

## **Political** Calendar

The **Observer/Enterprise** had 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 candidates listed below are candidates in the Republican Primary.

**County Sheriff** Billy Williams

**County Tax** Assessor/Collector Gina Williams

**County Constable** Marty Boyd

Commissioner Precinct 1 Donald Robertson

#### **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES**

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#### ...Mexican Rodeo

(Continued from previous page) Hosanna, Julieta, and Leah are from Caballito de Palo, a team of girls under the age of 6. Too young to ride, they practice with stick horses and perform at their local charreadas.

Jaeggi also wanted incorporate the women's voices into the exhibit. While photographing the charras, Jaeggi recorded interviews with the athletes, which she then shared with Los Angeles-based poet Angelina Sáenz and ire'ne lara silva, last year's Texas State Poet Laureate. Poems they created are scrawled along the walls of the photo gallery, offering glimpses into the lives of charras.

I have fallen off of my horse suffered concussions

broken bones, been dragged and trampled on, one wall reads. ... our children were being raised together mothered by

aunts and horses, says another. Silva, who grew up around charrería culture in South Texas, said incorporating poetry adds depth to the exhibition. "Dry information you really can only read once. It's only new once. Poetry, you can read again and again and get a different story, a different impression, a different emotion, every single

time," she says. "The same thing happens with the photos."

The photos show women of various ages. Girls start learning about the sport before they're old enough to compete on horseback, practicing routines with stick horses. In one photo, a group of young girls dressed in white layered dresses with colorful flowers stare intently at the camera. They look tough, focused, prepared to carry on the legacy of the fierce adelita, just as their mothers did before them.

"This is about heritage and family and community," Vela says. "Having a space here in the United States to connect with their extended family back in Mexico. This is much bigger than a horseback event."

#### Game Wardens' operation effective in reducing **BWIs**

Despite the landfall of Hurricane Beryl, Texas Game Wardens worked hard to keep Texans safe as they celebrated the Fourth of July on the water.

Between July 4-6, 402 game wardens contacted 10,034 vessels, issued 1,326 citations and 1,794 warnings for various violations. boating safety Wardens filed 32 boating while intoxicated (BWI) charges and five driving while intoxicated (DWI) charges, two of which were drug related. Additionally, another 30 people were arrested for various other crimes.

Game "Texas Wardens' dedication to public safety in the face of challenges brought on by Hurricane Beryl was nothing short of remarkable," said Col. Chad Jones, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

enforcement director. law "These statistics are a testament to the positive impact they continue to make on Texas's public waterways."

Texas Game Wardens, the United States Coast Guard and thousands of law enforcement officers across the country participated in Operation Dry Water. This nationally coordinated enforcement campaign prevents boating under the influence. Wardens saw the number of BWI cases drop from 56 during the 2023 holiday weekend to 32 this year. They did, however, file five DWI cases compared to the four last year. The highest blood-alcohol concentration recorded by wardens over the holiday was 0.236.

"As an agency, we have been participating in Operation Dry Water since its inception in 2009," said Cody Jones, Texas Warden Game assistant commander for marine enforcement. "We attribute the drop in BWI cases from last vear in part to our outreach efforts about the dangers of BWI and increased patrols over the holiday. Texas Game Wardens will continue to participate in this operation and continue to play their part in keeping the public safe on the water."

Another important aspect of Operation Dry Water is boating safety awareness. The TPWD boating education team traveled

to multiple water bodies to conduct educational outreach regarding boating and water safety. While partnering with several agencies, the team spoke with people launching 265 vessels, including 462 adults and 80 children at Canyon Lake, Lake Austin, Joe Pool Lake and Lake Tawakoni.

"Many water safety incidents can be avoided by observing boating and water safety said Kimberly practices," TPWD boating Sorensen, education manager. "Our team tries to reach as many people as possible to spread this message and appreciate when other agencies partner with us."

Sorensen and team also handed out free life jackets, donated by Fruend Foundation, to boaters and swimmers at Canyon Lake. The life jackets come with an explanation on proper sizing, the importance of wearing them and a reminder that in some instances, wearing a personal floatation device or life jacket is required by law.

Over the course of the holiday, game wardens also conducted multiple open water rescues and responded to 22 boating accidents and five boating related fatalities. Two fatalities occurred in the Gulf of Mexico near Galveston, two at Lake Ray Hubbard and one at Lake Conroe. Wardens also responded to four open water drownings: two at Lake Texoma, one at the Cedar Creek Reservoir and one



attractive! NRCS collaborated a few years back resulting in new fence on the south and west sides in addition to crossfencing. Native grasses and wildflowers were seeded after corridor grubbing was done to promote wildlife habitat and hunting. Electric runs the length of the front of the property. Secluded, though conveniently located, you are less than 15 minutes east of Bronte, 20 minutes west of Ballinger, 30 minutes north of San Angelo, and an hour south of Abilene.

Rare find in small, rural community! This spacious 3 bedroom,



**Bob Frazee** 944-0010 **ROBERT LEE** 473-6603 lexas Best CARE CENTER **Deflooding & Carpet Cleaning** A 24-hour nursing and 3 rehabilitation center 24 hr. Emergency is currently accepting Water Damage Service applications for the following positions: **SHOP** 

Familial JISCHMINAUON. siaius includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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Cedar lapboard siding for a lifetime of durability. Electric and water outlets are on all sides. There is a large front porch, spacious covered rear patio, 670 sq. ft. carport, privacy backyard fencing, and a storm celler. HVAC system was replaced in August 2021. You'll find modern updates throughout with trace ceilings in most rooms and electrical outlets on all walls. Built-in book and display cases in the living room with bay windows in the living room, dining room, and master bathroom. Spacious floor plan, utility room with sink, and a vented attic. Master bedroom has twin walk-in closets with a 5-drawer chest built in and a master bath with twin sinks, garden tub, and separate shower.



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