

# BLACKWELL SCHOOL NEWS

## Senior Quilt Fundraiser set for October 25

The quilt will be raffled at Fall Festival, October 25. It is a signature quilt. We are selling the right to sign a block and two raffle tickets. See any senior for raffle tickets.

## Senior Parent Meeting set

Parents/ Guardians of Blackwell High School seniors are invited to attend a meeting on Monday, September 15 at 6:00 P.M. in the school library regarding issues that affect seniors, such as the college admission process, ACT and SAT testing, the Texas Success

Initiative (TSI), scholarship information, the financial aid process, Selective Service registration, and other topics. Informational handouts will also be given to parents/ guardians. If you are unable to attend, please call Mrs. Coalson, BHS counselor, at 282-2311, or email at lcoalson@blackwellcisid.org to schedule an individual meeting time.

Following the meeting, the senior class sponsors would like to meet with the senior parents and students to discuss the senior trip.

## PSAT Test slated for Juniors at Blackwell High School

The PSAT/NMSQT will be administered on Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at Bronte High School. This testing session is available to all Blackwell juniors, including home-schooled students eligible to attend school in the Blackwell CISD.

Junior students currently enrolled at Blackwell ISD will automatically be registered. The students will be given a PSAT study guide prior to the test.

Home-school students will need to register for the test at <http://www.nationalmerit.org>. After registering online, please notify Mrs. Coalson, counselor at Blackwell CISD.

For additional information, please contact Mrs. Coalson at (325) 282- 2311. You may also visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for more information.

## Livestock Producers urged to enroll in Disaster Assistance Program by October 1

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is encouraging producers who have suffered eligible disaster-related losses to act to secure assistance by September 30, 2014, as congressionally mandated payment reductions will take place for producers who have not acted before that date. Livestock producers that have experienced grazing losses since October 2011 and may be eligible for benefits but have not yet contacted their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office should do so as soon as possible.

The Budget Control Act passed by Congress in 2011 requires USDA to implement

reductions of 7.3 percent to the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) in the new fiscal year, which begins October 1, 2014. However, producers seeking LFP support who have scheduled appointments with their local FSA office before October 1, even if the appointment occurs after October 1, will not see reductions in the amount of disaster relief they receive.

USDA is encouraging producers to register, request an appointment or begin a Livestock Forage Disaster Program application with their county FSA office before October 1, 2014, to lock in the current zero percent sequestration rate. As an additional aid to qualified producers applying for LFP, the Farm Service's Agency has developed an online registration that enables farmers and ranchers to put their names on an electronic list before the deadline to avoid reductions in their disaster assistance. This is an alternative to visiting or contacting the county office. To place a name on the Livestock Forage Disaster Program list online, visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/disaster-register>.

Producers who already contacted the county office and have an appointment scheduled need do nothing more.

"In just four months since disaster assistance enrollments began, we've processed 240,000 applications to help farmers and ranchers who suffered losses," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Eligible producers who have not yet contacted their local FSA office should stop by or call their local FSA office, or sign up online before October 1 when congressionally mandated payment reductions take effect. This will ensure they receive as much financial assistance as possible."

The Livestock Indemnity Program, the Tree Assistance Program and the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program Frost Freeze payments will also be cut by 7.3 percent on October 1, 2014. Unlike the

Livestock Forage Disaster Program, applications for these programs must be fully completed by September 30. FSA offices will prioritize these applications, but as the full application process can take several days or more to complete, producers are encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible.

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program compensates eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire between October 1, 2011, and December 31, 2014. Eligible livestock includes alpacas, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, poultry, reindeer, sheep or swine that have been or would have been grazing the eligible grazing land or pastureland. Producers forced to liquidate their livestock may also be eligible for program benefits.

Additionally, the 2014 Farm Bill eliminated the risk management purchase requirement. Livestock producers are no longer required to purchase coverage under the federal crop insurance program or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program to be eligible for Livestock Forage Disaster Program assistance.

To learn more about USDA disaster relief program, producers can review the 2014 Farm Bill fact sheet at [www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill), the LFP program fact sheet, <http://go.usa.gov/5JTk>, or contact their local FSA office.

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past five years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in

rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

## 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@blackwellcisid.org](mailto:cpowers@blackwellcisid.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](http://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.

## School Menu

### Breakfast

#### Monday, September 15

Chicken-n-waffles or cereal w/toast, juice, milk

#### Tuesday, September 16

Breakfast club or cereal w/toast, juice, milk

#### Wednesday, September 17

Texas toast, scrambled eggs, sausage or cereal w/toast, juice, milk

#### Thursday, September 18

Oatmeal muffin squares or cereal w/toast, juice, milk

#### Friday, September 19

Breakfast pizza or cereal w/toast, juice, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, September 15

Spaghetti w/meatballs, garden salad, carrot coins, sliced peaches, breadstick, chocolate/vanilla pudding, milk

#### Tuesday, September 16

Crispy tacos, Spanish rice, garden salad, charro beans, salsa, cinnamon applesauce, milk

#### Wednesday, September 17

Salisbury steak w/gravy, mashed potatoes, savory green beans, strawberries & bananas, roll, milk

#### Thursday, September 18

Beef & bean burrito, salsa, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange smiles, milk

#### Friday, September 19

Sloppy joe sliders, sweet potato fries, cucumber dippers, fresh seasonal fruit, milk

## Finding Solutions for Your Financial Needs



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed  
**Constitutional Amendments**  
Special Election November 4, 2014

### Proposition Number 1 (SJR 1)

SJR 1 would authorize the transfer of certain money from the general revenue fund to the state highway fund and the economic stabilization fund. Money transferred to the state highway fund may be used solely for the construction, maintenance and acquisition of rights-of-way for public roadways.

The proposed amendment will

appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the use and dedication of certain money transferred to the state highway fund to assist in the completion of transportation construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation projects, not to include toll roads."

Published by Texas Secretary of State Nandita Berry, [www.Vote-Texas.gov](http://www.Vote-Texas.gov) or 1-800-252-VOTE (8683).

The  
Observer/  
Enterprise

is now

available at

The Corner

Grocery &

Deli in

Blackwell!