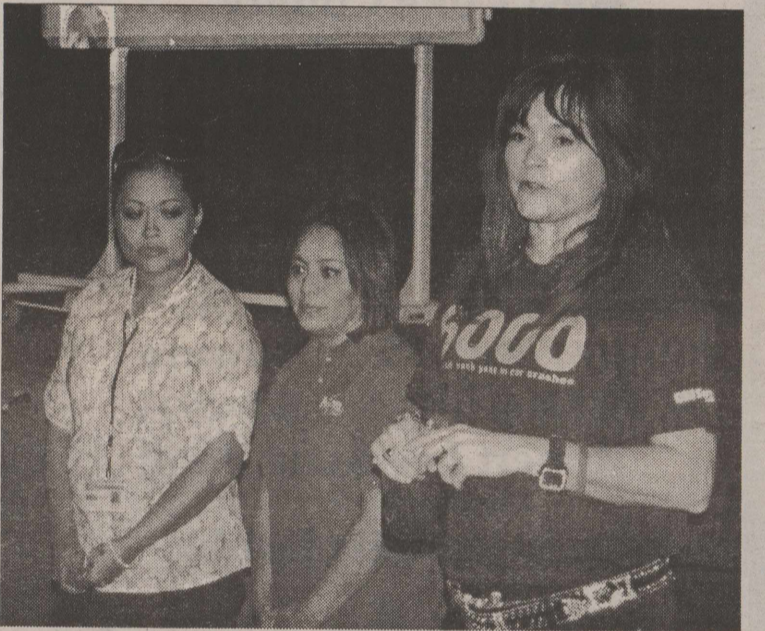
### ACT Online Prep Available for BHS Students

Bronte High School students have access to ACT Online Prep at [www.actonlineprep.com](http://www.actonlineprep.com) or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). The ACT Online Prep site will help prepare students to take the ACT test and raise their test scores. Access to the test prep site is available from school or home. Each student has a password and username they can log in with at their convenience. The site contains practice tests with real ACT test questions, practice essays for the new optional ACT Writing Test, with real-time scoring, comprehensive content review for each of the ACT's four required tests—English, Math, Reading, and Science, and a diagnostic test and personalized Study Path.

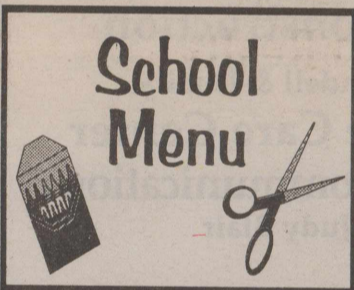
BHS students have logged onto the site, created an account and have had training on how to navigate the site. If any parent or student has a question about the ACT Online Prep program, please contact the BHS counselor, Mrs. Timmerman at 473-2521.



Ready! Arlis McMullan prepares to take down a Miles Bulldog when the Longhorns defeated Miles in a tough district game Friday evening, October 22, in Miles.



Red Ribbon Week! Representatives from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of the Concho Valley and teacher Lisa Gibbs talk to students at Bronte High School about the dangers of drug abuse during Red Ribbon Week. Representatives from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of the Concho Valley and teacher Lisa Gibbs talked to students at Bronte High School about the dangers of drug abuse during Red Ribbon Week.



### Breakfast

#### Monday, November 1

Cereal, fruit, toast, jelly, milk

#### Tuesday, November 2

French toast sticks, assorted juice, syrup, milk

#### Wednesday, November 3

Sausage, assorted juice, biscuit, jelly, milk

#### Thursday, November 4

Breakfast pizza, assorted juice, milk

#### Friday, November 5

Pancake & sausage on stick, assorted juice, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, November 1

Steakfingers, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, rolls, milk

#### Tuesday, November 2

Crispy tacos, lettuce & tomatoes, pinto beans, fancy gelatin, taco shells, Spanish rice, milk

#### Wednesday, November 3

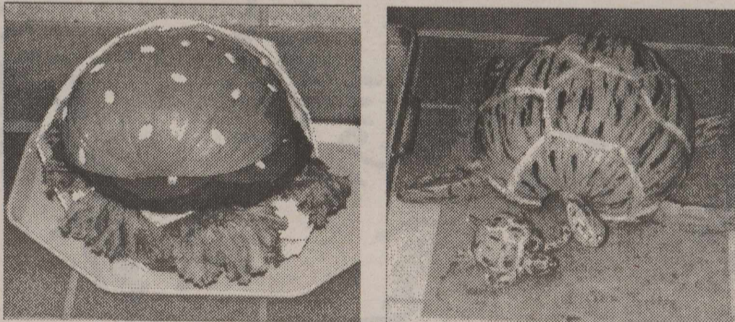
Grilled cheese sandwich, beef vegetable soup, baby carrots w/ranch, crackers, milk

#### Thursday, November 4

Spaghetti w/meat sauce, seasoned corn, tossed salad, Texas toast, milk

#### Friday, November 5

Hamburger, tator tots, baked beans, buns, rice krispies, milk



It's a Turtle, No a Hamburger! No really, It's a Pumpkin! Bronte Elementary students and parents worked together to create fun pumpkins for this year's Fall Festival.

## BRONTE HOMETOWN HARDWARE

112 West Main Street, Bronte, TX 76933  
(325) 473-3811

Mon-Sat 8 am to 5 pm & Sun 9 am to 2 pm

We are OPEN ON SUNDAYS  
FROM 9 AM TO 2 PM!!

## Paul's Body Shop

- Complete Auto Body Repairs & Paint
- Insurance Claims Welcome

PAUL KNIGHT

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[GlennBivinsUsa@aim.com](mailto:GlennBivinsUsa@aim.com)

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# BRONTE LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

				BHS	
August 27	Junction	There	7:30	32	27
September 3	Roby	There	7:30	13	21
September 10	OPEN				
September 17	Eldorado	There	7:30	6	14
September 24	Winters	Here	7:30	7	19
October 1	Cross Plains	There	7:30	42	20
** October 8	Menard	Here	7:30	42	20
* October 15	TLC	Here	7:30	56	12
* October 22	Miles	There	7:30	33	27
* October 29	Christoval	Here	7:30		
* November 5	Irion County	There	7:30		

\* District Games • \*\* Homecoming •

Friday  
October 29  
7:30 pm  
Bronte



BRONTE  
LONGHORNS

VS.

Christoval  
Cougars

Shaffer Monument

Company  
Texas Best  
De-Flooding  
& Carpet Cleaning  
Bob & Patti Frazee  
Glenn-Bivins  
Insurance Co.

Marilyn, Mary, Lucretia, & Lanette  
First National Bank  
in Bronte  
Member FDIC  
Grady Coulter  
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2

Hall's Super Save Foods  
Bronte Health  
& Rehab Center  
Town & Country

"Backing The Horns All The Way"

Tom's Tire, Lube & Detail  
473-2400 • Cell 473-8534

Ivey Motor Company, Inc.  
Larry's Automotive Repair  
Massey Auto & Hardware  
& PARTS 4 PLUS • 453-2911

Paul's Body Shop  
123 N. State, Bronte • 473-2425

Bronte Hometown  
Hardware, LLC  
Key Feed Store  
Rock Solid  
Communications  
Roy & Judy Blair  
Concho Realty  
B&K Deer Processing  
& Taxidermy  
Twister's Restaurant  
809 Commerce • Robert Lee • 453-2266

*Handwritten signatures and numbers:*  
 Stephen Embinger #66  
 Bob #71  
 Kuni Bunn #71  
 Coach Paul  
 Xita Sanford  
 Beau #50  
 Grigg #50  
 John Deller #1  
 Next Max #53  
 Roni Par #10  
 Richard Bushman  
 Beau Rousseau #55  
 Nathanial #5  
 Whitney #68  
 John #80  
 #70  
 #36  
 #78  
 #75  
 #3  
 #4  
 #7  
 #65  
 #6  
 #2  
 #22  
 #2





**RLHS 50th Reunion!** The Robert Lee High School Class of 1960 celebrated their 50th class reunion during this year's homecoming. The class had a float in the parade where they remembered their mottos. In 8th grade, the class' motto was "Today, we anchor. Tomorrow, we sail." As the senior class, their motto was "Today, we sail." Now fifty years later, the motto is "Now dry docked." They were recognized and performed a cheer during the homecoming pep rally. Shown are Sondra (Roe) Caves (from left), Jerry Dale (Sparks) Colburn and Patricia (Fowler) Clement at the pep rally. The class was introduced just prior to the football game that evening.

**Just From Jan**  
by Jan Yanez  
AgriLIFE EXTENSION Agent

**Trick or Treat: Halloween Safety**  
A parade of Transformers, zombies and princesses will be prowling the streets in search of Halloween treats this weekend. Halloween is a fun tradi-

tion, but the excitement of the night can cause children to forget to be careful. There is no real trick to making Halloween a real treat for the entire family according to base safety officials. The major dangers of the holiday aren't from ghosts or goblins but from falls and pedestrians being hit by cars. Children and adults need to think about safety on this annual day of make-believe to keep from being a true horror story. The National Safety Council urges motorists to be especially alert on Halloween. Watch for chil-

dren darting out from between parked cars. Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs. Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully. At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in

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o-e@wcc.net

dark clothing. Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe. Before children start out on their "trick or treat" rounds, parents should:

1. Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will supervise the outing for children under age 12.
2. Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow.
3. Know the names of older children's companions.
4. Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route and establish a return time.
5. Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and never to enter a stranger's home.
6. Tell your youngsters not to eat any treat until they return home.
7. Review all appropriate trick-or-treat safety precautions, including pedestrian and traffic safety rules.
8. Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the youngster gets separated from the group.

**Costume Design**

When designing a costume, only fire-retardant materials should be used. Costumes should also be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath. They shouldn't be so long that they are a tripping hazard; falls are the leading cause of unintentional injuries on Halloween. If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials and strips of retro-reflective tape should be used to make children visible.

When designing a costume to be worn on the face, avoid using a mask. Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead. When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or

"Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application. If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.

Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Don't allow children to carry sharp objects. Bags or sacks carried by youngsters should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark. Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.

Children should understand and follow these rules:

1. Don't enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.
2. Walk, do not run, from house to house.
3. Don't cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
4. Walk on sidewalks, not on the street.
5. Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.

To ensure a safe trick-or-treat outing, parents are urged to give children an early meal before going out, insist treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten, wash fruit and slice into small pieces and when in doubt, throw it out.

**Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar**

Any high school sophomore interested in attending the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar which will be held in May or June of 2011 may now apply. The HOBY seminars provide great networking and leadership skills development as well as a focus on community service for future leaders. One sophomore student per high school will be selected by a committee from the applications turned in. The deadline to apply is November 22, 2010.

For more information please visit [www.hoby.org/students](http://www.hoby.org/students) or contact Mrs. Timmerman, counselor, Bronte High School.

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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



## Check Out Coke County Library

On Friday morning about 10:30, October 29, watch out for the parade of action figures, princesses, lions, and pirates all making their way around downtown Robert Lee. The Head Start invites siblings and other kids up to five years old to join them in the annual Trick or Treat march.

Local merchants and offices generously load up on treats for the little ones to give them an opportunity to dress in costume and show off to admiring adults. The folks in the offices and stores make the Halloween occasion special for kids. The staff at Head Start and parents and caregivers are on hand to help everyone get around.

Mark Friday and Saturday, November 12 and 13, for the semi annual book sale at the Library. This will be a BOGO event due to the volume of books that will be in the sale. Lots of new and nearly new books will be available.

A new collection of large print books is out. Some of the authors are John Sandford, Wanda Brunstetter, and western writers Overholser, Sam Brown, and T. T. Flynn. Large print books are not just for western and romance books anymore. Many detective, inspirational, and light mystery books are being added to the shelves at the Library.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Call 453-2495 for information.

### Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards recognizes students in grades 5-12 who have demonstrated exemplary community service. These prestigious awards are presented annually on the local, state and national level.

Students who are eligible to apply should currently be enrolled in grades 5-12 and be legal residents of the United States. Students should have engaged in a volunteer activity that occurred at least in part after September 1, 2009. Applications are available online at [www.principals.org/spirit](http://www.principals.org/spirit) and click the "Apply Now" link. Applications may also be mailed to interested applicants by calling (877) 525-8491.

For more information,

please see Mrs. Timmerman, BHS counselor. The deadline to apply is November 1, 2010.

### Being an American Essay Contest focuses on American Citizenship

U.S. high school students and their teachers are invited to compete for nearly \$115,000 in prize money by participating in the Bill of Rights Institute's fifth annual Being an American Essay Contest. Top prize winners and their teachers will also receive all-expenses paid trips to the nation's capital.

The largest high school essay contest in the country, awarding 180 students and teachers with cash prizes and attracting more than 50,000 essays last year, explores the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. The contest is administered by the Bill of Rights Institute, a non-profit educational organization in the Washington, D.C. area devoted to educating children about the Constitution and Founding principles. The sponsors include the History Channel and the Stuart Family Foundation.

"This contest is unique in that it gives students the opportunity to think about the important civic values communicated in our Founding documents, and embodied by American civic heroes," said Dr. Jason Ross, Bill of Rights Institute Vice President of Education Programs. "This contest is vital to helping students see their own acts of good citizenship as a meaningful part of the American experiment of self-government."

Specifically, students are asked to share their thoughts on American citizenship by answering the following question: "What civic value do you believe is most essential to being an American?"

The top three student winners and their teachers from each of the nine geographical regions will be announced at a special Washington, D.C. Awards Gala in the spring of 2011, where they will be awarded cash prizes of \$5,000 (First Place), \$1,000



**Robert Lee Children enjoy fall field trip!** The Robert Lee Pre-K and Kindergarten classes took a field trip on Friday, October 22, to San Angelo. The kids went to the Great Pumpkin Patch at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church. While there, the kids enjoyed story time and then went out into the pumpkin patch to learn about different kinds of pumpkins. Each child came home with a small pumpkin. The classes then went to eat lunch at Cici's Pizza before returning to Robert Lee.

(Second Place), and \$500 (Third Place). The winning students will also explore the nation's capital, meet contemporary American heroes and national leaders, and visit national landmarks.

Additionally, the contest will award 126 honorable mention prizes of \$100 to seven students and their teachers from each region.

"The contest not only honors and awards sponsoring teachers, but also equips them with free lesson plans and other supplemental materials that meet state and national academic standards so they can easily incorporate the essay contest into their classrooms," said Being an American Essay Contest Director John Croft.

Nearly 100,000 students have participated in the essay contest since it began in 2006. Now in its fifth year, the contest is the largest high school essay contest in the country.

"The Being an American Essay Contest is a wonderful way to awaken students' interest in the ideas of the American Founding. The Stuart Family Foundation is honored to be one of the Contest's supporters," said

Stuart Family Foundation Executive Director Truman Anderson.

Complete contest details can be found below. Further information, including submission criteria, lesson plans

and background information on the Constitution, Bill of Rights, Founders and other Americans who have contributed to America's shared civic values, are available at [www.BeingAnAmerican.org](http://www.BeingAnAmerican.org).

## TRICK OR TREAT?

### DECEIVED BY OTHERS:

Then many false prophets will arise up and deceive many. • *Matthew 24:11*

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites. • *I Corinthians 6:9*

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. • *II Timothy 3:13*

### SELF DECEPTION:

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. • *Ephesians 5:6*

But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. • *James 1:22*

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless. • *James 1:26*

### THE GIFT:

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. • *John 3:16*

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. • *Ephesians 2:8*

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. • *Romans 5:1*

Therefore He says: When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men. • *Ephesians 4:8*

Jesus answered and said unto her, if you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, give me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water. • *John 4:10*

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Pastor Irving Smith

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Precincts 1 and 3

You are all invited to our election  
come and go party at Twisters  
starting at 6 pm until closing. There  
will be refreshments and fellowship.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Jami Casey, Treasurer, PO Box 73, Robert Lee, Texas 76945



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**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES**  
 Rates when paid in advance.  
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 Subsequent Insertions  
 16¢ Per Word  
 \$2.50 Minimum  
 Legal Notices:  
 25¢ Per Word  
 A service charge will be added to all ads which must be billed.  
**ADVERTISING DEADLINE**  
 Tuesdays at 2 pm

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:**  
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.  
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**FOR SALE**  
**COMPUTERS**  
 New and used. Repairs and upgrades. Weekly special. Magnavox blue ray DVD player, Reg. \$189, Sale \$75. One only 42" LCD TV, \$545. Ed Martindale, 473-3004.

**BUILDING FOR SALE**  
 107 W. Main, Bronte. Contact Debora at 650-1970.  
**FOR SALE**  
 Haygrazer Round Bales. Large 5x5 bales. 473-3977.

Get your Hunting, Fishing & Lease licenses at **CINDY'S**  
 409 W. 10th Robert Lee  
**453-9200**

**Political Calendar**  
**The Observer/Enterprise**  
 has been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County.  
 Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement. All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.

**COUNTY JUDGE**  
 Roy Blair (Dem.)  
**COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2**  
 Wendell Lee (Dem.)  
**COUNTY TREASURER**  
 Hal Spain (Rep.)  
 Kathi Cox (Dem.)  
**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 1**  
 Jackie Walker (Dem.)  
 Leroy Casey (Rep.)  
**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 2**  
 Grady Coulter (Dem.)

**FOR SALE**  
 Antique 1897 armoire (wardrobe) \$750 firm. 325/450-0807 or 432/270-2503.  
**FOR SALE**  
 6 year old registered Thoroughbred gelding. Excellent ranch and arena horse. \$1,500. 325/450-0807 or 432/270-2503.

**FOR RENT**  
 TAKING APPLICATIONS for one, two & three bedroom apartments. Washers, dryers, RO water systems in each unit. Contact Housing Authority of Robert Lee, 710 N. Bishop, 453-2912. Equal Housing Opportunity.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**THE BARBER SHOP**  
 Mon., Tues., Wed., 9-5. Avon Independent Sales Rep. 650-1970.  
**TREES TRIMMED**  
 Topped or removed. 453-9902 or 473-8712.

Bob Frazee's 944-0010 473-6603  
**Texas Best**  
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**NEED A SIGN?**  
 Banners, Graphics, Vinyl Lettering, Magnetic Signs and Vehicle Lettering. Juan Rangel, (325) 453-9010.  
**40-tnc**  
**LOST**  
 2-NCHA Trophy Buckles, 1-2009 Superstakes Amateur Finalist, 1-2009 Derby Amateur Finalist. \$500 cash reward. Contact Tommy @ (325) 223-8244.

**PET GROOMING AND BOARDING**  
 The Dog House, 119 N. State, Bronte. Call anytime. 234-1599.

**GENERAL CONTRACTING**  
 handyman for roofing, plumbing, water heater installment, drain cleaning, house painting, concrete, masonry, fencing, welding, lawnmowing, tree trimming & removal. 453-2339.  
**WANTED**  
 Small grazing lease. 325-895-0079.

**HELP WANTED**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 Notice is hereby given that Coke County is accepting applications for a full time Road Hand for Precinct #3. Applications can be picked up in the Coke County Judge's Office at the Courthouse. Applications must be received by Monday, November 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions, contact Gaylon Pitcock at 325-473-0220. Coke County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**FOR SALE**  
 2500+/- Acres! Live Oaks, Hills, Under Contract! Excellent Ranch for Livestock & Hunting. 3/2 farm house. Many ponds. Great views! Conveying Owned Mineral Rights!  
 • 135+/- Acres! Live Oaks! Wildlife! Good Cover! Several Ponds! Fenced & Cross Fenced! Barn! New Survey! Near Bronte!  
 • 80 +/- Acres Possible Owner Finance! Seasonal Creek! Pens & Sheds! Surrounded By Beautiful Hills, Farms & Pastureland! Deer, Turkey, Quail & Dove! Some Minerals!  
 • Price Reduced! 2 or 3 Bedroom with 2 Baths! Vinyl Siding with Metal Roof! Hardwood Floors, Wood Blinds on the Windows! Large Metal Barn with Stalls! \$49,900!!!  
 • Price Reduction! Beautiful Brick Home on High Point overlooking Spence! Island in Kitchen! Satillo Tile Downstairs! Master suite upstairs! Huge windows take in the views! Outdoor patio for entertaining!  
 • Great Acreage! Approximately 300+/- acres West of Robert Lee Hwy 158. Pens/ Sheds! Rural Water & Water wells! Cabin!

**Email your news!**  
**o-e@wcc.net**

**Editorial & Advertising Deadline is 2 pm on Tuesday preceding publication.**

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 For information & photos, visit our web site at [www.amcwesttexasranches.com](http://www.amcwesttexasranches.com)

**Coke County ~ Ranch & Hunting Properties**  
**New Listing:** 210 +/- acres along Colorado River with live water creek. Some cultivation. Good Hunting.  
**New Listing:** 43 +/- acres, located at Silver, Texas. All pasture land with heavy brush. Good hunting. Good access. Electricity available. Good fences.  
**908 +/- acres**, all pasture land, good cover, 3 BR/2BA home, excellent hunting.  
**215 +/- ac.**, near Robert Lee, 3 surface tanks, wet weather creek, 57 ac. of cultivation, 40x40 shed, electricity, highway access, joins large hunting ranch, good hunting.  
*We have Buyers, We need Land Listings.*

**GARAGE SALES**  
**INSIDE SALE**  
 at 803 Bishop (Housing Authority) in Robert Lee on Saturday, October 30 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Misc household items, craft supplies, Christmas decorations, clothes, etc. Donna Waldrop 453.2365.  
**CHURCH BUILDING GARAGE SALE**  
 214 N. Jefferson, Bronte. Sat. 10-30, 8 am til ?. Furniture, sofa sleeper, sofa & chair, odds and ends, clothes, burritos and drinks.

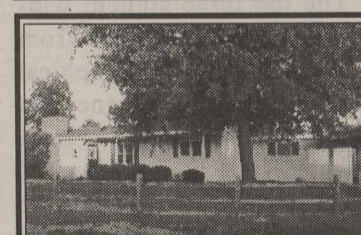
**BENEFIT GARAGE SALE & BAKE SALE**  
 Will be held on Nov. 6th at the Pavillion in the Robert Lee Park. The sale starts at 8 am and please, no early birds. New items will be brought in during the day. Anyone making donations of large items may call and they will be picked up for you.  
 This benefits April Flanagan Nichols & Mike Nichols to help defray costs of his hospitalization in Dallas with a liver disorder. FMI, contact Toni Rainwater at 453-4317 about garage sale and Joni Waggoner at 450-3535 about bake sale.

**HUGE GARAGE SALE**  
 Tons of kids clothes and toys left. 12th Street and Austin Avenue, Robert Lee. Saturday 8 am - 12 pm.  
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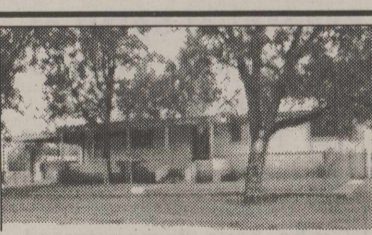
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## Hunting Outlook Optimistic for Quail Season

Wildlife biologists at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are cautiously optimistic about quail prospects this season, which gets under way Saturday, Oct. 30 statewide.

This past winter a two-year drought in the major quail hunting areas of the state was finally broken. Range conditions and more importantly, according to TPWD, nesting and brood rearing habitat greatly improved, setting the stage for a marked increase in production. Unfortunately, after two years of unfavorable weather, the number of quail available to breed had become quite low. In general, quail rebound fastest from the remaining pockets of survivors from last season.

"Low carryover is the biggest obstacle to recovering quail populations," said Robert Perez, TPWD upland game bird program leader. "Quail species are hardwired to take advantage of good reproductive environmental conditions. It's part of their survival strategy. So many are consumed each year, the species relies on a high reproductive output in order to persist on the landscape. We expect a greatly improved season over last year but a hen can only do so much in one year. Given another wet winter and spring we could expect a much stronger rebound next season."

Perez indicated those ranches that managed habitat for quail during the extended dry spell will likely see more birds this season, which runs Oct. 30-Feb. 27.

The daily bag limit for quail is 15, with 45 in possession. Legal shooting hours for all non-migratory game birds are 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. The bag limit is the maximum number that may be killed during the legal shooting hours in one day.

Since 1978, TPWD has conducted annual statewide quail surveys to track population trends. This index uses randomly selected, 20-mile roadside survey lines to determine annual quail population trends by ecological region. This trend information helps determine relative quail populations among the regions of Texas. Comparisons can be made between the average number of quail observed per route this year and the long term average for quail seen within an ecological region. The quail survey was not designed to predict relative abundance for any area smaller than the ecological region.

Following are summary prospects for each region this season:

### Rolling Plains

This region received timely winter, spring and summer rainfall resulting in excellent

breeding conditions for bobwhite quail. The summer rains extended the window of opportunity for nesting. If a hen failed in her first attempt, there was ample time for a second attempt. The limiting factor was the number of birds available to breed. Field reports indicate that quail have made a strong comeback in areas that held birds last year. Other areas have improved as well but to a lesser extent. It's a good idea to scout ahead to be sure the areas you plan to hunt are holding birds.

The average number of bobwhites observed per route was 8.0 compared to 6.6 last year. This is well below the Long Term Mean of 21.5. Despite low counts, enough young birds and coveys have been anecdotally reported that we suspect hunters will be able to find birds. Public hunting opportunities can be found at the Matador and the Gene Howe Wildlife Management Areas.

### South Texas Plains

Although considered one of the last strongholds for quail, South Texas is not immune to drought impacts on quail populations. The 2009 season was no exception and quail numbers were down. Consequently, it will affect the 2010 season.

There should be greater nesting success and production of bobwhite quail this year on those properties that have an adequate number of carryover birds from last year. On many properties that did not implement the proper management techniques or limit grazing pressure, there will be fewer birds available for production. In these areas it could possibly take a few above average years to regain those populations to normal levels.

This region also experienced a wet winter, spring and summer. South Texas also had very few days 100 degrees or greater. Cool-wet summers are ideal for quail reproduction but similar to the Rolling Plains, carryover was a limiting factor. Overall, our surveys indicate an increase in population com-

pared to last year but still below average across the region. The best opportunities will be on well managed sites that held over birds from last year.

The average number of bobwhites observed per route was 8.61 compared to 5.2 last year. This is well below the Long Term Mean of 18.6 and is predictive of a below average hunting season. The Chaparral and the Daughtrey Wildlife Management Areas provide public quail hunting opportunities.

### Trans-Pecos

Portions of the Trans-Pecos ecological region received timely rainfall while other areas either missed the rains completely or received it at times less beneficial to scaled quail. As a result, reproduction varied across the region. Field reports indicate that birds can be found in areas with good range condition. Reports from the western edge of the Edwards Plateau (the Stockton Plateau) indicate an improvement over last year but still below average.

The average number of scaled quail observed per route was 7.2 compared to 16.9 last year. This is below the Long Term Mean of 17.5. Public hunter opportunities can be found at Elephant Mountain and Black Gap Wildlife Management Areas.

### Other Areas

TPWD surveys indicate that bobwhite numbers in Gulf Prairies are similar to last season. Hunters should focus on the central and lower coast in native prairie habitats. The Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau continue to report numbers well below their respective Long Term Means. Although there are certainly areas within each region where some quail hunting opportunity remains, this survey is not designed to detect changes in localized populations, especially in fragmented landscapes.

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Van Zandt County Game Warden Steve Stapleton received an Operation Game Thief call the night before opening day of bow season about a deer camp where the occupants were intending to gun hunt the next morning. Warden Stapleton was familiar with the camp and hid nearby that morning. A short time later a truck entered the camp with a dead deer draped over the tail gate. The truck stopped and the driver got out and cautiously walked back down the road. When he saw Stapleton approaching, the subject pitched his rifle into the brush and took off running back into the camp with the warden close behind. The subject grabbed the deer from the tailgate and took off running with it, later trying to hide it in a nearby creek. Unsure of where the subject went or who else was in the camp, Warden Stapleton took up a position back on a hill where he could see the camp and wait for backup. Before backup could arrive, the subject returned to camp and Stapleton apprehended him. Charges of evading arrest, waste of game, illegal means and methods, and no hunting license were filed.

Zavala County Game Warden Chris Stautzenberger and Frio County Game Warden Michael Morse filed on 12 hunters for hunting mourning dove in a baited area on a Zavala County ranch. The night before the cases were made, the ranch was checked for bait, and milo was found spread in numerous sections. Each hunter received a citation for hunting over a baited area. The landowner was filed on for placing the bait, and 317 mourning

dove were seized. San Augustine County Game Warden Kevin Wilkinson was watching the edge of the Angelina National Forest on Oct. 6 when he observed a small white truck driving down the road. The truck accelerated and the driver began to rapidly discharge a firearm. Wilkinson followed the truck to a residence and talked with the driver, who ended up being charged with discharge of a firearm from a public road. A 9mm handgun was seized as evidence. While the driver was firing the handgun, he had also somehow managed to shoot the left front tire of his own truck. Case pending.

Angelina County Game Warden Tim Walker received an Operation Game Thief call Oct. 5 about an archer witnessing two men dragging a doe while carrying a firearm. Unable to get to the area in time to make a case, Walker theorized that the violators would have to come to Zavalla to get ice. After a two-hour wait, Walker observed the reported vehicle drive through town and pull into the ice house parking lot. Warden Walker made contact with the violator, who denied everything, while standing there with blood on his boots. The other violator and deer were located later. Cases pending.

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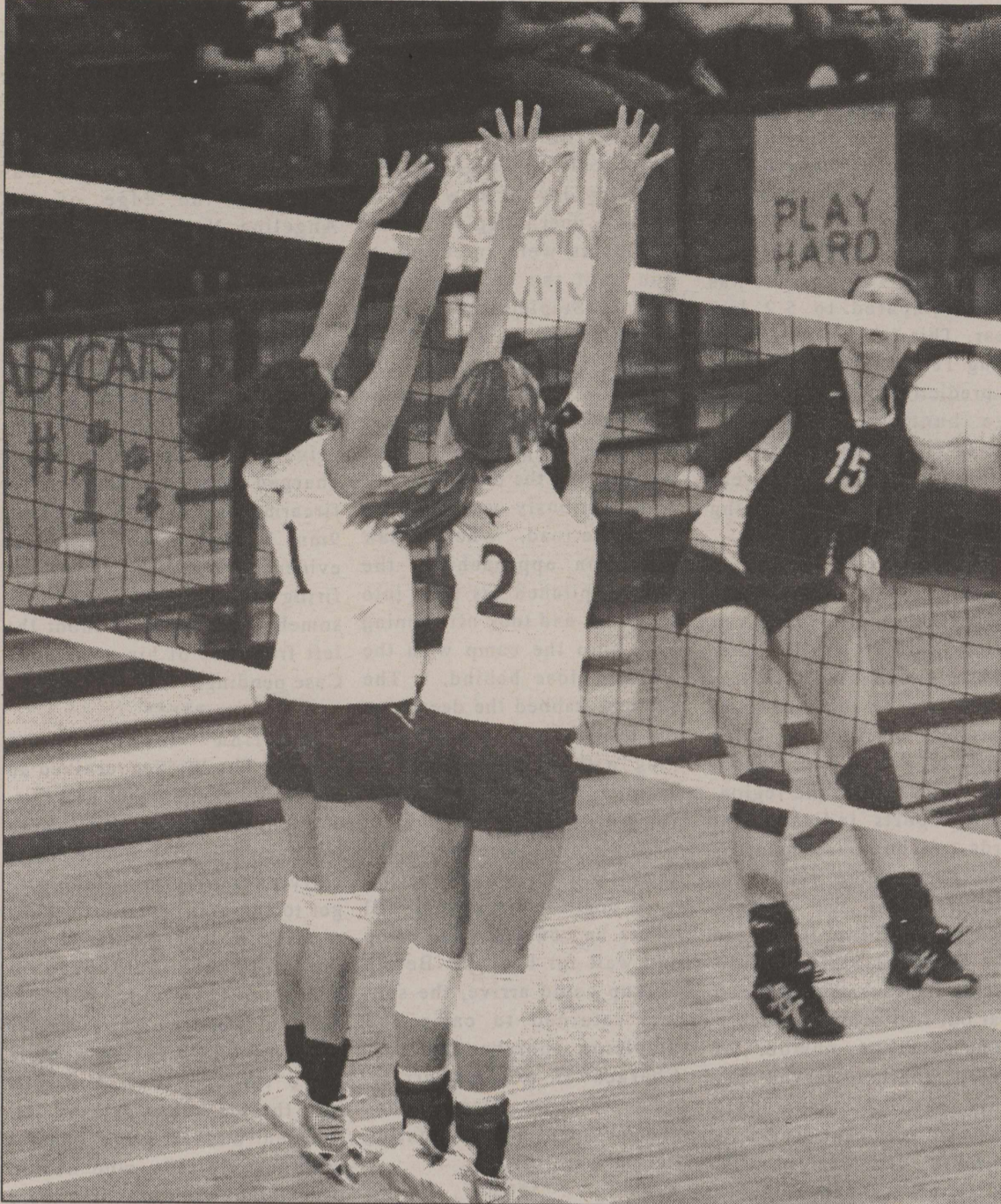
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**Take That!** Rachael Deller and Kimber Lee block Avery Brown's spike as the Lady Longhorns faced the Water Valley Lady Wildcats in district play. The Lady Horns continue in their Number 1 position in the October 25 Texas Girls Coaches Association state volleyball poll. Water Valley remains in the 12th spot.

**Ambassador Tryouts slated for November 14**

The San Angelo Stock Show & Rodeo Ambassadors are hold their annual tryouts on November 14, 2010 at the Spur Arena at 2 pm. If you are a Cowgirl who has outstanding horsemanship skills, then Ambassadors is the program for you! By joining the Ambassadors you will have the opportunity of performing in the San Angelo Rodeo along with numerous surrounding rodeos. You will be part of a team formed by the best

cowgirls around San Angelo! If you do not ride but would still like to be a part of the Ambassador program, please come and interview for our non-drill Ambassador program!

If you have any questions regarding the Drill Ambassadors please email or call Misty Keane: turnandburn\_721@hotmail.com or 325-450-3429.

If you have any questions regarding the Non-Drill Ambassadors please email or call Kim Burrow: Kimberly.burrow@capitalfarmcredit.com or 325-450-2063.

Visit [www.sanangelo-rodeo.com](http://www.sanangelo-rodeo.com) and visit the Ambassador tab under RODEO.

- West Coke County EMS Memorials**
- In Memory of Jerry Parker  
Dean Percifull
  - In Memory of Finis Millican  
Dean Percifull
  - In Memory of Jessie Harmon  
Dean Percifull



**Leadership Conference!** BHS students Jaylon Seales, Lauren Burns, Leah Jones and Austin Mertz were accompanied by Angel Cervenka to the "Leadership Makes a Difference" conference held in Abilene recently.

**Hispanic Scholarship Fund detailed**

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF), the nation's preeminent organization supporting Latino higher education, has announced that scholarship applications are now available online. Current and prospective college students may apply online at [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net).

To be eligible for HSF's General College Scholarship Program, applicants must be: a U.S. citizen or legal resident planning to enroll full-time in a degree-seeking program at an accredited institution of higher learning in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam or the U.S. Virgin Islands and have a minimum GPA of 3.0.

By filling out an HSF application, a student automatically is considered for more than 3,000 different scholarships. Applications

are available only online. There no longer are any paper application forms. The deadline to apply is December 15, 2010.

High school seniors, with a GPA of 3.3 or higher, may also apply to the Gates Millennium Scholars Program. A separate application is required for this program and can be found at [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org).

**Editorial & Advertising Deadline is 2 pm on Tuesday preceding publication.**

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*Tuesday,  
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**Grand Opening**

**City of Bronte  
CONVENIENCE  
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**Saturday, November 6**  
Ribbon Cutting • 8 am





Coke & Surrounding Counties  
**Hunting & Fishing Guide**

Supplement to the  
OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

October 29, 2010

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## Observer/Enterprise welcomes sportsmen

by Hal Spain, Publisher  
 It is my great pleasure to welcome you, the hunter and/or fisherman, to Coke and surrounding counties. We know you have a choice about where to spend your hunting and fishing dollars, and we appreciate your decision to patronize our local merchants and landowners in our area.

We would also like to welcome you to our hunter barbecues, one each on opening day in Bronte, Robert Lee, and Ballinger; and on November 20 in Sterling City (see related ads and stories in this publication for more information). These festivities are provided for our area hunters as a way of expressing our appreciation for your continued support.

Once again, let me welcome you to our area of the state. 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 our area during your stay.

### Counties offer hunter appreciation barbecues

Coke, Sterling, and Runnels Counties will offer four barbecues to show our appreciation to you, as hunters, who choose to spend your recreational time in our counties. Each of the barbecues is discussed below, in chronological order.

#### Wild Game Barbecue Lunch at Bronte

The annual Hunters' Wild Game Barbecue Lunch is once again slated for Bronte, this year on Saturday, November 6, opening day of the deer season. As in years past, the barbecue lunch will be at no charge to attending hunters, and is sponsored by Hall's Super Save Grocery and B&K Processing.

The menu will consist of deer and elk sandwiches, smoked sausage, beans, soft drinks, and dessert. Serving will begin at 11:00 am and go until 2:00 pm. The location is B&K Processing (behind Hall's Grocery) in Bronte.

If you haven't eaten the

variety of wild game sandwiches and sausages prepared at Bronte, don't miss this opportunity to sample some of these excellent meats. In previous years, the menu has also included rattlesnake and other exotic wild game cooked on the grill for your sampling pleasure.

While you're there, don't forget to tour their state of the art processing facility.

#### WCCCD Hunter Appreciation Barbecue

West Coke County Community Development will sponsor their 22nd annual Hunters' Appreciation Barbecue on Saturday evening, November 6. Free to area hunters, the barbecue will again take place at the rec hall in the county park in Robert Lee.

The supper will include plenty of barbecued brisket and sausage, beans, potato salad, iced tea, and fixings. Serving will begin at 6:00 pm and will continue until 9:00 pm.

The feed is at no cost to hunters, but tickets are necessary. They are available from the party from whom they lease, or from participating individuals and businesses

who have supported the barbecue by donations.

The annual barbecue is produced by WCCCD members and great local volunteers who do the work – preparing, cooking, serving, clean-up – and whatever it takes to make the event happen.

Area landowners and hunting lease managers may make a donation and pick up barbecue tickets at the following locations in Robert Lee: Massey Auto and Hardware, Cindy's Grocery, and Wink Insurance, all in Robert Lee. You may also mail your donation to WCCCD, PO Box 226, Robert Lee, TX 76945.

For more information contact Barbecue Chairman Robert Wink at (325) 453-2713 (ofc) or (325) 453-2003 (home).

The annual barbecue has grown from about 300 the first year to as many as 1,000 hungry hunters in recent years.

#### 2010 Annual Hunter's Appreciation Dinner Hosted by the Ballinger Chamber of Commerce

November 6, 2010 at the Ballinger Community Center located on Crosson Ave., the Ballinger Chamber of Commerce will have the Annual Hunter's Appreciation Dinner. This event is put on every year to show the hunters that come in from all around, our appreciation for them spending their time and money in our community.

This event gets larger every year, and this year is no exception. We were host to over 1200 people last year. We will feed everyone behind the Community Center in a large covered and comfortable tent. All of the entertainment will be held inside the building. There will be vendors, around 25 raffle items, silent auction,

and door prizes inside the Community Center. Our meal will consist of brisket, smoked ham, and sausage, with homemade beans, and homemade desserts, and of course all of the trimmings (potato salad, pickles, jalapeños, onions, etc.). The tickets for this event will be \$10 a person, with children under 10 getting in free. Buy your tickets in advance and get two raffle tickets to put on the raffle item of your choice. Come out and join us; we will kick this party off at 6:30 p.m. and go until 10:00 p.m. Let Ballinger show you why we are the "Greatest Little Town in Texas".

#### Sterling County Hunters' Appreciation Dinner

The annual Sterling County Hunters' Appreciation Barbecue will be held on Saturday, November 20, 2010 at 6:00 pm. The event will be held at the Sterling County Community Center. A brisket fajita supper with all the trimmings will be served. The cost is \$5.00 per plate, \$3.00 for kids under 10, and the public is encouraged to attend.

One dollar raffle tickets will be sold for the chance to win a minimum of 25 plus

# On the Cover

This big buck was captured on film during an aerial survey on the Chadbourne Ranch, located in the eastern portion of Coke County. The annual helicopter survey was conducted on Saturday, October

guns. Guns will be raffled that evening, but you do not have to be present to win.

Local and area businesses will also have booths available. For more information contact the Sterling County Extension Office at (325) 378-3181.

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Enjoy a Brisket Fajita Supper with all the trimmings for only \$5 per plate, \$3 for kids under 10.

**A minimum of 25 Guns will be Raffled!**

Raffle tickets • \$1 each  
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**Welcome Sportsmen to West Coke County!**



**HUNTERS & FISHERMEN:**  
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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!**  
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# 2010 Fall hunting season is upon us

by Hal Spain, Publisher

The time has come for the old publisher to do some prognosticating for the upcoming hunting season. And, as usual, there are some things I don't have a clue about, namely, what the upcoming quail and turkey seasons are going to look like.

Let's start out with an easy prediction, and that is the upcoming deer season. After a couple of years of good conditions, I am predicting another great season for antler development.

Now I haven't seen any monster bucks where I feed on my place. In fact, I was seeing three different ten point bucks before the 2009 season that were coming in to feed, and I haven't seen but one buck that was anywhere near any of those three from last year's sightings.

However, reports from landowners and helicopter surveys are showing some really good horns (antlers) for the upcoming season. The reason we haven't seen many of them is that we have had such good range conditions for most of this year, they haven't had to venture out where anybody can see them.

Another reason we haven't seen many bucks so far is that we have experienced another Indian summer, and this fall has been pretty warm, with temperatures in the upper 80's for highs. I don't think we've had enough cold weather for the does to come in heat, and that's another reason the bucks haven't had any reason to show themselves.

Early reports from bow hunters are few and far between. I think we've got so much cover, and it's been so hot, that the bow hunters have boxed up their calls, hung up their camouflage, and are just restocking their feeders for the upcoming gun season.

Look for things to change when we start getting some cold weather. I have seen some of the "cull" bucks they are taking off of the MLD properties, and some of these bucks are better than most of what we will be trying to shoot during the regular season.

We are just finishing up a dove season that started out really good, and after opening weekend it pretty well fizzled unless you were lucky enough to be hunting over some grain fields or were in a flyway for whitewings.

We had a lot of collared

*Brett Smith, the 12 year old son of Mike Smith of San Angelo, shot this 8 point buck that weighed 130 pounds, on November 29, 2009. The deer was harvested on his grandfather, Jerry McPherson's, place at Tennyson.*

doves and whitewings around here for the start of the season, but they moved away from heavily hunted locations after the first weekend.

I have gotten some good reports from dove hunters in the San Angelo area around grain fields and etc.; however, the northern doves just didn't show up in Coke County this year. I think they arrived later in the year and went straight to these grain fields south of us.

As to our quail forecast, I am hearing some mixed reports from all over the state. Last year's quail season was pretty much a bust, statewide, and in most places we didn't have enough birds to carry over and repopulate for this year.

Having grown up in Haskell County, I know how quickly the quail population can rebound, having gone from not seeing a bird one year to killing our limits the next. However, from listening to reports statewide, I don't



think that is going to be the case this year. Most reports I'm getting from the Rolling Plains are not too good. I am hearing that there are some (Continued on page 4)

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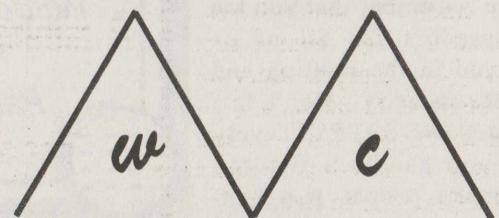
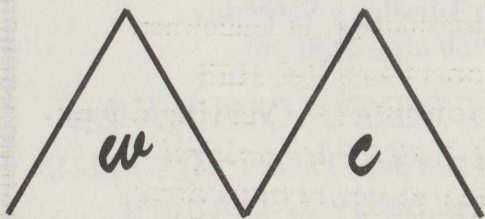
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**... Fall Hunting Season**  
(Continued from page 3)

birds southeast of San Angelo, and we have once again raised some birds here. I just don't know whether we'll have enough numbers to hunt in our area. Most of us who hunt quail have to wait until after deer season to start anyway; so I'll let you know next year.

We've had a couple of good years to raise turkey poults; so maybe you'll have something for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner. I haven't seen many turkeys so far this year, except on CRMWD property, where they are protected.

As to seasons, dove season runs from Sept. 1 through October 24, 2010. The winter short season runs from December 25, 2010, through January 9, 2011, with a daily bag limit of 15 in the central zone, which includes Coke County.

Archery season for deer and turkey will close on November 5, 2010, with no antlerless permit required except on MLD properties. The general deer season will run from November 6, 2010 through January 2, 2011. The special late general season will run from Jan. 3-16, 2011, for antlerless and spike bucks only. The bag limit for deer is 5, with no more than 2 bucks, all seasons combined.

Turkey season will run concurrently with deer season, Nov. 6 through Jan. 2. Spring turkey season will be April 2 through May 15, 2011, gobblers only, with a bag limit of 4 (all seasons combined).

Quail season will run statewide Oct. 30, 2010 through Feb. 27, 2011, with a daily limit of 15 and a possession limit of 45.

Legal shooting hours for all game animals and nonmigratory game birds are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunting stamp endorsements which are required are an archery stamp - \$7; migratory game birds - \$7; upland game birds - \$7; and a federal migratory game bird (duck stamp) - \$17.

Hunting Lease License (Types 132, 133, and 134)

Required of a landowner or landowner's agent who leases hunting rights to another person on property they own or control for pay or other consideration. The license must be displayed on the property.

License fee: \$79 for 1 through 499 acres; \$147 for 500 through 999 acres; or \$252 for 1,000 acres or more: Note: Recordbook no longer required.

Have a wonderful time during your stay in our area. Please remember that you are ambassadors for all of us involved in the hunting and outdoor industry. Don't forget to think SAFETY every time you handle a firearm, and make proper gun han-

dling and safe shooting a part of your everyday life at home or in the field. Have a safe and successful season.

**Hunters are Hunting**

Most hunters report they are going afield as much or more than they expected.

In 2009, a majority of hunters made going afield a priority in their life. According to HunterSurvey.com, almost 25 percent said they hunted more than they expected to in 2009 and 40 percent said they hunted about as much as they expected to.

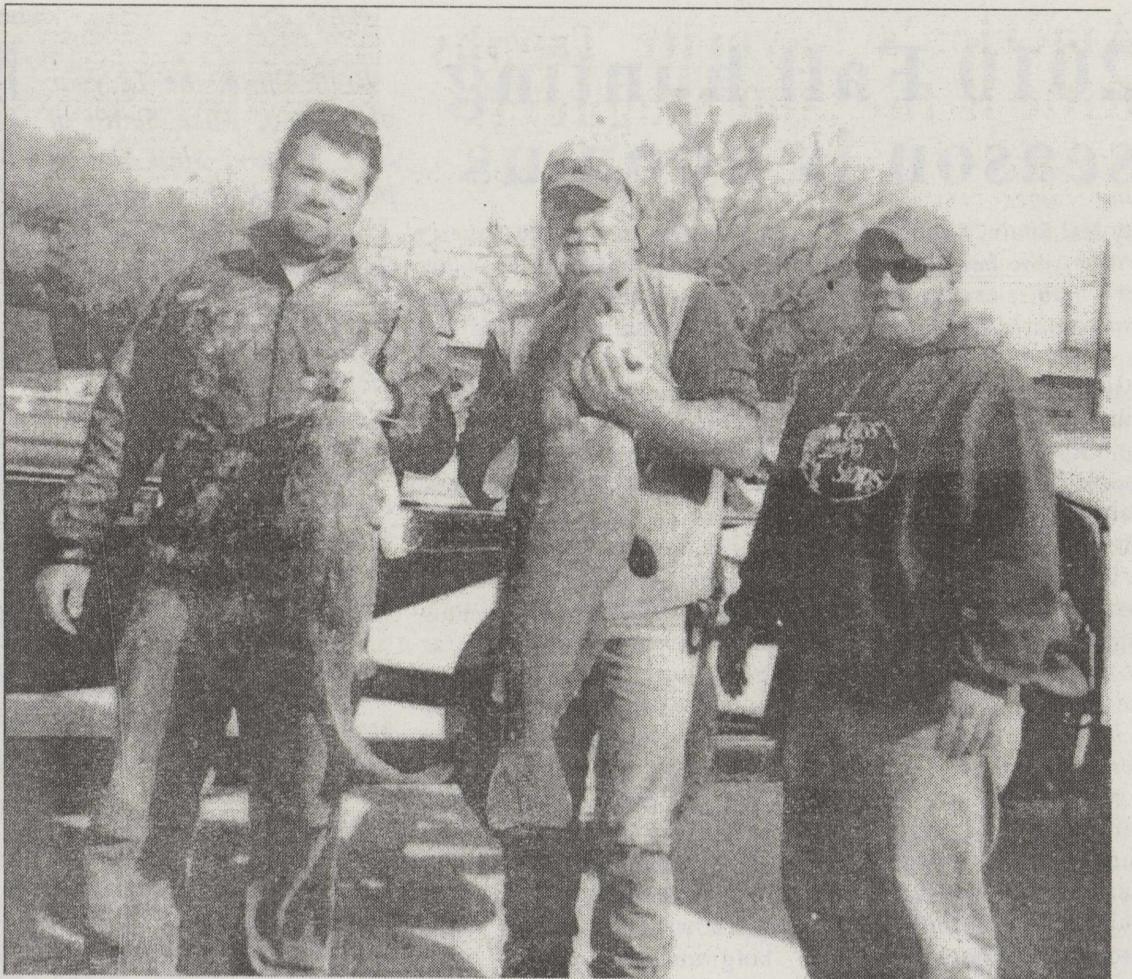
Results from this poll support the finding that hunting license sales rose by 3.5 percent in 2009 in the 12 states that make up the National Shooting Sports Foundation's Hunting License Sales Index.

While several factors can affect hunting licenses sales, experts point to the high jobless rate as the most likely reason for the 2009 uptick in license sales.

"While the exact reasons for the 3.5 percent increase are unknown at this time, past research suggests that slowdowns in the nation's economy often result in hunters having more time to go afield," said Rob Southwick, president of Southwick Associates, Inc.

States participating in the NSSF License Sales Index are New York and New Jersey in the Northeast; Florida, North Carolina, Louisiana and Tennessee in the Southeast; Minnesota, Indiana, Tennessee and Texas in the Midwest; and Oregon and Utah in the West.

Typically, hunting license sales data does not become available until 18 to 24 months after sales end. "NSSF and Southwick Associates saw there was a need to work directly with



Fredericksburg anglers (from left) Kenneth, T.J., and John Krieger took these two catfish from Oak Creek Lake on April 10, 2010. The yellow on the left weighed in at 20 pounds, and the blue cat on the right weighed 40 pounds. Both fish were caught on perch.

states to receive data in a more timely matter," said Jim Curcuruto NSSF's director of industry research and analysis.

The NSSF Hunting License Sales Index is designed to be an indicator of hunting license sales but not an exact measure of all hunting license sales nationally. Should the 3.5 percent rise hold true nationwide, it would represent one of the largest percentage increases in hunting license sales in more than 20 years.

HunterSurvey.com and NSSF's Hunting License Sales Index are important tools to help the industry better understand hunting par-

ticipation and license buying behavior, critical factors in ensuring the continuation of the hunting tradition.

Those who hunt, fish and target shoot are invited to participate in www.hunter

survey.com and www.angler survey.com. By completing the survey, you will be entered in a monthly drawing for one of five \$100 gift certificates to the sporting goods retailer of your choice.

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## America's Favorite Trophy Rifle is the .300 Magnum

[Editor's Note: The following comes to us from the Boone and Crockett organization. We thank them for the research - and glimpse into hunters' preferences.]

Although the venerable .30-06 and .270 remain among the favorites, Boone and Crockett Club big-game records show that hunters with a .300 Magnum are taking more North American trophies than any other caliber.

Surprisingly, the second-most-popular trophy-taker isn't a firearm—it's a bow.

Boone and Crockett compiled the data from its records book entries from 2007 through 2009. This three-year period of big-game trophies, fair-chase hunting and success in conservation and game management will be celebrated at the Club's 27th triennial Big Game Awards, June 24-26, 2010, at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nev. Free attractions include a public exhibition of top-ranking North American big-game trophies in 36 categories taken since 2007, plus a variety of seminars and exhibits.

For more info about the event, visit [www.biggameawards.com](http://www.biggameawards.com).

"Trophy entries have increased 400 percent over the past 30 years, which not only means wild, free-ranging, trophy-class specimens are more plentiful now than ever before, it also means we're getting larger samples and better snapshots of today's culture of hunter-conservationists," said Tony Schoonen, chief of staff for the Boone and Crockett Club.

Here are the most commonly used calibers (Note: Records do not distinguish specific variations, i.e. .300 Win. Mag, .300 WSM, .300 Wby. Mag., .300 Ultra Mag, etc.) across all Boone and Crockett categories over the past three years, along with percentages of trophy entries credited to each:

- .300 Magnum-18 percent
- Bow/crossbow-16 percent
- .270-12 percent
- .30-06-11 percent
- 7mm Magnum-11 percent
- Muzzleloader/shotgun-10 percent
- 6mm-3 percent
- .338 Magnum-3 percent
- .257-2 percent
- .30-30-2 percent
- .308-2 percent
- .375 Magnum-2 percent
- Other-8 percent

The .300 Magnum appears among the top three calibers in 11 of the following 15 species recognized in Boone and Crockett trophy records. A bow/crossbow appears in 7 of these 15. Species are arranged by frequency of records book entries 2007-09.

Most popular calibers by species include:

Whitetail deer-1.) Bow/crossbow, 2.) Muzzleloader/shotgun, 3.) .270

Black bear-1.) bow/crossbow, 2.) .300 Magnum, 3.) .30-06

Pronghorn-1.) .300 Magnum, 2.) .270, 3.) 7mm Magnum

Sheep (bighorn, Dall's, desert, Stone's)-1.) .300 Magnum, 2.) 7mm Magnum, 3.) .270

Mule deer-1.) .300 Magnum, 2.) 7mm Magnum, 3.) .270

Elk (American, Roosevelt's, Tule)-1.) .300 Magnum, 2.) bow/crossbow, 3.) tie: .30-06, 7mm Magnum

Moose (Alaska-Yukon, Canada, Shiras)-1.) .300 Magnum, 2.) tie: 7mm Magnum, .338 Magnum

Caribou (barren ground, central Canada barren ground, mountain, Quebec-Labrador, woodland)-1.) .300 Magnum, 2.) .270, 3.) .30-06

Blacktail deer (Columbia, Sitka)-1.) .30-06, 2.) tie: 7mm Magnum, .300 Magnum

Coues' whitetail deer-1.) 7mm Magnum, 2.) .270, 3.) .300 Magnum

Cougar-1.) bow/crossbow, 2.) .30-30, 3.) 6mm

Rocky Mountain goat-1.) tie: .270, .300 Magnum, 3.) tie: 7mm Magnum, .30-06, bow/crossbow, muzzleloader/shotgun

Brown bear/grizzly-1.) .375 Magnum, 2.) .338 Magnum, 3.) .300 Magnum

Muskox-1.) Bow/crossbow, 2.) .300 Magnum, 3.) tie: 6mm, .375 Magnum

Bison-1.) .338 Magnum, 2.) tie: 7mm Magnum, bow/crossbow

The Boone and Crockett Club system of scoring big-game trophies originated in 1906 as means of recording details on species thought to be disappearing due to rampant habitat loss and unregulated hunting. Science-based conservation efforts, led and funded by license-buying hunters, brought those species from vanishing to flourishing.

Boone and Crockett records remain a classic gauge of habitat and management programs.

In addition to its prestigious history and tradition, Boone and Crockett scoring is strongly associated with the highest tenets of fair chase and hunting ethics.



Oops! It looks like an intruder has slipped into the photo. But the deer don't seem to be too distracted by this big bobcat on the Wildcat Mountain Ranch in Robert Lee. Seems there may just be more to the name of the ranch than meets the eye.

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**Whitetails**

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**Deer Quiz**

**Test Your Knowledge About Whitetail Deer**

The white-tailed deer is the most popular big-game animal in North America, and is an amazing example of an animal that adapts and perseveres. As hunters go into the woods in pursuit of this graceful animal, here is a quiz from Whitetails Unlimited to see how much you really know about the whitetail's biology, behavior and history.

**True / False**

- 1) Deer are strong swimmers, in part because they have a layer of hair that is hollow, providing buoyancy in the water.
- 2) Deer have existed for 20 million years, and have had the same basic form for the last one million years.
- 3) Deer can run in excess of 35 miles per hour.
- 4) Deer can leap over fences eight feet tall.
- 5) Deer can cover 30 feet in a horizontal leap.
- 6) Just like humans, deer have a set of "baby teeth" that fall out and are replaced by permanent teeth.
- 7) You can tell how old a male deer is by how many points there are on his antlers.
- 8) Deer use their antlers during the winter to dig for food under the snow.
- 9) When antlers grow, they are covered with "velvet," a soft, fuzzy tissue. This velvet is the only regenerating

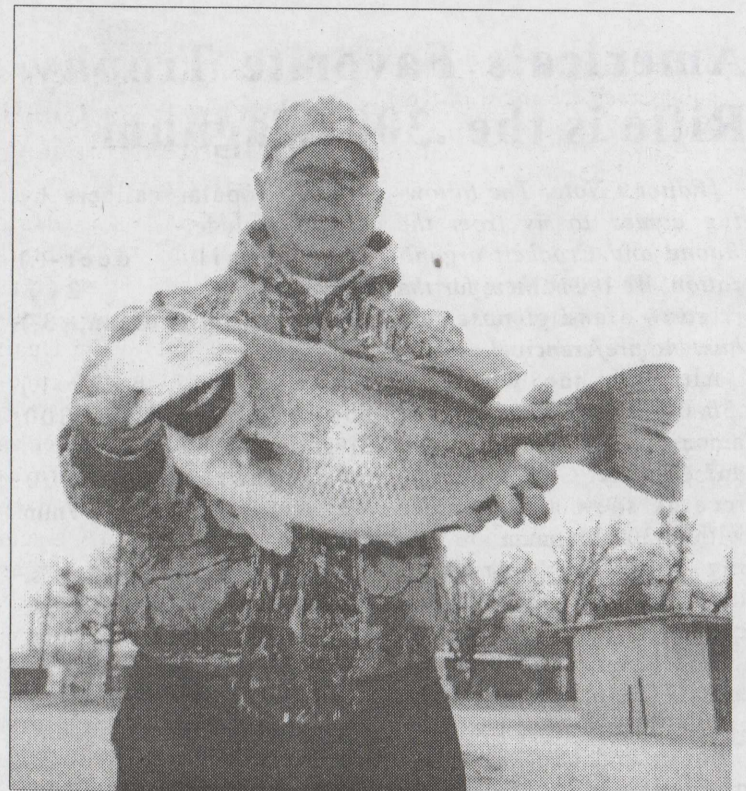
skin found in mammals.

- 10) Like cows, deer have four stomachs.
- 11) Deer can eat poison ivy without ill effect.
- 12) Deer are native to every state in the U.S.
- 13) The reason fawns are born with a pattern of white spots is so the mother can recognize her offspring.
- 14) Deer have extraordinary senses, including sight, hearing and smell.
- 15) Newborn deer have no scent, and the mother will place the fawn by itself in a secluded spot for protection against predators.

**Multiple Choice**

- 1) Deer are a member of the Cervidae family. What other animal is not included in this family.
  - a) Moose
  - b) Elk
  - c) Sheep
  - d) Caribou
- 2) The scientific name of the white-tailed deer is "Odocoileus Virginianus," and was named in 1832. What does "Odocoileus Virginianus" mean?
  - a) "Ocean Virgin"
  - b) "Odious Vinegar"
  - c) "Hollow-tooth Virginia"
  - d) "Outdoor Vigorous"
- 3) Modern deer have two toes. How many toes did the deer's ancient ancestors have?
  - a) 2
  - b) 3
  - c) 4
  - d) 5
- 4) In the wild, deer can live as long as:
  - a) 7 years
  - b) 11 years

- c) 18 years
- d) 24 years
- 5) When deer run from danger, they flip their tail up and expose the white underside. What evolutionary purpose does this serve?
  - a) The white color confuses the predator, since deer are usually brown to grey in color.
  - b) The tail alerts other deer and provides an object for fawns to follow their mother.
  - c) The white looks like an eye, making the predator think the deer is running the other direction.
  - d) When deer run, blood pressure rises causing blood vessels in the tail to inflate.
- 6) Under good conditions, how much food would an average adult deer eat per day?
  - a) 1-3 pounds
  - b) 5-9 pounds
  - c) 11-15 pounds
  - d) 17-21 pounds
- 7) Does will normally have one fawn the first year they breed. After this, how many fawns will they normally have?
  - a) One
  - b) Twins
  - c) Triplets
  - d) Quadruplets



Big Spring, Texas angler Jerry Dudley hoisted this big 'un out of Oak Creek Lake on February 7, 2010. The big black mashed the scales at 10.51 pounds.

- a) One
- b) Twins
- c) Triplets
- d) Quadruplets
- 8) Newborn fawns weigh about 4-6 pounds. How long does it take for them to double their weight?
  - a) One week
  - b) Two weeks
  - c) One month
  - d) Two months
- 9) Deer are very adaptable, and have evolved into a number

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of subspecies. How many subspecies are there in North America?

- a) 12
- b) 19
- c) 24
- d) 30

10) In 1900 the total population of white-tailed deer in North America was estimated to be 500,000 animals. What is the estimated population of white-tailed deer today?

- a) 500,000
- b) 5-10 million
- c) 20-30 million
- d) 75 million

**True / False Answers**

1) True. The hollow hair is more important in providing insulation during the winter, but also helps when deer swim.

2) True.

3) True.

4) True.

5) True.

6) True. The permanent teeth are in place by the time the deer is 2-1/2 years old.

7) False. Rack size depends on many factors, including age, nutrition and genetics. Racks are typically largest on deer in middle age (4-6 years old) and get smaller as deer get into old age, but there are many variables.

8) False. Deer shed their antlers starting in January, and they are used in dueling with other males during the mating season.

9) True. Velvet is also the fastest growing tissue in mammals; some antler growth has been measured at one inch during a 24-hour period.

10) True. Deer are ruminants, swallowing food that they later bring up to chew, releasing more nutrients for further digestion.

11) True.

12) False. There are no deer native to Hawaii, but deer are native to the other 49 states, Canada and Mexico. (Introduced deer are now in Hawaii.)

13) False. The dots are a form of camouflage.

14) True.

15) True.

**Multiple Choice Answers**

1) c, Sheep.

2) c, "Hollow-tooth Virginia." *Odocoileus* is the Greek word for "hollow tooth," and the scientist who named the species was working in Virginia.

3) d, 5. One toe has been completely lost through evolution, and two toes have moved into unusable dew-claws several inches above the main toes.

4) b, 11 years. In captivity deer have been known to live up to 20 years, but very few deer live longer than 10 years in the wild.

5) b, The tail flash alerts other deer to danger.

6) b, 5-9 pounds.

7) b, Twins.

8) b, Two weeks.

9) d, 30. There are an additional 10 subspecies living in South America.

10) c, 20-30 million.

**Texas QU chapters withdraw from Quail Unlimited, form Quail Coalition.**

(Dallas, TX January 5, 2010)

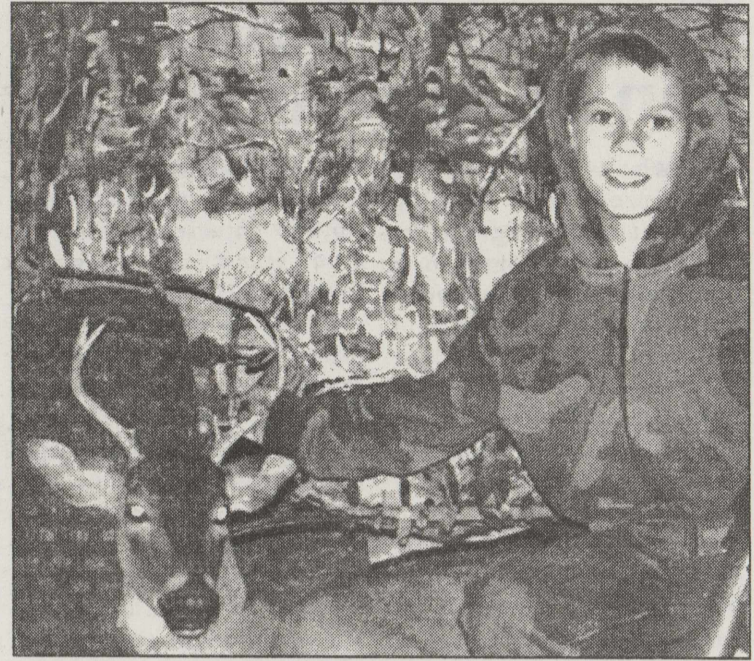
Quail Unlimited Chapters from across the state of Texas announced that they have unilaterally resigned from Quail Unlimited following prolonged issues with the national organization based in Edgefield, SC. The Texas Region has historically been the largest region for QU and has been responsible for as much as 30% of QU's national fundraising. For several years the Texas Chapters have been critical of administrative overhead and fund allocation by National QU. The alienation was compounded by continuing financial and leadership turmoil and reduction in services at QU.

On November 18, the Chairman of the Texas Council of Quail Unlimited, Tim Connolly of Wichita Falls announced his resignation from the Quail Unlimited

Board of Directors. Connolly a non-paid director has been involved with quail conservation in the state for over 20 years and a vocal advocate for reform at QU.

"QU has some major financial issues and I wouldn't attribute all of their problems to the economy. A series of bad decisions has led to the situation they are in today." Connolly said "Financial burdens weighing on QU include commitments to employee retirement plans, loans on the headquarters building from holding national events over the past four to five years and continuing to pay a staff of 24 employees."

Concurrent with the dissolution of the Texas QU Chapters, the leadership of each chapter voted unanimously to create Quail Coalition, Inc. The process of incorporation was well underway by Park Cities Quail; the Dallas based nonprofit who withdrew from QU in June '09. The group formed a Texas corporation and has



Nine year old Brandon Renton with his very first deer. The deer was taken over the Thanksgiving holidays at his Grandfather's farm in San Saba. Brandon is the Grandson of Beverly and Larry Broughton of Robert Lee. Brandon was using a Winchester model 94 30-30.

applied for 501(c)3 status. "We are excited to be a part of Quail Coalition" said Joe Crafton, Chairman of Park Cities Quail. "We will start with over 3,000 committed volunteer directors."

"We are excited to be a part of Quail Coalition" said Joe Crafton, Chairman of Park Cities Quail. "We will start with over 3,000 committed

(Continued on page 19)

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# Tree stand injuries can be prevented

So who's more likely to be injured in a hunting accident involving a tree-stand, an older hunter, or a more nimble one between the ages of 15 and 34?

If you guessed the older hunter, you'd be wrong. Young hunters between 15 and 34 are more likely to suffer serious injuries in tree stand-related accidents, according to researchers at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (BAU) Center for Injury Sciences. And, as you can imagine, those injuries are preventable.

The study, presented online in the Journal of TRAUMA® Injury, Infection and Critical Care, says men are twice as likely as women to be injured, and younger hunters more likely than older ones. Hunters aged between 15-24 had injury rates of 55.7 per 100,000, and those aged 25-34 averaged 61 injuries per 100,000. Hunters over 65 had injury rates of only 22.4 per 100,000.

"The elevated injury rate among younger hunters is significant, says Gerald McGwin, Jr. MS, Ph.D, senior investigator on the study, "because debilitating injuries in younger people are far more devastating than for older individuals because of the potential long-term effects that create both physical and financial hardships for patients and their families."

Using data drawn from the 2000-07 National Electronic Injury Surveillance System established by the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the UAB researchers report that the number of Americans hunting has remained stable over the past decade, with 12.5 million people engag-

ing in hunting in 2006. There were an estimated 46,860 injuries related to tree stand use between 2000 and 2007.

The study found that the most common injuries were fractures, mostly likely to occur in the hip or lower extremities, followed by injuries to the trunk, shoulder and upper extremities.

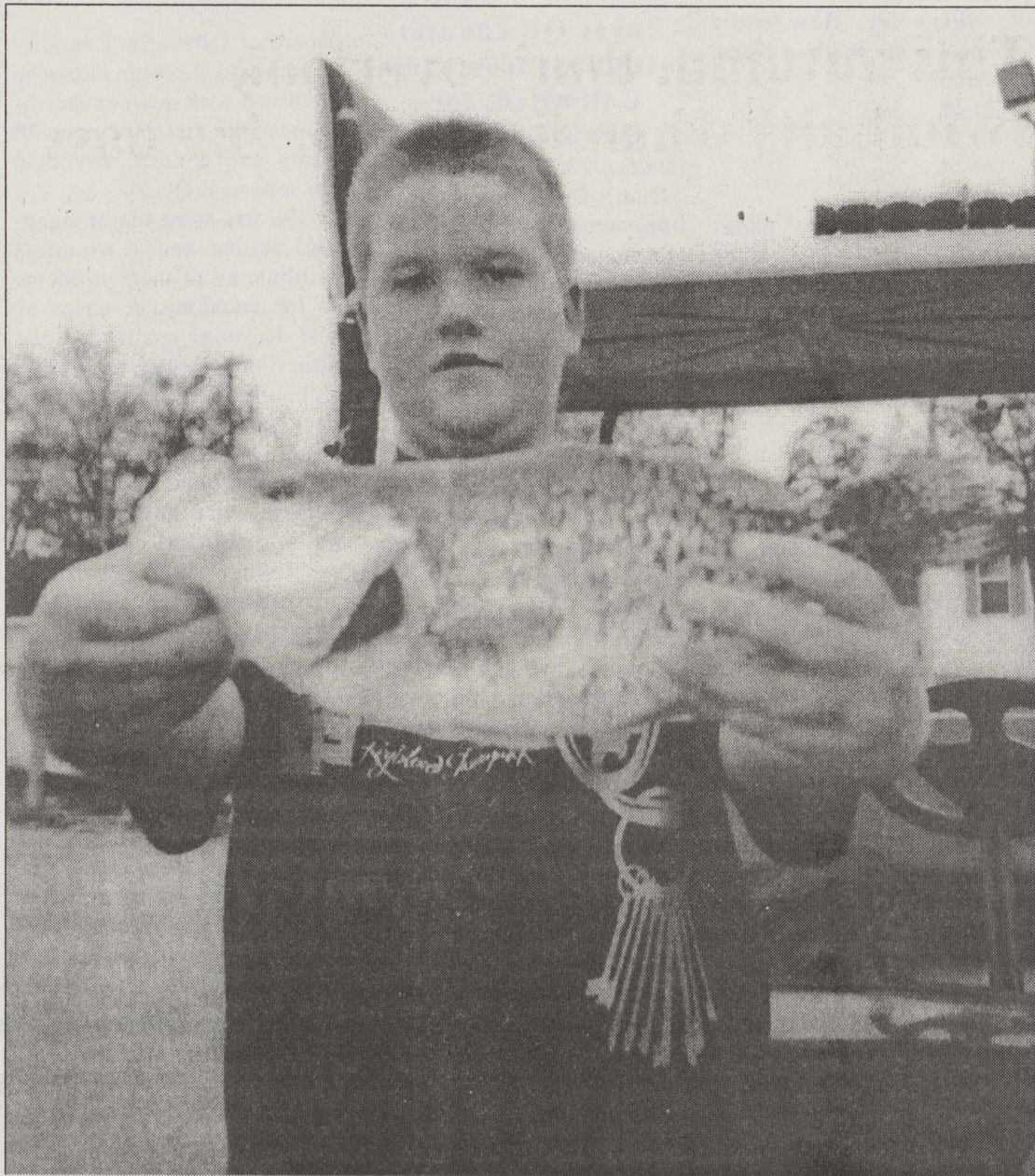
Head and spinal cord injuries were less common, but still significant.

McGwin says such injuries are consistent with other studies that demonstrate a similar injury pattern, explained by hunters trying to land on their feet, leading to injury of the lower extremities.

McGwin said younger hunters may have higher injury rates due to a willingness to take risks, less exposure to safety information and more time spent hunting than older hunters. He said the study reveals certain target areas for preventing tree stand-related injuries, including safety education campaigns that recommend the use of safety harnesses and regular maintenance of stands.

"In addition to a broad safety education campaign regarding the use of tree stands, the vulnerable young hunter population should be specifically targeted to decrease the number of preventable injuries," he said. "Manufacturers of tree stands can aid in prevention by providing more support for the hunters, particularly for the minimalistic stands such as climbing or ladder stands. Although tree stand-related injuries are a major cause of injury among the hunting population, they are preventable."

McGwin, along with study colleagues Loring W. Rue, III, M.D., Joshua



How 'bout this nice crappie, which weighed 1.67 pounds for Chance Frizell of Midland. Chance was fishing with (what else) but a crappie minnow at Oak Creek Lake on April 17, 2010.

Terry, BS, and Russell Griffin, MPH, said the study was not able to determine from the data what types of tree stands were in use when injury occurred, nor the exact mechanism of injury, be it

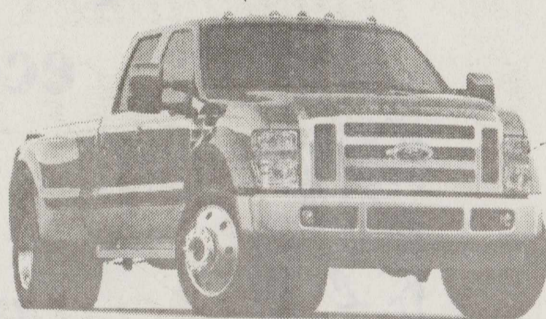
a hunter falling from a stand, a stand improperly erected or a structural failure of a stand. Further research in these areas would be valuable in reducing the number of injuries related to hunting

from tree stands, the authors said. Regardless, the advice is the same: if you're going to climb, use safety equipment and don't try anything stupid.

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## This autumn, don't overlook swimbaits when fishing for big bass

As soon as October arrives, Jared Lintner's lure choices become a lot easier. With water now cooling on lakes across the country the Yamaha pro ties on swimbaits, and while he may not get as many strikes, the big lures usually attract larger bass.

"The biggest factor in using swimbaits successfully is having confidence in them," explains Lintner, whose heaviest fish with swimbaits weighed a whopping 14 pounds, 8 ounces. "When I was really learning to fish swimbaits years ago, I took two rods and nothing but swimbaits, to force myself to use them, and I'd throw them all day.

"Generally, a slow methodically retrieve works best," he continues, "but of course, there are exceptions. Swimbaits bring feeding strikes, and bass, especially big bass, do not often chase their prey unless they're competing with other big bass for food.

"What I concentrate on is casting to places trophy bass like to stay, especially cover and shadows, and then slowly retrieving the lure so the bass have plenty of time to come after it."

Specifically, Lintner works his swimbaits around flooded brush and rocks, along the edges of thick vegetation and weeds, and even along boat docks. In addition to the 14-pounder he caught, he's also landed 12- and 13-pounders on successive casts fishing spots like this.

Although swimbaits range in size from 4-12 inches, the Yamaha pro prefers 6- and 7-inch models, since this size closely approximates the dominant forage in many trophy lakes. If this lure size only brings smaller fish, however, Lintner does not hesitate to switch to even larger lures. He has several hundred swimbaits in his arsenal, and usually has all sizes with him in his boat.

"I use the soft plastic swimbaits when I'm fishing the lures slightly deeper below the surface," he explains, "but when I'm fishing swimbaits as topwater lures, I prefer the hard plastic models. They do float, and they generally have a larger profile so they'll attract fish from deeper water.

"I've caught big bass as deep as 25 feet by slowly retrieving a sinking swimbait near the bottom, but my favorite depth is really less than 10 feet. If I'm fishing clear water and the breeze is creating a slight ripple on the surface, I'll probably fish the lure only about 3-4 feet deep."

The Yamaha angler notes that many fishermen use improper rods for swimbaits.

"When a big bass hits, you have to move that swimbait, which are larger than normal lures," he points out, "and it takes a heavy-action rod to do that. If you're not using the right rod, you're going to get into

trouble very quickly."

Lintner's rod choice is a 7 foot, 11 inch heavy-action model, and he matches this with 50- to 80-pound braided line when he's fishing big swimbaits on the surface. He uses 25 pound fluorocarbon line when he's fishing smaller, sinking swimbaits in deeper water.

"A good, realistic side to side tail swimming action is critical to your swimbait success," he adds, "so if you happen to have a lure that rolls or runs on its side, drop it into a pot of boiling water for

10 or 15 seconds. This will soften the plastic and keep it soft, which is what you need to create that smooth swimming action."

### Angler Study Has Surprising Results

*[Editor's Note: The following report was provided by the American Sportfishing Association.]*

Results of a recent comprehensive angler access study by the American Sportfishing Association (ASA) and Responsive Management - 2010 Angler Access in the U.S.

Report - reveal some surprising views by anglers, private landowners and professional fish and wildlife managers who make decisions regarding angler access. Interviews were completed with more than 4,000 landowners and more than 4,100 recreational anglers. This is the first study of its kind to include landowners that have water on, adjacent to or running through their property to document their assessment of angler access. The most important finding is that two-thirds of anglers access most of their fishing from public lands with about half of those anglers primarily fishing from private boats, this includes both fresh and saltwater.

The five major findings in the

study are:

- o Public lands are important to anglers as a means to access places to fish.

- o Angler access is tied to boating access.

- o Fish and wildlife professionals are concerned about angler access.

- o While liability is an important issue for landowners, a landowners' privacy is the most important reason why they don't open their land to more people.

- o Landowners are generally unaware of the many programs that agencies and organizations have to help them create access on their property.

"The most important finding in this study is the predominant role that public lands and access to pub-

*(Continued on page 10)*

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**... Angler Survey**

(Continued from page 9)  
 lic lands plays in anglers being able to enjoy their sport," said ASA Vice President Gordon Robertson. "That is crucial information for our state and federal fish and wildlife and land managers and must be taken into account for budgeting and planning purposes."

Robertson further said, "Access is consistently identified as the top issue of concern among anglers and the study reveals that if anglers can't access areas to recreationally fish, they may desert the sport."

Mark Duda, executive director of Responsive Management, emphasized, "This is a thorough and definitive study of angler access in the United States. Agencies and organizations interested in angler access will find this and invaluable resource."

Other highlights of the study include:

- o 92 percent of landowners approved of legal recreational fishing and believe it is important for the public to have the opportunity to do so.

- o About one-half of landowners fish on their own property and two-thirds allow access to those people they know.

- o Approximately one-tenth of landowners allow completely open access to their lands.

- o Approximately 1 percent of private landowners charge an access fee to anglers.

- o 64 percent of recreational anglers access their primary fishing areas from public lands while 16 percent use private lands.

- o 54 percent of recreational anglers seek areas with boating access.

- o 54 percent of anglers surveyed cited that as their primary source of information about where to fish is word of mouth.

- o The survey found that 89 percent of landowners say they have not experienced problems with recreational anglers in the last five years.

"Anglers have long been viewed as conservationists and

generally as good citizens," said Robertson. "It is encouraging to understand from the survey that almost 90 percent of landowners have not experienced problems with recreational anglers over the past five years."

The study was conducted under a multi-state conservation grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and administered by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

**Game Warden**

**Field Notes**

[Editor's Note: The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.]

\*\*\*\*\*

Warden assists in triple rescue: Young County Game Warden Brent Isom was patrolling with his flat bottom boat on April 18 when he got a call that a car containing three teenage girls had been washed off the roadway. The warden was on scene within five minutes of the 911 call and joined forces with Young County Sheriff Bryan Walls and Department of Public Safety Corporal Bryan Little. The three officers launched the boat into the creek and were able to come upstream to the girls' location, where they were holding on to an electrical transmission line tower. The three girls were wet, cold and scared, but otherwise uninjured. They were lowered into the patrol boat and transported back to their parents, who were on the bank watching the event unfold.

\*\*\*\*\*

Two for one not always a good thing: Trinity County Game Warden Sam Shanafelt received a phone call from the Trinity County Sheriff's Office April 9 about some deer that had been shot and dumped on a county road. After a couple of days, someone called and provided information which pointed to two young adults in the Woodlake Community. After a lengthy interview by the warden, both adults confessed to shooting at one deer, but killing two. Citations and restitution were



March 27, 2010 was a lucky day for David McQuitty, as he pulled this 9.25 pound black bass from Oak Creek Lake near Blackwell, Texas. David, who resides at Odessa, caught the big lunker on a yellow and white spinner bait.

issued.

\* Literally and figuratively down the river: Jasper County Game Warden Chris Fried received a call on April 15 from the Jasper County Sheriff's Office advising that five people were stranded on the Neches River. The warden soon discovered that the five individuals were not stranded but were floating down the river on tubes at about 1:30 a.m. One of the subjects had to be taken to the hospital for alcohol poisoning and two others were arrested for public intoxication.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Xbox Files: While patrolling the Neches River on April 17, Jasper County Game Wardens Morgan Inman and Chris Fried issued several citations for no personal flotation devices, undersized catfish, no fishing license, and possession of drug paraphernalia. When

leaving the river, the two wardens noticed two vehicles parked on the side of the road. After making contact with the occupants, it was determined that they were in possession of a

stolen X-Box taken the night before in a home burglary in Tyler County. The X-Box and suspects were turned over to the Tyler County Sheriff's Office.

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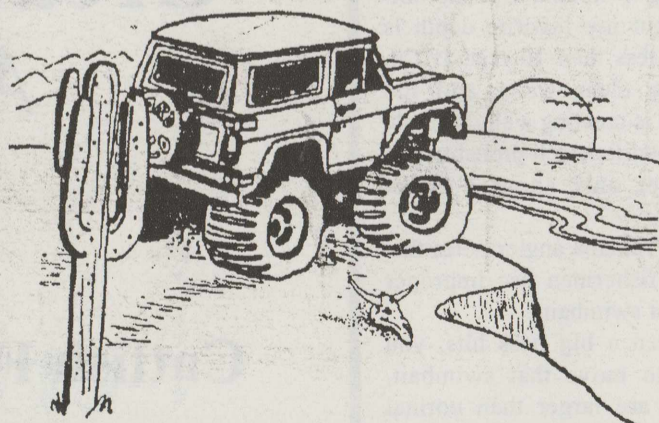
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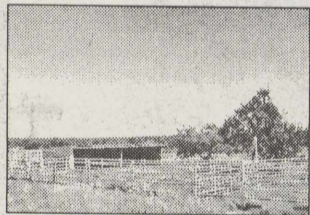


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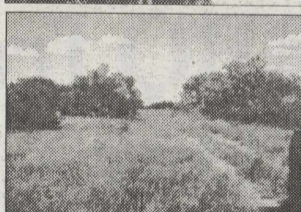
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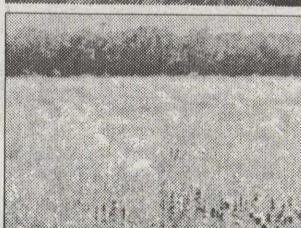
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## Texas Men Sentenced to Federal Prison for Deer Trafficking, Stolen Property

A four-year, multi-agency investigation that began when two Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Game Wardens received information about possible stolen property on two Northeast Texas ranches has ended with federal prison sentences for a father and son who pled guilty to transporting stolen property and wildlife trafficking.

Forty-nine-year-old James Dwayne Anderton and his 26-year-old son Jimmie Wallace Anderton, both of Quinlan in Hunt County, Texas were sentenced recently in U.S. District Court in Sherman by Judge Marcia Crone.

"This case is an excellent example of a joint effort on the part of local, state and federal law enforcement," said Col. Pete Flores, TPWD's law enforcement director. "We're proud of the work our Game Wardens put in on this case, but everyone involved did a great job in pursuing a complicated investigation that not only resulted in the recovery of thousands of dollars worth of stolen property, it will help keep our Texas deer herd safe from disease by ending an illegal importation operation."

The elder Anderton drew 30 months in federal prison for interstate transportation of stolen property and was ordered to pay \$180,952 restitution. His son will serve 27 months in federal prison for interstate transportation and will be jointly responsible for making restitution. In addition, both men got 12 months federal confinement for violations of the Federal Lacey Act involving the illegal transportation of deer across state lines. These sentences will be served concurrently with their other sentence, but

they also face 36 months of supervised release following their discharge from prison.

Benjamin Tuggle, Regional Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, agrees with Col. Flores, adding, "We appreciate these kinds of collaborative efforts. It is all about wildlife conservation and to be successful we need to work together. All of the law enforcement agents working on this case are to be commended for their dedication and hard work."

The Andertons operate a turf grass and landscaping business and hold a TPWD permit to breed captive deer. In the spring of 2006 Game Wardens Dale Waters and Eric Collins were looking into some possible deer breeding violations when they received information that the Andertons might be in possession of stolen heavy equipment and trailers.

The wardens relayed this information to Texas Department of Public Safety Motor Vehicle Theft Division Sgts. John Murphy and Rex Wilemon, who drew up a search warrant executed on two pieces of land owned by the Andertons, one in Delta County and the other in Hunt County near Quinlan. Six Game Wardens and Sgt. Brad Chappell of the TPWD Special Operations Unit participated in the search, which resulted in the recovery of stolen farm machinery and construction equipment. Deputies with the Delta and Hunt county sheriff's departments and members of the Northeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force also assisted in the search.

The two DPS investigators presented the findings from their stolen equipment investigation to FBI Special Agent Ken Paith who furthered the



A plastic worm was the bait of choice for Sid Sanchez, as he hoisted this 8.87 pound black bass from Oak Creek Lake on July 13, 2010.

investigation and developed sufficient evidence to indict the Andertons on July 8, 2009 for interstate transportation of stolen property. Also indicted on the same charge was Timothy Shane Peavler, 37, of Lone Oak, Texas.

During this time Chappell received information that the Andertons had been unlawfully importing white-tailed deer from Arkansas. The Game Warden sergeant contacted U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Special Agent Mike Merida and began a joint investigation along with Little Rock-based Fish and Wildlife Special Agent Glen Pye and investigators with Arkansas Fish and Game

Commission.

This cooperative effort eventually revealed the source of the deer the Andertons were illegally importing. Merida and Chappell determined the Andertons had paid more

than \$63,000 for at least 125 white-tailed deer and imported them to Texas in violation of a state statute which restricts deer importation.

The two officers eventually learned that the Andertons had

(Continued on page 19)

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# Factsheet: 2010 State of the Birds in Texas

\* Texas has recorded 636 total bird species, more than any state except California. Of these, 10 are on state and federal endangered species lists, and another 20 are listed as threatened. In the Texas Wildlife Action Plan, 39 birds are high priority species of greatest conservation need, birds that are already or could become threatened or endangered and need our help.

\* All these birds at risk represent habitats at risk. Protecting and restoring native habitat and controlling invasive species that disrupt native habitat are thus critical strategies.

\* For example, a key focus in Texas is restoring native grasslands. This benefits popular game birds like bobwhite quail and rare birds like the lesser prairie chicken. Prairie habitat sustains both, and threats to that habitat are causing both to decline.

\* Texas is a private land state, where 95 percent of the habitat is privately owned. Most habitat protection and restoration is done in collaboration with private landowners.

\* Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Joint Ventures, US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners Program and several non-governmental organizations work with private landowners across the landscape to manage and restore grassland, wetland, estuary and coastal habitats that benefit birds of concern.

\* Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and its partners promote bird conservation under the Texas Wildlife Action Plan and funds public and private land restoration and protection projects with the State Wildlife Grants, Landowner Incentive Program, Farm Bill programs, Upland Game Bird Stamp sales revenue, and Horned Lizard

License Plate funds.

\* Climate change is an emerging threat that affects birds and the habitats on which they depend by changing temperatures and rainfall which affects growing seasons, insect availability, migration patterns and timing, invasive species growth and range, and pests and diseases. Climate change can intensify existing threats.

\* More than 70 species of South Texas birds such as least grebe, great kiskadee, green jay and buff-bellied hummingbird have expanded their ranges north and east. Some scientists believe this is due to climate change although expansions are also due to habitat change from fire suppression, native vegetation losses, and invasive brush encroachment. Pests and diseases are increasing in range because warmer winters reduce die-off, and parasite development rates and infectivity increase with temperature. Woody shrubs invading prairie grasslands are favored by increases in concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub>, changes in soil moisture cycles, fire suppression, and soil disturbances.

\* Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is revising the Texas Wildlife Action Plan this year with our conservation partners to include a new chapter to identify next steps in climate change adaptation strategies. TPWD plans to continue emphasis on private land stewardship, undertake or expand research and monitoring to understand climate change impacts, and explore partnerships and strategies to mitigate impacts.

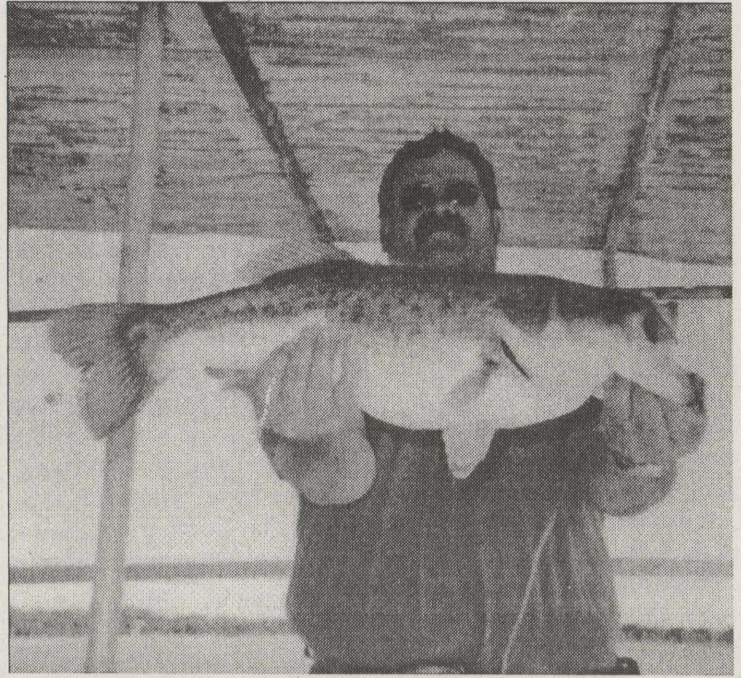
\* Protecting and restoring native habitat and controlling invasive species are fundamental conservation actions that will also help mitigate climate change impacts, as native bird species are better able to withstand multiple pressures if they have healthy

native habitat.

## Game Warden Field Notes

[Editor's Note: The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.]

\* Numbers add up to legal trouble: Tarrant County Game Wardens Clint Borchardt and Chelle Mount were checking fishermen along the West Fork of the Trinity River on February 21. The first of two boats they checked had four fishermen. The section behind the last seat was filled to the top of the transom with 122 white bass. The second boat had two fishermen and 64 white bass in their ice chest. All six fishermen received citations for over the limit of white bass.



This 10 plus pound black bass is bound to have surprised Oak Creek resident Eric McWhorter. He was fishing off the crappie dock at Live Oak Lodge on May 19, 2010 when the big lunker decided to swallow his minnow.

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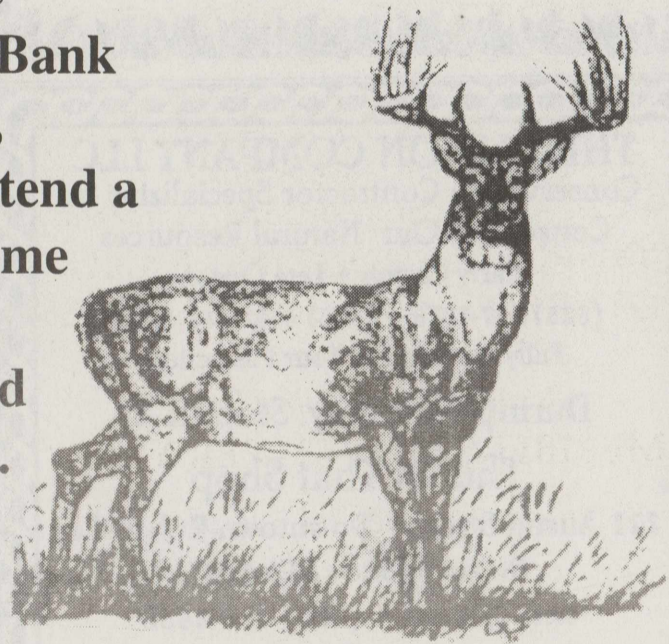
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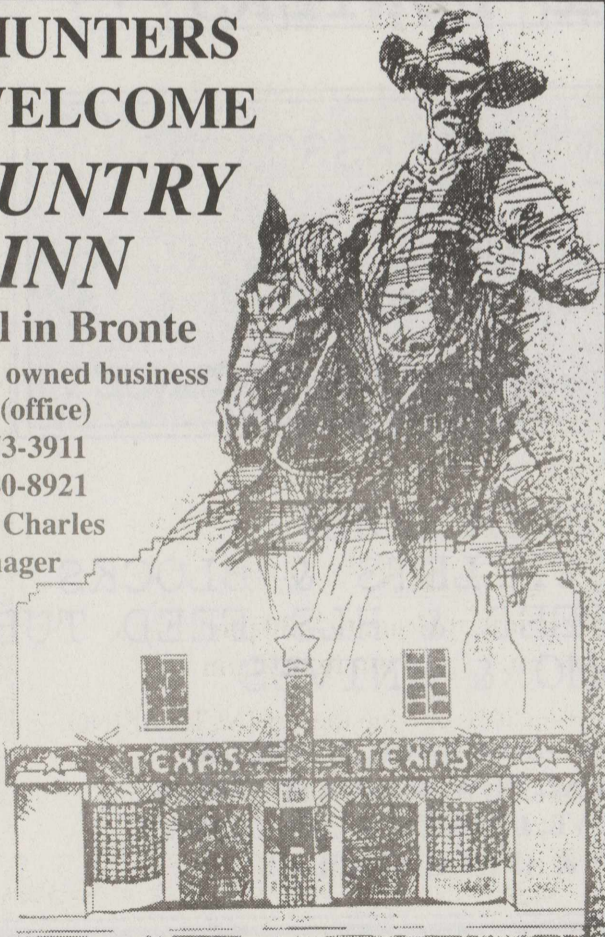


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## Young Hunters Get First Shot During Special Weekend

Instead of sacking up sweets this Halloween, many young Texans will be bagging wild game during the special youth-only hunting weekend, Oct. 30-31. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department established youth-only seasons to pass the hunting heritage on to the next generation of hunters, make lasting memories and to give kids the first shots.

Wildlife are flourishing thanks to excellent habitat conditions throughout the state this year, setting the stage for what could be a season to remember for many young hunters and TPWD is urging sportsmen to take a kid outdoors.

"The youth-only weekend offers a chance to mentor young hunters and can be a valuable management tool on ranches needing to reduce antlerless deer numbers," said Clayton Wolf, TPWD's Wildlife Division director.

TPWD has set aside Oct. 30-31 as special youth-only seasons for white-tailed deer and Rio Grande turkey. A youth-only late season is also available Jan. 3-16, 2011. During the statewide special youth-only hunting weekend, licensed youth 16 years of age or younger will be allowed to harvest white-tailed deer and Rio Grande turkey.

The department has coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to offer a youth-only waterfowl season in the North and South Duck

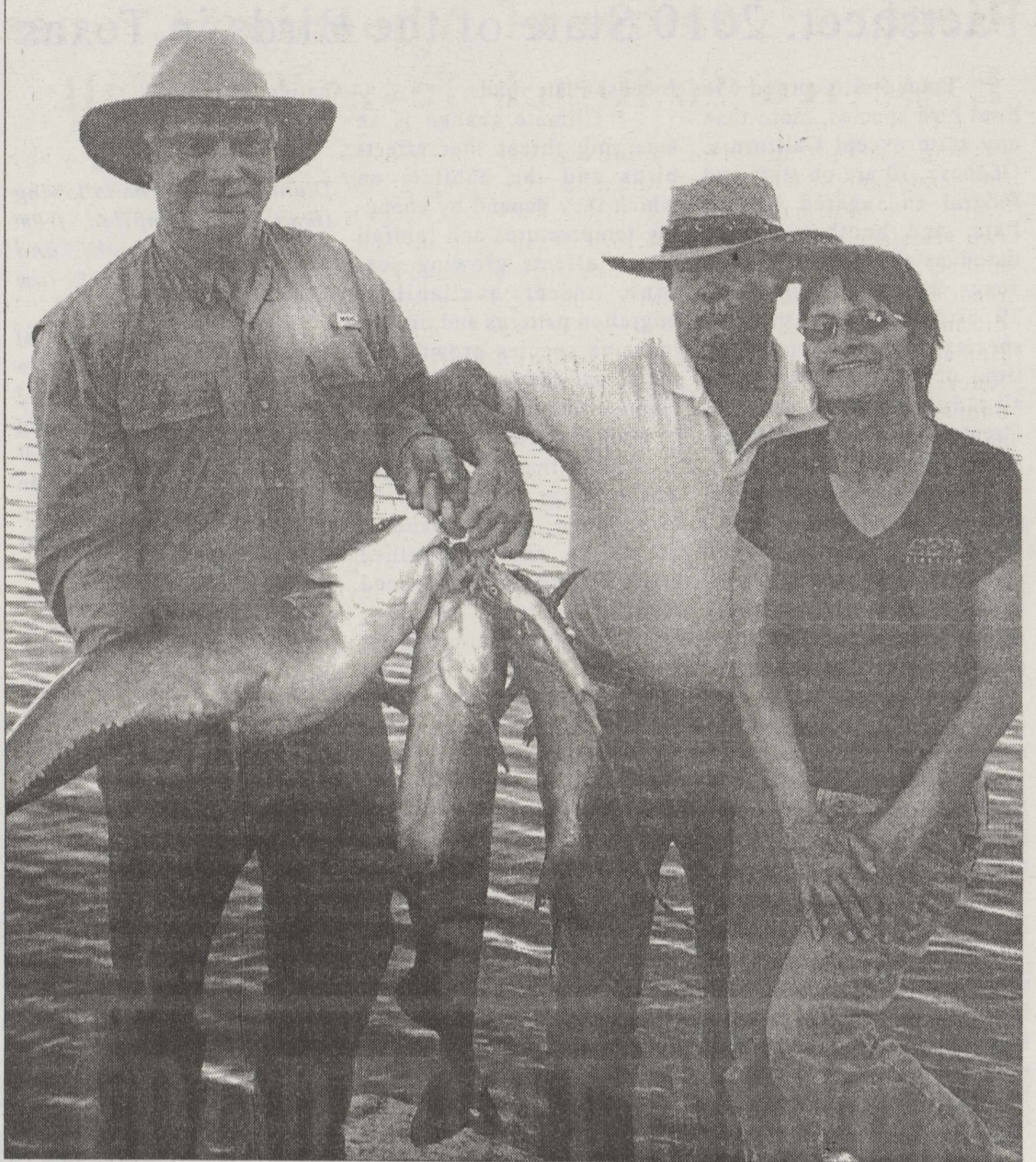
Zones on Oct. 23-24 for licensed youth 15 years of age or younger.

A Special Youth Hunting License (\$7) is required and may be purchased wherever hunting licenses are sold, as well as online and by phone at 1-800-TX-LIC-4U for an additional convenience fee. This year, more than 139,000 special youth hunting licenses have been sold, evidence that hunting continues to be an important pursuit among young Texans.

To make room for the new generation of Texas hunters, TPWD has made an extra effort to open as much public hunting land as possible to youth hunting on department-managed lands. Youth who are hunting on TPWD lands must be accompanied by a supervising adult 18 years of age or older who possesses the required Annual Public Hunting permit, a valid hunting license and any required stamps and permits.

Youth hunts for either sex white-tailed deer are scheduled during the special weekend season on public hunting units, mostly in East Texas. Youth waterfowl hunts are available on many public hunting units.

The Annual Public Hunting (APH) Permit is a \$48 permit, valid from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 of the following year. The APH permit allows an adult access to designated public hunting lands in the TPWD public hunting



*This trio of Coke County fishermen had some good luck recently at Oak Creek Lake. Their morning's total from jugfishing included this stringer which totaled 43 pounds, with the biggest mashing the scales at 23 pounds. Shown (from left) are Marshall Millican and Clark and Noel Tinkler, all of Robert Lee.*

lands program. With the APH permit, hunting is allowed for small game, turkey, white-tailed deer, exotics, predators, furbearers, and fishing without having to pay

daily permit fees and in most instances, without having to be selected in a drawing.

General season bag limits for the county hunted apply during the youth-only week-

end, but some additional restrictions may apply in certain areas so be sure to check the 2010-11 Outdoor Annual of hunting and fishing regulations before heading afield.

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# Record Number of Whooping Cranes Expected To Reach Texas This Fall

Things are looking up for the endangered whooping crane. The bird made news two years ago when a record number of crane deaths were reported during drought conditions on the Texas coast. But according to state and federal biologists, flock numbers have rebounded, and a new record high number of cranes should start arriving on the Texas coast later this month.

According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist Tom Stehn, the Aransas-Wood Buffalo population of whooping cranes rebounded to 264 in the winter of 2009-10, back from 247 at the end of the 2008-09 winter. With 46 chicks fledging from a record 74 nests in August 2010 the flock size should reach record levels this fall — expected to be somewhere around 290. Once numbering only 21 birds on earth, the previous population high was 270 in the fall of 2009.

Texas' winter flock of whooping cranes (the birds summer and nest in northwestern Canada in Wood Buffalo National Park) represents the last remaining "natural" flock of whooping cranes in the wild, and, according to Lee Ann Linam, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologist, Texas plays an important role in the species' future recovery.

"Under good conditions, Texas' coastal wetlands provide a variety and abundance of food and fresh water that normally lead to excellent survival of whoopers over the winter," Linam said. "Such excellent winter survival has greatly aided the species' amazing comeback."

Whooping cranes winter in wetlands along a section of the Texas coast ranging from

approximately Seadrift to Rockport, including at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. Linam notes that public and private landowners within the region are collaborating in habitat management efforts for whooping cranes, but potential threats still exist, such as oil spills, coastal development, and reduced freshwater inflows.

Texas also plays an important role in conserving whooping cranes as they migrate through the state. The cranes usually pass through a migration corridor that extends from the Texas Panhandle eastward to Dallas-Fort Worth and southward to the central coast wintering grounds. Their flight path would take them over cities such as Wichita Falls, Fort Worth, Waco, Austin, and Victoria. The majority of the cranes pass south through Texas from late October through the end of November.

Whooping cranes are the tallest birds in North America, standing over four feet tall. They are solid white in color except for black wing-tips visible only in flight. They fly with necks and legs outstretched. During migration they often pause overnight to use wetlands for roosting and agricultural fields for feeding, but seldom remain more than one night. They nearly always migrate in small groups of less than four-to-five birds, but they may be seen roosting and feeding with large flocks of smaller sandhill cranes. Hunters are advised to learn to tell the difference between whooping cranes and sandhill cranes, a popular game bird.

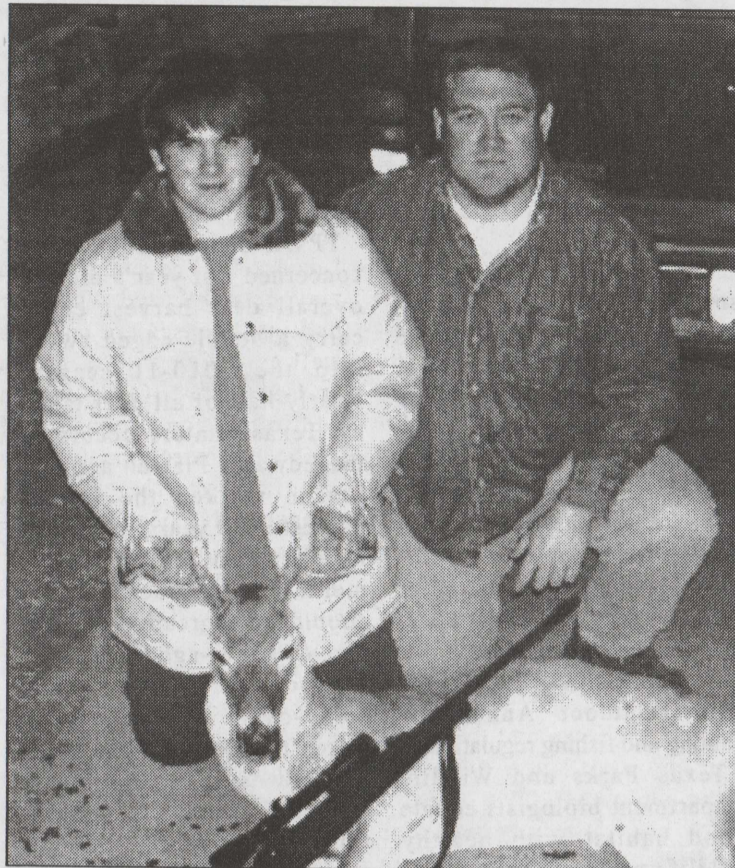
Whooping cranes are protected by federal and state endangered species laws, and Texans can help safeguard

this national treasure by helping to prevent harm or harassment to whooping cranes. Anyone sighting a whooping crane is asked to report it to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at (800) 792-1112, extension 4644 or (512) 847-9480. Sightings can also be reported via e-mail at leeann.linam@tpwd.state.tx.us.

## Game Warden Field Notes

*[Editor's Note: The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.]*

\* Wardens find novel use of stolen truck: Game Wardens Michael Hummert and Colt Gaulden were patrolling on February 21 when they heard a call that a Department of Public Safety helicopter had detected a LoJack transmission coming from a 90,000-acre ranch in Webb County. Responding to the call, the wardens entered the ranch and spoke with the landowner. The DPS helicopter was hovering over an area where the landowner said a hunter's camp was located. The wardens entered the camp and found a stolen Ford F-250 four-door truck. The originally white truck had been painted in camouflage, an elevated deer blind had been installed, and fictitious plates had been put on the vehicle.



Taylor Brackeen of Hermleigh, accompanied by Jeremy Burns of Robert Lee, shot his first 8 point buck on the Paul Burns Ranch, north of Robert Lee on Thanksgiving Day. Taylor is the son of Brandy Southerland and the grandson of Sue Padgett, both of Robert Lee.

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## Prospects looking good for Texas Deer Season

Texas deer hunters could be blessed with too much of a good thing this fall, at least early on, as excellent range conditions throughout the state have set the stage for what could be a season to remember.

The Texas deer hunting season opens Saturday, Oct. 2, for bowhunting and Nov. 6 for the general gun season. A special youth-only weekend season is set for Oct. 30-31. The general season runs through Jan. 2, 2011 in North Texas and Jan. 16, 2011 in South Texas. A late youth-only season is also slated for Jan. 3-16, 2011. For additional late season deer hunting opportunities, consult the 2010-11 Outdoor Annual of hunting and fishing regulations.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists equate good habitat with healthy wildlife populations and suggest you don't have to look hard to find plenty of both this year. Timely rainfall that began last winter and continued throughout the first half of 2010 has helped maintain range conditions and provide an ideal environment for deer to flourish.

Estimates of high fawn production in most regions of the state with upwards of 100 percent fawn survival on some intensively managed ranches, coupled with quality native food supplies, should give hunters a lot to look forward to this season. It also means that like last year, hunting over corn feeders may not be as productive because of the abundant natural forage available.

"Acorn crops have been pretty good and there is plenty of vegetation in South Texas, so the deer have plenty to eat," said Alan Cain, TPWD whitetail deer program director. "That's going to make it difficult for bowhunters to attract deer to supplemental feeding locations."

At the onset of the archery season Cain said most deer are still in a summer pattern, especially in South Texas where the rut is still a couple of months away. Bowhunters might consider focusing their efforts along heavily traveled game trails or near acorn producing trees.

He also suggests hunters take advantage of opportuni-

ties to harvest antlerless deer this season, too, in order to offset high fawn production. "Folks need to keep deer numbers at a level the habitat can sustain during lean years," said Cain.

TPWD field biologists are concerned last year's drop in overall deer harvest could carry a double-edged sword into the 2010-11 season. Nearly half of all deer taken by Texas hunters occurs in the Edwards Plateau and last season marked the lowest harvest in 10 years, attributed mainly to reduced deer movement. The upside is there should be a greater percentage of older-aged bucks in the population due to the carry-over of bucks that weren't harvested last year. The downside is there likely are more deer in the population than the habitat in many areas can adequately support without being degraded when range conditions return to normal.

"I don't wish for it to be dry, but hopefully conditions will be such during the upcoming season that deer movements will be high (i.e. deer will come to feeders), resulting in high deer observation and harvest success rates for hunters," said Trey Carpenter, TPWD wildlife biologist.

One aspect biologists are not concerned about this season is the overall health of Texas' deer herd. The abundance of acorns during the fall and winter of 2009, combined with the flush of cool-season and warm-season herbaceous plants produced from the rains provided high-quality forages for deer that helped them come through the winter in good condition and were adequately available to the deer throughout the early stages of antler production, throughout pregnancy, and during fawn-rearing.

"This year deer didn't have to go to browse until well into the growing season, unlike in dry years when they utilize browse earlier because herbaceous plants are lacking," Carpenter explained. "Not dipping into the 'savings account' of browse until late into the growing season should have a positive influence and due to the steady and consistent supply

of good nutrition that has been available to deer since last fall, all segments of the deer population should be in good body condition going into the fall, buck antler production should be above average for the 2010-11 season, and fawn production and recruitment should be above average."

In parts of the state having special antler restriction, landowners and hunters should reap the rewards of above average antler growth this season as more bucks meet the requirements for legal harvest, said Cain. "It may be tough spotting those deer because they won't have to move much, so hunters need to keep that in mind. In East Texas, the antler restrictions coupled with good rainfall should mean good quality bucks."

Cain said folks involved in cooperative wildlife management groups should also see the fruits of their collaborative habitat management labors this season and expects deer hunting on ranches under wildlife management plans to be above average, too.

"It really doesn't matter



While visiting his father who has a place on Oak Creek Lake, Tom Medford caught this nice 22 pound blue cat. He is shown with his wife on June 24, 2010.

what part of the state you're in, if you effectively manage the habitat for the benefit of wildlife, you're going to see better quality deer," he said. "Our biologists are working

with thousands of land managers on more than 25 million acres and hunters are becoming more educated not just on how they hunt, but also wiser on management strategies."



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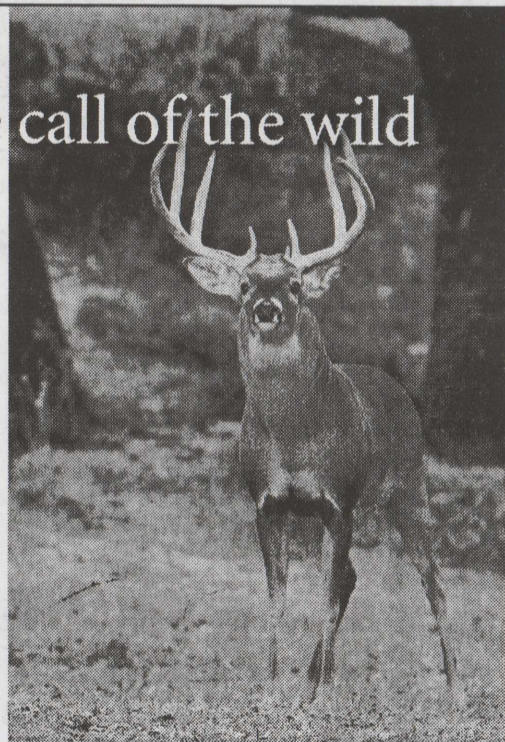
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On intensively managed ranches under Level 3 of the Managed Lands Deer Permit program, Oct. 2 is the "soft" opening day of the general deer season. Hunters on Level 3 properties have the flexibility to utilize issued permits from the archery season opener through the last day in February by any legal means and methods. MLDPs are used instead of deer tags, which means deer taken under the program do not count against a hunter's annual bag limit.

The MLDP program is a multi-tiered incentive based and habitat focused initiative that allows landowners involved in a formal management program to have the state's most flexible seasons and increased harvest opportunities. Higher levels offer additional harvest flexibility to the landowner, but also have more stringent requirements.

Some in South Texas already have their sights set on a specific buck they've spotted during deer counts or captured on trail cameras, according to Cain. "There are some landowners down here that have already got some huge bucks located," he pointed out. "We're talking bucks that will score 200 or better. Now those don't grow behind every tree but these bucks were able to recover from last year's rut and develop better because of quality range conditions."

This could also be a breakout year for the Class of 2004. That was a peak year for deer productivity and range conditions, which means the odds of seeing a mature 6 1/2-year-old buck this

*Just another of the really nice bucks being raised on the Wildcat Mountain Ranch near Robert Lee. Tony and Hollis Farris implemented the management program thirteen years ago under low fence, and for the past eight years, the program has been maintained under high fence. They are convinced the management program is working, without importing any new genetics into their deer herd.*

season are pretty favorable.

"In 2004, at least in South Texas, we had good rainfall and a good fawn crop," recalled Cain. "Consequently, even with normal deer harvest over the years, we should have good carryover and I would suggest hunters consider waiting on that older buck and not pull the trigger on the first deer you see."

Contact: Steve Lightfoot 512-389-4701, steve.lightfoot@tpwd.state.tx.us

**Game Warden  
Field Notes  
\*\*\*\*\***

More Falcon nets: Zapata County Game Warden Jake Cawthon and Starr County Warden Drew Spencer responded on April 19 to an anonymous tip regarding three boats suspected of illegal gill netting on Falcon Lake. As the wardens approached the three vessels to perform water safety inspections, four men fled in a white-and-blue Tahoe ski

(Continued on page 18)



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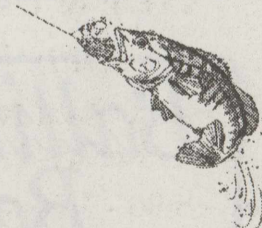
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This big buck was captured on film during an aerial survey on the Chadbourne Ranch, located in the eastern portion of Coke County. The annual helicopter survey was conducted on Saturday, October 16, 2010.

**... Game Warden Field Notes**

(Continued from page 17)

boat and two other men fled in a yellow-and-white ski boat. A third boat was left abandoned and later seized by wardens. After a pursuit through extremely heavy brush, three of the four men aboard the Tahoe bailed out into the lake. Warden Spencer jumped aboard the Tahoe and arrested one subject and then pulled another subject from the lake, arresting him as well. The two other men were never located. The Tahoe boat was seized and later determined to have been stolen from an individual in Laredo. Along with the Tahoe ski boat and an aluminum center console boat, approximately 4,620 feet of monofilament gill net and 1,650 feet of gar gill net were seized. The yellow and white ski boat was never located. Starr County Game Wardens Dennis Gazaway

and Ben Baker and Zapata County Game Wardens Roy Martinez and Sam Padgett all responded quickly to assist.

Water spinach on the High Plains: Potter County Game Wardens Steve Urben and Shane Lewis assisted a USDA inspector at various food stores in Amarillo. Numerous violations were found such as improperly labeled water spinach (either not labeled at all or labeled ong choy), no retail fish dealer's license, and no fin-fish import license. Citations and educational warnings were issued. Retailers were also reminded to keep all water spinach invoices for two years and advised they may only purchase from permitted water spinach growers.

That's his story, anyway: Kimble County Warden Lee Morrison was contacted by South Llano State Park in reference to a turkey hunter

killing a whitetail deer out of season. When Morrison contacted the hunter he said he was hunting turkey and saw a Sika deer. He said he had been told he could kill exotics so he shot the deer with his shotgun. Three slugs later, the deer was dead and the hunter was shocked to discover he had killed a whitetail. The hunter was adamant that he knew what a Sika deer looked like and reasoned the rain had darkened the coat to make it resemble a Sika. Case pending.

Illegal lines seized: On April 20, San Saba County Game Warden Brad Reeves and Lampasas County Game Warden Jim Lindeman patrolled the Colorado River downriver from the Colorado

Bend State Park. The two wardens pulled 1,200 feet of illegal trotlines and 7 illegal jug lines.

Spring in East Texas: During one week, Titus County Game Warden Jerry Ash received several orphaned young animals, including an immature owl, two small squirrels, four young raccoons, and three newborn rabbits. Morris County Game Warden Michael Serbanic also received a family of orphaned baby possums.

Wardens snag snaggers: Marion County Game Wardens Robb Furlow and Rick Lane caught eight people snagging at the spillway on Lake Wright Patman on April 19. They had undersized crappie and bass. Citations pending.

On October 3, Terrell County Game Warden Saul Aguilar walked into the camp of a group of archery hunters. Focused on the skinning rack, Warden Aguilar worked his way over to review three properly tagged mule deer heads. As he made contact with the group to check hunting licenses, a more than

generous hunter greeted him with everyone's license in his hands. Identifying all but one of the hunters, Warden Aguilar decided to further discuss what she said was her first deer hunting experience. When she was unable to describe what type of equipment she had used, the warden separated husband and wife. After talking with the husband, Aguilar finally determined the husband had harvested both deer and used his wife's tag to avoid using his only mule deer buck tag. Citation issued.

Antelope season has arrived in far West Texas. Hunters, families, and guides are wearing their jackets against the morning chill, and the summer rains have beautified the arid lands. Some nice bucks are being harvested and at least one youth has a huge smile. The 11-year-old boy was on his first big game hunt and took what might be the biggest antelope buck taken in Hudspeth County this year (87 4/8). It was made even more special because an adult hunter, who first spied the buck, unselfishly passed on his chance to take it and radioed for the young man to come to his location to give him his first chance at an antelope.

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**... Texas QU chapters withdraw from Quail Unlimited, form Quail Coalition.**

*(Continued from page 7)*

quail hunters across Texas and leadership that has proven to be the most committed and accomplished among all sportsman conservation groups" "The money we have raised has been used here in Texas for non profits such as the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch. It has already made a difference" "This is a much better model. Our members have been very clear, more for quail conservation, less for administrative overhead."

Effective December 24, 2009, Texas Regional Director Chip Martin of Anson, TX resigned from QU and accepted the position of Director of Development for The Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch in Roby, TX. [www.quailresearch.org](http://www.quailresearch.org) The Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch has agreed to support the Quail Coalition chapters with administrative support, newsletters etc.. Martin said "This is a group of incredibly generous and dedicated people who have been fighting for the future of this great tradition. Now that all the money will be staying in the state and go directly to quail research, habitat improvements and education, I am convinced, we will be in a

better position to raise money and accomplish our mission." "To sustain and restore huntable wild quail populations, to encourage and educate interested youth and to celebrate our quail hunting heritage in this region."

All previous members of Texas QU chapters will be entitled to immediate membership in the Quail Coalition. Membership renewal periods will coincide with the annual banquets held by each chapter. More information is available at [www.quailcoalition.org](http://www.quailcoalition.org)

For more information contact Joe Crafton 469-814-1201 [Joe.crafton@parkcitiesquail.org](mailto:Joe.crafton@parkcitiesquail.org) or Chip Martin (325) 823-3347 [chip.martin@quailcoalition.org](mailto:chip.martin@quailcoalition.org)

**... Prosecution**

*(Continued from page 12)*

hired people to travel to a deer breeder's facility in northern Arkansas, load deer and return to Texas where they delivered the illegal cargo to both the Anderton's properties.

Peavler pled guilty on July 27 last year to interstate transportation of stolen property and was sentenced to six months in federal prison and ordered to pay \$42,403 restitution. The Andertons pled guilty Aug. 31.

"TPWD began limiting importation of live white-tailed deer and mule deer into Texas in the spring of 2002 due to concerns over potential spread of two diseases that



*This big buck was captured on film during an aerial survey on the Chadbourne Ranch, located in the eastern portion of Coke County. The annual helicopter survey was conducted on Saturday, October 16, 2010.*

could be devastating to our deer population, chronic wasting disease (CWD) and bovine tuberculosis," Flores said. "We have worked hard to prevent CWD from being introduced into Texas and so far our state has remained CWD free."

Assistant United States Attorney Randall Blake prosecuted the case.

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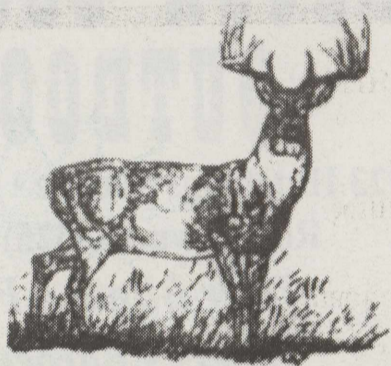
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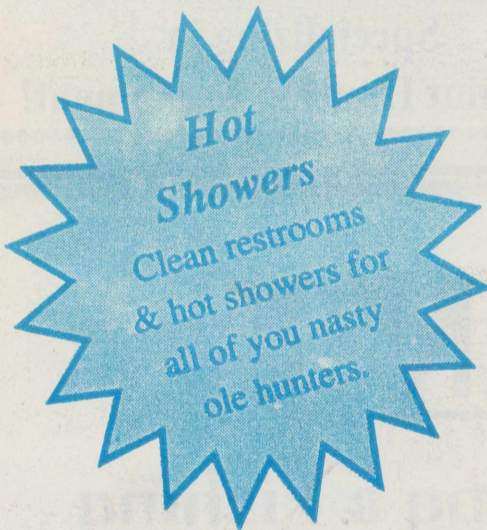
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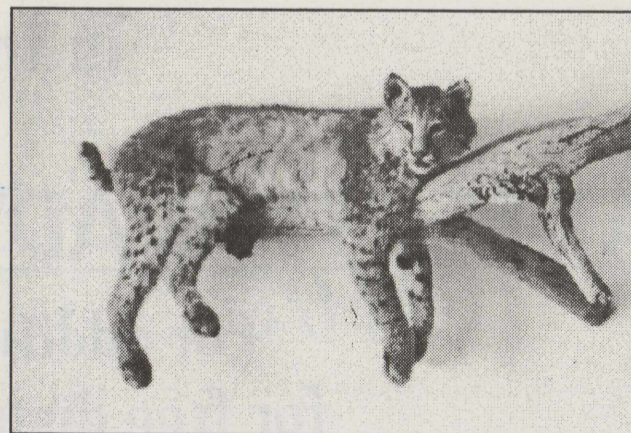
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