

# The Argyle Sun

## Argyle garden included on tour *Bohn's to show off hard work*

Joe and Tina Bohn's two-and-a-half acre residential garden in Argyle will be open to the public from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 7 during the Denton County Master Gardener Association's annual fund-raising garden tour.

The large garden combines the best of nature, movement and sound through water features, wind chimes and water and kinetic wind sculptures by artists Lyman Whitaker and August Munich. Large oak trees and stone pathways enhance the feel of a serene secret garden in the woods.

Five other private gardens – in Denton, Coppell, Shady Shores, Flower Mound and Oak Point – will be on the tour.

Plus, the Association's own Denton-based demonstration garden will be open that day, and the annual Plant Sale and Garden Shoppe will run from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 633 Hobson Lane at Teasley in Denton.

Denton resident Kathi Randolph has crafted a lovely city garden reminiscent of an English cottage garden. Her lush retreat combines plants that grow well in the challenging North Texas climate with winding walkways of flagstone and slate. The home's greenhouse, a unique example of recycling, was constructed from old windows and doors.

In Shady Shores, Joanne Fellows' garden is an official

Texas Discovery Gardens Butterfly Habitat, North American Butterfly Association Habitat, Monarch Way

Lee Ann Keener's informal Oak Point garden has been declared a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National

Wildlife Federation. It is designed to conserve water by using "less thirsty" plants in the landscape and forgoing turf areas. Native and adapted plants attract wildlife, birds and butterflies.

turned every inch of her small yard – front and back – into an organic vegetable garden that yields approximately

Deeper Demos will be featured at each site throughout the day. In addition, The DIG, DCMGA's own Demonstration Garden in Denton, will be open at no charge. Created in 2010, The DIG fulfills the Association's mission to share safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices with the public. Local Master Gardeners designed the landscape plan and then created the herb, vegetable and butterfly gardens, a rainwater harvesting feature and a greenhouse. Currently, work is under way on a rose garden.

At the Plant Sale, more than 2,000 flowers, vegetables, herbs and trees, many from the homes of Denton Master Gardeners, will be available for purchase. Garden tools, birdfeeders and yard art will be offered at the Garden Shoppe. Both are critical fund-raising efforts for the Master Gardeners, with proceeds helping to fund educational projects countywide.

Garden Tour tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 on tour day. A single garden may be toured for \$5, and children under 14 are free. There is no charge to visit

The DIG. Tour tickets are available at each garden and the Plant Sale and Garden Shoppe on tour day. Advance tickets may be purchased at the Denton County Extension Office, at Loop 288 & Market Street, Suite 222, in Denton, or from a Denton County Master Gardener. Cameras are welcome.



The garden of Joe and Tina Bohn in Argyle.

station and Texas Parks and Wildlife "Best of Texas" Backyard Habitat. Thanks to meandering paths and wildlife-friendly plantings, visitors can enjoy birds, butterflies and other creatures that make this garden their home.

Flower Mound gardener Carolyn Tinner pushes the plant-

her to experiment with specimens not available in local nurseries, while a well-used greenhouse and collection of garden mosaics complement the landscape.

In Coppell, Mary Karish plants her garden and eats it too. That's because she has

1,000 pounds of produce per year. Planted intensively and requiring almost no weeding, the suburban veggie plot is an abundant example of beauty plus practicality.

To help visitors learn more about successful gardening and conservation, Diggin'

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Send news items to: [editor@sunnewspapers.com](mailto:editor@sunnewspapers.com) or use the Forms section at [www.MyArgyleTexas.com](http://www.MyArgyleTexas.com).

## Kolb receives top honor

BY TIM GLAZE  
Sun Staff Writer

On and off the field, inside or outside the classroom, behind the curtain or in front of it, Argyle students continue to be recognized not only statewide, but nationally as well.

The latest example of a recognized Argyle student is senior Barbara-Scott Kolb, who received the 2011 Christian Athlete of the Year Award.

The award was given at the 22nd Annual Christian Athlete of the Year awards banquet held this year in Irving, Texas. The recipient is chosen from high school athletes all over Texas, with this year's award including more than 4,000 nominations.

Kolb received the evening's last award to a standing ovation of more than 1,500 banquet attendees.

"I am very blessed to be 'Christian Athlete of the Year,'" said Kolb. "I couldn't think of a better award to receive. I am very thankful, and the Lord has truly blessed me."

The presentation of the award was given by Gold Medalist Carl Lewis, ESPN/NBC Commentator

Lewis Johnson, Olympic Champion Joe DeLoach and founders of Lay Witnesses for Christ International Dr. Sam Mings and his wife, Sharon.

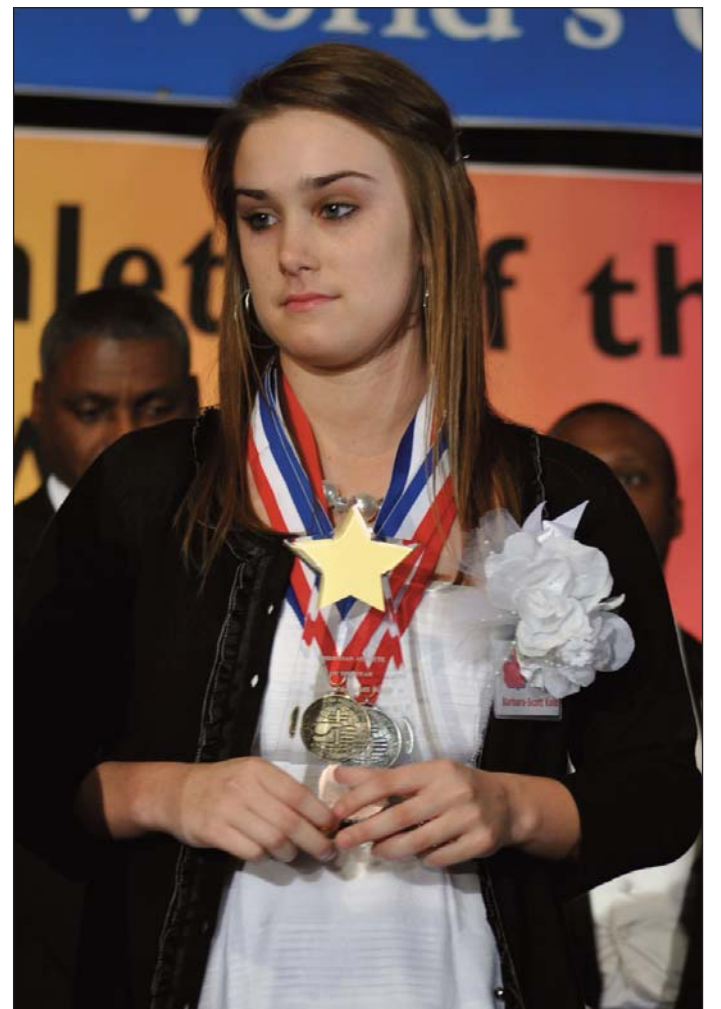
Over the years, Lay Witnesses has coordinated events at various Olympic Games and other athletic events, seeking to provide continuous encouragement and fellowship for the athletes.

Lay Witnesses for Christ has partnered with other key ministries to share costs for the chapel services while trying to maximize the time we had with the athletes to minister.

The Christian Athlete of the Year Awards is an opportunity to recognize male and female high school semi-finalists across the state of Texas for taking a stand for Christ along with being a strong student athlete.

Each year nominations are submitted from across the state of Texas. Nominations can be received from a coach, a teacher, or minister.

In Kolb's heartwarming acceptance speech, she thanked Coach Carlos Ratliff for his mentoring and training, as well as Argyle basketball Coach Steve Schmidt for rejuvenating her love of the



Barbara-Scott Kolb

game. Kolb, a starting guard for the Argyle girl's basketball team, received a huge applause at the conclusion of her speech. Kolb led the Argyle Lady Eagles to the second

round of the Texas State High School Playoffs, where they lost by four points to Lovejoy.

Next year, Kolb will be playing point guard for East Texas Baptist University.



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# Around Town

## Liberty wins track meet

Liberty Christian's varsity track and field, the TAPPS 4A state champion last year, was first place winner in Saturday's Lobo Club Invitational Track Meet in Little Elm.

"Our varsity won by more than 50 points, and our JV finished second overall," said head coach Trent Vest. "We earned points in almost every event. In most events, we placed more than one athlete. Our kids improved in almost every area. We had some very impressive performances, and we are very excited about the future of this track team."

Listed below are the results:

Long Jump: senior Corey Dodd 21'1"  
sophomore Foster Ford 20'6"

Triple Jump: sophomore Foster Ford 42'3.5"  
senior Corey Dodd 42'2.5"

Shot Put: senior Lance Kay 47'3"  
Freshman Brad Lundblade 46'5"

Discus: senior Lance Kay 136'10"  
senior Chris Ocasio 134'2"  
freshman Brad Lundblade 121'10"

800m Run: sophomore Dereck Woodcock 2:06

110m Hurdles: sophomore Christian Burks 15.81  
junior Ryan Wilkerson 15.92

100m Dash: senior Trevor Simms 10.75  
(very close to the school record)  
senior Brett Metzler 11.18

200m Dash: senior Trevor Simms 22.10 (very close to the school record)  
senior Jared Lawson 22.79

1600m Run: sophomore Dereck Woodcock 4:47

Liberty hosts the Warrior Relays this Friday and Saturday.

## Committee hears Parker's bills

Representative Tan Barnett Shale provides to the area. However, he added, "With these tremendous benefits in mind, I do believe that all oil and natural gas development in urban areas must be conducted in the safest and most responsible manner possible."

While pushing for greater protection of urban communities with drilling, like those in Tarrant and Denton counties, Parker said, "In my mind, the increasingly high volume, concentration, and close proximity of wells to neighborhoods, schools, and other places of mass gathering has created circumstances that necessitate more

sources in their respective county. Other legislation requires that the RRC prioritize urban gas producing counties when determining the order and frequency of oil and gas well inspections. Parker concluded that, "The legislature needs to send a clear message that we are serious about maintaining safe gas producing standards in urban areas." These two bills were recently endorsed through resolutions adopted by the Denton County Commissioners Court and the Town Council of the Town of Flower Mound.

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frequent inspecting by the Texas Railroad Commission. Tarrant county has a population of 1.6 million and over 3,000 wells. My home county of Denton has a population of over 650,000 and over 2,500 wells. On the edge of the Barnett, Dallas County has a population of 2.4 million."

House Bill 2126 will raise the penalty for safety or pollution control violations if the operation site is in an urban gas producing county. The additional revenue raised from this penalty increase will be directed to Texas Railroad Commission (RRC) enforcement re-

sources in their respective county.

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## Argyle Calendar

To include your Argyle activity on the Argyle Calendar, send items to [editor@sunnewspapers.com](mailto:editor@sunnewspapers.com).

### Thursday, March 31

Argyle Archery meets, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Argyle Archery Arena, Argyle Intermediate School.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Argyle Chapter, 6 p.m. at Cross Timbers Church, 1119 S. U.S. 377.

The Argyle Sun publication date. Available online at [www.MyArgyleTexas.com](http://www.MyArgyleTexas.com).

### Friday, April 1

April Fool's Day.

Argyle Hilltop Elementary hosts Pre-K Roundup, 2:30 to 5 p.m. Friday, April 1.

Argyle Senior Center meeting, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 414 N. Highway 377 in Argyle.

### Saturday, April 2

Town of Argyle/Keep Argyle Beautiful Annual Cleanup Day, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Sunday, April 3

Check out the Church Directory in The Argyle Sun.

2011 Third Annual Grand Slam Chili Cookoff, 2 p.m. at Argyle Intermediate School Ball Park.

### Monday, April 4

Argyle Archery meets, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Argyle Archery Arena, Argyle Intermediate School.

Deadline for news, classifieds and advertising in Thursday's edition of The Argyle Sun, noon. E-mail information to [editor@sunnewspapers.com](mailto:editor@sunnewspapers.com).

### Tuesday, April 5

Argyle Planning and Zoning Commission meets, 6:30 p.m. at Argyle Town Hall.

### Wednesday, April 6

Argyle Senior Center meeting, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 414 N. Highway 377 in Argyle.

### Thursday, April 7

Argyle Archery meets, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Argyle Archery Arena, Argyle Intermediate School.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Argyle Chapter, 6 p.m. at Cross Timbers Church, 1119 S. U.S. 377.

The Argyle Sun publication date. Available online at [www.MyArgyleTexas.com](http://www.MyArgyleTexas.com).

### Friday, April 8

Argyle Senior Center meeting, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 414 N. Highway 377 in Argyle.

### Sunday, April 10

Check out the Church Directory in The Argyle Sun.

### Monday, April 11

Argyle Archery meets, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Argyle Archery Arena, Argyle Intermediate School.

Deadline for news, classifieds and advertising in Thursday's edition of The Argyle Sun, noon. E-mail information to [editor@sunnewspapers.com](mailto:editor@sunnewspapers.com).

### Tuesday, April 12

Argyle City Council meets, 6:30 p.m. at Argyle City Hall.



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# Argyle News Briefs

## Annual chili cook off set for Sunday, April 3, to benefit Project Graduation

Enjoy all-you-can-eat chili while cheering on Argyle Senior High School students in a school-wide softball tournament and help raise money for a good cause. Called the "2011 Third Annual Grand Slam Chili Cook Off," proceeds will go toward "Project Graduation 2012," an event designed to give upcoming Argyle seniors a fun, safe and memorable graduation night.

The Chili Cook Off begins at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 3 at the Argyle Intermediate School Ball Park. Chili tasting and judging will be first, followed by the softball tournament starting at 4:30 p.m.

The Chili Cook Off will fund "Project Graduation 2012" activities for seniors, allowing parents, students and church organizations the opportunity to provide a Graduation Night celebration free of dangerous or inappropriate activities usually associated with ad hoc graduation parties.

The goal of the Chili Cook-off fundraiser is to provide all seniors attending the Project Graduation 2012 party a look toward their future endeavors. Proceeds from the Chili Cook Off will provide each graduating senior who attend dorm necessity baskets and the opportunity to win laptops, dorm refrigerators, and educational trips.

More than 30 Chili Cook Off entries are expected at the "2011 Third Annual Grand Slam Chili Cook Off," giving each attendee the opportunity to sample as many different entries as desired.

The Argyle High School Choir will kick off the event singing The National Anthem. Other live music will be featured including the band "Krimsin Door." Special guest performances by some of Argyle's talented high school student singers will also be included. Other entertainment will include Cross Timbers Gym exhibitions and a Zumba demonstration. New this year, there will be 20 local vendors to set up craft booths.

Afternoon fun will include Bubble Runners. Bubble Running involves climbing into a giant bubble and running around in a "field" of water.

Participants can roll, run, flip, spin and walk on water without getting wet. This activity will be on a pay as you play basis and is not included in the entry fee to the annual Chili Cook Off.

Once the Chili Cook Off judging concludes at 4:30 p.m., the softball tournament begins with competition between the graduating classes. Tournament play will continue until one class rises to victory and claims the bragging rights until next year's competition.

Admission to the Chili Cook Off and softball tournament is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors; children under five may attend free.

Hotdogs, popcorn, drinks and candy will also be available for purchase.

For those interested in entering their own chili in the Chili Cook Off, contact Trish Bossow at 682-438-4408 or [trish-boss@msn.com](mailto:trish-boss@msn.com) (\$50 entry fee).

The Argyle Intermediate School Ball Park is located at 191 S. Hwy 377 Argyle (on the West side of the train tracks off of Country Club and Hwy 377).

## Annual golf tournament to help booster clubs

The 2011 Argyle Eagle Classic Golf Tournament will be held Thursday, April 21 at Bridlewood Golf Club in Flower Mound. The event will benefit both the Argyle High School Athletic Booster Club and the Band Booster Club.

The four-person scramble tournament will kick-off at 1:30 p.m. with a chance to play 18-holes of golf with local celebrities. It will feature a post-tournament awards dinner, live and silent auctions, raffles, and numerous contests, including putting, closest-to-the-pin, longest drive and four hole in one contest. The cost is \$150 per golfer. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Celebrity Golfers currently scheduled include Mrs. Byron (Peggy) Nelson and actor Burton "Bubba" Gilliam.

The Argyle Athletic Booster Club supports the goals of the Argyle Eagle Athletics. Their goal is to offer community support, parental support, and financial assistance to more than 500 young men and women at both high school and middle school levels. Through outstanding volunteer and fundraising efforts, Argyle Athletic Boosters address the needs of their young men and women and enhance the potential for their continued success.

The Argyle Band Booster Clubs supports the Argyle Band Program at the Intermediate, Middle School and High School levels. More than 300 students in grades 6 through 12 are members. Band Boosters are comprised of any parent that has a student in the band program. The Band Boosters assist the Band by providing financial support for Band activities, scholarships, and private lessons as well as any projects outside the domain of the school district revenue.

For information and sponsorship opportunities regarding the 2011 Argyle Eagle Classic Golf Tournament, please contact Lori Schinske at 940-464-0523, [loris76226@msn.com](mailto:loris76226@msn.com) or go to [www.argyleband.org](http://www.argyleband.org) to print off a registration form and to pay online using PayPal.



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## Argyle News Briefs

### Hilltop Elementary to host Pre-K Roundup

Argyle Hilltop Elementary School will host a Pre-Kindergarten Roundup from 2:30 to 5 p.m. Friday, April 1 at the school located at 1050 Harrison Lane in Argyle.

- Pre-Kindergarten is for children who:
- \*have a limited ability to speak and/or comprehend the English language; or
  - \*are homeless; or
  - \*whose family income allows the child to qualify for free or reduced lunch; or
  - \*active duty uniformed members, includes parents or guardians, of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard who are assigned to duty stations in Texas or who are Texans who have eligible children residing in

Texas; or

- \*Guard and Reserve-Activated / Mobilized uniform members of the Texas National Guard-Army or Air Guard or the Activated / Mobilized members of the Reserve components of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard who are Texas residents regardless of the location of the reserve unit; or
- \*military parents who are missing in action or who have died.
- \*is or ever has been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary hearing held as provided by Section 262.201, Family Code.

Hilltop will offer two Pre-K classes for 2011/2012 school year. A limited number of students will be enrolled on a tuition basis.

Call the Hilltop Elementary School office for details.

To register your child must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2011.

You will need the following documents for enrollment on April 11:

1. Copy of Child's Birth Certificate
2. Copy of Child's Social Security Card
3. Copy of Child's current immunization record
4. Proof of Argyle residency (electric bill displaying current address)
5. Parent's Drivers License or TxDOT I.D. Card

For more information call 940-464-0564.

### First Baptist youth to host benefit craft fair

First Baptist Church of Argyle youth will host a craft fair that will benefit the youth mission trip and youth camp adventures. The craft fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 16 at the church, 414 N. Highway 377.

### Cleanup day is Saturday

The Town of Argyle/Keep Argyle Beautiful Annual Cleanup Day will be held Saturday, April 2 at Argyle Town Hall. Household and hazardous waste drop-off will be from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Bulk trash drop-off will be from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Town of Argyle residents only. Bartonville will have their hazardous waste cleanup later that day. No tires will be accepted.

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## Liberty post strong win over Bishop Dunne

The Lady Warriors are now 2-1 in district and are 12-5 overall after a decisive district win over Bishop Dunne on Monday, 21-0.

Head softball coach Stephanie Ritter said, "We

had many outstanding players in this game."

Junior Kelsie Finch hit a two-run home run, junior McKenzie Middle was four and four at the plate with two RBIs, senior Savannah Ewing

had a triple and three RBIs, sophomore Anna Payne hit a triple and a double, senior Caitlyn Spain hit a double with two RBIs, and senior Kristen Wheeler faced 11 batters, striking out five.

## Parker raises attention

Representative Tan Parker raised attention to the fact that while Texas added over 22,000 jobs last month and lowered the state's unemployment rate, the manufacturing sector lost another 1,500 jobs. This news comes a week after Parker presented his manufacturing jobs creation legislation, House Bill 433, to the Small Business and Economic Development Committee.

In citing the Texas Workforce Commission's February report, Parker stated, "We continue to witness uncertainty in the future of manufacturing in Texas. Overall, the Lone Star State has added jobs in each of the last five months, yet manufacturing jobs experienced losses in November and February and remain relatively stagnant over the five month period. To me, this further illustrates that Texas must get serious about courting this vital ingredient to our economy or else continue to watch manufacturing jobs locate to other states and nations."

In presenting House Bill 433 to the Small Business and Economic Development Committee, Parker noted that: manufacturing compensation is the highest in the private sector, every dollar sold of manufactured goods supports another \$1.40 of economic output elsewhere and that one in six private sector jobs depends on our manufacturing base. Parker also shared with the committee members that other states are aggressively pursuing new manufacturing facilities and that our inability to compete has led to Texas losing out on more than 15 new, large manufacturing facilities in the last 5 years that would have brought billions in new investment and thousands of new jobs, but they looked at Texas and regretfully decided to locate elsewhere.

Through House Bill 433, new or expanded manufacturing facilities in Texas that meet the necessary qualifications would receive a rebate of a portion of the net new state sales tax revenue derived through the economic activity their presence brings to a host county. That rebate would then be put to use to fund new job opportunities and training initiatives that strengthen our workforce to meet the needs of 21st century manufacturing projects.

"There is a fundamental belief by some in Texas that new manufacturing facilities and the economic benefit they bring are inherently coming our way," Parker said in closing. "I challenge them to study these job numbers and defend that position. The clear

signal these numbers send to me is that Texas is losing, and will continue to lose manufacturing jobs until we put the tools in the tool box necessary to make Texas the most attractive place for new or expanded manufacturing facilities to locate."

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# Around Town

## Liberty dominates in area baseball

The Liberty Christian Warriors are 6-0 in district TAPPS 5A with two big wins over John Paul II on March 22, 9-6, and Trinity Christian Addison on March 25, 17-3.

Head coach Johnny Isom said, "Last week was a big week for us with two quality district wins."

In the John Paul II game, the Warrior offense cranked it up early on the Cardinals, scoring seven runs in the first two innings. The Cardinals scored four runs late, making it interesting, but they were never able to take the lead away from the Warriors.

The outstanding offensive player of the game was senior centerfielder Corey Dodd, who blasted two home runs through the teeth of a strong heavy wind that day.

Isom said, "It just shows you how strong Dodd is. Corey is so talented and continues to get better each game. He stole the show today." Dodd finished two for two on the day with five runs batted in.

Outstanding pitchers were senior Chad Nack and junior Zach Wilson. Nack earned the win versus the Cardinals, pitching five innings and striking out seven. The win moves his overall record to 5-0 on the season. Zach Wilson recorded the final two outs and earned the save on the day. Wilson ended any hopes of the Cardinals coming back.

In the Trinity Christian Addison game, the Warriors traveled to TCA to take on the Trojans and earned a big win against a quality district opponent.

Isom said, "This was a big win for us considering the opponent and how well we played. I did not expect the day to go like it did. I am very proud of the way we played in all areas of the game."

"There were many offensive player standouts, with 17 runs scored and 12 players recording a hit. Our entire offense collected 20 hits on the day, five doubles, two triples, a homer, and 15 runners batted in.

"TCA's starter did a good job of keeping us off balance early, but when we got his timing into the bullpen then we really put some things together offensively. Hitting was contagious, and you could see that today."

The outstanding pitcher for game was Trevor Simms who earned the win on the day, throwing five innings against the Trojans and striking out three batters.

"Simms threw well today, and we botched a couple of bunt coverages behind him on well bunted balls, but he was tough to hit today." Simms overall record moved to 6-0.

The Warriors play Friday, April 1, at Nolan at 7 p.m.; and on Saturday, April 2, at Lake Dallas, at 1 p.m.



## Liberty wins second place at state art competition

Liberty Christian was awarded second place at the TAPPS state art competition March 25 and 26 at Concordia University in Austin.

"I was excited that Liberty did so well in its first year in TAPPS 5A," said Brandon Graham, Upper School art teacher. "I was especially proud of our on-site competi-

tors who were awarded 29 points and placed in every on-site event."

First place winners included sophomore Laurie Young – Printmaking, Seek and Sketch (Color); senior Whitney Cornett – Photography, Creative and Experimental; junior Youngman Chun – Seek and Sketch (Black and White).

Second place winners included sophomore Colby

Dowdle – Photography, Creative and Experimental; and senior Rylee Brown – Photography Unaltered.


Third place winners included sophomore Laurie Young – Painting, On-Site Drawing; junior Abby Deaver – Sculpture; and junior Andrew Bergen – Photography Altered.

Fourth place winners included sophomore Laurie Young – Drawing Color,

Computer Rendered Art; senior E.J. Young – Photography Altered; junior Youngman Chun – On-Site Drawing; junior Andrew Bergen – Art History; and junior Kelsey Maddoux – Seek and Sketch (Color).

Fifth place winner was junior Kristin Smith – Art History.

Sixth place winner was senior Kaylyn Murphy – 2D Design.



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August 11	Blu-Print	Jazz/R & B
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#### Larry Lanier

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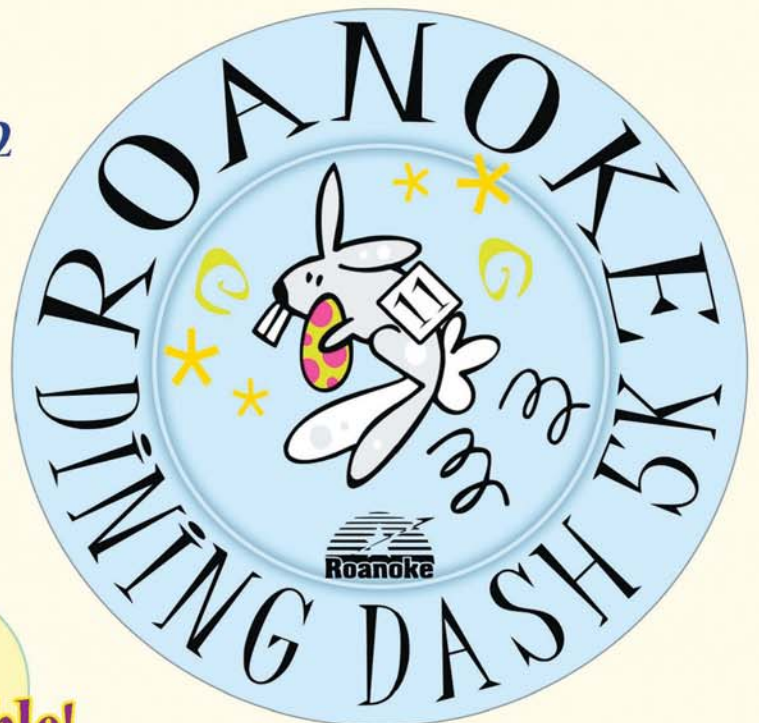
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# County

## Paying tribute to trailblazers

**United States Senator**



**KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**

For over two decades, Americans have celebrated the month of March as Women's History Month to give special tribute to the historical achievements and contributions of women to society.

At a time of such uncertainty in our country and turmoil unfolding around the world, we, now more than ever, should look to our heroes and heroines from the past and present, and find strength and inspiration from their life stories. And the stories of our women have inspired countless people throughout the years. The rich fabric of our state and our country has been woven by generations of courageous women who continually made history as they broke down barriers, redefined what is possible, and left future generations with a greater country than the one they had known.

As I reflect on the current challenges facing Americans in the 21st Century, a couple

of trailblazing American women with Texas roots immediately come to my mind: Oveta Culp Hobby and Anne Armstrong.

Oveta Culp Hobby did not write (or talk) much about herself and discouraged others from writing any biographies or articles about her. I had the honor of knowing her because she gave me the first break in my career.

After graduating from UT law school in 1967, as one of the 13 women in a 390 person class, I discovered that the major law firms in Texas were not hiring female lawyers, so one day, on a whim, I dropped by the local NBC TV affiliate in Houston. I met with the news director who eventually ended up offering me a job after he was encouraged to do so by the Chairman of the Board, Oveta Culp Hobby, who was intrigued by the idea of having a female lawyer on the air.

A native of Killeen, Oveta broke barriers throughout her life. As CEO of a major media organization, she turned a daily newspaper into a multi-media corporation with television and radio interests. She was also a leader in promoting and operating the women's effort in World War II, a precursor to women being integrated into the

armed services. She later became the first Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Oveta accomplished so much in a single lifetime, clearly taking many bold steps along the way.

In 1971, as a reporter for KPRC-TV, I had the chance to interview Anne Armstrong, a Texan who had just won the co-chairmanship of the Republican National Committee. Before I knew it, I was moving to Washington, DC, to be her press secretary and learned more in six months working for her than I ever could have imagined. Anne set a wonderful example of all the things a woman could do if she set her mind to it.

After graduating from Vassar, Anne married Tobin Armstrong and moved to a cattle ranch in S. Texas. She got her start in politics campaigning door-to-door for Eisenhower. Following her time as co-chair of the RNC, she was appointed White House Counsel to President Nixon and President Gerald Ford named her the first woman to represent America as Ambassador to Great Britain.

Anne and Oveta, both great Texas women, blazed a trail that generations of great Texas women had begun decades ago, as far back as the

Texas Revolution.

Thomas Rusk, Secretary of War during the Texas Revolution and later one of Texas' first U.S. Senators, wrote about the early Texas women, "the men of Texas deserved much credit, but more was due the women. Armed men facing a foe could not but be brave; but the women, with their little children around them, without means of defense or power to resist, faced danger and death with unflinching courage."

One of our state's first historians, Mary Austin Holley, notes the enterprising women settlers in Texas. She wrote, "these hardy women hunted with their husbands and rode long distances on horseback to attend social events with their ball gowns stuffed in their saddlebags."

Although some basic freedoms such as voting and owning property were not afforded to earlier generations of American women, the fierce independence and entrepreneurial spirit demonstrated by even the earliest female settlers is a legacy that has been carried on by each generation of heroines that have followed.

*Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas*

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Costal is a hybrid that does not produce fertile seeds and has to be established from sprigs (roots, stolons, tillers and rhizomes.) Following the establishment of Costal other hybrid varieties were developed such as Tifton, Midland, Russell, Jiggs and World Feeder. There are bermudagrass varieties that can also be planted by seed such as Common, Giant, Cheyenne and Wrangler among others. The seeded varieties are considered to have a lower yield than the hybrids, but serve an important role. Seeded varieties are more commonly used on small areas (1-10 acres) that are not economical to sprig, or where seed bed preparation is not possible because of slop or shallow soil depth. Giant bermudagrass has excellent seeding vigor and

first year growth but deteriorates with time; this is why it is sold in mixtures with Common or other seeded varieties.

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3. Using desiccated or dried sprigs or poor quality seed
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6. Not firming the soil after planting

7. Severe weed competition

8. Severe grazing before plants are established

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# Perspectives

## Hark; I hear a distant child's cry

### Lake Cities Ramblings

by COUSIN CLETUS

When I was a youngster growing up, I didn't know anything about the school board or how much my parents paid in taxes. What I did know is that I was schooled in the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic. In other words, there weren't a lot of after school programs. No soccer games, no baseball or artsy things that kids get exposed to now.

As years passed I noticed that more "opportunities" were afforded to children, with many different varieties of after school events for the children to choose from. Somewhere along the way parents became so encumbered with shuffling their children around from place to place that it's more of job now than kids just having fun.

I've long since passed the age of having school-aged children, but I do have grandchildren and I see the same thing happening to them as they grow older, but maybe not. According to several states' governments, they are carrying multi-billion dollar revenue deficits and one of the first places they are to cut expenses is most likely the education system.

OK, I know I'm going to irritate a few educational folks but I think our school taxes are something that shouldn't be increased. I don't have any children in public schools but the largest portion of my last personal property tax bill was

going to fund the school system in my district. Sure, this seems unfair, but it's been pointed out to me that I don't travel that many county roads but I pay to fix them all. So I guess paying for somebody else's child to attend school is OK since somebody paid my way when I was in school. Besides, it's important for me to know that our next generation that is going to be in charge of my retired welfare should be intelligent enough to understand how to provide me my benefits.

Recently, one state, Wisconsin, decided to make a tsunami wave of change to their educational system. Unless you've been living under a rock in the desert you're probably aware of what the Wisconsin's governor just signed into law. With this new law in effect, collective bargaining for unions will not be allowed. Oh, how the teachers unions railed about how this was going to affect the quality of education in their state.

Before the law was enacted, school teachers convinced dozens of school children (probably more than we'll ever know) to protest lawmakers to not enact the law. Mind you, many of these protests took place while school was in session so the children apparently received an approved absence from their school. It was somewhat difficult for the children to attend their classrooms because many of the teachers were away protesting. (Hey kids, use this excuse the next time you need to get a few days off from school and see how far it gets you with your teacher).

Under the guise that it is going to affect children's fu-

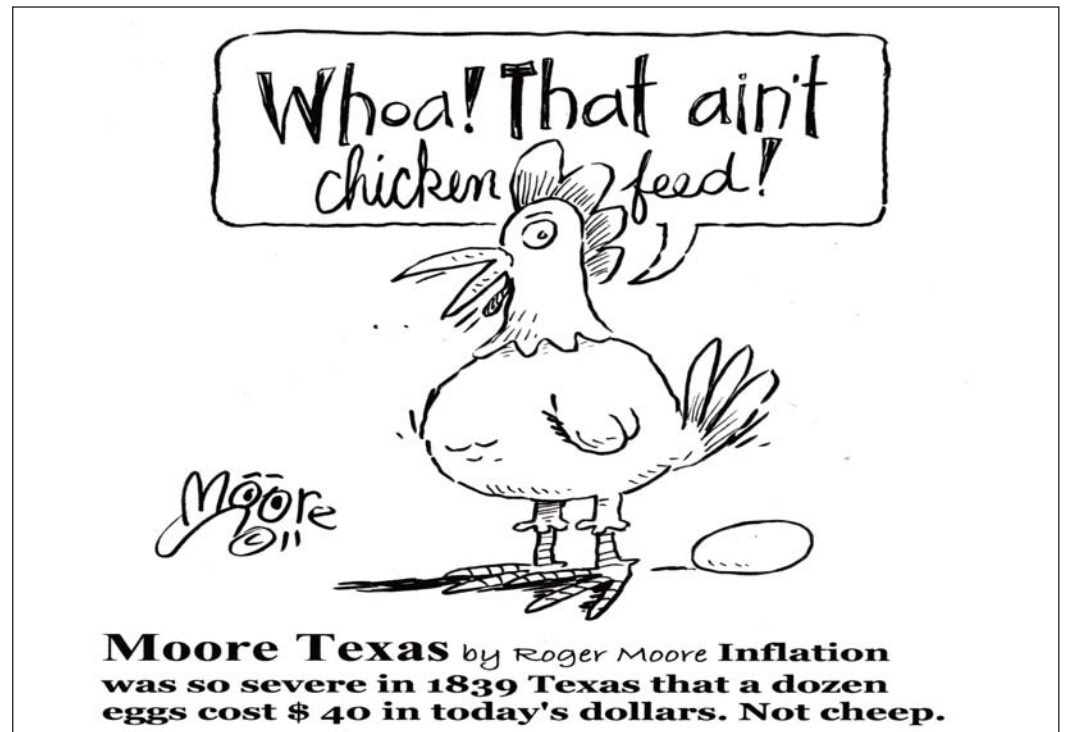
ture education, the teachers protested with not the outcome they wanted. What I know is it's never really about the children, it's about how much money the teachers are getting paid. Yeah, they will use all sorts of tactics to reinforce their opinions, but the reality is all of the protests are about one thing – money, or maybe I should say the lack of it.

Now, before you get your insides all twisted up, I'm in favor of fair pay for teachers. I appreciate the patience that teachers now have and with all of the rules of engagement they must contend with, discipline is extremely difficult to enforce.

Teachers are forced into using some form of bizarre ritual of correcting students that are not following the rules with only words and a trip to the principals' office. Gone are the days of corporal punishment, and don't press your luck with a bad student because you may be talking with his or her attorney in a couple of days.

So you see, I'm on the teacher's side to a point, and that point is this: tell us taxpayers the truth. Don't run around the facts. Just say it out loud. "WE NEED TO GET PAID." Don't use the children's welfare as a pitiful attempt to distract us from the truth. Sure, the kids may lose out on a few things but at the end of the day those things won't really matter in the giant scheme of things. It didn't seem to hurt me with only being responsible for learning how to read, write and process arithmetic equations.

What I'm disenchanted with is the public school systems across this country are



not living up to their collective potential because somewhere there is a disconnect. At the beginning of the school year I remember helping find school supplies for my granddaughter at the nearby discount department store. As I pointed out substitutes for items on the list my granddaughter said, "No Papa, we are suppose to get only the things on the list."

I spoke to another parent shopping at the store and I asked them what this all about. I was informed that the school was using parent-bought supplies to offset the cost of them buying the same items for the school. This was huge red flag for me because I thought I was paying enough in taxes for the schools to buy paper towels, but apparently I was wrong.

The bottom line is the schools are not running efficiently, the government is not running efficiently and the taxpayers are burdened with their incompetence. I know many teachers will disagree with this statement but school systems are really government systems and I haven't seen one run efficiently yet. Maybe by getting back to the basics and learning to forget the "feel good" things, we can work our way out of this crisis.

## Texas House debates, passes Senate Voter Identification bill

### State Capital Highlights

by ED STERLING

Senate Bill 14, legislation revising state elections standards, was approved by the Texas House of Representatives on March 23 after a floor debate that began in mid-day and lasted just past 11 p.m.

Voter identification, on Gov. Rick Perry's list of emergency issues for the Legislature to address, passed on a final vote of 101-48. In a nearly party-line vote, only Democrat Joe Pickett, D-El Paso, joined Republicans in voting in favor.

SB 14 requires in-person voters to present at the polling place a state-issued photo ID in order to cast a ballot.

Democratic lawmakers attempted many amendments to shape the bill into a form some said would bring it more closely in compliance with the U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965. All but a few of those amendments were struck down on party-line votes.

House Speaker Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, and Gov. Perry praised the House for passing the bill, which they said upholds the integrity of

the ballot and improves public confidence in the voting process in Texas.

Democrats who spoke against SB 14 argued that as written, it discriminates against Texans who are black, Hispanic, poor, infirmed, disabled, aged and rural. And they questioned the lack of evidence presented of voter fraud in Texas and questions arose over the relatively low scrutiny given mail-in ballots. Cost also was brought up as an issue: the fiscal note on the bill says it would cost taxpayers a little over \$2 million to implement, but lawmakers testifying against the bill said the actual cost could be several times that amount.

Among many changes to the Texas Election Code that SB 14 would bring, if passed, are these:

-- The Secretary of State would be required to prescribe procedures for voters who provisionally vote without proper identification to present proof of identification to the voter registrar not later than the sixth day after the date of the election.

-- The Department of Public Safety would be prohibited from collecting a fee for a personal identification certificate issued to a person who states that they are obtaining

the personal identification certificate to meet voting identification requirements and does not have another form of acceptable identification and that person meets certain other voter registration criteria.

-- The bill would change the penalty for voter fraud to a second degree felony from a third degree felony unless the person is convicted of an attempt, in which case, the offense would be a state jail felony instead of a Class A misdemeanor.

Amendments to SB 14 adopted by the House require the bill to go to a House-Senate conference committee for further consideration.

#### Panels pass budget versions

The House Appropriations Committee, chaired by Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, and the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, last week approved House Bill 1 and Senate Bill 1, respectively, two versions of a proposed state budget for fiscal years 2012-2013.

Lawmakers found it hard to make cuts after witnessing weeks of compelling testimony most particularly by advocates for education and

health and human services. So, the budget bills look a lot like the current budget, with similar spending levels and no deep cutbacks that would track in line with the expected \$27 billion less revenue for the coming years.

Both bills soon will be up for floor debate in the House and Senate chambers, and that's where the real ideas for budget cutting, tax-loophole closing and other revenue enhancements will emerge. If they pass, any differences in the two bills will have to be worked out in a House-Senate conference committee. And, supposing the differences will be worked out, the next stop will be the governor's desk.

#### Employers add jobs in February

Texas total nonfarm employment increased by 22,700 jobs in February, the Texas Workforce Commission reported March 25, and said that's a gain of 254,200 jobs from a year ago.

Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February is 8.2 percent, one tenth of one percent less than in January.

The national unemployment rate for February was 8.9 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

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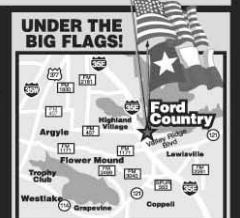
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