

... Death Tax

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operations to pass along to their children and grandchildren. The death tax puts us at risk of losing a generation of expertise that can't be replaced to efficiently produce food and fiber.

TSCRA will continue to fight for a repeal of this unfair tax on family ranching operations. Until the death tax is fully and finally repealed, TSCRA will support legislation to keep the current 2012 levels in place. We appreciate Reps. Kevin Brady (TX-08) and Mac Thornberry (TX-13) for their efforts in the U.S. House of Representatives to repeal the death tax, and we encourage more members of Congress to follow their lead.

Instead of saddling ranchers, farmers and small businesses with burdensome estate taxes, the federal government has a terrific opportunity to encourage a healthy economy by fully and permanently repealing the death tax.

Farmers consider brackish water

With a limited amount of freshwater available for municipal, industrial and agricultural uses, farmers and ranchers are considering brackish water supplies, said Coke County Farm Bureau President John Ross Copeland.

"There's a finite amount of fresh water available," John Ross Copeland said. "Brackish water is much more plentiful and all Texans need to take a look how we can best use it."

Brackish water has been found in 26 of the 30 aquifers in Texas with an estimated total of 2.7 billion acre-feet. That's enough to cover Texas in 15 feet of water. To qualify as brackish water, it must contain 1,000 to 10,000 parts per million total dissolved solids. Total dissolved solids are dissolved salts such as magnesium, potassium, calcium, sulphur, boron and sodium in the water.

"Brackish water will play an important role in supplying Texas' water needs in the future," John Ross Copeland said. "It is very important that Texans consider how to best use

this resource and respect the property rights associated with it."

Delegates at Texas Farm Bureau's last state convention voted to protect landowners' rights by including brackish water as part of their right to capture a fair share of groundwater beneath their property.

U.S. House moves to stop WOTUS implementation

The U.S. House of Representatives recently took action to stop the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) implementation of its proposed Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) plan, an action applauded by Coke County Farm Bureau.

"It's time to ditch this rule, for Texas' sake," said Coke County Farm Bureau President John Ross Copeland.

John Ross Copeland said EPA is moving forward with the proposed WOTUS plan, which could greatly limit what Texas landowners are able to do on their property. The rule would greatly expand federal jurisdiction to include very small water bodies, flood plains and land that is not even wet most of the time.

Farmers and ranchers, including those in Coke County, have voiced opposition.

"We want clean water," John Ross Copeland said. "But that's not what this is. This is an attempt by EPA to control what we do on our lands. The move by the U.S. House is a step in the right direction."

Additional information on Ditch the Rule can be found at <http://ditchtherule.fb.org>.

Take a tablet for tech anxiety

Youngsters might look at their grandparents and see them as among those unfortunates who are sadly deficient in the ways of

21st Century technology, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens. And, for the most part, they are right.

But, take heart, AMAC tells its over-50 membership. There is hope for even the most deficient of us. A new study shows that while senior citizens might be unable to cope with a computer or smart phone, it should be easier to navigate a tablet, also known as an iPad or an E-Reader.

Shelia Cotten, a Michigan State University professor, headed up the study and says that the problem many older people have is their lack dexterity. "A certain level of muscle control is needed [on a computer]. And some older adults have shaking issues, in addition to muscle-control issues in their hands and arms."

Cotton says the research shows that "for the most part they [tablets] are pretty easy to operate. You don't have to click on 12 different things to do what you want to do. It helps to ease tech anxiety."

The 'silver tsunami'

America's aging population may wind up being a job creating event, says the Association of Mature American Citizens.

U.S. citizens are turning age 65 at an enormous rate - 10,000 a day. And, the rapid growth of that segment of the population is expected to continue for many years to come. Professor Joanne Spetz of the University of California's Institute for Health Policy Studies calls it a "silver tsunami" and warns of a potential shortage of long-term healthcare workers.

"Simply managing the activities of daily living often requires ongoing care from a combination of licensed and unlicensed health workers. We believe that the demand for these workers will increase



The following reports were made by Coke County Sheriff's Office for the month of May 2015.

- 7 Sheriff's Information Reports
- 4 Criminal Mischief Reports
- 1 Theft Report
- 2 Burglary of a Building Reports
- 1 Burglary of a Habitation Report
- 1 Burglary of a Vehicle Report

- 1 Terroristic Threat Report
- 2 Fugitive Apprehensions
- 2 Assault Family Violence Reports
- 1 Cruelty to Non-Livestock Animals Report
- 1 Interfere with Duties of a Public Servant
- 3 Arrest Warrants Served
- 245 Public Service Calls (Includes Funerals, Court, Motorist Assist, and Alarm Calls Etc...)
- 1 Civil Process
- 14 Prisoner Transports including arrest and to and from court
- 7 Warrants Served
- 38 Livestock Calls
- 6 Accidents
- 1 Accident Assist
- 88 Traffic Stops
- 61 Traffic Stops resulting in citations
- Total number of incoming and outgoing calls by dispatch after office hours: 428
- TOTAL INMATES IN RUNNELS COUNTY JAIL AS OF Tuesday June 9th, 2015: 3 Males

significantly in the coming years. Health policy decision-makers need tools and strategies to ensure that the U.S. has an adequate workforce to meet our long-term care needs," she says.

U.S. seniors are fortunate

Many Americans still feel the repercussions of the 2007-2009 recession, but a pair of New York Times reporters say that for the most part senior citizens fared well in what some people call The Great Recession, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens.

In a recent article, reporters Dionne Searcey and Robert Gebeloff, wrote that "older

people not only weathered the economic downturn ... but made significant gains."

According to their analysis: "In the past, the elderly were usually poorer than other age groups. Now, they are the last generation to widely enjoy a traditional pension, and are prime beneficiaries of a government safety net targeted at older Americans. They also have profited from the long rise in real estate prices that preceded the recession. As a result, more seniors now fall into the middle class - defined in this case between the 40th and 80th income percentile - than ever before."

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