

\$29,063 returned by Henderson County Hot Check Division

By Nathan Straus
News Reporter

County Attorney James Owen released a report detailing activity in the disposition cases filed through the County Attorney's office during March of 2008.

The total number of cases reached 281 for March, and up to \$173,036.75 in fines and

court costs was assessed. The amount of restitution collected and returned to merchants by the Hot Check Division was \$29,063.59.

Up to 103 were sent to the Henderson County Jail, with 22 of these being people who had their probation revoked.

Of the 281 cases filed, several are outstanding due to ei-

ther the large number of similar cases or due to the nature of the cases.

One case was filed due to the abuse of an official capacity.

There were 28 assault cases filed through Owen's office.

Up to 41 driving while intoxicated cases were filed, added to four with an open alcohol container present, and

50 for driving with a suspended or invalid license.

Three were taken for possession of a dangerous drug, one for drug paraphernalia and 23 for marijuana at under two ounces.

Three terrorist threats were filed, with one to a family or household. Up to 51 cases of theft by check were logged.

Chandler 4-H performs well at Henderson County Livestock Show

Chandler 4-H historically has been a formidable presence at the annual Henderson County Livestock Show. 2008 participation was no exception. The following exhibitors achieved placements as noted:

Devin Carter - 3rd place, Swine; 5th place, Jr. Livestock Judging Team.

Madison Fulgham - 5th place, Swine; 5th place, Jr. Livestock Judging Team

Hunter Haley - 1st place and Best of Opposite, Rex Sr. Buck Rabbits

Dylan McKeever - Blue Ribbon Project Show Entry

Madison Montgomery - 7th

place, Yearling Filly Competition; 8th place, Swine; 5th place, Jr. Livestock Judging Team

Cassidy Petty - 1st place and Grand Champion, Dairy Cattle; 1st place and Grand Champion, two Ornamental Game Birds; 4th place, Netherland Dwarf Sr. Buck Rabbits; and 5th place, Hotot Sr. Doe Rabbits

Dylan Randolph - 3rd place, Swine

Ashley Reato - 1st place, Rex Jr. Doe Rabbits; 2nd place, Rex Sr. Doe Rabbits; 2nd place, Rex Jr. Doe Rabbits; 3rd place Rex Sr. Buck Rabbits; and 4th place, Rex

Sr. Doe Rabbits

Stephen Roddam - 1st place, Beefmaster Beef Heifers; 4th place, Sim Angus Beef Heifer; 2nd place, Dairy Cows; 2nd place, Market Goats; 5th place, Market Goats; 3rd place, Breeding Goats; 5th place, Breeding goats; and two Blue Ribbon Project Show Entries.

Paige Rushing - 2nd place, Santa Gertrudis Beef Heifers

Presley Sanderson - 9th place in Overall Commercial Heifer competition

Rylie Sanderson - 8th place in Overall Commercial Heifer competition

Blake York - 7th place,

Swine.

A number of club members have exhibited also at major livestock shows in Tyler, Dallas, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, and Houston and area shows hosted by Henderson County Livestock Show Supporters; Martins Mill FFA; the Van Zandt County Fair Association; and the Jr. Beefmaster Breeders Association.

Stated Dr. Timothy M. Roddam, Chandler 4-H Club Manager, "This has been a busy year, and we are all extremely proud of the hard work exhibited by our youth and the support given by their families and the entire community."

(Continued from page 2)

★ Letters to the Editor

When are kids supposed to have the time to be kids? Where is the time for rest and the creativity of playing at home, exploring outside, and having time to do things as a family?

While Brownsboro lags in offering competitive pay scales with surrounding districts, they have no problem with asking principals, teachers, aides (who already work for a sad amount), and other employees to stay yet another 10 more minutes. How about looking out for the kids instead of your precious TAKS scores? They do not need another 10 more minutes. If you cannot teach what is needed in the time you already have, then change how or what you teach.

School officials should not keep adding more time on a student's day because of their own mismanagement. Other school districts recognize the need for a child to have plenty of rest and time to BE A KID at HOME. Tyler Middle Schools have a 7-hour school day (this leaves time for homework), Lindale has a 7-hour, 5-minute day, but Brownsboro already has a 7-1/2 hour day with a proposed extra 10 minutes. This is not a done deal. If you don't want the schools taking away more

time from children of ALL ages, speak up and let the Board know before the next board meeting in May. They should reflect what the families of this district want and what is GOOD for families!

Olan and Cathy Loveless
Brownsboro, Tx.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:
Last week, you reported on the April school board meeting. It was reported that the school board voted on salary increases for ONLY the teachers with a few years of experience, in order to be more competitive. I would like to know why our district is only trying to compete for the less experienced educators. Why not be competitive across the board? I believe it is a proven fact that overall, experience equals effectiveness in the classroom. How are the more experienced teachers supposed to feel, when they are getting nothing (or very, very little) above the state required minimum salary?

I will tell you how they feel; they feel discouraged, unappreciated, and under-paid for their years of dedication and hard work. They have worked hard every year to help students achieve great things. This hard work and dedication

makes the administrators, school board and school district look really good.

Why do you think the Chandler-Brownsboro area has experienced such growth? One reason is the great reputation that our schools have. If you read the newspaper like I do, you will often see in the school board minutes, that we can afford to give administrators raises, create new administrative positions, purchase expensive athletic equipment like new bleachers for the football field ... But we can't pay our teachers.

While we report this kind of news in our district, Athens ISD is raising the pay for all of their teachers, librarians, counselors, diagnosticians, nurses, and speech therapists. An entry level teacher in Athens will make \$34,500 next year. A teacher in BISD would have to have 8 years of experience to make that salary. Athens says they are trying to be competitive with places like Mabank and Kaufman.

I have news for BISD. They had better start worrying about competing with places like Athens. I already know of several teachers who have left our district to go to a nearby district that pays more. Expect more of this to happen.

Our teachers were already struggling to make ends meet. Now with gas and food prices sky high, they will struggle even more.

Our School Board has done an excellent job in the past looking out for the interest of our children. It is time for them to step up and fully investigate this matter and do what is right and fair for ALL of our teachers.

Joe Cawthon
Chandler, Tx.

★ Chili Cook Off

Terlingua the first Saturday of November. CASI has over 10,000 cooks and promotes chili, helping to raise money for charity through the 600 cook-offs it holds both in the US and neighboring countries.

Registration begins at 8:30 am Saturday for CASI, People's Choice and Showmanship divisions. Turn-in will be at noon for bean entries and at 1 pm for CASI and People's Choice. In the CASI competition, judges will sample and vote for the best chili based on a variety of factors. First place is worth four points, second place is worth three and so on. Fifth place garners no points. A total of 12 points throughout the sea-

son will qualify a contestant for Terlingua.

In the People's Choice competition, the public votes on the chili. These votes are cast after people eat from tasting cups, which cost \$3, or \$2 for baseball players in uniform.

The chili cook-off will be held alongside BMC's Play Day, a day for little leaguers to play and practice in preparation for the season.

Rick Ford, Keep Chandler Beautiful president, said he was excited at the prospect of having the cook-off alongside the Play Day. Ford is also the Chandler Parks Board president.

"I know some members of CASI have been trying to put one together in our area for a

(Continued from page 1)

couple of years now and this works out real well for the exposure we are trying to garner with the park."

Ford also said the competition would not be limited to CASI members; several area residents have already signed up.


Signups for the competition end Saturday morning, with walk-ins being accepted at the park, Ford said. Contestants can just show up, pay the \$20 fee and start cooking immediately.

A requirement for the competition is all chili has to be cooked on site with chili grind meat.

There will also be inflatable blow-ups for the children, and plans for an RV and fishing boat display are in the works. There might also be several craft booths. It is \$10 for children to use the blow-ups for the day.

The baseball games begin at 9 am. The first game on the blue field is the T-Ball Bears vs Rangers. The yellow field will have the Jr Midget Blue Jays vs Cubs. On the green field it's the Freshman Athletics vs Gators.

The coaches/parent softball game is at 5 pm.



Chandler Lions Den

IT'S SPRING AT LAST!

The Chandler Lions Club wishes to welcome a new member, **John Astrello**. John and his family recently became residents in our community, and he indicated he has been attracted to our group because he has been involved in volunteer activities for the past twenty years. He looks forward to becoming a very active member, and thinks the Lions Club will offer diverse opportunities to give back to the community. **WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE YOU, JOHN!**

LIONS have numerous activities taking place in the next few weeks. All proceeds are used to fund local projects for our community.

April 24, **Pancake Supper**, 4pm to 7pm. The Lions want to fix your supper of pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit and drinks. Adults are \$5, and children under 12 are \$3. Join us at the Chandler Community Center for a delicious meal.

April 24, **Quilt Raffle**: The drawings for the two lap quilts recently sponsored by the members will be made on April 24 at the Pancake Supper at the Community Center in Chandler. If you purchased tickets, please be sure to come to the supper to see if you are a lucky winner!

Mar-Oct 7: **Cruise For Two**: A new fundraising project, a first for our group, is a Caribbean cruise. It's a 5-day, 4-night Gulf of Mexico trip for two, the winner to be drawn on October 7. The cruise may be taken any time from November '08 through February, '09. Tickets are \$25 per chance, and would make a wonderful surprise for a holiday vacation. To purchase a ticket, please contact any Lion member, or call Ruby Simons at 903-849-6056.

May 6: **Student Recognition Program** for Brownsboro ISD, honoring Intermediate and Senior High students for outstanding citizenship. 7:00 p.m. at Chandler Community Center.

Lions meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm at Chandler Community Center. **PLEASE JOIN US AND GET INVOLVED!**

For more information on any LIONS activities, call 903-849-6355.

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