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Friday, October 26, 2012

Bronte school evacuated Monday following threat

By Melinda McCutchen, Publisher
What began as a sleepy Monday morning in Bronte quickly became a day for Coke County record books!

At approximately 9:30 am Monday morning, October 22, 2012, a phone call was received on a Bronte Independent School District issued cell phone. The caller only stated "You've got a bomb" before the call was disconnected.

The threat was immediately reported to the Coke County Sheriff's Office, and an evacuation of all students, faculty and staff began.

All of the Junior High and High School students were in the auditorium for a Red Ribbon Week presentation by DPS Public Information Officer Shawn Baxter. Bronte Elementary students were in their classrooms.

In just under 15 minutes from the threatening call coming in, all personnel and students had crossed the creek and were making their way to buses so they could be protected from the weather at the Bronte Community Center.

Sheriff Wayne McCutchen ordered that all houses near the school be evacuated and that roadblocks be set up to prevent anybody from getting within a block of the school property. He also ordered that all gas and electricity at the school be disconnected.

Fortunately, Trooper Baxter was already helping. There was a meeting of all San Angelo area DPS Troopers

Once the children were safely at the community center, the utilities were disconnected and the bomb squad had arrived, a gameplan was mapped out and the search began around 12:30.

Joining the bomb squad in the two-hour search were Sheriff McCutchen, BISD Superintendent Alan Richey, DPS Sergeant Marlett, DPS Trooper Baxter and DPS Sergeant Scott Frasier.

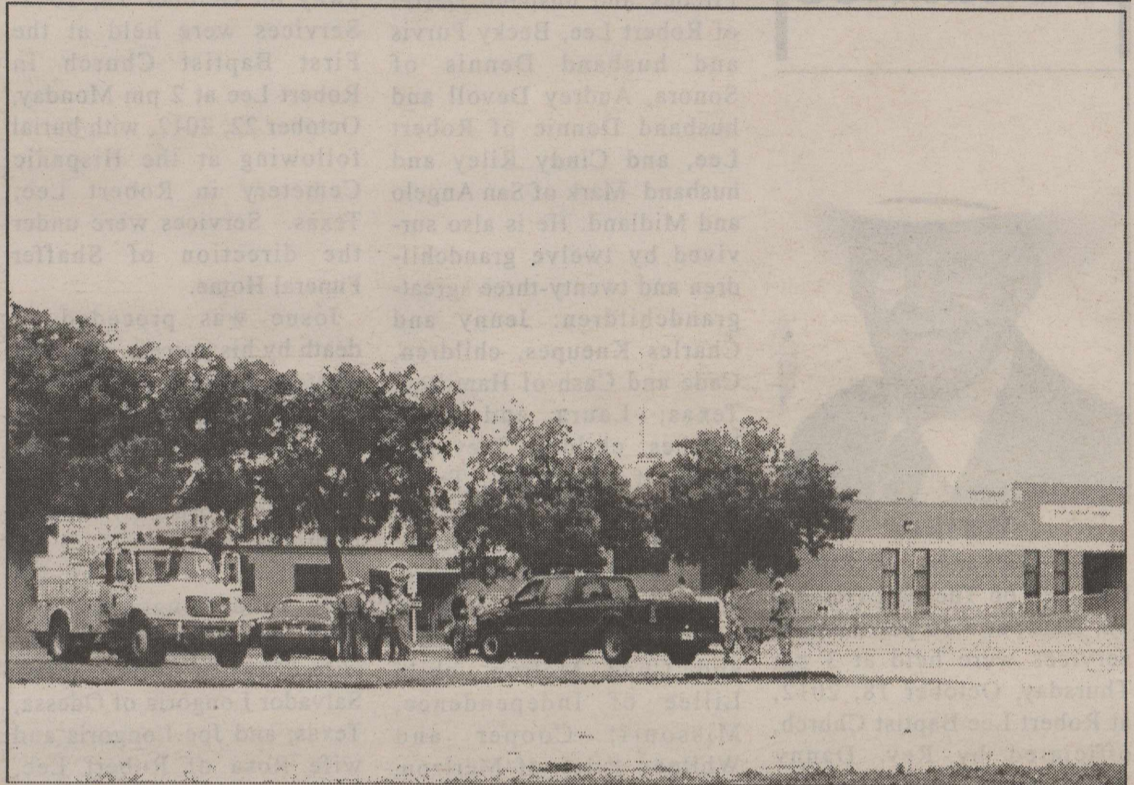
Fortunately, the comprehensive search of the school property revealed no explosives.

Sheriff McCutchen and the Texas Ranger assigned to our area are coordinating in the investigation of the origination of the phone call. As of presstime, no additional information on the phone call has been released.

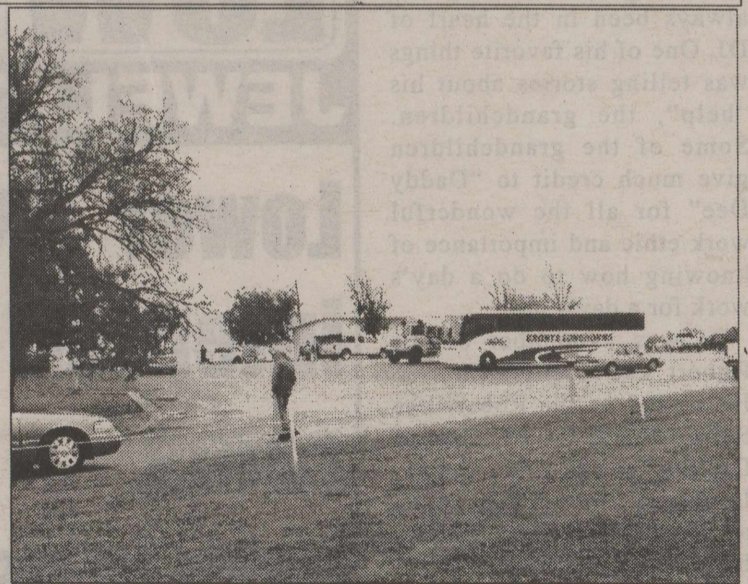
Assisting the Coke County Sheriff's Department with Monday's situation were Coke County Constables Marty Boyd and Marshall Millican, Texas DPS, the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department, Atmos Gas and AEP employees, Coke County Commissioners Bobby Blaylock and Wendell Lee, and Coke County and City of Bronte employees.

Nothing but praise for the BISD administration was heard that day. The evacuation was extremely fast, but also orderly and calm.

(Continued on Page 12)



Sheriff Wayne McCutchen meets (top photo) with the leader of the bomb squad from Goodfellow Air Force Base Monday morning prior to the sweep of the school. The squad's explosive detecting canine (middle photo), began her search with the vehicles in the parking lot. Parents were notified before lunch Monday that students had been evacuated to the Bronte Community Center. County employees monitored and directed traffic over the bridge during the dispersal of the students.



Football Games

BRONTE LONGHORNS
vs.
Menard Yellow Jackets
7:30 • Friday, October 26 • Menard

ROBERT LEE STEERS
vs.
Blackwell Hornets
7:30 • Friday, October 26 • Robert Lee

BLACKWELL HORNETS
vs.
Robert Lee Steers
7:30 pm • Friday, October 26 • Robert Lee

Annual Hunting & Fishing Guide included in this issue of The Observer/Enterprise.

Coke & Surrounding Counties
Hunting & Fishing Guide
October 26, 2012

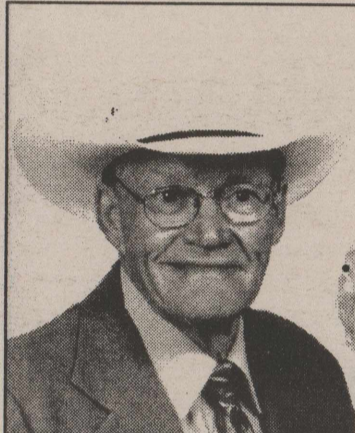
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 Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$32.00

Obituaries



Walker

DJ Walker, Jr., of Robert Lee died on Tuesday, October 16, 2012, at 5:30 pm. Funeral services were held at 3 pm Thursday, October 18, 2012, at Robert Lee Baptist Church, officiated by Rev. Danny White. Interment followed at Robert Lee Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

DJ was born on May 13, 1929, near Silver, Texas, to Dee J and Ada Millican Walker. DJ attended school in Robert Lee, graduating in 1946. DJ married Cornelia "Nelia" Boykin October 23, 1949. They spent most of their married life in the home they built in 1950.

DJ worked in the oilfield as a roustabout, roughneck and driller. In 1959, DJ began working for Union Texas Petroleum. Twenty eight years later he retired on December 11, 1987.

Farming and ranching had always been in the heart of DJ. One of his favorite things was telling stories about his "help", the grandchildren. Some of the grandchildren give much credit to "Daddy Dee" for all the wonderful work ethic and importance of knowing how to do a day's work for a day's pay.

DJ was a member of the Robert Lee Baptist Church. He served on the Robert Lee School Board for 10 years, as Director of the Coke County Livestock Show for 20 years, as well as the Coke County Equalization Board.

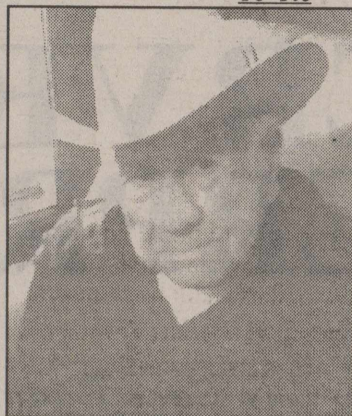
He is preceded by his parents and three sisters: Edna Russell, Edith Conger, and Agnes Hardin; one brother Ralph Walker and one great-grandson Charles Wade Helwig.

DJ is survived by his wife,

Nelia Walker of Robert Lee, four daughters Sharon Pitcock and husband Darrel of Robert Lee, Becky Purvis and husband Dennis of Sonora, Audrey Devoll and husband Donnie of Robert Lee, and Cindy Riley and husband Mark of San Angelo and Midland. He is also survived by twelve grandchildren and twenty-three great-grandchildren: Jenny and Charles Kneupes, children, Cade and Cash of Hamilton, Texas; Laura and Ledd Hughes, children Trey and Halls of Christoval, Texas; Kari and Clay Hale, child Hayden of Ozona, Texas; Chad and Heather Helwig, children Caleb and Christian, and Heidi of Florida; Jodee and Chad Melton, child Lillee of Independence, Missouri; Cooper and Whitney Riley of Mertzon, Texas; Julie and Clint Hoff of Wall, Texas; Audra and Randy Gaines, children Jessica, Katie and Emily of Dripping Springs, Texas; Judd and Cathy Pitcock, children Alexis, Lauryn and Eryn of San Angelo, Texas; Jerrod and Amber Pitcock, children Brody, Kylene and Jewel of Robert Lee; Matthew and Jessie Pitcock, children Landry, Hannah and Walker of Mustang, Oklahoma; Travis and Lindsey Pitcock, children Braydon and Granger of Greenwood, Texas; and numerous nieces, nephews and other family

members he enjoyed seeing at the family reunions.

16-1tc



Longoria

Josue Galindo Longoria was born March 5, 1921, in Christoval, Texas. He passed away on October 19, 2012. Services were held at the First Baptist Church in Robert Lee at 2 pm Monday, October 22, 2012, with burial following at the Hispanic Cemetery in Robert Lee, Texas. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Josue was preceded in death by his parents, Jose and Nestora Longoria. He had two brothers Arnulfo and Blas Longoria, three sisters Theodastia Sanchez, Chavela Ortega, and Siraca Rodriguez.

Josue is survived by his wife Julia Longoria; three sons, Ernest Longoria and wife Linda of Dallas, Texas, Salvador Longoria of Odessa, Texas, and Joe Longoria and wife Rosa of Robert Lee, Texas; three daughters Amelia Rodriguez and husband Chabel from Sterling City, Texas, Linda Wojtek of Bronte, Texas, and Carol Gardner of Midland, Texas.

Papa Joe, as he was also called, had 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren and several nephews and nieces and many close friends and family.

He was drafted into the U.S. Army on July 21, 1942, and served until January 20, 1946, when he was honorably discharged. During that time, he received the American Theater Campaign

of good conduct medal. He also received the E A M E campaign of WWII Victory Medal.

His war time stories to his children consisted of his travels to England, Germany and France where he met General Patton and fought along side him.

He worked for the Ford Motor Company in Sterling City under Martin Reed for 15 years. Later, he moved to Robert Lee and worked for Ivey Motor Company as Head Mechanic for 25 years.

He also was a retired Fireman for the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department, where he served 25 years.

Josue was an active member of the Robert Lee Hispanic Baptist Church. He carried the role of singing hymns and Bible study.

Pallbearers were his grandsons Ricky, Charlie, Jeremy, and Bobby Longoria, Freddy Wojtek, Eddie May, Zachary Gardner and Adam Rodriguez.

He will be greatly missed and will be remembered for all the precious moments and the joyful times we all had together. WE ALL LOVE YOU DADDY!

Memorials may be made to the Robert Lee Fire Department or the charity of your choice.

16-1tc

Petitt

Floyd H. Petitt, Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend of many was granted his angel wings on Saturday, October 19, 2012, in his home at Baptist Memorials.

Service were at 2 pm Wednesday, October 24, 2012, in Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend James Mitchell officiating. Burial followed in Lawnhaven Memorials Gardens.

Floyd was born December 13, 1929, in Blackwell, Oklahoma, to Floyd H. and Clara May Pettitt. He grew up in Satanta, Kansas, and graduated in 1946 from Satanta High School. Following graduation from college, he met the love of his life, Margaret Stansberry and they were married May 10, 1958, in La Feria and had 50 wonderful years before she passed away in 2009. He worked in the oilfields for Exxon and Texas Eastern for 34 years before retiring. He was always an active member of his church, helping with young children and serving as a deacon at Northside Baptist Church in Fort Stockton, Texas, and First Baptist Church of La Feria, Texas. Floyd and Margaret moved to San Angelo in 1999 and became active members of Immanuel Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and then deacon emeritus.

Floyd was a people person. He never met a stranger. He loved to visit with people and always helped anybody when he could. He was a volunteer at Baptist Memorial until his health no longer permitted him. While health permitted, he loved woodworking.

He is survived by a son Floyd Conley and daughter-in-law Jan; grandchildren Melissa Hogg and husband Cooper, Bryan Pettitt, Cody Rodriguez, and Becca Gilbert and husband Braxton; and one very special great-granddaughter Micaiah Isabelle Gilbert.

Floyd's loving, caring, gentle spirit for all his family and friends will be missed very much.

Memorials can be made to: Immanuel Baptist Church Building Fund, 90 East 14th Street, San Angelo, Texas 76903 or Baptist Memorial Auxiliary in care of Don Barnfield, 902 North Main, San Angelo, Texas 76903.

16-1tc

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,
 5 pm Worship
 6 pm Youth
 Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting
First United Methodist Church
 Corner of Washington & Holmes
 Bronte
 (325) 473-3281
 Rev. Everette Boyce, Pastor
 Sun. 10:00 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
 Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

- First United Methodist Church**
 PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
 Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417
 Cyndi Weidner, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 11 am Worship
 5:00 pm Choir Practice
Iglesia Bautista Bethel
 101 Houston • Robert Lee
 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. 6 pm, Bible Study
- 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

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Annual Potato Bake set for November 6

Sorosis Study Club will hold its annual potato bake luncheon on Tuesday, November 6, in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall.

The luncheon will be from 11am until 1 pm. All money raised from the luncheon will go into the club's high school scholarship fund.

Tickets can be purchased ahead from any club member. For those who cannot stay, to-go containers will be available.

Hunters Appreciation BBQ set for November 3

By Joan Davis

Plans are underway for the annual Hunters BBQ, sponsored by West Coke County Community Development. The feed, as always, will be held on the night of opening day of the hunting season - this year it falls a little early, November 3. Letters to land owners, land managers, and local businesses have gone out. Tickets for the BBQ are being printed to give to those who donate to the WCCCD. Customers of local businesses may ask for tickets as they shop.

The feed will be held in the large county recreation building at the park in Robert Lee. Serving BBQ and its trimmings will be 6-9 pm on Saturday evening.

The BBQ was suspended last year due to the drought and poor hunting conditions. The wild fires last year greatly curtailed hunting in most of West Texas. I spoke with Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Warden Jim Allen last week. He is encouraged by the improvement of county pastures and full water tanks. He reports the deer he has

observed were in good shape but the fawn crop was short - but better than last year. Antler development is maybe below average but numbers were much better. Turkey numbers may have improved slightly but not as hoped for. He has seen a small number of quail which have been pretty thin for several years. Maybe there's hope there yet if rains continue.

Hunters, if you lease to hunt, ask your rancher of land managers for free BBQ tickets. Hope to see you there!

First day of voting is a huge success

The Coke County Clerk's office recorded 75 voters on opening day of early voting and Tuesday continued on the same path. Early voting will continue next week at the Clerk's office in the Coke County Courthouse, Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm and on Friday from 8 am to 1 pm.

The Clerk would like to notify all the registered voters of Bronte and East Coke County that their office provides a branch voting poll location for all who would like to vote early in the 2012 General Election. This early voting location is provided by Coke County for the voters' convenience. It will save East County voters at least a 24 mile round trip to cast their ballot. The early voting is held inside the First National Bank in downtown Bronte. The dates of this services are Tuesday, October 30, and Wednesday, October 31, from 9 am to 1 pm.

"I urge all registered voters to exercise your right to vote for the candidates of your

choice," stated Mary Grim, Coke County Clerk.

Desserts needed for Bronte Barbeque

The annual Hunter's Wild Game Barbeque in Bronte will be held Saturday, November 3, 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 barbeque.

Red Hat Society to meet November 6

The November meeting of the Red Hat Society will be held Tuesday, November 6, at 11 am at First Baptist Church in Bronte for the annual Potato Bake.

The final meeting of 2012 will be held December 6, at 11 am at Miss Hatties in San Angelo.

You are welcome to join this group where there is fun after fifty (and before) for women of all walks of life. We are usually together for about an hour or so. Some of the ladies get together and go shopping afterwards. Some go back to work. Whatever we do we have fun. Red Hat is one of the things that we really look forward to -- no dues, no rules, no business, no nothing really, but lots of good fun, food and fellowship. Each woman buys her own lunch. We hope to see you there.

Ladies under fifty can brag a little wearing something lavender and a pink hat. At or over 50 we usually wear something purple and wear a red hat. You can't miss us.

For more information, call Janet Wommack at 473-5388.

City of Robert Lee Landfill closing

432-661-3431.

The current pit at the City of Robert Lee landfill has reached capacity and in accordance with TCEQ requirements will be permanently closed.

Weather permitting, the landfill will be open from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 20th and October 27th. The landfill will no longer receive waste following closing on October 27, 2012.

Mountain Creek Halloween Smash Golf Tournament slated

This terrifying tournament will test even the greatest golfers! Tees all the way back and pins in the scariest of places! The tournament will be held Saturday, October 27, 2012, with the shotgun start at 1 pm.

A prize will be awarded to the person with the best costume and "spooktacular" cart. All players must be in costume to play and bring a pot luck dish for the after party. For more information or to enter call 325-453-2317

Golf Tourney slated for November 10 in Bronte

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is sponsoring a 3 person 27 hole select shot golf tournament on Saturday, November 10. Tee time is 9 am. Carts are limited, so sign up early if one is needed.

For more information, contact Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156 or after 4 pm weekdays call

4-H Membership Fees Due

All 4-H youth must pay a membership fee as part of Extension Partial Cost Recovery Plan. This is a statewide plan not specific to any one county. The fee is \$20 per child if paid by October 31, 2012. However if paid after October 31st the fees goes up to \$25. Dues are good for one year and must be paid to be eligible to participate in any 4-H program or activity.

Sanco Tabernacle Officers/Directors meeting set

There will be a meeting of the officers and directors for the Sanco Tabernacle on Saturday, October 27, 2012. The meeting will begin at 11:00 am and lunch will be served. Bar-B-Q, red beans, potato salad, ice tea, and water will be provided. You are welcome to bring any additional food to go with the Bar-B-Q. Please bring chairs for seating. Mark your calendars for October 27, 2012.

Book Sale to Benefit the Adult Literacy Council

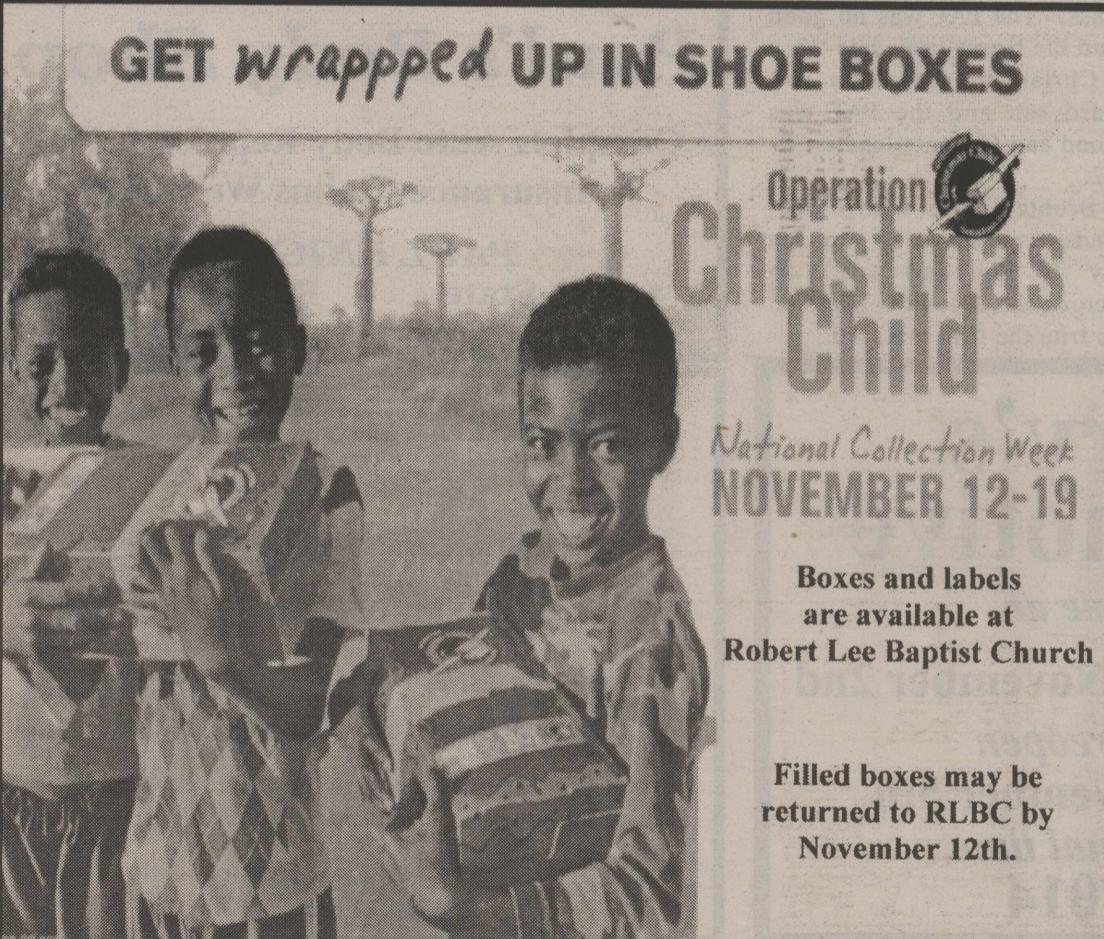
The annual Best Little Book Sale in Texas will be held at Luby's location, 4240 Southwest Blvd, in San Angelo, October 26-29. A preview night will be October 25, from 5-9 pm. The times are October 26-27 9 am to 6 pm, October 28-29 1-6 pm.

All monies go to the Adult Literacy Council for teaching materials. For more information call 657-0013.

Don't forget to VOTE

"I am in control." - God
 Sunday Mornings • 10 am
 Bible Study • Tuesday 7 pm
Pot Luck Dinner at 6 pm
 Recovery Meetings • Sunday 7 pm
FORGIVEN MINISTRIES
 Downtown Bronte • Across from Grocery Store
 Russ Frasier, Preacher

GET wrapped UP IN SHOE BOXES



Operation Christmas Child
 National Collection Week
NOVEMBER 12-19

Boxes and labels are available at Robert Lee Baptist Church

Filled boxes may be returned to RLBC by November 12th.

Wake Up America

Barack Obama
Re-elect me I promise:
I promise!

1. To devastate the U.S. economy in the next four years!
I promise!
2. To eliminate the wealth of this nation and eliminate jobs!
I promise!
3. To eliminate Christianity and replace it with the Muslim religion!
I promise!
4. To weaken the security of the nation by reducing the military!
I promise!
5. To weaken the citizens of this nation by relieving them of their guns!
I promise!
6. We will be weak enough that we won't need a foreign policy!
AND
MOST OF ALL I PROMISE!
7. I will furnish you bread and water!
Just get in line!

WAKE UP AMERICA
P.S.: Oh yea and I promise you high taxes!

Paid Pol. Adv. by Dave Hughes

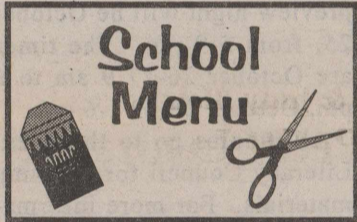
BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



BHS Homecoming Beauties! These beautiful young ladies were honored at the 2012 Bronte High School Homecoming game last Friday evening. They include (from left) Brayde Knight (Duchess), Jael Williams (FFA Sweetheart), Brooke Bedford (Homecoming Queen), Erika Puentez (Football Sweetheart), Kaitlyn Braswell (Duchess), and Megan Yackley (Band Sweetheart).

Bronte Longhorns fall to Christoval in a tight battle

By Coach Kevin Burns
The Bronte Longhorns were defeated last Friday by the visiting Christoval Cougars, 32-30.



Breakfast

Monday, October 29

Sausage roll, cereal, or toast/jelly, juice, milk

Tuesday, October 30

Breakfast pizza, cereal, or toast/jelly, juice, milk

Wednesday, October 31

Pancake on stick, cereal, or toast/jelly, juice, milk

Thursday, November 1

Breakfast wrap, cereal, or toast/jelly, juice, milk

Friday, November 2

Sausage and biscuit, cereal, or toast/jelly, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, October 29

Toasted ham & cheese sandwich, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange smiles, milk

Tuesday, October 30

Crispy tacos, garden salad, charro beans, salsa, rosy applesauce, milk

Wednesday, October 31

Chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes with gravy, carrot coins, strawberries and banana, hot roll, milk

Thursday, November 1

Spaghetti with meat balls, garden salad, savory green beans, sliced peaches, chocolate or vanilla pudding, milk

Friday, November 2

Turkey and cheese wraps, potato tots, baby carrots, garden salad, mixed fruit, oatmeal cookie, milk

In a game of momentum shifts and big plays, the Longhorns fell just short of the victory as the Cougars scored 13 points in just over a minute late in the 4th quarter. The Longhorns had just taken the lead at 22-19 at the 8 minute mark of the game. After the Horns took the lead, the Cougars scored on a 60 yard drive that took three minutes off the clock and scored again just one minute later as they recovered a muffed kickoff that the Horns could not get covered. With less than a minute to play and the Horns down by 10, the Longhorns got the ball back. Ty Lee scored on a 58 yard run and he also converted the 2 point conversion to cut the lead to 2 points. The onside kick attempt failed and the Cougars were able to kill the clock to earn the victory.

The loss drops the horns to 4-3 on the season and 1-2 in district play. This week, the Horns travel to Menard to take on the Yellowjackets Friday at 7:30.

First Quarter:

Christoval scores twice on a 5 yard pass and on a 4 yard run. PAT on the first touch-down is good but the 2nd PAT was blocked by the Longhorns and the Cougars

led 13-0. Nathan McGinnis scores on a 2 yard run and Mizael Perez PAT was good to cut Christoval lead to 13-7.

Second Quarter:

Christoval extends their lead on a 51 yard pass, but the try for 2 points failed. Cougars led 19-7.

With 4 minutes until halftime, McGinnis scores on an 8 yard run and PAT cuts the halftime lead to 19-14.

Bronte's defense held the Cougars out of the end zone on 4 straight plays inside the Horns 10 to draw the first half to a close with the Horns down by 5.

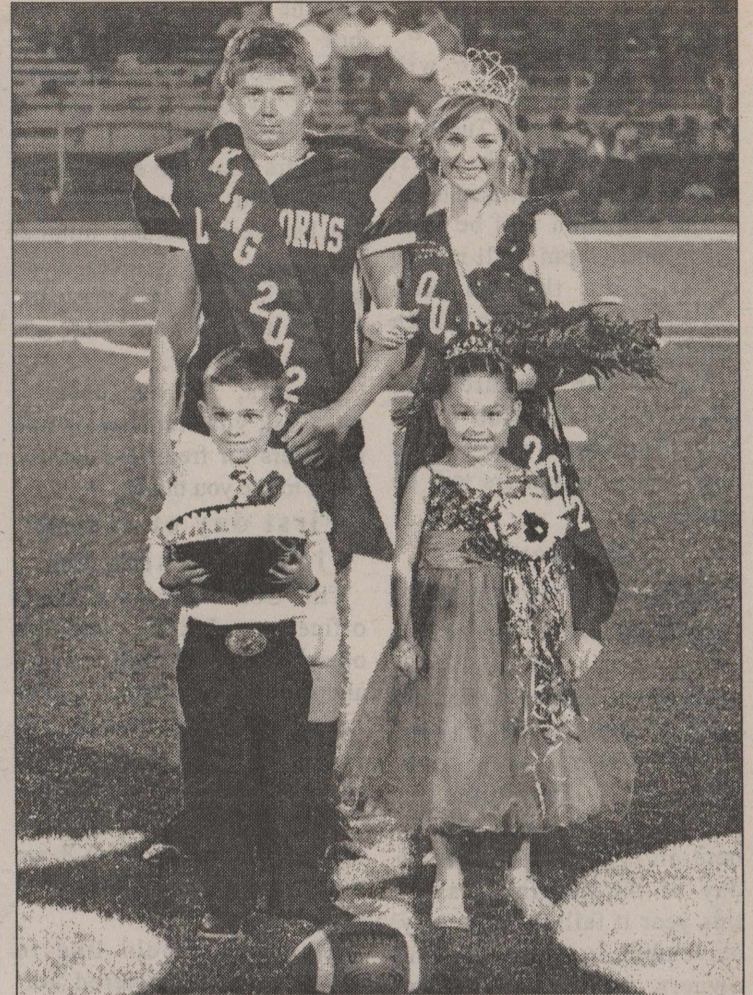
Fourth Quarter:

Bronte takes the lead at 20-19 as Ty Lee connected with Mizael Perez on a 31 yard pass play. McGinnis scored on the 2 point over the right side of the offensive line and the Horns led 22-19.

Christoval scores with 5:04 to take the lead on a 17 yard pass. The PAT was no good and the Horns trailed 25-22.

Christoval scores on a 3 yard run and the PAT was good and Cougars lead is 32-22.

Bronte scores with 9 seconds to play on a 58 yard run by Ty Lee and Lee also scored the 2 point conversion to trim the lead to 32-30.



Homecoming King and Queen! Zachary Taylor and Brooke Bedford were named Homecoming King and Queen. Carrying the flowers and crown were Jaxon Morris and November Wilson.



Homecoming Duchess Brayde Knight and Escort Mason Hoyt

Shorthorns defeated by Christoval

The Bronte Shorthorns were defeated by the Christoval Cougars, 20-6.

The Shorthorns had several opportunities to score, but

were unable to convert. The lone score for the Shorthorns came on an interception and return by Chance Berryhill in the second quarter.

The next game will be at home against Menard.

Paul's Body Shop

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- Insurance Claims Welcome

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Larry's Automotive

will close at

12 noon Friday, November 2nd

and will reopen

Monday, November 5th

at the normal time.

473-4014

BRONTE LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

				BHS	
August 31	Junction	There	7:30	28	20
September 7	Roby	There	7:30	33	20
September 14	Winters	There	7:30	15	7
September 21	Munday	Here	7:30	0	48
* September 28	Eldorado	Here	7:30	6	20
* October 5	Irion County	There	7:30	47	14
October 12	OPEN				
** October 19	Christoval	Here	7:30	30	32
* October 26	Menard	There	7:30		
* November 2	Miles	Here	7:30		
* November 9	TLCA	There	7:30		

* District Games • ** Homecoming

Friday
October 26
7:30 pm
Menard



**BRONTE
LONGHORNS**
VS.
Menard
Yellow Jackets

Pitcock Properties
Jerrod Pitcock • 325/650-4079
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

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

Ivey Motor Company, Inc.
Larry's Automotive Repair
Coke County Hardware
453-2911
Marty Boyd
Coke County Constable, Precinct 2
Concho Realty

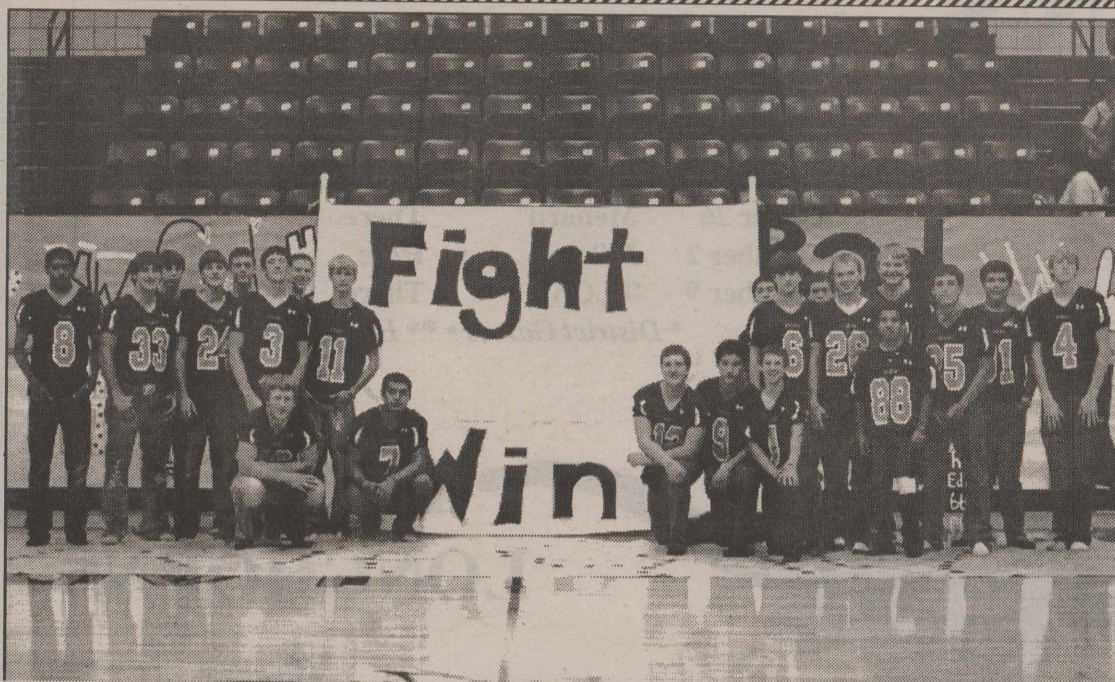
Paul's Body Shop
123 N. State, Bronte • 473-2425
Bronte Hometown
Hardware, LLC
Front of the Line Feed
Rock Solid
Communications

Roy & Judy Blair
Floyd C. Pettit Insurance
Robert Lee & San Angelo
Hal Spain
Coke County Treasurer
Wayne McCutchen
Coke County Sheriff

Coach Pauls

Deaton #74
Walker
Nate McQuinn #33
James #46
Burns
Loggins #7
Lee #7
Walt #72
Mason #13
Juan Tapia #65
Chatter #11
Walt #70
Yuk #4
Kelly #32
Wing
Man #79
Josh #22
Steen
Emfinger #68
Beau
Roussan #55
Ben #10
Ben #2
Kevin Burns
Bar #8

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Dogies fall to Water Valley

The Robert Lee Junior High Dogies went down in defeat to Water Valley 7-53 last Thursday.

Donovan Thomas had the Dogie lone touchdown on a 62 yard kick off return. He also added the PAT run.

Water Valley defeats JV Steers

The JV Steers were defeated by Water Valley 22-64. Jesus Landeros' 75 yard kick off return and 2 touchdown pass receptions highlighted the JV Steer's night.

School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, October 29

Cinnamon roll or cereal, juice, milk

Tuesday, October 30

Burrito or cereal, juice, milk

Wednesday, October 31

Biscuit and sausage or cereal, juice, milk

Thursday, November 1

Muffin or cereal, juice, milk

Friday, November 2

Pancake on stick or cereal, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, October 29

Toasted ham & cheese sandwich, broccoli bites, salad, orange smiles, milk

Tuesday, October 30

Crispy tacos, salsa, salad, charro beans, rosy applesauce, milk

Wednesday, October 31

Chicken nuggets, gravy, whipped potatoes, carrots, roll, strawberries and bananas, milk

Thursday, November 1

Spaghetti and meatballs, salad, green beans, sliced peaches, chocolate pudding, milk

Friday, November 2

Turkey and cheese wrap, sweet potato tots, cucumbers, fruity gelatin, oatmeal cookie

Jake Jackson was 15 of 25 for 165 yards and 2 touchdowns to go with his team leading 90 yards rushing. James Roberts and Jackson also led the JV Steers in tackles with 6 each. Blaine Yanez added 5 tackles to the defensive stats. Roberts also added 2 PAT kicks.

Virtual UIL meet results posted

The results for the Virtual UIL meet from last week are as follows:

Current Events

Zachary Sanchez 1st
Mason Hill 13th

The team of Zachary Sanchez, Mason Hill, Everett Wilson and Julia Madrid placed first in Current Events

Literary Criticism

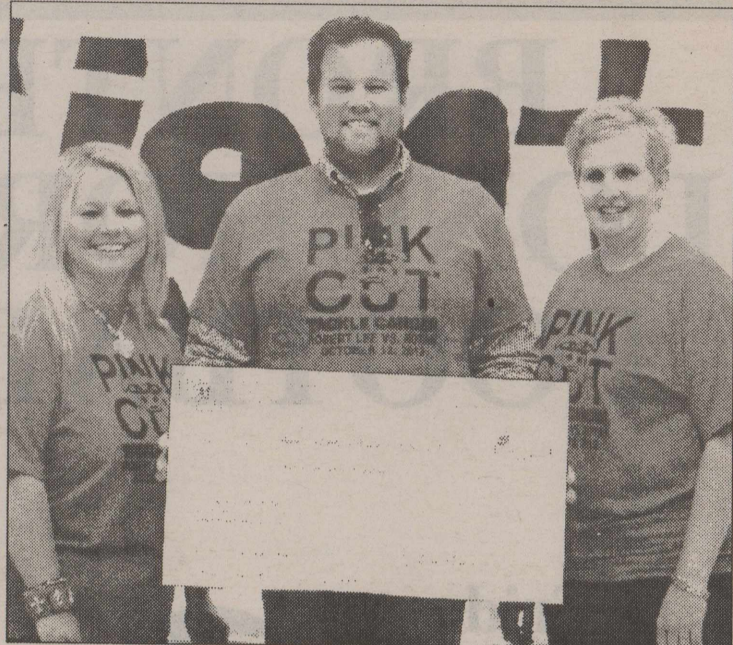
Hunter Hamrick 15th
Number Sense
Michael Curry 5th
Spelling
Karlee Roach 8th
Ashlie Wheat 9th

RLISD Board minutes posted

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees met for a special meeting Wednesday, August 29, 2012, in the Robert Lee ISD Conference Room 119 at 6 pm. The meeting was called to order by President Washam.

Members present included Wes Washam, Jeffie Roberts, Brandi Brosh, Beverly Sinclair, Tom Sawyer and Tracy Allen. Irma Torres was absent.

The invocation and pledge



Think PINK! On October 12, students and faculty of Robert Lee ISD helped support Breast Cancer Awareness with a Pink Out pep rally and game. The Robert Lee Booster Club sold 124 PINK OUT t-shirts. A donation of \$450 was given to the American Cancer Society. Shown are Booster Club Officers (from left) Trace Allen and Natalie Clawson with Thomas Donaldson, ACS representative.

were led by Tom Sawyer.

Mike Salls and Mike Rader were at the meeting to voice their concerns on taxes and expenditures.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of August 16, 2012, seconded by Tracy Allen. All voted for.

Beverly Sinclair made a motion to accept the financial report and approve budget amendments presented by Robin Allen and to pay the bills, seconded by Brandi Brosh. All voted for.

Supt. Hood held a Public Hearing on the 2012-2013 Proposed Budget; no questions were asked.

Supt. Hood recommended to approve the 2012-2013 Official Estimated Budget by

Fund and Function. Brandi Brosh made a motion to approve Supt. Hood's recommendation, seconded by Tracy Allen. All voted for.

Supt. Hood held a Public Hearing on the 2012-2013 Proposed Tax Rate; no questions were asked.

Supt. Hood made recommendation to adopt 2012-2013 Tax Rate by Ordinance as \$1.04 for M&O and .42 for I&S. This is a .02 decrease in the tax rate.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve Supt. Hood's recommendation, seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All voted for.

Tom Sawyer made a motion to approve Resolution Setting

(Continued on Page 11)

FLOYD C. PETITT INSURANCE

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AUTO • HOME • COMMERCIAL

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5002 KNICKERBOCKER

ROBERT LEE, TEXAS 76945

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76904

floyd@floydcpetittinsurance.com

Join us once again for

TRUNK OR TREAT

Wednesday, October 31
5 pm - 7 pm

First United Methodist Church
22 W Ninth Street • Robert Lee

Hope to see you there!

Trust Us!

Trust us to give you all the help you'll need to make your financial future bright and prosperous. We promise performance and know the importance of trust in a relationship. Come see us. *You'll feel good!*



Robert Lee State Bank

621 Austin Street • Robert Lee, Texas
453-2545



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

MEMBER FDIC

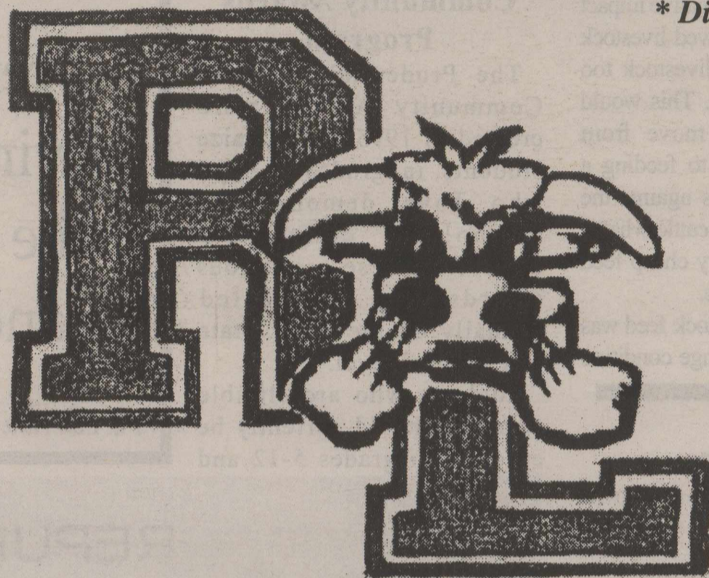
Everybody is Somebody to Us

ROBERT LEE STEERS FOOTBALL

			RLHS		
August 31	Eden	Here	7:30	66	14
September 7	Paint Rock	There	7:30	60	0
September 14	Water Valley	There	7:30	39	88
** September 21	Sterling City	Here	7:30	66	20
September 28	Veribest	There	7:30	50	0
October 5	Garden City	There	7:30	32	14
October 12	Rotan	Here	7:30	60	29
October 19	OPEN				
* October 26	Blackwell	Here	7:30		
* November 2	Panther Creek	Here	7:30		
* November 9	Lohn	There	7:30		

* District • ** Homecoming

Friday,
October 26
7:30 pm
Robert Lee



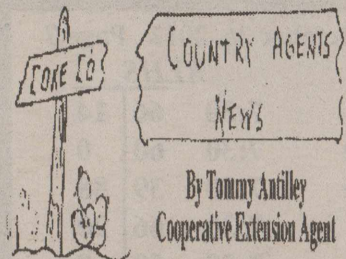
ROBERT
LEE
STEERS
VS.
Blackwell
Hornets

Daryl's Body Shop
Shaffer Monument
Company
Robert Lee-Silver
Lions Club
West Coke County
Community Development
Ivey Motor Company, Inc.
Glenn-Bivins Insurance
Marilyn, Mary, Lucretia, & Lanette
Coke County Hardware
453-2911
Robert Lee State Bank
Member FDIC
John & Jeanette Jacobs
Super H Grocery
501 Commerce • 453-4639

The Best Connection
For All Your Automotive Needs!
D.J.'s Merle
Norman Studio
Debbie McCabe
Concho Realty
Bill & Linda Burns
Gaylon & Kaye Pitcock
Coke Co. Commissioner Prec. #3
Cindy's
Front of the Line Feed
B's Blossoms N Bloom
Floyd C. Pettitt Insurance
Robert Lee & San Angelo

Robert Lee
Baptist Church
"Let God be your Head Coach!"
W.E.B. Construction
Edwin, Wyndell & Family
Robert Lee Care Center
Rock Solid Communications
Roy & Judy Blair
Hal Spain
Coke County Treasurer
Wayne McCutchen
Coke County Sheriff
Pitcock Properties
Jerrod Pitcock • 325/650-4079

Handwritten notes and signatures:
Coach A.
Coach #6
Coach #13
Coach #14
Coach #15
Coach #16
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Coach #99
Coach #100



By Tommy Antilley
Cooperative Extension Agent

Impact of Cheap feed

For the past few years every livestock owner has been complaining about the cost of feed increasing and how it has a negative effect on their livestock operation. In this week's news column every reader is going to think that I have lost my mind and I hope by the end of the article I can clean it up, but I'm going to talk about the negative effects of livestock feed being cheap feed and how today's high feed prices offer a positive incentive for livestock producer to become better land managers.

Every livestock owner would agree that the main reason they run livestock is make use and convert

the product that grows on pasture (forage) to a product that is worth something and is useful to society (beef). I mean face it we can go graze non-stop and receive very little benefit from it, however, when the cow is out there grazing all would agree the beef is very beneficial.

When feed was cheap livestock producers could increase their stocking rate and feed a little bit more that year. This also caused livestock owners to select for animals that were bigger and did not fit the land, having higher nutritional requirements than what a range diet can support. Another negative impact of cheap feed is it allowed livestock owners to keep their livestock too long during a drought. This would force the owner to move from supplemental feeding to feeding a full ration, which goes against the whole logic of running cattle what is to make use of the truly cheap feed the forage on the pasture.

For a long time livestock feed was cheap and when the range condition

declined it was possible to make up the difference by grabbing the sack of feed to meet the animals requirements, however, today's feed prices make it difficult to continue the management practices of the past. This forces one to analyze their management practices and decided what a necessity in their livestock operation. The closing thought that I would like to leave you with is that it is cheaper to grow grass then it is to buy feed.

Apply now for Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards were created in 1995 to recognize 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, 2011. Applications are available online at www.principals.org/spirit. Click the "Apply Now" link. Applications may also be mailed to interested applicants by calling (877) 525-8491.

RE-ELECT

Marty Boyd

Constable, Precinct 2

I remain committed to serving the citizens of East Coke County with fairness and professionalism.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Marty Boyd, PO Box 391, Bronte, Texas 76933

School Menu

Blackwell CISD

Breakfast

Monday, October 29

Pancakes or cereal, juice, milk

Tuesday, October 30

Breakfast burrito, salsa, or cereal, juice, milk

Wednesday, October 31

Breakfast pizza or cereal, juice, milk

Thursday, November 1

Scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, or cereal, juice, milk

Friday, November 2

Donuts/gogurt or cereal, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, October 29

Chicken & broccoli penne, garden salad, apple slices, breadstick, milk

Tuesday, October 30

Ultimate taco salad, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl, milk

Wednesday, October 31

Steak fingers, whipped potatoes w/ gravy, savory green beans, apple-pineapple d'lite, milk

Thursday, November 1

Chicken quesadilla, black beans, baby carrots, orange smiles, salsa, milk

Friday, November 2

Pepperoni pizza or cheese pizza, garden salad, fresh veggie cup, mixed fruit, milk



JOEL LEMLEY, AUCTIONEER

FARM AND RANCH AUCTION

BLACKWELL, TEXAS

OCTOBER 27 2012

10:00 AM

Farm Equipment
Ranch Equipment
Pipe
Atvs
Antiques
Dozers
Riding Mowers
Collectables
Vehicles
Taxidermy
Machinery

Trailers
Tractors
Deer Feeders
Tools
Hay Equipment
Road Equipment
Guns
Unique Items
Deer Blinds
Art Work
Welders

Riding Mowers

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TO VIEW AUCTION ITEMS, GO TO

www.auctionzip.com/auctioneer/6265

Sale to be held at the Blackwell Riding Club Pavilion in Blackwell, Texas.

Covered Facility • Concession Stand Available

REPUBLICAN

CONAWAY

FOR CONGRESS

TEXAS' CONSERVATIVE STAR

★ **THE EXPERIENCE**
of a Businessman

Conaway is a CPA with a range of experience from large to small firms, including working alongside President George W. Bush as CFO of Bush Exploration.

★ **THE VALUES**
of a True Texas Conservative

Conaway is a proven fiscal conservative who voted to cut spending, stop spending increases, has a 100% positive rating from the National Right to Life Committee and is endorsed by the National Rifle Association.

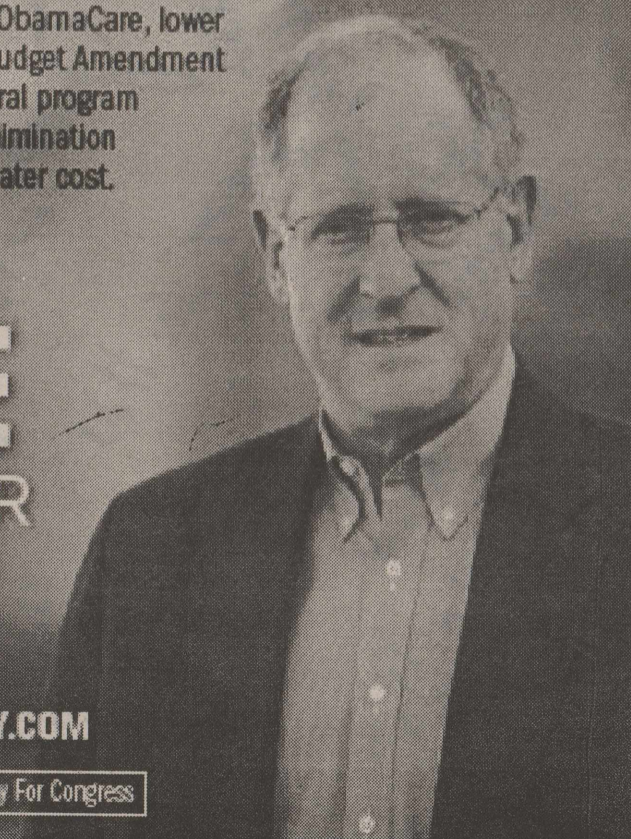
★ **THE COMMITMENT**
of a Fiscally Responsible Leader

Conaway voted to repeal ObamaCare, lower taxes, pass a Balanced Budget Amendment and require any new federal program to be matched with the elimination of another of equal or greater cost.

VOTE
NOVEMBER
6TH

WWW.MIKECONAWAY.COM

Paid for and authorized by Mike Conaway For Congress

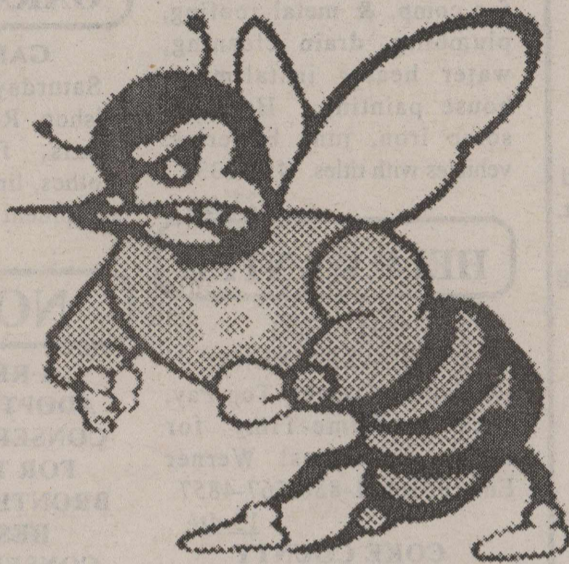


BLACKWELL HORNETS FOOTBALL

				BHS	
August 31	Westbrook	Here	8:00	54	6
September 7	Jayton	Here	7:30	30	56
September 14	Brookesmith	There	7:30	50	0
September 21	Trent	There	7:30	44	50
September 28	Blanket	Here	7:30	44	52
** October 6	Moran	Here	7:30	54	8
October 12	Roscoe Highland	There		22	54
October 19	OPEN				
* October 26	Robert Lee	There	7:30		
* November 2	Lohn	Here	7:30		
* November 9	Panther Creek	There	7:30		

* District Games • ** Homecoming

**Friday
October 26
7:30 pm
Robert Lee**



**BLACKWELL
HORNETS
VS.
Robert Lee
Steers**

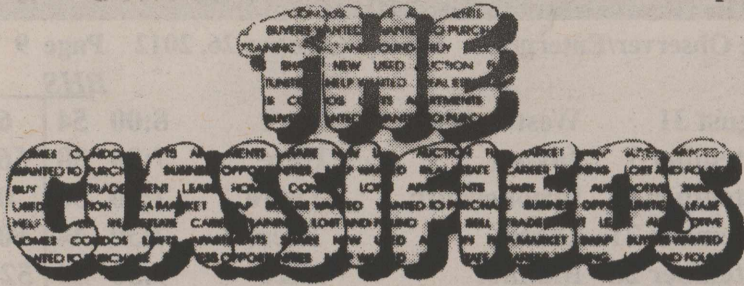
Grady Coulter
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2
Wayne McCutchen
Coke County Sheriff
Pitcock Properties
Jerrod Pitcock • 325/650-4079
Husky Feed
Ray & Karen Walls
**Armstrong, Backus
& Co.,LLP**
The Rozzlle Family
Randy & Laura Pieper

**McGlothlin
Medical Supply**
Chas, Misty, Shaylon & Stanton
**Glenn-Bivins
Insurance Co.**
Marilyn, Mary, Lucretia, & Lanette
**Shaffer Monument
Company**
Lemley Auction Services
Joel & Shirley Lemley

Larry's Automotive Repair
Paul & Kay Gothard
**First National Bank
in Bronte**
Member FDIC
Paul's Body Shop
123 N. State, Bronte • 473-2425
Bob Gill Construction
Bob & Annie Gill • 325/282-4062
The Sanderson Family

*Sponsors are still needed for this page.
Please call (325) 453-2433 for information on sponsoring the Hornets.*

*Dint Jerry Cole Alford Charlie Cono
Robert Chris Jewell
Frank Cano Robert Davis Ethan Marcus Steve Bandle
Ted Chambliss Douglas Hardy
Mrs. Min Harrison Gott
Mason Agness
Matthew Meyer
Riley Meyer
mattew setor
Bob Gule*



BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

Rates when paid in advance.

20¢ Per Word
\$4 Minimum

Legal Notices:
25¢ Per Word

A service charge will be added to all ads which must be billed.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
Tuesday 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.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Green house with mister, excellent condition, \$100. 2 entertainment cabinets, \$25/each. 7 large potted plants \$2/each. Other miscellaneous items, make offer. Call 325-453-2625 and leave message with call back number.

16-tnc

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 SHERIFF

Wayne McCutchen
(Rep.)

COKE COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

Josie Dean (Rep.)

COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 1

Marshall Millican (Dem.)

COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 2

Marty Boyd (Rep.)

COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3

Gaylon Pitcock (Dem.)

FOR RENT

FOR RENT

8 x 10 storage units in Bronte. Call 325-473-3257.

14-tnc

BRONTE MINI STORAGE

has new storage buildings for rent. 473-2221, 473-0409.

45-tnc

TAKING APPLICATIONS for 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.

50-tnc

ECOM Computers, Etc!

New and used. Repairs and upgrades.
Ed Martindale
473-3004

MISCELLANEOUS

TREES TRIMMED

Topped or removed. 453-9902 or 473-8712.

43-tnc

THE BARBER SHOP
NEW DAYS EFFECTIVE MONDAY, JUNE 11TH! 211 N. Lombard. Thursday & Friday, 9-5. Avon Independent Sales Rep. 650-1970.

03-tnc

GENERAL CONTRACTING HANDYMAN

for comp. & metal roofing, plumbing, drain cleaning, water heater installment, house painting. Haul off scrap iron, junk batteries, vehicles with titles. 453-2339.

23-tnc

HELP WANTED

DRIVERS:

DEDICATED RUNS!

Consistent Freight, Top Pay, Weekly Home-Time for Solo's & Teams! Werner Enterprises: 1-888-567-4857

13-4tc

COKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Is currently accepting applications for a TCLEOSE certified DEPUTY to be stationed in Robert Lee.

Apply in person at 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee, TX 76945 or call 325-453-2717 Monday - Thursday 8-5, Friday - 8-1. Experience Preferred.

16-2tc

CARD OF THANKS

JOSUE G. LONGORIA

We would like to express a special thank you to the members of the Victory Assembly of God for their support and meal provided.

We would also like to thank friends and neighbors for their kindness and gifts. Also, our deepest thanks to the Bronte Rehab Center for the care given to our father.

Words cannot express our deepest sympathy towards our loss.

16-1tc

Bob Frazee's 944-0010
473-6603

Texas Best
Deflooding & Carpet Cleaning

24 hr. Emergency Water Damage Service

ASH-MILICAN-CARSON REAL ESTATE

453-5144 OFFICE • 21 E 6TH STREET • ROBERT LEE, TX
JOE ASH • 473-0164 www.amcwesttexasranches.com

Coke County

Ranch & Recreation Land

316.5 acres • 43 acres • 215 acres • 201.5 acres
320 acres • 140 acres

New Listings!

2 BR, 2 BA, Brick Home with separate office and storage building

Brick House on 3 acres
Brick House on 2.6 acres

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT JOE ASH.

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE

Saturday 8am-1pm. 1021 Bishop, Robert Lee. (Gibbs) Tools, furniture, men's clothes, linens, toys, camping equipment. Bargains galore!

16-1tp

NOTICES

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A WATER CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF BRONTE TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE CONSERVATION AND USE OF WATER.

WHEREAS, the City of Bronte, Texas (City), recognizes that the amount of water available to its citizens and customers is limited; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to conserve water resources; and WHEREAS, the City desires to comply with the rules of the Texas Water Development Board should it decide to avail itself of various financial assistance programs found in Title 31, Texas Administrative Code Chapter 363:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRONTE, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. The City Council does hereby find and declare that sufficient and

timely written notice of place and subject matter of this meeting adopting this Resolution was posted. The City Council further ratifies, approves and confirms such written notice and the posting thereof.

Section 2. The City Council adopts the Water Conservation Plan attached to this Resolution. All resolutions that are in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

Section 3. Should any paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Resolution be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected.

Section 4. The City Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to publish this Resolution.

B The Mayor or his designee is hereby directed to file a copy of the Plan and this Resolution with the Texas Water Development Board in accordance with Title 31, Chapter 363 of the Texas Administrative Code.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect after passage and publication.

Passed and Approved by the City Council on this 11th day of October, 2012.

Gerald Sandusky, Mayor
Attest:

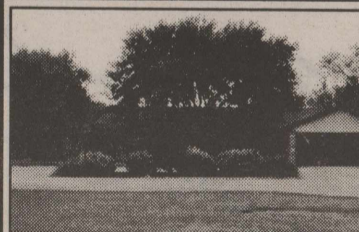
Pat Martindale, City Secretary

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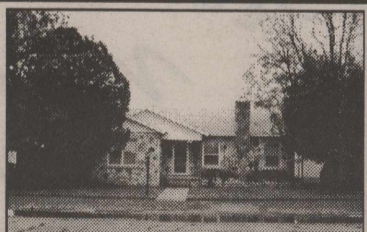
THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE
Serving Coke County

P.O. Box 1329 Robert Lee, TX 76945
(325) 453-2433 • FAX (325) 453-4643

The oldest business in Coke County!



BRICK HOME ON ACREAGE! 4 Bedroom 3 Bath Brick Home! Updated Ceramic Tile & Carpet! Huge Shop!!!



NEW LISTING! 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Rock and Frame Home on 2 Lots! Hardwood Floors throughout most of house! Living Area and Formal Dining Area! Sun Room! Kitchen has Breakfast area! Appliances may stay! Approx 30'x50' HUGE SHOP!

Concho Realty

Office 653-4535
www.conchorealty.com

Becky Clendennen
Owner/Broker

Home 453-4748
Cell 650-9729



Farm & Ranch,
Commercial, & Residential
Real Estate
Texas General
Certified Appraiser

Jerrod Pitcock, Broker

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2528 ac Runnels/Nolan Co Mineral available \$1,050/ac
955 ac North of Robert Lee near Sanco, good water and some new fences, \$1,100/ac
69 ac on easement access Under Contract \$1,100/ac Bring offer
152 ac new well, electric, for SOLD or wildlife, \$1,350/ac Bring Offer
179.9 ac on Rough Creek, ele SOLD well, owner finance, \$1,500 Make offer
4 sections in Reagan Coun SOLD ll water, hunting lodge & barn, \$650/ac
1800 ac Coke County, Live Spring, Good Wells, Minerals Avail. \$1,275/ac
4 Sections in Reagan Co., Hwy Frontage, Good Underground Water \$695/ac.

NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF BRONTE PUBLIC NUISANCE ORDINANCE #349 NOTICE TO ABATE

To: LISA FUGUA
PROPERTY LOCATION:
 502 South State Street, Bronte, TX 76933
 Lots 1&2, N/2 of Lot 3, Block 80, OT, Bronte, TX 76933

VIOLATIONS: Failure to keep weed and grasses at a height of less than twelve (12) inches. Allowing an accumulation of discarded items.

ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ABATE NUISANCE: Removal of discarded items. Mow weeds and grasses. In the even you fail to do so, the City will enter upon your property and mow or have it mowed at thirty day intervals during such growing season.

REQUEST FOR HEARING: Request must be made in writing by November 6, 2012 and addressed to Municipal Court Judge, P.O. Box K, Bronte, TX 76933.

DEADLINE FOR ABATING NUISANCES: NOVEMBER 6, 2012
 IF NO ACTION IS TAKEN TO ABATE THE NUISANCE VIOLATIONS, THE CITY SHALL ABATE SUCH NUISANCES AND ASSESS THE COST AGAINST SUCH PERSON OR ESTATE.

BY: GRADY COULTER, MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE, CITY OF BRONTE

16-1tc



Homemade Halloween Costume Ideas

There are many commercial costumes available at the local stores, however between the cost, and lack of imagination, and the fact you end up with a half dozen kids all looking the same at a party. Nothing beats homemade. Below is some basic ideas for you to play with. All are cheap, easy, and allow for tons of imagination.

Costumes from the closet

The old standby - a **Ghost:** Grab a old white sheet, cut out the eyes. Be sure its is short enough not to trip you. Take scrap piece of sheet, and sew up a simple treat bag. Why be the same old plain ghost? A ghost going out in public might like to get dressed up a little. Use the same old white sheet, cut out holes for the eyes and a small slit for the mouth. Then dress it up a little. Put eye shadow and lashes around the eyes. Lipstick for the mouth. Put a little color on the cheeks. How about earrings and a necklace?

You could color in a beard or mustache.

Scarecrow: Over sized flannel shirt, faded blue jeans with patches, rope for belt and to tie at the cuffs of his jeans and sleeves, stuff the shirt and jeans with plastic grocery, or paper, a little bit of straw to hang out of jeans and shirt. Add a little bit of make-up.

The American tourist: Guys loud Hawaii shirt, shorts (if weather permits), Large straw hat. Gals bright loud dress, flats, big sun hat, straw bag. Don't forget to have a camera, and maps hanging out, and that look of being lost. Guys can use a tourist bag, (like you get from travel agents, and gals can use the straw bag for their treats.

Japanese Doll: My daughter won with this costume! Her face was painted white, she had red rosy cheeks all shaped in a circle, Hair in buns, thong slippers, and a kimono

Lady Bug: Use a pair of black sweats and black sweat shirt (and a pair of black shoes). Use a large piece of poster board or cardboard and cut out a large oval. Paint it red with black dots. Staple black elastic pieces (in a loop) onto the board to make arm holes. For the antenna attach craft pipe cleaners with black pom poms on the ends to a headband.

Basket of laundry...clean or dirty: Wear sweat pants and sweatshirt if it is cold. Tights and a turtleneck if you will be in a warm building. Take an inexpensive (thin) plastic laundry basket and cut a hole in the bottom that you can fit through. Make it small enough so that is "sits" on your hips after you pull it over your head. Fill basket with laundry and pin a few dryer softener sheets to your sweatshirt

Mummy: Wrap yourself in white bandages (rolls of gauze) Use splotches of green paint for "mold". Use white make-up on face with

"age lines" drawn on

Miss America: Use a old bridesmaid dress of formal, add a pair of gloves, a tiara, some oversized jewelry, and heels. For the banner, a piece of wide ribbon, and write "Miss. America" in glitter

Turtle: Buy green tights. A piece of green poster board attached to the back. Simple cut the poster board into a large oval, make random marks like a turtle shell, and paint.

Spider: Buy black tights. For the legs grab some cheap

black hose, stuff with any thing dark and light weight. Either sew, or staple to keep stuffing from falling out. Pin to clothing, add a little make-up

Make sure are costumes are not to long, so that your children can walk freely....

... RLISD Minutes
(Continued from page 6)

Minimum Fund Balance for year ending August 31, 2013, as presented by Supt. Hood. The motion was seconded by Tracy Allen. All voted for.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve Resolution GASB 54 Committed Fund Balance as presented by Supt. Hood. The motion was seconded by Brandi Brosh. All voted for.

The STAAR/EOC Policy will be discussed at later date.

Supt. Hood gave his respective report on enrollment numbers for the new year and school board convention.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Elect

Elect

Brandon Busby
Constable Precinct 2
Write In

I, Brandon Busby would like to announce my candidacy for Coke County Constable Precinct 2. My wife, Joni (Barrett) Busby was raised in Bronte and her family, Jay & Jolene Henderson, still reside in Bronte today. After living and working in Upton County as a K-9 deputy, my wife and I were seeking a small town with values, providing a good home to our family. Bronte was an easy choice and we are now proud to call it our home.

Since living and working at West Texas Gas in Bronte, I have had the privilege of meeting and getting to know many people in the community. This is the reason for my pursuit as your constable. I believe a constable should have honesty and integrity and small town values that set Bronte apart from other places.

Throughout my law enforcement career, I've always believed in service and protection. If elected, I will provide this to the citizens of Coke County. I will always have an open door policy and believe service and protection cannot be achieved without the help from the citizens you serve. I can also provide the Coke County Sheriff's Office and Texas DPS with my narcotic detection K-9 Teri. Teri has served with me since 2007.

I began my law enforcement career at the Odessa Police Department and continuing to the Upton County Sheriff's Office. I then concluded my career at the San Angelo Police Department. In the agencies I have served, I have seen the effects drugs have on communities. Through strict enforcement and prevention, I will strive for a drug free community for our citizens and children.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Brandon Busby, PO Box 361, Bronte, Texas 76933.

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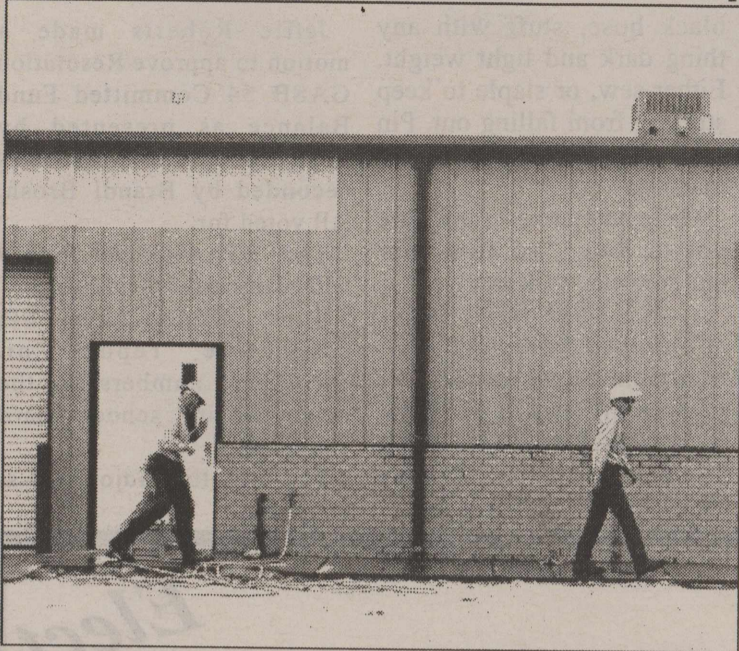
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White Suede w/Black Leather • A Steal!!!
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- 2011 Lincoln Town Car #5177 \$26,995
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- 2011 Ford Fusion SE #71-32 \$16,995
Steel Blue w/Charcoal Interior
- 2009 Mercury Grand Marquis LS #1201B \$16,995
White w/Light Stone Leather • Heated Seats
- 2008 Ford F-150 Super Cab 4x4 #6450A \$17,995
Tan Metallic w/Adobe Cloth • 5.4 • Grill Guard
- 2012 Ford Taurus Limited #7135 \$23,995
Sterling Gray 2/Charcoal Leather Interior • Super Sharp!
- 2011 Ford Mustang Coupe #5178 19,995
Grabber Blue w/Charcoal Interior • Grabs You!
- 2010 Ford F-150 Super Cab #6446A 17,995
Oxford White w/Graphite Interior • Ranch Hand Grill Guard
- 2007 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab LT #6476A \$16,995
White w/Charcoal Interior • One Local Owner!

- 2007 Mercury Milan Premier #L115B \$11,995
Gray w/Smoke 2 Tone Leather • Moon Roof • WOW!!!
- 2008 Mercury Grand Marquis LS #6423B \$12,495
Wedgewood Blue w/Tan Leather • Local Car!
- 2007 Dodge 2500 HD Quad Cab #1270A \$16,995
Silver Metallic • Charcoal Interior • Long Bed • Cummins Diesel
- 2002 Ford F-250 Super Cab XLT #6033A \$ 7,500
Silver Metallic • Charcoal Interior • 7.3 Powerstroke

453-4561

Ask For:

Randy Flanagan • Jim Herring
Billy Wayne Roe



Bomb Threat! Representatives of AEP (above) make sure all power is disconnected at the ag building prior to the sweep Monday morning.

Students dismissed from the Community Center (below), walk home in the rain



... BISD Evacuation
(Continued from page 1)

During a visit with Superintendent Richey Tuesday morning, he pointed out how proud he was of all of the administration, faculty, staff and students for their actions the previous day. He also mentioned repercussions from the incident. These include the possibility of gas leaks, computer problems, and food spoilage. They also have had to apply for a waiver from state authorities so that day is not counted against them as a non-school day.

Sheriff McCutchen wanted to stress how pleased he was with the way the school -

both staff and students, constables, Bronte VFD, county, city, and various organizations came together to protect the students and the public from this terroristic threat. He also stated Monday afternoon that "The perpetrator of this crime will be apprehended and incarcerated, if at all possible."

The *Observer/Enterprise* will follow this investigation closely and report any findings.

Whether this was a student trying to get out of a test, a disgruntled parent or former employee, or a threat from an Islamic Jihadist (I know, I can't believe I said that



Anxious parents wait in their cars in the long line on Oliver Street (Park Road) that stretched all the way up the hill past the Senior Citizens Center.

either), the community of Bronte and Coke County once again came together and met the challenge before them.

This is just one more example of the increasing violence that is now reaching into our part of the world. Watch for the Coke County Comment in next week's issue of the *Observer/Enterprise*.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I want to express some observations concerning the bomb threat at the Bronte ISD yesterday.

Words cannot express the pride I have for the Administration, Teachers, Staff and Students of the Bronte ISD concerning the way this incident was received and handled. The terroristic threat was dealt with in an efficient, professional, and expedient manner. Policy and procedures were followed and the end result was a very well managed and orderly progression through what had been uncharted waters. My hat is off to all involved. When you see any of the Bronte ISD's staff or

students, stop and thank them for their efforts. We should all be very proud of our people. Thanks also needs to go out to all of the Law enforcement (Local, State and Federal) involved in the evacuation of the school and subsequent investigations. I thank God for each and every person involved in this event. May God bless each man, woman and child involved.

Paul Williams, President
Bronte Board of Trustees,
To the terrorist, I would love to have a personal introduction at your earliest convenience, I feel sure we would have a lot to discuss.

**Check Out
Coke County
Library**

October is National Book Week and it's time to announce the semi-annual book sale at the Coke County Library. The sale is set for Friday, November 2 from 8 am to 12 noon and on Saturday, from 9 am to 3 pm.

Also, the Halloween Trick or Treat walk for all children under five and for all Head Start students will be held on Wednesday, October 31st, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Children are invited to assemble at the library in costume to make the rounds of the downtown businesses and offices. The folks downtown make the children feel important; the children interact with the businesses; parents and care-givers join right in. It's a good time.

So, Trick or Treat goes on on Wednesday, October 31st at 10:00 a.m. for children. The Book Sale will be held on Friday, November 2, from 8 am to noon and on Saturday, November 3 from 9 am to 3 pm.

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

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OR TREAT**

Wednesday • October 31

5:30 to 8:00 pm

Welcome All Children!

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for All!

Victory Assembly
Youth Center
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Robert Lee

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Coke & Surrounding Counties
Hunting & Fishing Guide
October 26, 2012

Supplement to the
OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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 Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$32.00

WCCCD Hunter Appreciation Barbecue

West Coke County Community Development will once again sponsor their 23rd annual Hunters' Appreciation Barbecue on Saturday evening, November 3. Free to area hunters, the barbecue will 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 pm and will continue until 9 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 fol-

On the Cover



Coke & Surrounding Counties
Hunting & Fishing Guide
 October 26, 2012
Supplement to the OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

The photo on the cover is courtesy of 700 Springs Ranch, Telegraph, Texas.

Observer/Enterprise welcomes sportsmen

It is our 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 dinners, one each on opening day in Bronte, Robert Lee, Blackwell and Ballinger; and on November 17 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 us 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 three 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. Also offered on November 3, is the Blackwell Volunteer Fire Department Fish Fry in Blackwell.

Wild Game Barbecue Lunch at Bronte

The annual Hunters' Wild Game Barbecue Lunch is once again slated for Bronte, this year on Saturday, November 3, 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 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.

FISH FRY
 Hosted by
Blackwell Volunteer Fire Department
Saturday • November 3
Blackwell Fire Station
5 to 9 pm
All You Can Eat!!!!
Adults \$10 • \$5 for Kids 10 & Under


Welcome Sportsmen to West Coke County!
HUNTERS & FISHERMEN:
 Attend our
23rd Annual Hunter Appreciation BBQ
 Obtain tickets at no cost to you from participating West Coke County businesses or your lease manager or landowner.
Robert Lee Rec Hall
Saturday • November 3 • Serving 6-9 pm
BBQ & all the trimmings!
 SPONSORED BY WEST COKE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

lowing locations in Robert Lee: Cindy's Grocery, Coke County Hardware, Askins Propane, and Floyd C. Pettit Insurance.

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

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

Blackwell Volunteer Fire Department to host Fish Fry

The Blackwell Volunteer Fire Department is holding a fish fry at the fire station on FM 1170 in Blackwell Saturday evening, November

3, 2011.

They will serve from 5 pm to 9 pm. The "All You Can Eat" affair will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

2012 Annual Hunter's Appreciation Dinner Hosted by the Ballinger Chamber of Commerce

November 3, 2012, at the Ballinger Community Center located on Crosson Avenue, the Ballinger Chamber of Commerce will have the Annual Hunter's Appreciation Dinner. This event is put on every year to show the hunters

(Continued on page 15)

Ballinger Chamber of Commerce
HUNTER'S DINNER
 Bar-B-Que Plate Dinner
November 3rd
6 pm to 10 pm
Ballinger Community Center
\$10/Plate
 Numerous raffles
 Guns • Hunting • Outdoors
Doors Open at 4 pm
Ballinger Chamber of Commerce
325-365-2333

Hunters! Welcome to Sterling County
 Attend our
Hunter Appreciation BBQ
Saturday • November 17
 Begin Serving at 6:30 pm
Sterling County Community Center
 Enjoy a Brisket Fajita Supper with all the trimmings.
A minimum of 25 Guns will be Ruffled!
 Raffle tickets • \$1 each
 For raffle ticket or other information,
 call (325) 378-3181.

Fall hunting season is here

by Hal Spain
I think I've been doing this column for somewhere near the past twenty-eight years. So when I sold the paper to the McCutchens a couple of years ago, they wanted me to carry on the tradition. Just because you change jobs doesn't mean you quit caring about what is important to you. Thus the quality and quantity of the county's wildlife and fishing resources remain a driving force in continuing this discussion each year.

At this point I always discuss my opinion on what the upcoming deer, turkey, and quail seasons will have to offer in Coke County. And then I detail the nuts and bolts (dates, bag limits, etc.) of the upcoming season; so if you want to skip on down to that please feel free to do so. After all, opinions are like elbows - most everybody has one or two, and I don't know if mine are any more accurate than anyone else.

Another tradition is that I always go into last year's Guide to see what I said about last year's hunting season. 2011 is a year that most of us want to forget as soon as possible. Wildfires had ravaged the county to the tune of somewhere near 200,000 acres. In addition, most areas of the county received less than eight to

ten inches of rainfall for the whole year. Needless to say, my predictions for last year were pretty bleak.

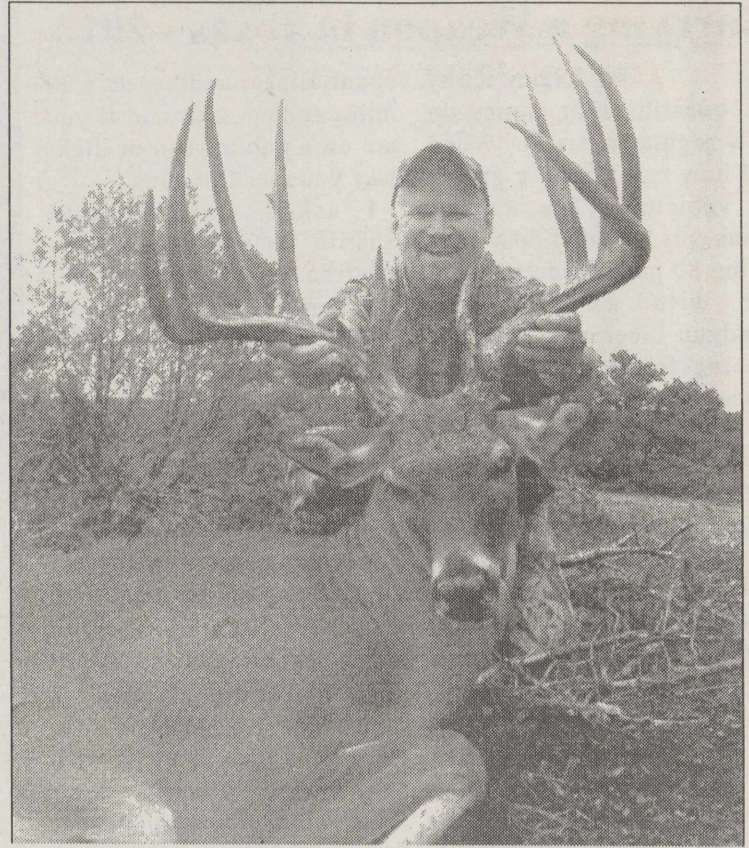
Fast forward to 2012, and we are probably not out of the soup, but the outlook for the upcoming season is much more promising. The main indicator of a hunting season in any area and especially in our area is the rainfall total and distribution. Following a record drought in 2011, the first part of the new year was a relatively wet winter and spring, which was exactly what we needed. This was followed by a couple of dry months during the summer, and all of us were wondering if we were going back to the same weather pattern that had caused the dry weather.

As fall arrived; so did the rains. Most of the county received from six to ten inches of rainfall during the most recent wet spell. Both Oak Creek Lake and Lake Spence got some much-needed runoff from these rains. In addition, the return of El Nino is prompting the weather forecasters to predict a wet winter and spring. Although we're sort of short on time to grow some grass before cold weather, the wheat grazing is very promising, and the weeds and cool season grasses should also be extremely beneficial to our wildlife populations.

Concerning my predictions, I have already been proven wrong on my dove season expectations. I thought our dove hunting would be limited to the first couple of weekends of dove season. As it turned out, due to the rainfall, we have had what I would call a pretty good dove season this year, all things considered.

Our bow season for deer started out with a whimper, as pretty much all the bow hunters were requested to remain in camp by landowners because opening weekend of bow season we received up to ten inches of rainfall throughout the county. The landowners didn't want their ranch roads all rutted up, and the deer weren't moving during the storms anyway. I haven't visited with any bow hunters since to find out how successful they have been. With the increase in browse, most of the deer weren't too interested in corn, and many of the bowhunters just decided to hang it up until the gun season begins.

I think we are still suffering from a carryover of the dry weather period. The deer numbers are there on most ranches; however, the reports of big horns (antlers) have been spotty. I do think this may be the year that you do not want to shoot that little 4 or 6 point buck. Give him a



Worth Driving For! Keith Stroud of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was sure glad he chose to hunt in Texas at the 700 Springs Ranch in Edwards County. On opening day of the 2012 M.L.D. rifle season, this big buck scored 209 inches B&C as a typical whitetail.

chance to get some age on him, and you'll have a nice buck in a year or two. As usual, I would rather you cull out some fat does on most of these places, depending upon what your total deer numbers show for the area you hunt.

I think we probably raised a few turkeys this year, but what I would recommend is that you come back next spring and try to bag a gob-

bler during the spring season, especially if our moisture conditions are as good as predicted.

Being a quail hunter, I keep up with all the predictions from around the state. Most areas are not predicting enough numbers to hunt, particularly in the Rolling Plains and South Texas, traditional hot spots for quail. I think we hatched more

(Continued on page 15)

WILDCAT MOUNTAIN RANCH

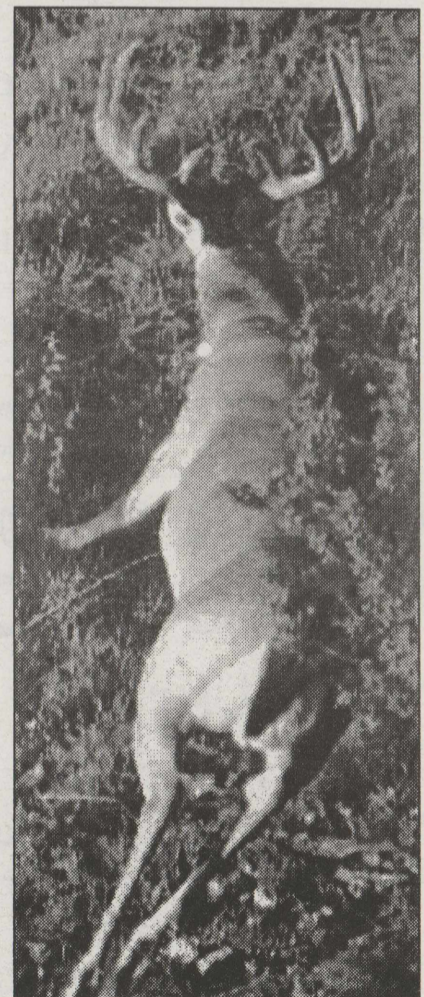
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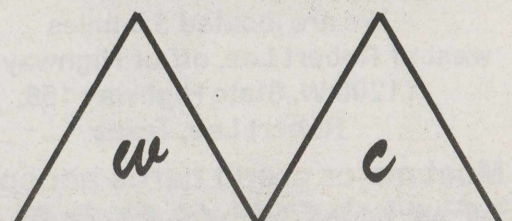
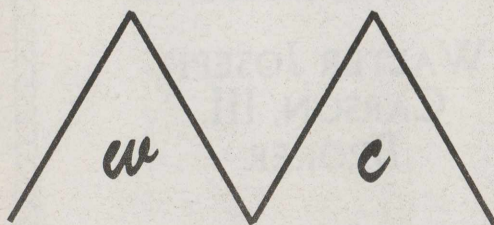
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Carrying a Weapon in Texas - 2012

By Johnny Kirby
A question that comes up on a regular basis is "When and how can I carry a gun in my vehicle?" The state of Texas has a sometimes confusing 80 page guide for people with a Concealed Handgun License (CHL), but nothing for folks without a concealed permit.

I made calls to the local police department, the DPS, and the Parks and Wildlife Enforcement Division and no one seems eager to answer my question.

One officer from the DPS told me to go online to the Texas penal code website and look under the heading: "weapons regulations". The list of restrictions for people who can't have weapons is very definite, but instructions for those of us who are allowed to carry weapons without a CHL is very vague at best, and apparently left up to the officer on the scene to make the final judgment.

According to the regulation, if you are on your own property or property with permission of the landowner, you are okay. Once you leave that property, the weapon must be concealed. You cannot have it on your person but are allowed to have it in your vehicle or boat as long as it is not in view.

The law says you are in compliance if you are "traveling". The problem here is that no one including the state of Texas has a definition for "traveling". I looked up court cases and judges decisions on "traveling" and found a wide variety of rulings.

One judge says crossing

county lines, another said 20 miles and another said if you are on a public road or highway you are "traveling".

I asked Coke County Sheriff Wayne McCutchen how he handles this issue. His answers were clear and to the point. When you are on a public road or highway, he considers you to be "traveling". His instructions were to load weapons (without bullets, it's not much protection) and place them out of view in your glove compartment or console. If you choose to carry it in the side door of your vehicle, put it in a soft zip-up case or wrap it in a rag towel.

If you get stopped for any reason, don't be shy about telling the officer that you have a weapon and where it is, but don't reach for it to show him unless he asks you to. That would be a BIG NO-NO!!!

We are allowed to carry weapons for self-defense in our vehicles or boats if they are concealed. Please remember, these are Texas regulations and may not apply in other states.

Hunter Ed now available on any device

Students who need to complete a hunter safety course to get their hunting license can now take the first step of that training on their smartphone, tablet or laptop at www.hunter-ed.com.

"Students expect to tackle a variety of tasks on their smartphones and tablets so it makes sense for hunter-ed.com to be mobile ready," said Edward Cossette, user



Hogs are now part of our wildlife population! Callie Smith, daughter of Luke and Cheryl Smith bagged a javelina on her hunting trip with her dad! Callie is the granddaughter of Clyde and Jo Frances (Box) Smith of Santa Fe, Texas.

experience manager for Kalkomey, parent company of hunter-ed.com. "The pages at hunter-ed.com automatically resize according to the device used, from a smartphone to Internet TV. There's no app to download and each page is easy to view and read."

Another benefit of hunter-ed.com being available on any device is students can access the course on the Web even if the only way they have to connect to the Internet is via their smartphone.

The training at hunter-ed.com is state-approved and covers the same material

that's taught in the classroom. The new mobile-ready site features realistic illustrations and interactive animations. An optional narration feature is available in many states, allowing students to hear the course in English and Spanish.

Hunter-ed.com also has introduced a series of hunter safety videos. The new videos cover topics such as tree stand hunting safety, firearms safety, hunting from a ground blind, effectiveness of blaze orange and more.

Studying at hunter-ed.com is free. Students who must be

certified before buying a hunting license pay a one-time fee, which is due only if they pass the test. Online hunter safety courses are available in participating states, so visit hunter-ed.com for a state-specific course.

Several states require students to pass an online course and a field day to complete all hunter education requirements. Students can register for a field day or classroom course at www.register-ed.com in participating states. At register-ed.com, students can use their smartphone, tablet, laptop or desktop to sign up for field days and courses.

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Protect yourself from pests during early season hunts

By Joe Goddard
Conservation Officer,
Wildlife and Freshwater
Fisheries Division, Alabama
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources

Not only do early season hunts come with the thrill of hunting wildlife at the beginning of the season, they can also come with tormenting hordes of mosquitoes, ticks, and chiggers seemingly trying to get every drop of your blood. Mosquito biting can be intense in late summer and early fall, leading to itchy welts and possibly diseases such as West Nile Virus. At times, these little flying nuisances may create a literal fog around your face.

Mosquitoes are not the only pests you may encounter in the woods. Ticks and chiggers can be waiting for the opportunity to attack your legs as you walk to and from your stand during early warm hunting seasons. During late July through September, seed ticks (first stage ticks) begin emerging.

At times, thousands of these tiny immature ticks can be nestled all in one area, prepared to seize their next target. Like mosquitoes, ticks can cause itchy welts that may also transmit a number of diseases such as Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Immature mites known as chiggers may also be found in wooded areas. These pests do not bite in the strictest sense of the word, but attach to the skin and cause intense itching. The good news is that chiggers do not transmit diseases in North America.

Even though all these biting pests are plentiful and at times intense, they should never stop you from getting outdoors and enjoying an early season hunt or other family adventures.

There are many ways to protect you and your family from insects and other pests while venturing in the great outdoors. Mosquitoes are mostly active from dusk through dawn so one way to avoid them is to stay out of

the woods at night. However, mosquitoes may bite during the day if you are located in swampy or low lying, shaded areas. Other ways of protecting yourself from mosquitoes include wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and a mesh head net in severe situations to prevent them from landing on your face (hunters and fishermen commonly wear head nets in Canada and Alaska). Ticks and chiggers may be avoided by wearing rubber boots with pant legs tucked into the boots. Doing this will prohibit the pests, which are living in the lower ground shrubbery and grasses in shaded areas, from climbing on you as you walk through the woods.

One of the most effective ways of protecting yourself from insects is using repellents containing DEET or other active ingredients such as picaridin. DEET-based repellents have a long track record of effectiveness against a wide variety of insects, ticks and mites. The amount of DEET in products varies in different percentages from low amounts such

as 1 to 2 percent up to 100 percent. Higher rated percentages may provide more protection and longer duration between applications, but overall, the benefit is not worth potential risks of overexposure to DEET. When used according to the label, DEET is generally very safe and effective. DEET is available in many different formulations such as aerosol sprays, wipes and lotions. The most common applications of repellents are aerosol sprays applied to skin (mainly for repelling mosquitoes), inside and outside of the pants leg (ticks and chiggers), and shoes (chiggers). Lately, some herbal repellents have come on the market that may provide some protection against biting insects. However, these natural repellents are not as effective as DEET.

Also relatively new to the market is the TheraCell and other similar mosquito repellent devices that can be

placed near you when outdoors, creating a barrier around you. Many hunters attest to the effectiveness of these mosquito-repelling devices and would not be caught in the woods without one during early season hunts. These devices use a butane lighter to heat a pad that releases insecticide (allethrin) into the air. They are generally effective only within the immediate area around you.

Early season hunting can be some of the best and most enjoyable of the entire year. At that time, deer and other game animals have not been disturbed and are not as cautious as they are later in the fall. One main problem with early season hunting is that cold weather has not arrived, leading to intense insect, tick and mite nuisance biting. However, these problems can be overcome with a combination of appropriate clothing and repellents. Go out and enjoy the woods!

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Game Commission offers warm weather venison tips

Improperly field-dressing a deer and warm weather can impact the quality of venison warns Dr. Walter Cottrell, Pennsylvania Game Commission wildlife veterinarian.

"The first step in making sure that the venison reaches the table in the best possible condition is sighting in and practicing with your sporting arm," Dr. Cottrell said. "Coupling that with knowledgeable shot placement ensures a clean kill and minimal damage to edible parts of the animal."

"After properly tagging their deer, hunters should wear latex or nitrile gloves to remove the entrails. Care should be taken to remove entrails without rupturing them, and hunters should drain excess blood remaining in the cavity. Do not wash out the deer with water or in a creek. Wipe down the cavity with a dry cloth or paper towels, being careful to remove all visible blood and hair."

Once entrails are removed, the deer should be taken from the field and cooled down as soon as possible. The cool-down process begins when you field-dress the deer. To hasten the cool-down process, skin the deer and hang the carcass in the shade, refrigerate it or place

a bag of ice in the body cavity. Never place a deer carcass - with or without the hide on it - in direct sunlight.

For those who process the deer themselves, the first step - after tagging and field-dressing the deer - is to remove the hide, which comes off easier if the front legs are cut off at the elbows, and the rear legs are removed just below the knee joint, with a saw. Use a knife to cut the hide from where each leg was sawed off at the elbow, back to the body trunk. Cutting the rear legs just below the joint also makes it easier to hang a carcass on a gambrel or meat hooks. Hang the carcass by the large tendons on the back legs.

Next, the hide is pulled from the carcass, starting at the rear end and working downward toward the head. Peel it from the hind quarters first, then cut the tailbone and pull it down to the shoulders. Work the hide over the shoulders and pull it away from the legs. Finally, pull the hide down the neck as close to the base of the skull as possible, and then cut the head from the carcass with a clean saw. Remove all of the trachea or windpipe.

The remaining hide-free carcass should be wiped off immediately. If you use water to clean the cavity or carcass, dry the meat immediately. Wet



These two whitetail bucks definitely show the difference between "native" deer (left) and those who are a product of "selective breeding". Photo courtesy of 700 Springs.

or damp meat spoils more quickly and is more prone to nurture bacteria. Rinsing meat with water also can hasten the spread of bacteria. Inspect the carcass again for any blood and hair. It's also a good idea to remove large fatty deposits to improve the

quality of your meat. It helps lessen that "game taste" some people dislike about venison. Please note, though, that fat is removed from the carcass with greater ease after it has cooled.

Following these steps will prepare your carcass for

hanging in a meat processor's refrigerator, or quartering and placing it in your refrigerator. If the air temperature is above 50 degrees, hunters should get their carcass refrigerated as soon as possible.

"The bacterial load of a deer harvested in warm weather will

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multiply quickly, so it's important to dress the deer as soon as possible, transport it from the field and remove the hide, wipe it down with a clean, dry towel to remove blood and refrigerate the carcass," Dr. Cottrell said. "Cooling the carcass will help prevent bacterial growth."

Hunters who are interested in becoming more self-sufficient also can de-bone the carcass. The cuts are relatively simple and can be made while the deer is hanging or from a plastic sheet-covered table. An inexpensive plastic fluorescent light cover which can be purchased at any home supply store can be used for a cutting board. Deboning ensures the hunter can inspect and trim excess fat and damaged meat from his or her cuts of venison before freezing.

First, remove the shoulders with a filleting knife. This can be done without cutting a bone, by cutting behind the shoulder-blade. Next, remove the meat from the shoulder with a filleting knife.

Hindquarters can be removed from the carcass next by using a saw or by cutting from the underside with a knife. If you plan to have steaks or jerky made from them, don't make any further cuts.

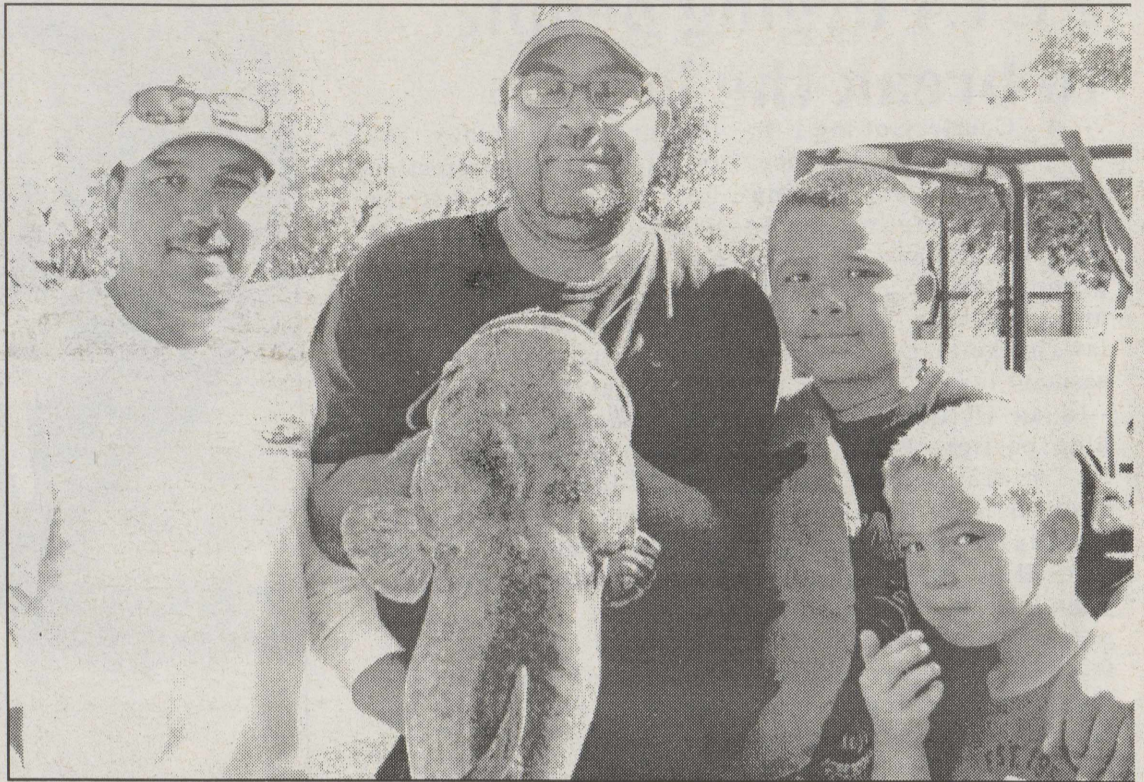
Inside the body cavity, against the backbone, are the tenderloins, considered the best cut of meat on a deer. Use your hand, and a knife when necessary, to pull them free. Outside the cavity, along the backbone, are the

loin muscles or back-strap, which also are outstanding cuts. Again, using a filleting knife and your fingers, slide the blade along the spine to separate each back-strap and then finish each piece by cutting in along the top of the ribs and under the muscle to the first cut you've made.

The remainder of the carcass can be de-boned with a filleting knife. Try to trim fat from meat where you can and wipe off blood whenever it is encountered. De-boning can be done relatively quickly, but remember, every ounce of meat you remove increases your trimmings for sausage, bologna, meat sticks or other products. De-boned meat can be taken to a meat processor immediately, or frozen and taken later. Hindquarters may be frozen for processing later as jerky or dried venison. Steaks should be cut fresh. A link to a video on deboning in the field can be seen on our website

(www.pgc.state.pa.us), by putting your cursor over "Wildlife" in the menu bar at the top of the homepage, then putting your cursor over "Wildlife Diseases" in the drop-down menu listing, and then clicking on "Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)" in the next drop-down menu listing. To view the video link, scroll down to "What precautions should hunters take," and click on video link to the video.

"It's always a good idea to become self-sufficient as a hunter, because of the satisfaction you'll derive from processing a deer all by your-



The Mendoza family of Kermit proudly show off the 15 pound Yellow Cat they caught May 13, 2012, at Oak Creek Lake.

self and the extra care and quality control you'll provide," noted Cal DuBrock, Pennsylvania Game Commission Bureau of Wildlife Management director. "It also broadens your hunting experience and makes you more conscious of where you need to place the crosshairs when you shoot."

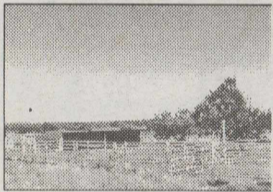
The Game Commission offers two free brochures on venison care and field-dressing deer. The first, "To Field Dress a Deer," offers step-by-step instructions - with illustrations - on how to field-dress a deer. The second, "Venison Needn't Be Pot Luck," offers field-dressing instructions and cooking tips.

To assist hunters in getting the most of their wild game harvests, the Game Commission offers a two-disk series, produced by Jerry Chiappetta and featuring Certified Master Chef Milos Cihelka. These DVDs - "Wild Game Field Care and Cooking" and "Upland Game Birds, Small Game & Waterfowl" - show step-by-step the best care for game animals from the field to the table. The videos are available from the Game Commission's website (www.pgc.state.pa.us). Put your cursor over "General Store," then click on "Visit the Outdoor Shop," choose "Pennsylvania Game

Commission Outdoor Shop" in the lower left-hand corner, select "Merchandise," then choose "Videos" and then scroll down to the DVD video you are interested in and complete the order form. Both DVDs sells for \$18.87 (plus tax and shipping and handling).

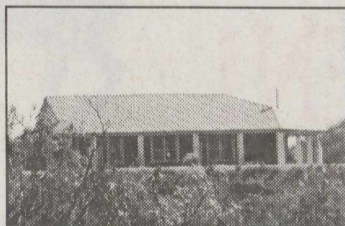
Finally, for recipes that will make venison tastier, consider buying the Game Commission's "Pennsylvania Game Cookbook" for \$4.71 plus tax and a \$1.25 for shipping and handling. The book and aforementioned free brochures are available by writing: Pennsylvania Game Commission, Dept. MS, 2001 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797.

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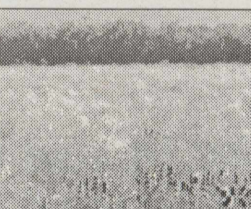
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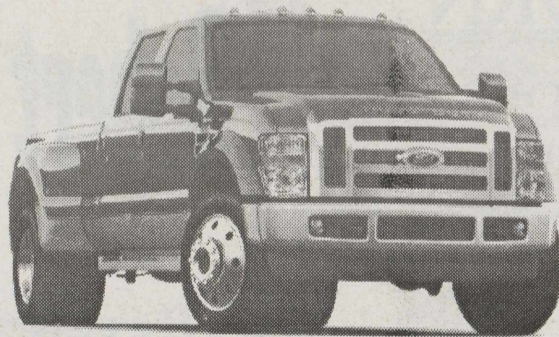
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PETA urging people to break the law?

Courtesy of the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance. There was no denying that PETA opposes hunting. Now the animal rights group also is on record urging people to violate laws-make that hunter harassment laws.

In an October 9, 2012, blog posting, PETA urges its minions to: "Help counter the cruelty of hunting in your area: Post "No Hunting" signs on your land and that of sympathetic neighbors and friends, join or form a local anti-hunting group, protest organized hunts, and spread deer repellent or human hair (from barber shops) near hunting areas. Also, before supporting any wildlife or conservation group, make sure that it opposes hunting."

Fortunately for hunters, these tactics constitute hunter harassment, a practice that is illegal in all fifty states and also on federal land. The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance (USSA) championed the enactment of these laws during the 1980's and 1990's in response to a campaign entitled "Hints for Hunt Saboteurs" by the anti-hunting organization, Friends of Animals. The Sportsmen's Alliance also helped defend state hunter harassment laws in both Iowa and New Jersey courts when challenged by

the anti-hunting lobby. The result has been protection for American sportsmen and women from the exact sort of thing being promoted by PETA.

"It may be hunter harassment in itself for PETA to be encouraging others to break the law," observed USSA president and CEO, Bud Pidgeon. "If indeed there are foolish people out there who follow the PETA directive to harass hunters, I would not be surprised to see the authors of this article charged as well as the perpetrators."

Hunters encountering protestors, deer repellents broadcast or other items placed in their hunting areas to keep deer away should immediately contact their local Conservation Officer (game warden) or local sheriff's department and report the violation. When possible, take photographs of protestors, their vehicles, and their activities.

Full details on PETA's plans are on their website at: <http://www.peta.org/b/thepetafiles/archive/2012/10/09/looking-at-a-hunter-s-heart-of-darkness.aspx>



Selective Breeding Monster! This non-typical breeding buck measures 318" B&C. Photo Courtesy of 700 Springs Ranch.

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Fall Crappies

By Bob Jensen

Almost wherever you live crappies are willing biters as water cools in fall.

Not a giant, but a nice fit for the dinner plate. Crappies are abundant all over North America.

In some lakes crappies gather in the deeper basins and behave much like a wall-eye would as the days shorten and the first frost forms. They'll hug the bottom in large schools. They might be near a point or some other underwater structure, but often they'll be far from any structure. Depths of 25 to 35 feet are not unusual in clear, deep lakes. So a good depthfinder is an essential part of finding crappies in fall and early winter.

You can see schools of crappies on a big-screen sonar, but more often you'll first see the schools of shad or minnows they're hanging close to-their cold-weather food source. Study any schools of bait you see carefully and look for the inverted "C" marks that indicate larger fish-if there are lots of them, you're probably seeing crappies. Sometimes the fish will be suspended, but most of the time they'll be closer to bottom. When you see them, hover directly overhead via the trolling motor at the lowest speed it will keep you in position and drop a jig/plastic or jig/minnow on them. You will almost always get bit. It doesn't take a lot of action to get a crappie to bite; just lower the lure to their depth and twitch it very lightly-when you feel a "tap", set the hook-but not too hard; they have very soft mouths.

Crappies make a great target for kids in fall--quick to bite, easy to land and great on the table.

Even if you don't have a high-dollar sonar, you can often locate crappies by putting out a spread of minnows and/or tiny jigs and trolling them a few feet off bottom with the trolling motor turning over at its lowest speed. Use 4 to 6 pound mono and soft rods for this work-the lighter line definitely draws more strikes.

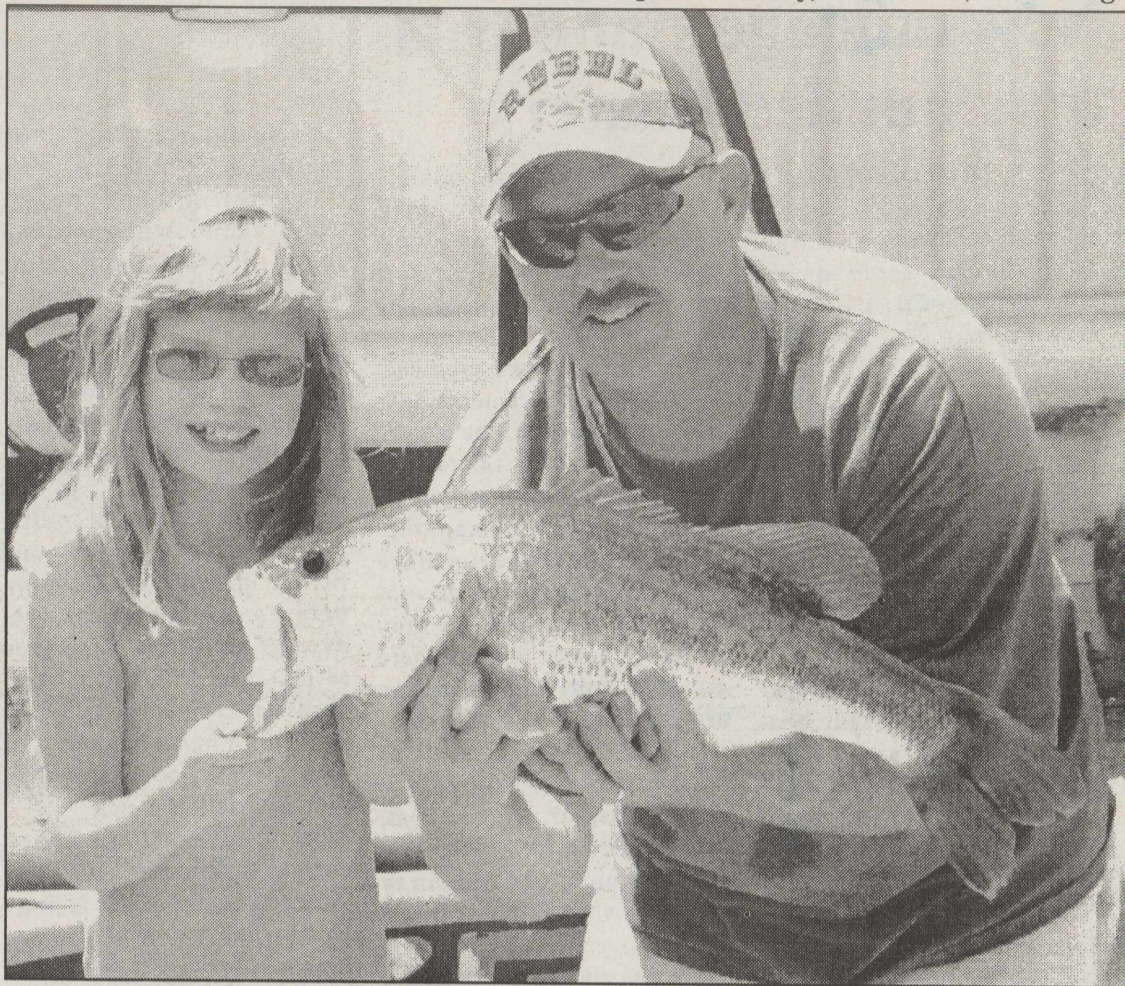
Another good location to find crappies is a short distance off the edge of a deep weedline. Crappies sometimes suspend just under the surface 20 yards or so off the edge of the deep weedline in search of food in early fall before the insects are frozen out. In this case the best way to find them is to watch for small dimples on the surface of the water. You need calm wind conditions for this pattern, as you can't see the dimples created as Mr. PaperMouth sucks a bug off the surface when it's windy. Late afternoon and early evening are when this pattern is most productive. Again, a jig with plastic or a minnow is good, either slowly retrieved

just a couple of feet under the surface or fished under a slip-bobber.

Crappies readily hit an assortment of jigs, tiny lures, flies and live minnows.

In reservoirs that have flooded timber, crappies often suspend in the timber, sometimes in the tree-tops, other times farther down. If the tree-tops are down only a few feet you'll need to cast out, let your jig sink a few feet, then retrieve it slowly. If the tree-tops are 10 feet or deeper and there's some color in the water, you can fish vertically with your jig-easier because you can see the fish on your sonar and put the lure at their exact depth. Let the fish show you what presentation they want.

Many small jigs work well for crappies, but it's tough to beat a Fire-fly or Gypsi jig in fall. The sixteenth ounce size will be best for most situations. A two-inch minnow on the back of the jig will catch fish, but also try an Impulse Swim'n Grub in the two-inch size.



Sadie Dirden of Andrews shows off her very first catch! The Big Mouth Bass was taken at Oak Creek Lake.

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New mileage standards may burden boaters

By Frank Sargeant,
[Editor's Note: The following feature sheds some light on the murky topic of the government's CAFE (Corporate Average Fuel Economy) standards and how that whole accounting system may significantly impact each of us. Frank Sargeant, editor of The Fishing Wire (www.thefishingwire.com) has more on a standard will have more than a casual impact on any of us who tow trailers of any sort.]

Finding a tow vehicle capable of pulling a larger boat may become more of a challenge by 2021 because of new federal fuel economy standards announced recently.

The recent announcement from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the EPA of a 54.5 required mpg average for cars and trucks to be sold in the U.S. by 2025 is good news for environmentalists but could be bad news for boaters-especially those who enjoy anything larger than a canoe or kayak. Tow vehicles capable of pulling even aluminum bass boats that get that kind of mileage do not exist-and possibly never will.

Many who are environmentalists are also boaters-I like to think of myself as both. In fact, bottom line, all of us

have to be environmentalists if we want to keep breathing. But practical environmentalists-often those two words don't go together in today's America.

It's true that past increases in mileage requirements have for the most part not caused the problems with towing larger boats that many of us expected-because manufacturers are allowed to make some vehicles that do not meet the standards if they produce enough that do, there are still some big V8 trucks around that can handle towing larger boats-and plenty of V6's capable of pulling the typical bass or walleye boat, or a flats or bay boat, and still getting 20 mpg highway or better when the boat is left at home.

The reason those trucks are still allowed is the federal CAFE standard; Corporate Average Fuel Economy allows a limited number of higher-torque, lower mpg vehicles for each company if the average of all the vehicles they sell meets the standard. And it's not a simple average, either. Ford, for example, still sells more pickups than anything else and under the Byzantine accounting system allowed by the program, can meet the standard. The average MPG for a company can be

adjusted depending on the "footprint" of vehicles of which they already sell the most.

Even most freshwater boats require a V6 truck for efficient towing--and buying these vehicles may become more difficult and more expensive due to new regs.

Don't ask me how this works-I'm guessing it was figured out by a couple hundred auto-industry lobbyists, bureaucrats and legislators on a junket to Bali. In any case, it has allowed continued sales of pickups and SUV's in considerable numbers in the past-and real average mpg has continued to increase. The CAFE standard for 2011 to 2016 peaks at 35.5 mpg-and plenty of cars already do better than that, at least on paper.

But there's a limit, given current technology. It's possible that auto-makers may find ways to wring more mpg's out of gasoline engines or hybrid gas and electric vehicles. It's possible that batteries may get so much better that electric vehicles will finally become truly practical-but they're nowhere near there yet for anything other than short-haul city vehicles.

Yes, you can buy a Chevy Volt to tool around town in and not spend \$5 on gas in a month-but if you have to make a trip to grandma's in Omaha, you're going to be putting gas in it all the way. For those of us who live in rural areas, electric cars in



Jael Williams of Bronte (left) and Peyton Arrott of Abilene caught these Speckled Trout at Port O'Connor, Texas, in August 2012.

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their present form are no where near being practical, and electric trucks are non-existent.

And the same is true for those who need to pull trailers, carry heavy loads, or run through rough terrain where four-wheel-drive is a must-in other words, anglers, boaters and hunters-to say nothing of the millions of larger families that have a very hard time fitting four kiddie car seats plus Mom and Dad into a compact sedan.

There's a cost issue; manufacturers estimate that getting to an average 54.5 mpg will add around \$3000 to the cost of each vehicle, and that will be passed on to the consumer. However, as Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and others have pointed out, that cost would be more than counter-balanced over a five-year ownership period by fuel savings with gas at around \$4 a gallon, or even \$3 a gallon, given the typical 13,500-miles-per-year U.S. driver.

There's a built-in adjustment period to the new CAFE standards in 2021; if it appears then that too many companies are having issues building and selling the cars required by the steadily increasing standards-which will be about 41 mpg at that time--changes can be made then. It's not to be forgotten that the auto industry went on some economy kicks in the past, then had to retrench when the buying public would not buy the smaller cars required for higher mpg. But that sort of reluctance seems unlikely now with a far stronger environmental ethic in the U.S. and global warming concerns, as well as considerably higher gasoline prices.

While better fuel economy means savings for consumers, some opponents of new CAFE standards say the rules will add about \$3000 to the cost of an average vehicle.

There's a lot of good to increasing the fuel economy standards; reduced emissions and a cut in the U.S. contribution to whatever part of global warming is manmade certainly among them. Paying less for fuel won't make anybody unhappy, and neither will reducing reliance on the volatile and mostly anti-Western Middle East for a large portion of our oil.

But it's easy for a well-meaning but short-sighted government to regulate an industry out of business. If tow vehicles go, most of boating will go. And unfortunately, it's no secret that an increasing number of those with their fingers on the trigger of this stuff would be just fine with shutting down all internal combustion tomorrow, consequences and practicality be damned.

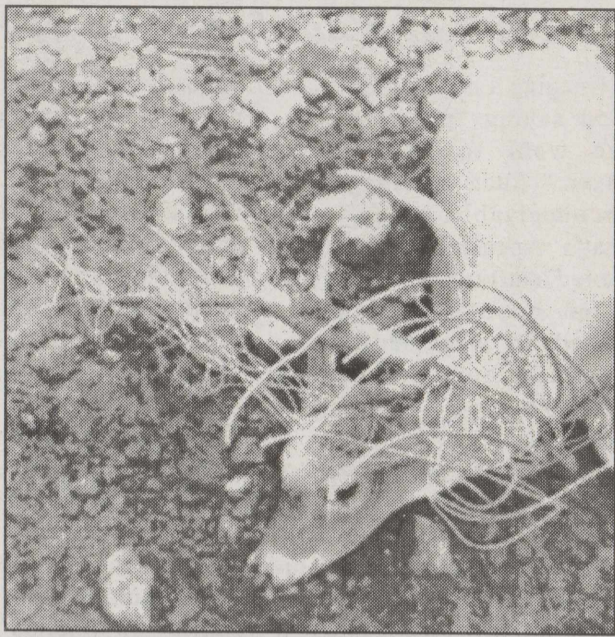
Usually overlooked in all this is that China, India and other developing nations have very minimal energy conservation rules or pollution limits. We live on a

planet, not on an island, and what comes out of the smokestacks in China affects the air breathed in L.A.

Global regulation simply is not happening on any meaningful scale in the foreseeable future-or at least not until a few million Chinese keel over someday from an environmental catastrophe. And we see lots of third world nations in a hurry to regulate the West, but few interested in regulating themselves.

It's not a black and white issue, to be sure. But boaters, anglers and outdoorsmen would do well to keep an eye on the new regulations and how they affect tow vehicle production in the next decade.

This 8 point buck was recently found entangled in fencing from an old wire gap. One end of the gap was still attached to the post so he was tethered with no way to free himself. I was also told of an incident where 2 large bucks were hopelessly tied together with the plastic wrap from a round bale. Some of these unfortunate incidents are unavoidable. However, some diligence on our part by recognizing and removing these hazards may help.



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The Greatest Conservation Story You Never Heard: 75 Years of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

Imagine a nationwide coalition saying "please tax us; we want to pay federal taxes." Such a thing seems inconceivable today, but that's essentially what happened starting 75 years ago when hunters and anglers called for what became the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) programs.

They were motivated by dire peril. By the late 1800s, America was on a runaway train barreling toward a natural resource disaster—and most people didn't even know it. While we were busy creating the richest and most powerful nation in the world, we were also laying waste to its natural abundance.

By the late 1800s, vast herds of 100 million bison and 40 million pronghorn antelope pounding across the American plains had vanished. An estimated 60 million beaver had been reduced to 100,000. Up to 40 million passenger pigeons, so dense in numbers it took hours for them to pass overhead, had disappeared. Waterfowl populations had plummeted. Swamps had been drained, prime habitat converted to agriculture, and market hunting continued unabated. Women wore hats festooned with feathers of 40 varieties of native birds, and would eventually wear the entire bodies of birds on their heads. We were plucking America bare.

The story was similar in

Texas, where deer, turkey and other game animals had declined to near extirpation by the turn of the century. For example, in 1911, the greater prairie chicken of the Blackland Prairie was last observed. By 1960, desert bighorn sheep had disappeared from western mountaintops.

Yet by the early 1900s, a handful of conservation-minded free-thinkers emerged with the political will to save America's natural treasures. They were, by and large, America's hunters

and anglers. In the first half of the 20th century, near total responsibility for natural resource conservation fell on their shoulders. That's because state hunting and fishing license revenue provided the one stable funding source to protect, restore, and manage fish and wildlife resources.

But it was not enough. Underfunded, understaffed, and prone to political interference, fledgling wildlife agencies in Texas and other states more often than not confronted frustration and



Jim Brown of San Angelo reeled in this nice 6.45 pound Big Mouth Bass from Oak Creek Lake on May 17, 2012.

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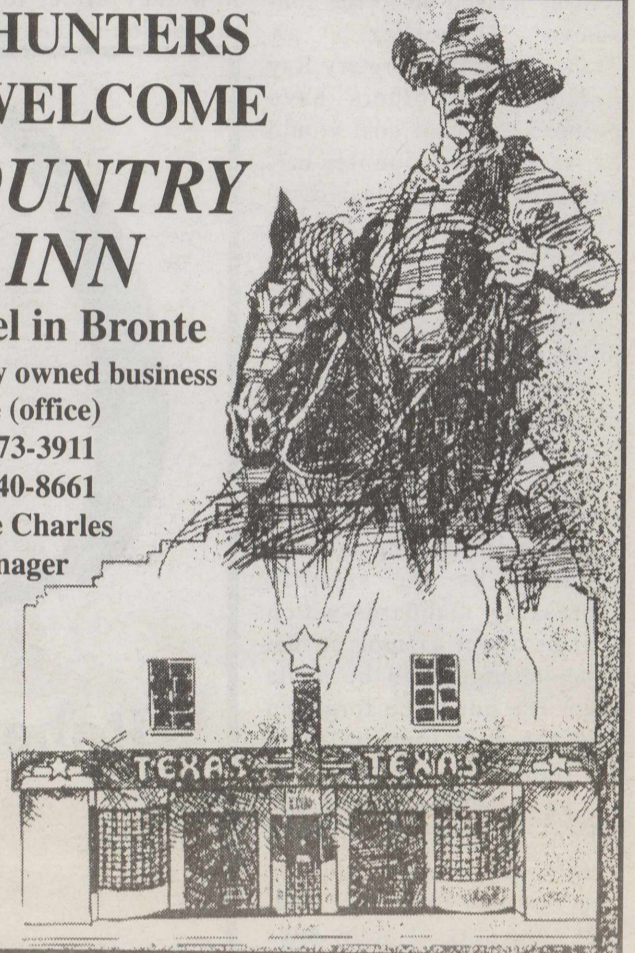
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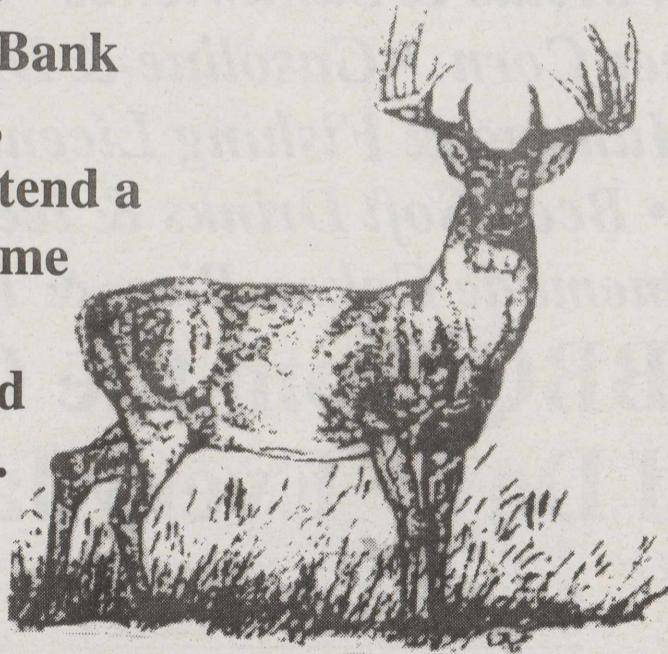
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failure instead of success. The science of fish and wildlife management did not exist, and funds to better understand the principles of fish and wildlife restoration were non-existent. Little money was available to acquire land, pursue restoration work or enforce game laws.

A historic change for the better began 75 years ago in 1937, when Congress passed the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Act. The law levies an 11 percent excise tax on rifles, shotguns, ammunition and archery equipment and a 10 percent tax on handguns. The tax is paid by manufacturers, not by customers at checkout counters, so most people don't know about it. Since its passage, Texas has received more than \$300 million for wildlife research and conservation, creation of wildlife management areas, hunter education, shooting range development and related work.

Key language in the law includes "a prohibition against the diversion of license fees paid by hunters for any other purpose than the administration of said State fish and game department." With those words, the science of fish and wildlife management was taken out of the political arena. If a state wanted federal money to help restore wildlife, they had to guarantee their wildlife agency's right to use every dime of hunting and fishing license revenue to support it.

In 1950, Congress passed the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, mandating a similar excise tax on fishing rods and related equipment. This has funneled nearly \$350 million to Texas for fisheries

research and conservation, creation of fish hatcheries, boater and angler education, boat ramp and marina construction and more.

These two historic laws were hard-won victories. It took years of pushing by conservation groups, and many failed attempts, before they finally passed. Federal excise taxes, along with state hunting and fishing license revenue, are the key to the North American model of wildlife conservation, in which wildlife are owned by the people, and a "user-pay, public-benefit" system taxes those who use the resources most and are willing to pay to manage them for the common good.

To study the 75-year legacy of WSFR funding in Texas is to track the state's history of fisheries and wildlife conservation. Pick any high point, any great achievement, and this money is behind it. It would take a book to cover all it has made possible in Texas over 75 years, but here are some highlights.

In 1945, Texas used WSFR funds to buy 5,335 acres for the state's first wildlife management area. Sierra Diablo WMA in far West Texas today encompasses close to 11,800 acres and is a stronghold for some of the last remaining desert bighorn sheep in Texas. This native species had van-



Jordan Cherry is shown with this huge 31-1/2 pound Blue Catfish caught at Oak Creek Lake July 15, 2012. Also shown are Jim Willson (left) and Josh Paul.

ished from the state by 1960, but is coming back across West Texas thanks to restoration work that began at Sierra Diablo WMA and continues today.

More wildlife management areas followed, all made possible by WSFR funds. In 1948, Black Gap became the state's second WMA. Gene Howe and Kerr WMAs fol-

lowed in 1950. Derden WMA near Palestine was renamed in 1952 for Gus A. Engeling, the first biologist assigned to the area, who was shot and killed by a poacher there in 1951. J.D. Murphree WMA

near Port Arthur began in 1958. Matador in the Panhandle started in 1959, and Chaparral WMA was born in South Texas in 1969.

Today there are 49 Texas (Continued on next page)

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... Conservation Story

(Continued from page 13) wildlife management areas covering 769,686 acres, almost all created with WSFR federal funds. Each represents a unique ecological region for that part of the state. They serve as research and demonstration areas showcasing best practices to thousands of ranchers and other landowners, and they also offer public hunting, fishing, camping, birding and the like.

Following the devastating 1950s drought, a boom of reservoir development in the 1960s splashed new "lakes" with big surface acreage across the state. Fisheries managers saw a chance to provide quality fishing opportunities in new warm water habitats. The Sport Fish Restoration Program was instrumental in turning the Texas reservoir system into a freshwater fishing mecca and economic powerhouse.

WSFR funds have paid for biologists and resources needed to create and develop freshwater fisheries through innovative fishing regulations, fish stockings, and fish habitat improvements. Today,

these provide opportunities for more than 1.85 million anglers who spend 27 million days fishing in Texas each year. Freshwater anglers generate \$2.38 billion dollars in annual retail sales and support more than 33,000 jobs across the state.

Throughout the 1980s, virtually all the Sport Fish Restoration funds for Texas were used to construct new fish hatcheries and renovate older dilapidated ones. Tens of millions of dollars flowed to renovate the Dundee, Possum Kingdom, A.E. Wood, and CCA Marine Development Center hatcheries. In the 1990's Sea Center Texas and the Texas Freshwater Fishing Center came on line. These unique facilities blended research and production with visitor aquaria and youth fishing ponds. Today, the hatchery stocking program is integrated into the state's overall fisheries management program.

The "Redfish Wars" era in Texas showcases the value of WSFR to address big problems. After commercial fishing sent red drum stocks to alarming lows, H.B. 100 (the state "redfish bill") in 1981

designated red drum and spotted sea trout as game fish and prohibited their sale. It fell to state hatcheries, built with WSFR dollars, to bring back these severely depleted stocks. From 1983-2011, hatcheries released 624 million red drum and 65 million spotted sea trout fish fingerlings. These huge production numbers, combined with science-based bag limits and other regulations, have brought both fish back to record abundance today.

What about encouraging safe, legal and ethical hunting, boating and fishing? Without WSFR, there would be no Texas hunter, boater and angler education programs. Over 50,000 people were introduced to fishing in 2011 thanks to Texas angler education. Since 1972, nearly

1 million youth and adults have been trained in hunter education, dropping the number of Texas hunting accidents and fatalities to an all-time low in 2011, to about one accident per 24,000 license holders.

Clearly, WSFR means more than healthy lands and waters, or abundant fish and wildlife. It means a higher quality of life for people, and in some cases it means lives saved. One conservation leader who helped create WSFR put it this way:

"...I feel that the high tension at which the average man has been living is wrecking entirely too many nervous systems. Hunting and fishing is the best nerve tonic I know, and I believe that a greater opportunity for the average citizen to engage

in this type of outdoor recreation would greatly promote both the health and happiness of our people."

A. Willis Robertson wrote those words in 1932. They still ring true in 2012.

So, if you buy hunting or fishing equipment, stand tall and proud knowing what 75 years of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration funding has done for fish and wildlife conservation across America. As the national 75th anniversary commemoration effort says: "It's your nature."

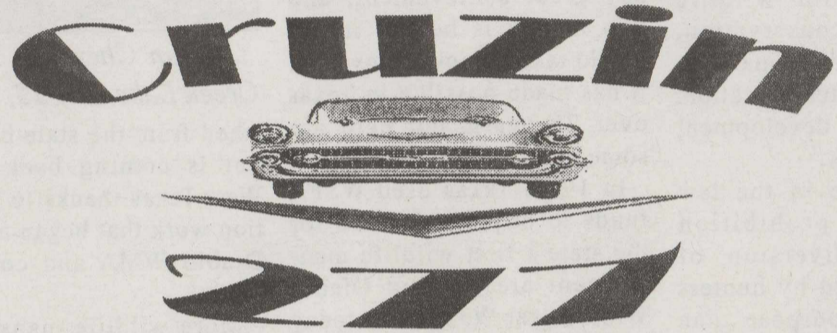
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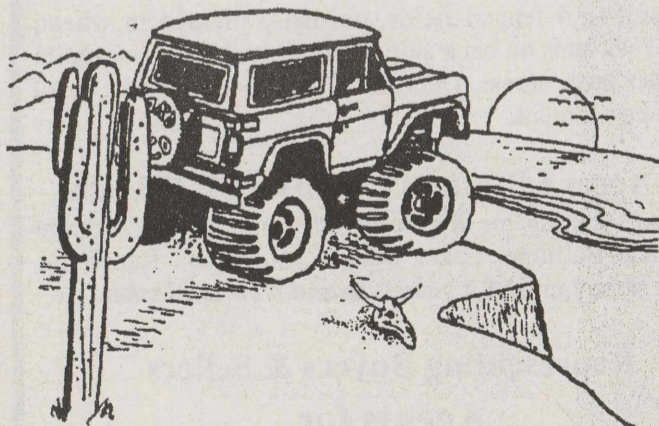
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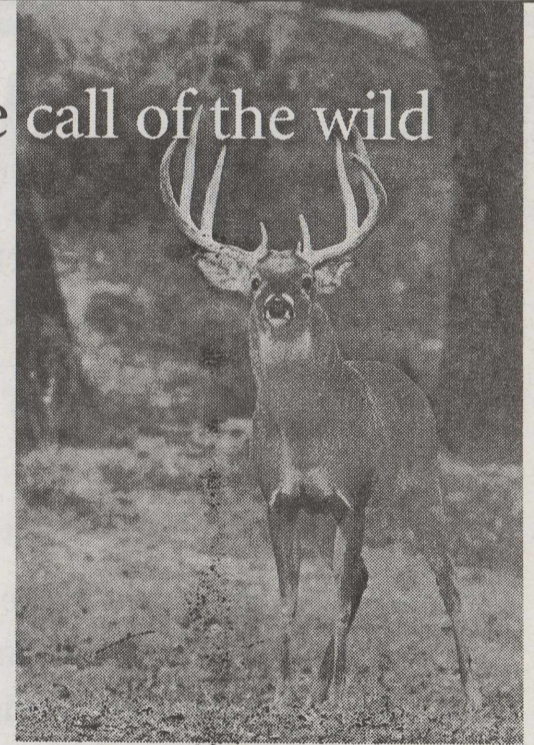
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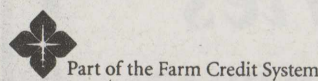
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TEXAS' LARGEST RURAL LENDER

... Hunters Appreciation Dinners

(Continued from page 2) that come in from all around, our appreciation for them spending their time and money in our community.

The doors open at this year's event at 4:00 pm, followed by the barbecue dinner at 6:00 pm. The 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, jalapenos, onions, etc.). There will be vendors, around 25 raffle items, silent auction, and door prizes inside the Community Center. The tickets for this event will be \$10 per person. 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 4:00 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 17, 2012, beginning at 6:30 pm. The event will be held at the Sterling County Community Center. A brisket fajita supper with all the trimmings will be served. The public is encouraged to attend.

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

... Fall Hunting Season

(Continued from page 3) birds than either of these two areas; however, we need to get our numbers up too; so this is a good year to buy some birds to keep your bird-dogs sharp, and wait till next year on the wild birds.

As to seasons, dove season runs through October 24, 2012. The winter short seasons runs from Dec 22, 2012 through January 6, 2013, 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 2, 2012, with no antlerless permit required except on MLD properties. The general deer and turkey

season will run from November 3, 2012 through January 6, 2013. The special late general season will run from January 7 - 20, 2013, 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, November 3, 2012 through January 6, 2013. Spring turkey season has been set for March 30 through May 12, 2013, gobblers or bearded hens only, with a bag limit of 4 (all seasons combined).

Quail season will run statewide October 27, 2012 through February 24, 2013, with a daily bag 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 endorsement which are required in addition to your license include an archery stamp - \$7; migratory game birds - \$7; upland game

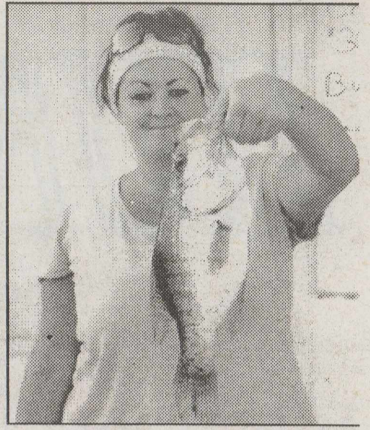
birds - \$7; and a federal migratory game bird (duck stamp) - \$17.

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.

In closing, we want you to 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 industries. Don't forget to think SAFETY



Ms. Lovett from Odessa caught this 1 1/2 pound Crappie while fishing July 1, 2012, at Oak Creek Lake.

every time you handle a firearm, and make proper gun handling and safe shooting a part of your everyday life at home or in the field. Have a safe and successful season.

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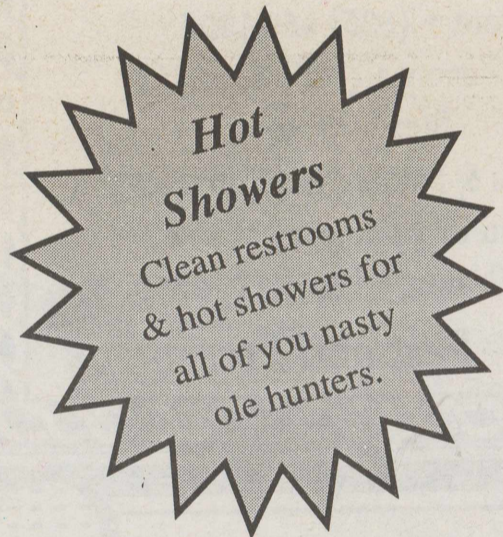
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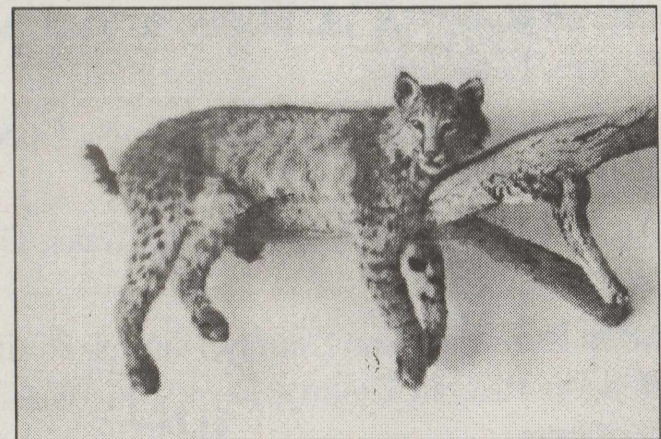
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