



## 2016 Conservation Field Day at Fort Chadbourne

by Erin Oleksiuk, Coke County SWCD District Technician  
The Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) hosted the ninth annual Conservation Field Day on September 21, 2016. The event was co-sponsored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Texas Agri-Life Extension, The Coke County Underground Water Conservation District, First National Bank of Sterling City in Bronte, Robert Lee State Bank, Bronte Grocery, Super H, Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Market Street, and HEB. NRCS personnel from the San Angelo and Ballinger team, the Zone Office, and with the help of volunteers, hosted the learning stations of the outdoor classroom. Students and adults were provided a Conservation Field Day t-shirt and a hotdog lunch.

Bronte and Robert Lee 5th and 6th grade students arrived at Fort Chadbourne, maintained and operated by Garland and Lana Richards, Ann Pate, and Brent Bryan, for their day of hands learning at 9 am.

Station 1 was a tour inside the Fort's Visitors Center. Inside, they saddled up sawhorses, learned how little space a stagecoach has to offer, and saw numerous artifacts. The students were eager to learn about life on the fort and

some were even able to catch a glimpse of the ground's ghost, Maggie! Ann Pate (above photo) gives more detail to the center's artifacts.

Morgan Runyan, Agri-Life Extension agent, and Kandice Everitt, County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Science, hauled in the Stream Simulation trailer for Station 2. Mr. Winton Miliff, Underground Water Conservation District, offered his knowledge to this station, as well. Mrs. Runyan spoke with students about how water moves and cuts through the land and erosion. The students were able to carve out their own streams to see how different movement affects the soil.

At Station 3, the students spoke with Dr. Travis Arledge of Pioneer Vet Clinic about animal care. He brought along calf fetuses at different stages of development, horse teeth, a calf puller, and what stole the show, a dogs tongue! Dr. Arledge explained the importance teeth health in all pets and livestock and why flea and tick control is so important. The children asked good questions which Dr. Arledge was happy to answer.

Preston Irwin and Aaron Johnson, both NRCS, manned Station 4 teaching students the

*(Continued on Page 8)*



# Marshall Millican

## Would Like to say Thank You!

Marshall stated earlier in an article during his primary campaign for the Republican candidate as Coke County Commissioner of Precinct 3 that the decrease in our oil valuation could cause a significant loss in revenue for our county. This has happened! In the County General Fund, the valuation decreased \$66,691,000.00. In the County Road and Bridge Fund, the valuation decreased \$66,653,000.00. This was a 20.66% decrease in our county revenue which amounted to a loss in revenue of \$427,324.00 which was needed for a balanced budget.

Marshall also stated in the earlier article that the loss in revenue could cause an increase in our taxes or cause a decrease within. The "decrease within" has happened! The General Fund was cut \$216,127.00. This was not easy and will take some adjustments in the departments. Two of our county road hand positions were cut from the budget. The two Justice of the Peace and Constable precincts will be consolidated into one. One Justice of the Peace's and one Constable's budgets were cut from the budget. The 32 hour a week County Attorney Secretary position was cut from the budget. The 20 hour a week County Extension Agents Secretary position was also cut from the budget. The remainder of the \$211,197 loss in revenue will be taken from the reserve account. The bottom line is that our County Judge and our Commissioners did not increase our taxes. They made difficult decisions with our taxpayers in mind. "I would like to say thank you for a job well done!"

Marshall says "If I am elected as your County Commissioner of Precinct 3, I will work diligently to keep taxes at their lowest, listen to your concerns and keep you informed about our county government."

**Vote for the Republican candidate  
and elect**

# Marshall Millican

for

## Coke County Commissioner, Precinct 3.

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Marshall Millican

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In Observance Of

**Columbus  
Day**



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