

# BLACKWELL SCHOOL NEWS



**2014 Blackwell CISD Homecoming Court!** Members of the 2014 Blackwell CISD Homecoming Court are (top row, from left) Shianne Solis (Junior), Harrison Gott (Senior), Matthew Meyer (Senior), Brandi Wright (Senior), Franck Cano (Senior), and Hailey Bennett (Junior). Homecoming Mascots include (bottom row, from left): Jacob Rivera (1st Grade), Bella Clark (Pre-K), Slade Wilkinson (Pre-K), Addison Dove (Kindergarten), Emma Williams (Pre-K), and David Evangelista (1st Grade).

## Mini Cheer Camp set for September 15-19

A Mini Cheer Camp will be held from September 15 to September 19. All those interested need to contact Mrs. Powers for more information at (325) 282-2311 or email at cpowers@blackwellcisd.org.

## Students may now apply for the Service Academies

Congressman Michael Conaway encourages all students interested in attending the military service academies to apply for a nomination.

To be considered for appointment to a service academy, an applicant must meet eligibility requirements and be nominated by an authorized person, including a member of the U.S. Senate or U.S. House of Representatives. There are five service academies: The United States Air Force Academy, Naval, Military, Merchant Marine, and Coast Guard.

The application process for the class of 2019 is open. All applications must be received at Congressman Conaway's San Angelo office by October 22, 2014. The address for his San Angelo office is 33 East Twohig Ave., Suite 307, San Angelo, TX, 76903. The telephone number is 325 659-4010.

Please find the application at Conaway.house.gov or call or write his San Angelo office to have one sent to you.

The eligibility requirements for an applicant include: United States citizenship; a resident of the 11th District and at least 17-years-old but not older than 22 on July 1, 2015, on the year of admission. Selection is based on SAT and Act test scores, class rank, grade point average, extracurricular activities, and

leadership potential.

If you have any questions, please contact JoAnne Powell at 325 659-4010.

## Red Hat Lunch slated

The Red Hat Society will meet Thursday, September 4, at 11 am at the City Cafe in Blackwell.

It is time to get your red hat on and have some fun. These luncheons are not gossip sessions - just a time of laughter. It is said that laughter is very good medicine.

## Zinnias -The New Texas Superstar

What really got the Texas Superstar board members excited about fall zinnias were some new series, including the marylandica types that form disease-resistant "mounds of color," lasting until frost when planted in late summer, said a Texas A&M AgriLife Research horticulturist.

"These are very colorful plants that we're promoting for fall use," said Dr. Brent Pemberton, AgriLife Research ornamental horticulturist and head of the

Texas Superstar board, Overton. "They have all the fall colors you like to see: oranges, apricots and yellows."

Texas Superstar plants undergo extensive tests throughout the state by AgriLife Research and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service horticulturists, Pemberton said.

To be designated a Texas Superstar, a plant must not just be beautiful but also perform well for consumers and growers throughout Texas. Superstars must also be easy to propagate, which should ensure the plants are not only widely available throughout Texas but reasonably priced, as well, he said.

Fall zinnias and chrysanthemums have similar attributes and can be used in much the same ways, Pemberton said. But whereas chrysanthemums may only flower for several weeks, and then only if the weather is cool, fall zinnias tolerate Texas heat well and will display color until the first frost, if properly watered and fertilized.

Marylandica types include the Profusion and Zahara series, Pemberton said. They bloom prolifically and grow as tall as 12 to 18 inches. Individual flowers are as large as 2.5 inches in diameter.

"Mounds of color" refers to the marylandica types, which tend to be more compact or bushier than standard zinnia varieties, he said. This bushy characteristic makes them ideal for mixed borders, beds, cutting gardens, containers and what are known as "cottage gardens," a rustic style featuring a mixture of ornamental and edible plants. And while standard zinnias can be susceptible to diseases such as powdery mildew, the marylandica types are highly resistant, Pemberton said.

Gardeners can pinch off or prune young plants of the standard types to encourage bushy-ness, but this is not required for the newer types, he said. Placing the plants so they get good air circulation or flow will further help prevent fungal leaf diseases.

Usually, fall zinnias of all types begin showing up in Texas garden centers in September, he said. They are usually available in 4-inch and larger pots for transplanting to the landscape.

Zinnias attract pollinating insects, which adds to their fun, said Dr. Brent Pemberton, AgriLife Research ornamental horticulturist. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo by Keith Hansen)

"You can also get them in large containers that can be used as patio plants. They're fun to use in mixed containers with other things for fall, such as ornamental grasses or ornamental peppers such as NuMex Twilight, which was named a Texas Superstar several years ago."

They actually bloom more proficiently in full sun, he said. They need full sunlight for a half day or more, and will thrive as long as they have moderate water and are planted in a well-drained site or container.

Plants can be "deadheaded" — spent flowers pinched off — to promote further blooming and maintain plant appearance, Pemberton said.

Texas Superstar is a registered trademark owned by Texas A&M AgriLife Research, a state agency that is part of the Texas A&M University System. More information about the Texas Superstar program can be found at <http://texassuperstar.com/>.

"Dying flowers retain some color, and there's generally not a lot of deadheading involved, but you can safely do that if you wish."

Texas Superstar is a registered trademark owned by Texas A&M AgriLife Research. More information about the Texas Superstar program can be found at <http://www.texassuperstar.com/>.

In addition to Pemberton, other Texas Superstar board members include Dr. Cynthia McKenney, Lubbock; Dr. Mike Arnold, College Station; Dr. Larry Stein, Uvalde; David Rodriguez, San Antonio; Dr. Dan Lineberger, College Station; and Dr. Tim Davis, College Station.

## School Menu

### Breakfast

- Monday, September 8**  
Pancakes on a stick, yogurt or cereal w/toast, juice, milk
- Tuesday, September 9**  
Chicken-n-biscuit or cereal w/toast, juice, milk
- Wednesday, September 10**  
French toast, bacon or cereal w/toast, juice, milk
- Thursday, September 11**  
Breakfast pocket or cereal w/toast, juice, milk
- Friday, September 12**  
Muffin choice, sausage or cereal w/toast, juice, milk

### Lunch

- Monday, September 8**  
Chicken sandwich, burger garnish, potato rounds, western beans, diced pears, milk
- Tuesday, September 9**  
Asian chicken, brown rice, baby carrots, ranch, steamed broccoli, chilled pineapple, sugar cookie, milk
- Wednesday, September 10**  
Tex-mex stack, Spanish rice, refried beans, salsa, garden salad, hot cinnamon apples, milk
- Thursday, September 11**  
Steak fingers, roll, gravy, crinkle-cut fries, seasoned corn, baby carrots, ranch, fresh fruit bowl, milk
- Friday, September 12**  
Pizza choice, savory green beans, garden salad, fresh apple slices, milk

The Observer/Enterprise is now available at The Corner Grocery & Deli in Blackwell!

**Russell Davis**  
Agent

611 Austin Street  
PO Box 1079  
Robert Lee, Texas 76945  
(325) 453-4505 office  
(325) 453-4524 fax  
(325) 650-1904 mobile  
TXFB-INS.COM

## Finding Solutions for Your Financial Needs

**Tommy E Neal, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor

2412 College Hills Boulevard  
Suite 102  
San Angelo, TX 76904  
325-223-8244  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**Edward Jones®**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING