

County Roundup

January 31, 2012

Volume 3 Issue 1

Inside this issue:

Service Awards	2
Trivia	2
Precinct 4	2
Precinct 3	3
Sheriff's Office	3
Sanitation	4
Trivia Answers	4

PRECINCT 2

This framed letter from the Third Grade Students at Shepherd Elementary School hangs proudly in Commissioner Donny Marrs' Precinct Two Office. The letter was a thank you for the work Commissioner Marrs and his crew did to clean up and help prepare the Shepherd Little League Ball Park for their season. Commissioner Marrs took office January 1, 2011 and changed the hours of operation from four 10 hour days per week to five 8 hour days to better serve the public.



With over 80 miles of roadway to mow, Precinct Two purchased a new John Deere Tractor and mower in 2011 to keep up with the demand. Besides mowing, the crews continue to pick up enormous amounts of trash and litter on a weekly basis. 2011 was a successful year for Precinct Two Commissioner Marrs and he is anxious to embark upon more projects in 2012.

A prerequisite for improving performance is a determination of what better performance should look like.

A Pothole (or Kettle or Chuckhole) is a type of disruption in the surface of a roadway where a portion of the road material has broken away, leaving a hole. Most potholes are formed due to fatigue of the road surface. As fatigue fractures develop they typically interlock in a pattern known as crocodile crackling. The chunks of pavement between fatigue cracks are dislodged by continued vehicle wheel loads, thus forming a pothole. Pothole patching is a year round activity.

Dream as if you'll live forever, live as if you'll die tomorrow.

James Dean

Road and Bridge Precinct Three



Commissioner James (Butch) Moody has seven full time employees in the field, one office assistant and one employee shared with Precinct 4. One of the field employees stays busy mowing and patching potholes. *Pothole patching is a year round activity*. Since January 2009, almost 9 miles of roads have been chip sealed (paved) at an average cost of over \$32,000 per mile. Additional road material has been added to Bill Hales, Lucher, Also-brooks, J J Estates, Oak Knoll, Jack Turner, B. Trahan, L. Robison, C. Goffney, Teal Lane, Williams and Ellisor, to name a few. Additional infrastructure improvements for road repair and adequate drainage will be done in the near future through the first of two rounds of the Texas Disaster Recovery Program. Culverts and ditches will be cleaned, and roadway will be reclaimed on Shell Oil Road, Dabney Bottom Rd, Lower Vann Road and Tony Tap Rd .

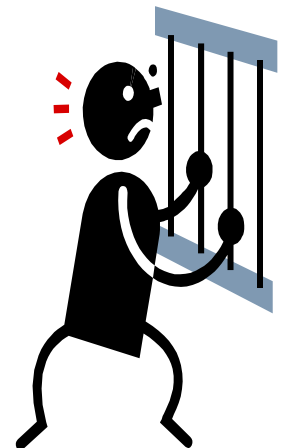
Drought and high winds in 2011 resulted in an unusually large number of fallen trees being removed from county roads weekly and sometimes daily. In October 2011, a tornado hit in Campbell Acres and Pct 3 employees assisted residents providing tarps to cover roofs that had been damaged. The next day Pct 3 employees assisted again with the removal of debris that was moved to the ditch line and residents were notified that the workers would return to do another pickup within 2 weeks.

Debarment Program—Began in 1982 by the EPA Executive Branch of Government in answer to Government-wide inadequacies regarding waste, fraud, abuse and poor performance. Today all discretionary and statutory debarment authority is delegated to the Assistant Administrator for OARM and carried out by the Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD). The Suspension and Debarment Division (SDD) interacts with EPA program offices, the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Justice, and with Federal, state and local agencies, to develop matters for consideration by the EPA Debarment Official. Those individuals who have been suspended or debarred are listed on the Excluded Parties List System (page 4). A person who is debarred or suspended is excluded from federal financial and no financial assistance and benefits under federal programs and activities. Counties are prevented from using individuals that have been barred or suspended on any Grant Project and contractors are required to certify that they are not on the Excluded Parties List System when bidding on a grant project.

- Be humble enough to see the need to improve.
- Be courageous enough to improve.
- Be disciplined enough to never stop



THE SAN JACINTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF SHERIFF JAMES WALTERS MADE OVER 12,600 NEIGHBORHOOD PATROLS, AVERAGING ABOUT 1,050 PER MONTH. THE DEPUTIES AVERAGED OVER 800 CHECKS ON LOCAL BUSINESS EACH MONTH DURING 2011. OVER 650 INDIVIDUALS WERE ARRESTED DURING 2011, AVERAGING OVER 56 PER MONTH. THE DISPATCHERS LOGGED ALMOST 6,700 REPORT AND NON-REPORT CALLS DURING 2011.



San Jacinto County Auditor's Office

1 State Hwy 150, Room B1
Coldspring, Texas 77331

Phone: 936-653-4461

Fax: 936-653-5469

E-mail: carole.martin@co.san-jacinto.tx.us

We're on the Web

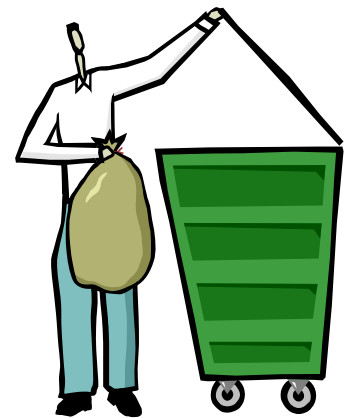
<http://www.co.san-jacinto.tx.us>

Answers to Texas Trivia

1. Dallas, Texas
2. Lubbock, Texas
3. Houston Rockets
4. Aransas Wildlife Refuge
5. Amarillo, Texas

Excluded Parties List System is used by Federal Officials to determine whether to enter into a transaction with a person. Most Grant's are very specific that no person listed on the EPLS can be paid from Grant Funds.

THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT IS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF PRECINCT 3 COMMISSIONER JAMES (BUTCH) MOODY. IT IS FUNDED IN PART BY THE SALE OF WINDSHIELD STICKERS, BULK GARBAGE AND RECYCLING, BUT THE GENERAL FUND PROVIDES MORE THAN 54% OF THE FUNDING. THERE ARE 3 FULL TIME AND 4 PART TIME COMPACTOR OPERATORS, 1 FULL TIME AND 1 PART TIME TRUCK DRIVER, AND ONE PART TIME CERTIFIED JAILER WHO SUPERVISES INMATES IN OUR RECYCLING EFFORTS. WITH LAND FILL DISPOSAL PRICES INCREASING-THE LESS WE HAVE TO DISPOSE OF AT THE LAND FILL SHOULD HELP DECREASE OUR COST-YES-WE DO NEED TO RECYCLE.



Minimum Wage

In January eight states will be increasing their minimum wage. Colorado will increase to \$7.64, Arizona will increase \$7.65, Oregon to \$8.80, Washington to \$9.04, Florida to \$7.67, Ohio to \$7.70, Vermont to \$8.46 and Montana to \$7.65 while Texas remains at \$7.25 as of January, 2012.



GENERATORS

As part of the TDRA Disaster Recovery Project, San Jacinto County applied for and received approval to install twelve large generators at various sites across the county. The generators are to help assure the availability of water during times of emergencies and disasters. Some of the sites that had generators installed are the 150 WSC Water Plant, Mercy WSC #3, Mercy WSC #1, Camilla Plant WSC #1, Riverside WSC Lakeside Village Plant #3, Waterwood MUD Water Plant, San Jacinto WSC Coldspring, PB&SC WSC Well #3 and #4, Dodge Oakhurst WSC Well#2.