

TLCA students tour Coke County Courthouse offices

On the eve of the Casey Anthony trial, Texas Leadership Charter Academy (TLCA of San Angelo) conducted two trials of their own. Two murders were staged on campus, one being the principal and the other being a 6th grade teacher. Excitement grew as the 6th grade "CSI teams, attorneys, detectives, and reporters" started working the case. On two separate mornings, flashing lights and yellow tape secured the crime scenes as SAPD Officer McGee explained to the detectives and CSI agents what had been discovered and taught them how to properly work a crime scene. The students learned how to lift fingerprints and handle evidence. Meanwhile, the reporters and attorneys were learning from other professionals in the law and reporting fields. Attorney Justin Mock (Melvin Gray & Associates) and Reporter Jennifer Rios (Standard Times) graciously gave one of their mornings giving tips and suggestions as how to perform legal and reporting duties.

In four short weeks, witness roles were memorized, evidence was collected, theories were formed, stories were written, cases were built, and verdicts were delivered. On May 19th and 20th the TLCA government teacher and 12 of his high school students formed a jury and trial began. The TLCA gymnasium was converted into a courtroom and gallery members (administrators, teachers, parents, and friends) started to fill the stands. Suspense built as both the prosecution and defense used witnesses to tell their stories. Finally, both teams rested and the jury began deliberation. According to the 6th graders, this waiting period was the longest they had ever experienced! Within an hour's time, the bailiff called for 'all to rise' and the judge

resumed the bench. The jury foreman was called to give the verdicts, one being not guilty and the other guilty.

After cheers and tears minimized, the entire 6th grade class and teaching staff gathered around and discussed all elements of the process, as the project was designed to be a performance based assessment. The entire process included objectives from all five classes taught to the 6th graders - math, ela, social studies, science, and leadership. Grades were given based on mastery of content, such as, angles and trajectory for math, reading and writing for ELA, judicial system for social studies, DNA and genetics for science, and patience and self-control for leadership. This, also, gave the students an opportunity to discuss and share with each other how it felt to actually perform or work in these professional roles.

To wrap up this project, the 6th graders took a field trip to the Coke County Court House (Robert Lee) and to the Community Correctional Facility (San Angelo) in order to reinforce what they had learned the previous four weeks. It was awesome to hear the professionals in these entities using vocabulary words that we had just learned. When words, such as, summons, jurisdiction, subpoena, and docket were used, the 6th graders knew the meaning. This field trip helped bring life to the performance based assessment and we are so grateful to all who opened the door to us!

Upcoming Fire Fighters Benefit set

Local ranchers, farmers and businessmen have joined together to host a Volunteer Fire Fighters Benefit to help over 25 area volunteer fire departments. This benefit consists of a ranch rodeo, auction, raffle and feast. Everyone is invited to attend including all firefighters and their families.



TLCA Sixth Graders Visit Coke County! The 6th Grade classes at TLCA in San Angelo toured the various offices in the Coke County Courthouse last Wednesday, May 25. The class had just completed a complex project covering our judicial process, including the crime, the investigation, the prosecution and defense. The visit gave the children an opportunity to meet actual officials and view an actual courtroom.

The event will be held Saturday, July 9, 2011, in the 1st Community Credit Union Spur Arena in San Angelo. Those teams interested in participating in the ranch rodeo, please contact 325-234-8420 for information.

A raffle for a new John Deere Gator is underway with each volunteer fire department selling tickets. Area donors have underwritten the Gator so the firefighters will receive 100% of the ticket sales. There has never been a doubt as to the importance of our volunteer fire departments, it is time we, as

a community, take care of them. Everyone mark your calendar to join us for a fun filled day Saturday, July 9, 2011.

The Ranch Rodeo starts at 10 am, the meal at 12 noon, and the live auction at 2 pm. After the auction, the ranch rodeo will resume.

Emergency Grazing for CRP

Coke County has been approved for emergency grazing on certain CRP acres. Some of the CRP practices are not eligible to graze. Producers with CRP acres need to come in the

Coke County FSA Office to see if their CRP acres are eligible for this emergency grazing. Producers will be required to give up 25% of their 2011 annual CRP payment.

Please contact Coke FSA for more information.

Sheriff reminds citizens of 24 hour phone number

Sheriff Wayne McCutchen wishes to remind all Coke County citizens that the Sheriff's Dept. phone is answered 24 hours a day. The number to call is (325) 453-2717.

www.pitcockproperties.com
 Farm-Ranch, Commercial, and Residential Real Estate
 Texas General Certified Appraiser

Jerrod Pitcock
 BROKER
 (325) 650-4079
jerrod@pitcockproperties.com

WE WANT TO HELP GROW YOUR PORTFOLIO.
 Call today to schedule a complimentary portfolio review.
TOMMY E. NEAL, AAMS®
 Financial Advisor

www.edwardjones.com
 Member SIPC
Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
 2412 College Hills Boulevard, Suite 102
 San Angelo, Texas 76904
 (325) 223-8244

1st Annual
BUTTERFIELD TRAIL DAYS
Saturday • June 18th
Bronte, Texas
Arts & Crafts Vendors!
Food Booths!
Live Music!
Fun Starts at 10 am!
Horse Shoe & Washer Pitching Tournaments!
 Entries open at 10 am.
 Tournament begins at 11 am.
For Information, Call City Hall (325) 473-3501.
KICKAPOO CREEK COOK-OFF
Brisket • Ribs • Chicken
 Set-up beginning at 5 pm Friday.
 Saturday Judging:
 Chicken 1 pm, Ribs 2 pm, Brisket 3 pm
BRONTE DEPOT
100th Anniversary Celebration
 12:30 pm

20th Annual
COKE COUNTY RANCH RODEO
Wild Cow Milking • Trailer Loading • Team Branding
• Team Doctoring • Wild Horse Race
5 pm • For More Information, Call (325) 716-9626