

THE VALLEY TRIBUNE

Voice Of The Rolling Plains

RUTH WOOD
2801 W 18TH ST
PLAINVIEW, TX 79072

Volume 53 No. 32

Quitaque, Texas 79255

Serving Briscoe ~ Hall ~ Motley Counties

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Daylight Savings Ends Sunday, March 10

One Square Mile: Texas Comes To Silverton

This past week, the television crews of One Square Mile: Texas visited Silverton, Texas. While in town, the crew was able to witness the Silverton area gearing up for the Silverton High School Prom that was hosted on Saturday and were also able to attend the Cub Scout award ceremony. The crew visited Accessories Etc., The Malt Shop and other local businesses. The objective of the show, when aired, will be to show the aspects of life in Silverton and will put together five episodes showing the community, family, food, work, and future of our area.

Carl and Betsy Crum will debut the new PBS series this summer called "One Square Mile: Texas," subtitled "A Microcosm of Texas Life and Culture."

The Crums have separated Texas into nine regional areas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Port Isabel, Silverton, Nacogdoches, Midland, Houston, Austin and El Paso that will create a patchwork of Texas life and culture from every region of the state.

The businesses and residents of Silverton were very excited to have the film crew there and were very accommodating to the crew and were anxious to show them some of the great things about our community.

The crew posted many pictures of their travels on their Facebook site, and also came through Quitaque and Turkey.



Cub Scouts and proud parents at the Cub Scout Award Ceremony. Photos taken from One Square Mile: Texas' Facebook Page

DPS Increases Spring Break DWI Enforcement

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase DWI patrols from March 8 – March 17, one of the most active Spring Break periods in Texas. DPS troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent. The enhanced patrols that target intoxicated drivers are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation.

"Too frequently people choose to drink and drive during Spring Break, which is an extremely dangerous decision that often leads to senseless tragedy," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Getting impaired drivers off the roads during Spring Break is a major priority for the department, and we also urge the public to make responsible decisions, such as designating a non-drinking driver or finding alternative transportation if they are impaired."

During last year's Spring Break enforcement period, DPS troopers made more than 1,000 DWI arrests, and approximately 300 were the direct result of the increased patrols funded by the grant. DPS enforcement also resulted in more than 9,400 speeding citations, 1,500 seat belt/child safety seat tickets and 12,500 other citations. In addition, troopers made 545 fugitive arrests and 402 felony arrests during routine patrol operations.

The drinking age in Texas is 21, and any driver under that age with any detectable amount of alcohol in their system can be charged with breaking the law. Additional troopers will also be patrolling in areas with high concentrations of Spring Break activity.

DPS offers the following tips for safe travel during the Spring Break holiday:

- * Slow down – especially in bad weather, construction areas, heavy traffic and unfamiliar areas.
- * Eliminate distractions while driving, including the usage of mobile devices.
- * Buckle up everyone in the vehicle – it's the law.
- * Don't drive fatigued, and allow plenty of time to reach your destination.
- * Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.
- * Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.
- * Slow down or move over for tow trucks and police, fire and EMS vehicles stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated – it's the law.

* Avoid travel to Mexico. (U.S. citizens who do travel to Mexico should always check the U.S. Department of State website for the latest information regarding security issues in Mexico, and they should register with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program by visiting http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_970.html.)

Caprock Canyon State Park Spring Break Program Dates and Times

Tell Tale Tracks: March 11 at 10:00 a.m.

All About Bison: March 12 at 2:00 p.m.

The Texas State Bison Herd slide-show: March 12 at 8:00 p.m.

Goin' Batty: March 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Bats of the Texas Panhandle: March 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Skins, Skulls, & Scat: March 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Remarkable Raptors: March 14 at 2:00 p.m.

The Park after Dark: March 14 at 8:00 p.m.

Sensational Snakes: March 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Caprock Critters slide-show: March 15 at 8:00 p.m.

Canyon Walk & Talk: March 16 at 10:00 a.m.

Myth Busters interactive slide-show: March 16 at 8:00 p.m.

(Continued on Page 8)

Newcomer Eddie Gable Tops Turkey Jamboree

By RJ Kalfus

Last Saturday saw another evening of fun come to the Gem Theater, in Turkey. A large audience enjoyed an excellent meal and some great music at the March Jamboree, and left agreeing that the shows just keep getting better. Visitors from as far away as Vermillion, Ohio and Athens, Georgia, departed from the Gem Theater favorably impressed.

Turkey's Cecil White started the Jamboree off with a strong set of traditional favorites, like Put Another Log on the Fire, Walk on By, After You're Gone, and How Great Thou Art.

Jamboree newcomer Eddie Gable, from Memphis, made an excellent first impression with his renditions of classics, such as Faded Love, and San Antonio Rose. The audience made him feel right at home with an enthusiastic round of applause.

Rex and Cora Gale Johnson, from Silverton, kept the good mood going, with smooth performances of Walking the Floor Over You, Love Letters in the Sand, and Long Black Train.

The Turkey Gems wrapped the show up with a set of traditional favorites, and proved again why we think they are the best house band around.

Eddie Gable took home the cash prize for his memorable debut- the audience was really impressed.

We would like to thank everyone who contributes to the Jamboree. Your time, your donations of cash and door prizes, and your enthusiastic participation each month is always noticed and appreciated.

The next Jamboree is going to be on Saturday, April 6, at the Historic Gem Theater in Turkey.

National Severe Storm Preparedness Week March 3-9

March 3-9, 2013 has been designated as National Severe Storm Preparedness Week. During this week, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) emphasize the need for individuals, families, and businesses to prepare emergency plans, and know what to do before severe weather strikes. More information on tornadoes and severe thunderstorms is available at www.weather.gov and ready.gov/severe-weather

Every spring, dozens of Texans are injured or killed by hazardous weather associated with severe thunderstorms. Severe weather hazards include damaging winds, lightning, hail, flooding, and tornadoes. During the last week in May and the first week in June, more tornadoes occur on average on the Texas South Plains into the southern Panhandle than anywhere in the United States.

The National Weather Service Office in Lubbock would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to begin preparing now for severe weather that is inevitable each Spring and early Summer in West Texas.

As part of this campaign, the Lubbock National Weather Service will be involved in several activities this week, including conducting interviews, and distributing severe weather safety information.

RMA Sets Final 2013 Cottonseed, Lint Prices

By Mary Jane Buerkle

Producers considering their options for 2013 regarding crop insurance now know the national cottonseed and projected cotton lint prices for 2013, which have been approved at 11 cents per pound or \$220/ton, and 83 cents/pound for counties with March 15 sales closing dates, respectively.

The cottonseed price did not change from 2012, but as expected, the lint price is 10 cents lower per pound than the 93-cent price growers had in 2012.

On the Texas High Plains, March 15 is the federal crop insurance sales closing date for initiating or cancelling insurance coverage. The projected price for cotton lint is calculated using the average closing price of the December 2013 contract for the month of February.

More than 64 percent of all cotton lint policies sold in Texas in 2012 incorporated the new Cottonseed Endorsement Program, and it is expected that producers will continue to add this option to their risk management strategy in 2013.

Under the endorsement cottonseed is insured against yield losses that might occur during the growing season. There is NO revenue component attached to this program.

Precipitation, primarily snow, fell across much of the PCG service area this past week. Some areas have recorded above average rainfall so far for 2013, but more is needed to get this year's crop to an optimal start. However, it certainly is promising to see what appears to be a change in weather patterns from the past two years.

Final classing results are in for the 2012 crop, and in Lubbock, 2,207,446 samples were classed this season. Just more than 77 percent for the season were color grade 21 and better. Average leaf for the season is 2.57, with average length 35.42. In Lamesa, 683,027 samples were classed this season. Almost 72 percent for the season were color grade 21 and better. Average leaf for the season is 2.61, with average length 35.20.

The Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Service

will be hosting a concession stand for the Enduro races March 9th and 10th.

We are asking our community for help with donations of desserts individually wrapped brownies, bar cookies, rice krispies, or cookies can be dropped off at the new firehall, Merrell Food, or City Hall. We thank you for your constant support of our volunteers.

Our concession will be open Saturday 11:00 till races are over and Sunday for breakfast at 7:00 a.m till races are over.

FLOMOT NEWS

By Earlyne Jameson

Overheard

Heard on a Southwest Airline flight: "Ladies and Gentlemen, if you wish to smoke, the smoking section on this airplane is on the wing and if you can light 'em, you can smoke 'em."

Motley County Has Surprising Snow Blizzard in February 2013

A surprising snow blizzard in Motley County with 5 inches of wet snow, 2 to 3 foot snow drifts Monday, February 25 had school classes cancelled, roads closed, mail carriers and post offices limited and electrical outages. Those living in the rural area were confined to their homes. Supplemental feeding of livestock was postponed.

A this time last year in February, we were having bad sandstorms; following a light snow, sleet and rain on February 12 and on February 20 a good rain accompanied by deafening claps of thunder, livestock was put on revived wheatland. This unexpected underground moisture is pleasing to M.C. agriculture interests.

Motley County National Weather Service Volunteers were happy to report the moisture total for February 2013: Buzz Thacker, Roaring Springs 1.59 inches, Ronnie Bailey, Matorador 2:00 inches; Betty Simpson, Northfield 2.30 inches; Lawrence Allen, Whiteflat 1.4 inches and Clois Shorter, Flomot 2.25 inches.

Travis and Linda Kendall, Tim Kendall and sons, Jere and Jacob were in Lubbock Saturday to attend the Destination Imagination Competition held at the Estacado High School. Their grandson and nephew, Connor Kendall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cory Kendall of Midland was on the Midland team that was awarded second place.

Mrs. Brenda Cruse, her mother, Mrs. Marihelen Wason of Matorador, Mrs. Lacy Cruse and Reese of Turkey attended a bridal shower honoring her daughter, Leah Cruse held Saturday morning in Amarillo.

Mrs. B. Rogers visited overnight Thursday in Kalgary with daughter and husband, Donna Sue and Stanley Degan. Donna Sue accompanied B. to Lubbock Friday for medical tests.

Dustin and Elise Reed and children, Hayleigh and Kayden of Lubbock visited the weekend with grandmother, Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert and Glen Calvert.

Brooke Sehon of Wolforth visited from Thursday until Sunday with grandparents, Clois and Kathy Shorter. Her family, Keri and Kevin Sehon and brother, Brian were in Wichita Falls for Brian's go-cart races. He was in the finals.

Joey Lee of Clarendon attended to business and visited his parents Orville and Ruth Lee Sunday.

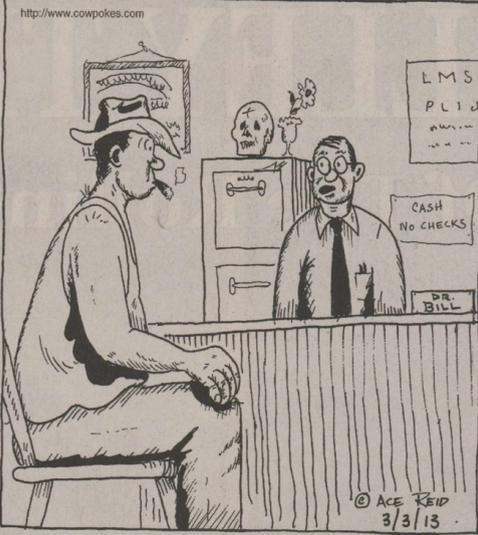
Darrell Cruse visited in Snyder Saturday with son and family, Derrick and Christina Cruse, Paisley and Cash. They celebrated the 9th birthday of Cash with all the trimmings.

Mrs. Waydetta Clay accompanied her aunt, Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton to Plainview Thursday for a medical appointment.

Connie and Coy Franks visited in Idalou Saturday with sons and families, Cory and Amy Franks, Hudson, Madison and Heston, and Cary and Mary Franks and Cal.

Wilburn Martin was in Plainview Tuesday for an optical medical appointment.

COWPOKES® By Ace Reid



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TEXUN TAWK

Each House Has Its Own Idiosyncrasies

By Bill Sperry

You know how you can tell a house that was built in the fifties or earlier? Each room will have one electrical receptacle, it will be wired with fourteen gauge wire and all of them will be on one breaker and on the wrong side of the room. You have to put together a formula of what items you can run together and what you can't as the fifteen ampere breaker will throw if, say, the dishwasher and the coffee pot are on together. The original circuit panel will have four single breakers and, at least, four sub-panels with two to four breakers in them. The main entrance wires into the house will be no bigger than size six and are running through the trees outside entangled with the limbs so the tension on them when the wind blows is a lot then a little. When there's no wind they hang like the back of an old man's pants, droopy.

The water pressure at the faucets is akin to what a puppy might do in the snow. The shower has such poor pressure that to get hot water to the stream takes about thirty minutes and if it's too hot then it's another thirty minutes before you can adjust the cold to cool it off. Now the controls are so sensitive that you are out of the notion by this time and that personal shower will lie to you.

I'd waited the prescribed hour for the water to adjust, felt the hose on the personal shower, hmmm, felt about right, got in the shower and sprayed it on my head. Scalding hot it was. I bounced off the walls of the shower, found the door after re-arranging the latch, stuck on foot on the floor and ran in a circle like Curly from the Three Stooges. Haircuts will not be an issue for a while as I can now scrape my scalp with a dull knife and peel off any unwanted hair.

Now the clothes washer has an inline air vent so with the confidence that I got that machine to go. When it started pumping water out I figured the vent was upside down and it put more water on the floor than two cocker spaniels. Got that fixed, so I've got one room done with six or so more rooms to go. The house has its own personality and I'm just as contrary as it is.

If I can't handle it, don't send anybody else.

Menu Subject To Change

Tri-County Meals

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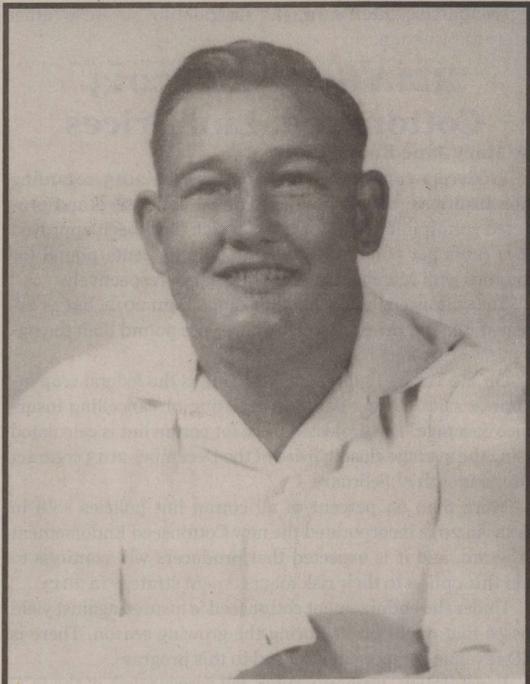
Dining Room Meal Menu

Wednesday, March 6	Friday, March 8	Monday, March 11
Hamburger & Pasta	Brisket	King Ranch Casserole
Salad	Potato Salad	Salad
Dessert	Baked Beans	Dessert
Drink	Dessert	Drink
	Drink	

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"Pinky"

Eighty seems to be a pretty special milestone in a person's life and Billy Joe Pinkerton will reach it on March 20, 2013. We would love for you to join us as we celebrate with our children on March 16, 2013 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Lumberyard Lodge in Turkey. If you are unable to be with us, he would enjoy a card, note or call. Please no gifts, your presence would be a most special gift.

Margie

LEX HERRINGTON ATTORNEY AT LAW

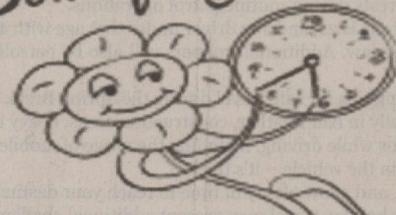
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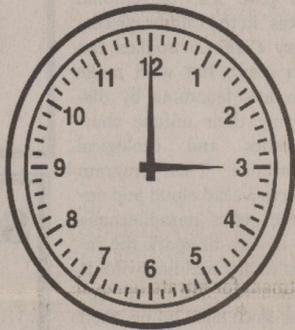
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36-ctfn

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YOUR CLOCKS!



Things That Make You Go Hmmm...

By Laura Griffin

A TEENAGER IS...

- A person who can't remember to walk the dog but never forgets a phone number.
 - A weight watcher who goes on a diet by giving up candy bars before breakfast.
 - A youngster who receives her allowance on Monday, spends it on Tuesday, and borrows it from her best friend on Wednesday.
 - Someone who can hear his favorite singer 3 blocks away but not his mother calling from the next room.
 - A whiz who can operate the latest computer without a lesson but can't make a bed.
 - A student who spends 12 minutes studying history and 12 hours studying for her driver's license.
 - A connoisseur of 2 kinds of fine music--loud and very loud.
 - An enthusiast who has the energy to bike for miles but is usually too tired to dry the dishes.
 - A young woman who loves the cat and tolerates the brother.
 - A romantic who never falls in love more than once a week.
 - A budding beauty who never smiles until her braces come off.
 - A boy who can sleep till noon on any Saturday he suspects the lawn needs mowing.
 - An original thinker who is positive that her mother was never a teenager
- HMMM...

E-Filing Your Tax Return Saves Time, Prevents Common Mistakes

E-file is short for electronic tax return filing. It includes both preparing taxes electronically using tax software and filing taxes electronically. Buy tax software either off-the-shelf or online. If your income is \$57,000 or less, let Free File brand-name software do the hard work for you with free tax preparation and free e-filing. It's available only through IRS.gov, where a number of tax software companies make their products available for free. Go to Free File to take advantage of this option.

"The software's question and answer format makes doing taxes much easier than filling out paper tax forms," said Clay Sanford, an IRS spokesman in Dallas. "E-file can also help you find credits or deductions for which you may be eligible."

Electronically filed returns are signed electronically. You enter last year's adjusted gross income or a five digit PIN (Personal Identification Number) that you create yourself. This makes your return more secure and completely paperless.

When you hit "send," your return will be securely transmitted through an IRS-approved electronic channel. As part of the

delivery process, IRS computers automatically check your return for mistakes. If the IRS finds easy-to-fix mistakes, like a math error or a wrong social security number, they can immediately send it back to you. You can fix it and send it right back. This saves time and prevents a simple mistake from holding up your refund.

Choose direct deposit for faster access to your refund than a paper check. If you owe tax, the IRS offers various electronic payment options for paying federal taxes and user fees. These options are convenient, safe, and secure, and some of them are free. For more information about e-file, go to www.IRS.gov and click on the blue e-file icon.

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This Week In Texas History

- Mar 5, 1883**
The voters of Estelline approved the sale of alcoholic beverages. The vote was 96-61, making Estelline the only wet community between Amarillo and Electra.
- Mar 5, 1898**
The first group of Rough Riders arrived in San Antonio. Teddy Roosevelt recruited Rough Riders while staying at the Menger Hotel.
- Mar 5, 1862**
Mexican troops defeated the French near Mexico City. If the French had won, Mexico would have been opened to the Confederates and it might have changed the outcome of the Civil War.
- Mar 6, 1944**
The invasion of Normandy began. The battleship Texas was involved in the bombardment of Cherbourg.
- Mar 6, 1875**
The Panhandle-Plains Indians surrendered to U.S. troops at Darlington, Okla. This officially ended the Red River Wars of 1874-75. During the surrender the last two German family sisters, who had been captured by the Indians in Kansas over a year earlier, were released.
- Mar 6, 1836**
After a five-hour battle on this a Sunday morning, the Alamo fell to Gen. Santa Anna and the Mexican Army. The massacre of the Texan garrison was over by 9:00 A.M.
- Mar 7, 1930**
The first two Texas state highway patrolmen assigned to the Panhandle region reported for duty in Amarillo.
- Mar 7, 1927**
The U.S. Supreme Court declared a Texas law prohibiting African-Americans from voting in Democratic Primary elections unconstitutional.
- Mar 7, 1901**
The Bluebonnet was adopted as the state flower by the Texas Legislature.
- Mar 7, 1861**
All Union Army posts in South Texas were abandoned to the Confederates.
- Mar 8, 1852**
A flat boat named "Dallas" started up the Trinity River from galveston, bound for Dallas with a load of cotton and hides. The boat failed to make the trip.
- Mar 8, 1836**
Messengers were sent out all over Texas from Washington-on-the-Brazos to tell people that Texas was a free and independent nation. At the time nothing was known outside San Antonio about the fall of the Alamo.
- Mar 9, 1891**
The last cattle drive left the Panhandle. After this most cattle were shipped by rail, making Amarillo and Estelline the largest cattle shipping points in the world.
- Mar 9, 1836**
On his way to Gonzales, Gen. Sam Houston ordered Col. Jim Fannin to join him in San Antonio to fight in defense of the Alamo. Houston still had not heard the news of Santa Anna's victory.
- Mar 10, 1865**
Texas was offered a separate peace plan by Union Gen. Lew Wallace who later became the governor of New Mexico and wrote "Ben Hur."
- Mar 10, 1840**
Josiah Gregg made camp on Trujillo Creek in present-day Oldham County.
- Mar 10, 1836**
Amon King was sent to Refugio from Goliad for supplies.
- Mar 11, 1937**
J.S. Cullinan died in Palo Alto, Calif. He was a founder of the Texas Company (Texaco), a major figure in the discovery of oil at Corsicana and Spindletop.
- Mar 11, 1884**
The gunfighters King Fisher and Ben Thompson were gunned down at the Variety Theater in San Antonio.
- Mar 11, 1836**
Gen. Sam Houston arrived in Gonzales about 4 p.m. with an army of about 360 men. Gen. Santa Anna ordered Gen. Joaquin de Ramirez to leave San Antonio and find the Texas Army. At dusk, Gen. Houston learns the fate of the Alamo defenders from a lone Mexican arriving from San Antonio.

The Dora Merrell Stroup Story

Part VIII

The first death in our family was a little brother. He died when he was two days old. He was so little and cute. We had planned what good times we would have with him, but our plans were all blotted out. After his death, then Father. Now there are seventeen of our loved ones resting in the little cemetery on the hill along with a number of friends.

As I have mentioned, the F Ranch was a home for anyone who entered its doors. Mary Goodnight donned a riding skirt and a sunbonnet and rode a side saddle to help Good night drive his cattle through to the ranch here. They brought them down the Mexican trails north-west of here. All I know about then is that they say they were dangerous. She used to come down in plum time and make plum preserves for the boys. The boys all loved her. They caught little buffalo calves down in the sand hills and brought them to the ranch to her. She fed them til they got to be a nuisance. Good night took them to the plains. That is how Goodnight got its name. She built the Goodnight College for girls. They say her saddle is in the museum at Canyon. Her husband had it designed for her.

There was much wild life in this part of the country when we first came. Turkeys and quail went in droves. There was so many wild ducks and geese also. Many other birds, too. Hawks and owls included. The hoot owl was the owl that sat around the prairie dog's den. Prairie dogs were everywhere you went. So were the rattlesnakes, plenty of lizard, frogs, soft-shelled turtles, badger, raccoons, rats, some bald eagle, some bears, some panthers, coyote, lobo wolf, some wild hogs. The lobo wolves dealt us more misery than all of the rest. They won't eat only what they catch. If they make the least wound on a calf, it will die. The bears were disgusting. They would prowl on the watermelon patch. They would take their big paw and break into a water-melon. If it was ripe they would eat some of it. If it was green they would go hunt another. They did the cornfield the same way. They would sometimes pull the ear clean off and put their foot on the ear and eat the corn or they might eat one side of the ear and leave the rest on the stalk. They would really trample things down with their big feet.

One day Doc came running in the house. Mother asked him why he was running so. He told her he was down at the creek and a big black dog came along and scared him. She paid no attention to him. In a little while Father came in and he had been down on the creek. He said he had seen where a bear had gone down the creek. We never knew what the big black dog was. One day Father and I were working in the field north of the house. We were hoeing. Father said, "The water is just about gone. Go get the jug and I will take a drink. You go on to the house and I will finish these weeds." I had to cross the old water ditch that was grown up in weeds. I started for the house as fast as I could. A panther gave a scream. Father started towards the house as fast as he could go. He had seen me halfway to the house. When he came to the house there was the panther's tracks in the old water ditch. Anyway I was not hurt.

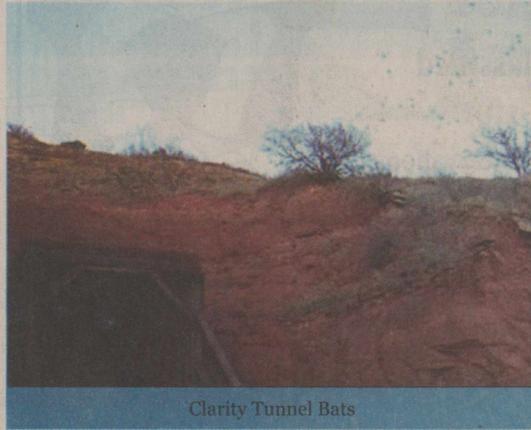
There isn't as much game here as there used to be. Even the quail is almost gone, but we will forever have the snakes. There was (?) of nice cedar timber, grapes all up and down the creeks, and (plum) patches most every where. People hauled their firewood from the (breaks)s. They hauled out cedar post for their fences and larger (timber) to cover their dugouts. Deer and antelope were here. Most (of th)e buffalo had been killed out. There were buffalo carcasses (ever) ywhere you went. The last buffalo hunt was in the year 1882. (Ther)e were a few here when we first came. The wild horses did not (liv)e under the caprock, for they could not see far enough to suit (?). They ranged on the plains. They did not last long because (peop)le killed them for causing so much trouble with the domesticated (animal)s. You could never tame a wild horse.

To Be Continued...

Looking For Something Fun To Do During Spring Break?

Bring the whole family to Caprock Canyons State Park! Camp with your family, fish in Lake Theo, hike the trails, and so much more! Spring Break week is "Wildlife Week" here at Caprock Canyons State Park and we have many activities planned to suit the wildlife enthusiast in you.

Come on a tracking adventure with us during "Tell Tale Tracks" on Monday, March 11 at 10:00 a.m. as we discover the tell-tell signs left behind from various animal species within Caprock Canyons State Park. We'll use our new found knowledge of these signs and a little bit of imagination to tell the tale of these critters. Then, take a walk in the creek bed with us to cast some animal tracks in plaster that you can take home!



Clarity Tunnel Bats

Then, on Tuesday, March 12 at 2:00 p.m. come to the Children's Discovery Center where your children can learn "All About Bison". This hands-on program features a read aloud along with authentic bison paraphernalia including a bison hide and bison bone tools sure to capture the attention of any budding wildlife enthusiast. Children can also make their own bison hide story to take home. Space is limited and participants are encouraged to sign up for the program upon arrival to the park. Also on

Tuesday, March 12 at 8:00 p.m. we will be showing the "Texas State Bison Herd slide-show" where we will discuss the history and importance of the historic bison herd that roams the prairies at Caprock Canyons State Park.

On Wednesday, March 13 at 2:00 p.m., go "batty" with us in the Children's Discovery Center as we discuss those mysterious little creatures known as the bat. "Goin' Batty" features a read aloud and various bat games designed to teach about bat behavior. Children will also make and take home their very own Mexican Free-tailed bat. This program features a read aloud as well as various raptor displays and children will color their very own raptor claw replica key chain to take home. Space is limited so participants are encouraged to sign up upon arrival to the park. Also on Thursday, March 14 discover some "Noct-urnal nature" with us during "The Park after Dark" at 8:00 p.m. We will go on a leisurely stroll down the Upper Canyon Trail where anything from coyotes to wolf spiders might be seen, heard, or discussed. Please bring comfortable hiking shoes and a flashlight.

On Friday, March 15 at 2:00 p.m. it's "Sensational Snakes" in the Children's Discovery Center. Snakes can seem scary, but we'll make them less fearsome by discovering their unique characteristics and ecological importance. This program features a read aloud and authentic snake paraphernalia that is sure to spark the interest of any budding wildlife enthusiast. Children will also make and take home their very own rattlesnake. Space is limited so participants are encouraged to sign up for the program upon arrival to the park. "Caprock Critters" an interpretive slide-show will commence at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 15 where we will discuss the various animal species that live here at Caprock Canyons State Park.

Finally on Saturday, March 16 at 10:00 a.m. come to the "Canyon Walk & Talk" where anything from the history, flora, and fauna of the park will be discussed down the Canyon Rim trail. End your Spring Break vacation with us by attending "Myth Busters" an interactive slide-show presentation summing up your newfound knowledge of the wildlife at Caprock Canyons on Saturday, March 16 at 8:00 p.m.. During this program, visitors can separate myth from fact about the different animal species that live in the park.

Space is limited so participants are encouraged to sign up upon arrival to the park. Also on Wednesday, March 13 at 8:00 p.m., enjoy a slide-show presentation on "Bats of the Texas Panhandle" where we will discuss the ecological importance of these flighty creatures as well as various species of bats that frequent this area. Then on Thursday, March 14 at 10:00 a.m. join us for "Skins, Skulls, & Scat". Learn about the different animal species that live in Caprock Canyons State Park by studying their skins, skulls, and even scat! This hands-on program is designed for children ages 12 and under. Other programs on Thursday, March 14 are "Remarkable Raptors" at 2:00 p.m. in the Children's Discovery Center where we will be discussing the importance of raptors as well as the unique characteristics setting them apart from other bird species.

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