District Assists High School Seniors

By Laurie Brokaw

Jesus Vasquez, a senior at North Henderson High School, and West Henderson High School seniors Rodney Wischow and Kyle Obermiller, have been working with District staff on their senior projects and papers.

Kyle wrote his senior paper about conservation practices. He interviewed staff about the conservation programs our office implements. Jesus and Rodney are helping District Cooperator Jack Ruff install a variety of practices, including: livestock exclusion, rotational grazing cross-fencing, water lines, watering tanks, heavy use area protection, and gates to assist with prescribed grazing management. This partnering has been a great learning experience for these young men and a great help to Mr. Ruff, as well.
Who has eaten chocolate-covered crickets?
Take this quiz and see how well you know HCSWCD staff.

1. Who has considered using brassieres to hold up tomatoes and melons in the garden?
2. Who is the only one with a tattoo?
3. Who has travelled to the most foreign countries?
4. Who volunteers to help find people who are lost in the woods?
5. Who has the most pets?
6. Who has had baby chicks at the office?
7. Who bought a house, sold a house, killed a deer, found out they were going to be a parent and had their turbo diesel truck croak, all in the same month?
8. Who was in marching band in college?
9. Who loves to go out for MEATY meals for lunch, because their spouse is a vegetarian and they don’t eat meat at home?
10. Who’s the only staff person, currently, to have any kids?
11. Who’s the oldest?
12. Who’s the youngest?
13. Who thinks the antics and characters of the Andy Griffith Show are still just as valid (and funny!) today?
14. Who flunked their driving test the first time?
15. Whose favorite baseball team is the St. Louis Cardinals?
16. Who lives farthest from the office?
17. Who has eaten steak and lobster on New Year’s Eve on an aircraft carrier?
18. Whose first experience flying was all the way to the Dominican Republic?
19. Who has eaten chocolate-covered crickets?
20. Who spends their free time volunteering with a rescue group on a poodle farm?
21. Who can occasionally be found flying around, both on and off the job?

See “Answers” on page 4.
HCSWCD PREPARES FOR ANNUAL TREE SEEDLING SALE

By Monica Booth

HCSWCD’s annual tree seedling sale will take place Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research Station near the Asheville Airport. Orders will be accepted until Feb. 3.

The district has been selling tree seedlings at cost or near cost for more than 20 years, as a public service to residents of Henderson County and surrounding counties.

This year, the district plans to sell favorite varieties such as Persimmon, Black Cherry, Baldcypress, Chinese Chestnut, Mockernut Hickory, River Birch and White Pines, along with some varieties that are different this year, including White Ash, Crabapple and Southern Crabapple, Yellow Poplar, and five different types of Oak trees: Chestnut Oak, Cherrybark Oak, Live Oak, Red Oak and White Oak.

These two-year seedlings may range in size from six inches to 24 inches, depending on growing conditions they have experienced.

Readers of The District Current may reserve their seedlings by faxing or mailing the order form included in this issue. Orders will also be taken by phone at (828) 697-4949 or at our office at 61 Triple Springs Road in Hendersonville. Some varieties will sell out, so order early.

Showy spring blossoms -- The Southern Crabapple, one of the types of seedlings the District plans to offer for sale this year, produces profuse white to dark pink flowers in early spring. The fruits are sometimes used for jellies, preserves and cider, and are also enjoyed by many animals and birds. Information about the other available seedling varieties is available at the SWCD office.

Stable streams have naturally developed sinuosity, or curves, the shape of which are determined by the natural valley length and slope. When people straighten a stream, even a little, it will try to regain this natural sinuosity. In the long run, this often results in unstable and abrupt curves which can lead to significant property loss and water pollution in the form of sediment from the unstable stream bank.

Dr. Fluvius may be contacted with your stream questions via the Henderson County Watershed Coordinator in the Soil and Water Conservation Department at shaun.moore@nc.nacdnet.net
Shaun says the chocolate-covered crickets tasted “disturbingly like a bite-sized Nestle’s Crunch.”

ANSWERS
Continued from page 2

1. Shaun 12. Shaun
2. Laurie 13. Bob
3. Laurie 14. Laurie
6. Shaun 17. Laurie
8. Monica 19. Shaun
9. Shaun 20. Monica
11. Laurie