

# THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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Beth Prather 3/1/00  
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Serving Coke County

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Vol. 128, No. 22

Friday, December 4, 2015

## Robert Lee Christmas Open House Celebrations set for December 4

The opening of the Christmas season in Robert Lee is Friday, December 4. A number of local offices and businesses hold open house to serve refreshments and celebrate the season with their valued customers and friends.

The Coke County Courthouse will have an open house from 8 am to 1 pm. Robert Lee State Bank is having their open house from 9 am to 3 pm and Ivey Motors will celebrate from 11 am to 2 pm.

Other businesses and offices participating with open house celebrations include Robert Lee City Hall, Coke County Hardware, DJ's Merle Norman and Especially For You, Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau, and This 'N That Shop.

## VP Small Town Christmas set for December 5

It's almost time for Vision With A Purpose's Small Town Christmas celebration. The annual event will be held Saturday, December 5, in Robert Lee.

Hay rides for all ages (with a minimum charge) are planned. Santa Claus will be giving out presents to the children and listening to Christmas wishes. Food will be available to purchase that includes stew, chili, PB&J, cornbread, crackers and drinks. The lights in Memorial Park will be turned on at dusk.

Don't forget to enter your home in the Christmas Outdoor

Decorating contest. Prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50 will be awarded. Business are also encouraged to enter; they will be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place plaques.

## Christmas in Olde Bronte set for December 12

The annual Christmas in Olde Bronte celebration will be held Saturday, December 12, in downtown Bronte.

Activities will begin with vendors in the Blue Goose (Williams building) and holiday drinks and Christmas cheer at the event's Christmas headquarters at the Kickapoo Creek Lodge (Cumbie building).

At 2 pm, Mrs. Claus will have story time in the Christmas headquarters. The man of the hour, Santa Claus, will arrive at the Christmas Headquarters building at 3 pm to listen to all the Christmas wishes.

Courtesy of Glenn-Bivins Insurance and Larry's Automotive, The Muppet Christmas Carol will be shown at the Texas Theatre at 6:30 pm. Admission is free and concessions will be available.

## Sorosis Club Bake Sale slated

The Bronte Sorosis Club will hold a bake sale in front of the Bronte Grocery Store on Saturday, December 12, during the Christmas In Olde Bronte celebration, beginning at 1 pm. Love to see you there.

## Child Seat Inspection slated

Bronte EMS will partner with SafeKids to do a child seat



**Holiday Rainfall!** Rain began falling over Coke County Thanksgiving Day and finally slowed to a stop on Sunday of the holiday weekend. Latest reports range from 3" to over 5".

inspection from 1 pm to 3 pm during the Christmas in Olde Bronte celebration set for Saturday, December 12.

In order to complete the inspection, both the child and vehicle must be present so that fit and sizing may be assessed. Free seats will be provided if the child does not have one, needs a new one, has outgrown the old seat, or must have a replacement due to the current seat's recall.

## RL Methodist to sponsor Hayride Caroling

The First United Methodist Church of Robert Lee will be having a hayride Christmas caroling event on Sunday, December 13. If you would like for us to come by and bless you with some Christmas cheer, please contact Brandi Sawyer with your place of residence and we will be sure and stop by.

## Santa sets up special mailbox for Robert Lee

Miss T's (formerly Miss B's Blossom and Blooms), located at 5 E. 6th Street in Robert Lee, has a Letters to Santa mailbox set up out front in which to drop off Santa letters. All Santa letters deposited in this special mailbox will be answered! Please include a return address to make things easier for Santa elves!

## Poinsettia Fundraiser slated

Poinsettias will be available at Crazy T Greenhouse Friday and Saturday, December 4-5 from 8 am to 5 pm. They will also be

available at this location from 8 am to 12 noon on Thursday, December 10 and from 8 am to 5 pm Friday, December 11. On Saturday, December 12, a poinsettia booth will be set up downtown during the Christmas in Olde Bronte celebration.

This is a Bronte Project Graduation event, with 100% of the profits benefitting this organization.

## Christmas Greetings deadline set for December 10th

It is time once again for Christmas Greetings! The Observer/Enterprise would like to remind businesses and individuals wishing to place a Christmas greeting in the newspaper to call or stop by and choose your greeting for the December 18th issue.

Deadline for this year's greetings is Thursday, December 10th at 12 noon. For more information or to place your greeting, contact the O/E office at 453-2433.

In order to our employees to be with their families for Christmas, we will not have a December 25th issue. The O/E office will be closed that week. The annual Year in Review issue will be dated Friday, January 1, 2016.

## Santa Letter deadline set for December 10th

Deadline for Letter to Santa Claus to be printed in this year's Christmas edition has been set for Thursday, December 10th at 12 noon. As in the past, we will

go by the schools and pick up their Letters for Santa for inclusion in the Christmas paper on December 18th. We will forward these letters straight to Santa after we get through typing them up for the paper. This is why we have to have them early.

As in the case of Letters to Santa which are delivered to the post office, we will pick them up, type them for the paper and mail them on to Santa as fast as we can.

## Bench Plaques for Christmas available

Vision With A Purpose has taken delivery of eight new wrought iron benches to be distributed in downtown Robert Lee.

Plaques with dedication information on them are available for purchase. This would make a great Christmas present; all you need to do is contact Debbie Childers at 432-528-8782 or any VP member.

## Christmas cards for Memorial Park

Vision with a Purpose is providing large 4' x 4' Christmas Greeting Cards to be displayed in Memorial Park for the holidays. Any business, individual, or family may purchase these cards and VP with erect them.

A sample card will be displayed at Floyd C. Pettit Insurance Co. at 715 Austin St., Robert Lee or contact Jan Pettit at 325-212-0817.

This will be a beautiful display to help celebrate the holiday season and a chance to show your community spirit.

**Coke County**  
**Christmas**  
**Season Activities**

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**Friday, December 4**  
**Christmas Open Houses**  
**Downtown Robert Lee**

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**Saturday, December 5**  
**A Small Town Christmas**  
**Downtown Robert Lee**

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**Saturday, December 12**  
**Christmas in Olde Bronte**  
**Downtown Bronte**

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**  
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**STAFF**  
**Melinda McCutchen, Publisher/Editor**  
**Aja Chandler and Amber Sawyer**

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
 Per Year in Coke County ... \$30.00  
 Per Year Elsewhere in Texas ... \$35.00  
 Per Year Outside of Texas ... \$37.00

**Obituaries**



**Foster**

On Tuesday, November 24, 2015, Raydon Wright Foster went home to be with our Heavenly Father while at his home in Robert Lee. Visitation was held all day Sunday, November 29, 2015, at the funeral home. Graveside services were held at 10 am, Monday, November 30, 2015, in Robert Lee Cemetery. Pall bearers were Joel Perciful, Pat Perciful, Ricky Wheat, Monty Austin, Ron Waggoner and Amber Huapilla. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

He was preceded in death by his wife of thirty-eight years, Ruth; his father, David Foster and step-father, Pack Wright.

Raydon was born in Fayetteville, Arkansas, in January 1949. Upon completing his education, he joined the U.S. Navy. During the Vietnam War,

he was a Gunner's Mate III Class aboard the USS Stickle and stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. It was then that he met the love of his life, Ruth. They married in September 1970 and completed their family with two children. In 1978, they moved to Robert Lee, Texas. Raydon found employment at Ernest Clendennen Inc., an oilfield service company where he held the position of roustabout for twenty years. He then went to work for Sanco Materials Company until his retirement in 2013.

Raydon is survived by his mother, Kathleen Wright of Robert Lee; brother, Dwayne Foster of Fayetteville, Arkansas; daughters, Theresa Fernandez and Becky Watson of Robert Lee; son, Michael Ray Mecher and wife Angela of Robert Lee.

He is also survived by four grandchildren, Nathan Mecher and wife Heather, Diondra Roe and husband Bannon, Samantha Fernandez and husband Brian Marin, and Ricky Fernandez, all of Robert Lee; and two great-granddaughters, Avary and Brooklyn Roe of Robert Lee.

The family would like to extend a very special thank you to Odyssey/Gentiva Hospice as well as Terry Rodriguez.

Online condolences may be made at [www.shafferpioneer.com](http://www.shafferpioneer.com).

**2016 Primary Election Filing Period continues through December 14**

The filing period for the March 1, 2016, Democratic and Republican primaries began Saturday, November 14, 2015, and will continue through 6 pm Monday, December 14, 2015.

County offices up for election include Coke County Commissioners in Precincts 1 and 3, currently held by Gene Montgomery and Gaylon Pitcock; County Constables in Precincts 1 and 2, currently held by Marshall Millican and Marty Boyd respectively; County Attorney, currently held by Nancy Arthur; County Tax Assessor/Collector, currently held by Josie Dean; and County Sheriff, currently held by Wayne McCutchen. At presstime,

Wayne McCutchen and Marty Boyd have filed to retain their offices. Shaunna Grantham has filed for Precinct 1 Commissioner.

Those interested in filing may pick up and return the applications and the filing fee (or petition with signatures) to either the County Party Chairman or to the Coke County Clerk's office. The Democratic Party Chairman for Coke County is Robert Houck, 849 Mountain Road, PO Box 189, Robert Lee, Texas, 76945, (325) 453-2158. The Republican Party Chairman for Coke County is Susan Williams, 439 Morrow Road, Bronte, Texas 76933 (325) 650-1750. Before filing an application, potential candidates must file a treasurer appointment.

For more information, contact either party chairman or the Coke County Clerk's office at (325) 453-2631.

**Red Hat Society to meet December 3**

The Red Hat Society will meet Thursday, December 3, at 11 am at Addona's in Bronte. It has been asked when we have our business meetings. In January, we decide where to go each month for the whole year. We wear our purple and a red hat and have lots of fun and laughter.

Come have lunch with us.

**Kickapoo Water Board sets election**

Coke County Kickapoo Water Control and Improvement District #1 will hold an election on January 12, 2016, for the purpose of electing two directors.

Director Bob Ragsdale has filed for re-election to the board and Dennie Braswell has filed for the other director place.

The election will be held at Bronte City Hall.

For further information concerning the election, contact clerk Fran Sonnenberg by 5pm on Friday, November 27, 2015.

**Conservation Tree and Shrub Seedlings available**

A limited quantity of container and bareroot seedlings are available through the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District. Deadline to order is February 6, 2015. Seedlings will be delivered and ready for pick up on February 12, 2015.

For species offered and other information, contact the SWCD office at 453-2623, ext. 3 or go by 214 E. 7th St. in Robert Lee.

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[GlennBivinsUsa@aim.com](mailto:GlennBivinsUsa@aim.com)

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**Farm-Ranch, Commercial, Recreational & Residential Real Estate**

**GORGEOUS VIEWS!** This beautiful updated home sits right on Oak Creek Lake! Large trees, landscaping, and patio surround this 3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Open concept living, dining and kitchen make this a perfect spot for entertaining! Carport, Storage/Workshop, and Boat Storage complete this package!

**NEW LISTING!** Large older home is just perfect for family. Hardwood floors in living room, dining room, and two bedrooms. Numerous built-ins throughout home, huge closets, woodburning stove in den, 2 car attached carport. Potential efficiency apartment or guest house on property includes full basement and 2 car attached carport. Loads of character in this home on 1.31 acres.

**BEAUTIFUL LOCATION ABOVE ELM CREEK IN BALLINGER!** Lovely home in excellent neighborhood with tons of character! Move-in ready with new roof put on in 2015 and new paint throughout! Large lot on hill above city park! Beautiful views from backyard patio!

**WONDERFUL CRAFTSMANSHIP!** Beautiful older home with lots of extras - built-ins, hardwoods, cedar closet, decorative ceilings, stained glass inserts, antique chandeliers and more! Lovely porches and trees! Updated with modern convenience while keeping old world charm!

**HUGE TREES SHADE THIS CUTE HOME, PERFECT FOR A FAMILY!** Master suite is separated from other bedrooms by living room with beautiful rock fireplace! Tons of storage, light, and comfort in this extremely well-maintained home in established neighborhood.

**PRICE REDUCED!** Three Bedroom Brick Home with a Large Backyard and Sunroom in a quiet established neighborhood. Two Living Areas or possible 4th bedroom. Perfect for buyer who appreciates reduced price due to need for a little TLC!

Beautiful 2 story home! Fully finished w/ views while sitting on the covered porch, wrapping entirely around home and fireplace in Great Room stretches full two stories! Large master suite w/ fireplace opening into great room. Second master suite downstairs.

Perfect weekend and vacation hideaway on Lake! Furnishings and appliances (including washer and dryer) to remain! Storm Cellar! Watching the wildlife before walking down to the water! Brand New Central Air!

**PRICE REDUCED!** Lovely brick home in established neighborhood in Bronte! 4 bedroom, 2 bath has open-concept kitchen/living area and wrap around windows! Large master suite w/ fireplace opening into great room. Second master suite downstairs.

Melinda McCutchen (325) 473-8863  
 PitcockProperties.com  
 ashley@pitcockproperties.com  
 melinda@pitcockproperties.com  
 Jerrod Pitcock, Broker

Ashley Braswell (325) 650-0615

**Come As You Are**

Sunday Mornings • 10 am  
 Table Time • Tuesday evening  
 Pot Luck 6 pm • Study 7 pm

**FORGIVEN MINISTRIES**  
 Downtown Bronte • Across from Grocery Store  
 Russ Frasier, Preacher

**Area Churches Invite You to Worship**

**Bronte**

**Bronte Church of Christ**  
 PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte  
 (325) 473-3291  
 Preacher John V. Driggers  
 Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

**Central Baptist Church**  
 324 S. Franklin • Bronte  
 (325) 473-4811  
 Dale Patterson, Pastor  
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
 11 am & 6 pm Worship  
 Wed. 6 pm

**Coke County Cowboy Church**  
 Texas Theater, Downtown Bronte  
 Preacher - Robert Lemonds  
 Sunday, 10:30 am

**First Baptist Church**  
 424 S. Washington • Bronte  
 (325) 473-2331  
 Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,  
 10:55 am Worship,  
 5 pm Worship  
 6 pm Youth  
 Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting

**First United Methodist Church**  
 Corner of Washington & Holmes  
 Bronte  
 (325) 473-3281  
 Rev. Everett Boyce, Pastor  
 Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Worship

**Forgiven Ministries**  
 117 W. Main, Bronte  
 Russ Frasier, Pastor  
 Sun. 10 am  
 Tuesday 6 pm Table Time

**St. James Catholic Church**  
 215 N. Washington, Bronte  
 (325) 365-2687  
 Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
 Sun. 5 pm

**Coke County**

**Pecan Baptist**  
 PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of  
 Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy  
 (325) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Minister  
[www.pecanbaptist.org](http://www.pecanbaptist.org)  
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

**Robert Lee**

**Bible Baptist Church**  
 PO Box 938 • 9th & Austin  
 Robert Lee, Ed Zimmermann, Pastor  
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School,  
 11 am & 6 pm Worship,

**Emmanuel Pentecostal**  
 PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy  
 Pastor Tim Wood (325) 453-2360  
 Sundays 2 pm, Thursdays 7 pm

**First United Methodist Church**  
 PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne  
 Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417  
 Cyndi Weidner, Pastor  
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
 11 am Worship, 5 pm Choir Practice

**Iglesia Bautista Betel**  
 101 Houston • Robert Lee  
 Sun. 9:45 am • Sunday School  
 11 am Service • Bible Study Wed. 6 pm

**Southside Church of Christ**  
 PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston  
 Robert Lee (325) 453-2176  
 Jordan Arnold, Preacher  
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
 11 am & 6 pm, Worship

**West. 6 pm, Worship**

**Northside Church of Christ**  
 PO Box 508  
 9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee  
 (325) 453-2685, (806) 543-2118 or  
 (325) 473-1053  
 Services: Sun. 10 am

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**  
 601 W. 10th, Robert Lee  
 (325) 365-2687  
 Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
 Sat. 6 pm

**Robert Lee Baptist Church**  
 PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th  
 (325) 453-2724  
 Danny White, Pastor  
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship  
 Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**Victory Assembly of God**  
 (325) 453-2208, PO Box 638  
 6th & Houston, Robert Lee  
 Rev. Irving Smith, Pastor  
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
 10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
 Wed. 6 pm, Bible Study

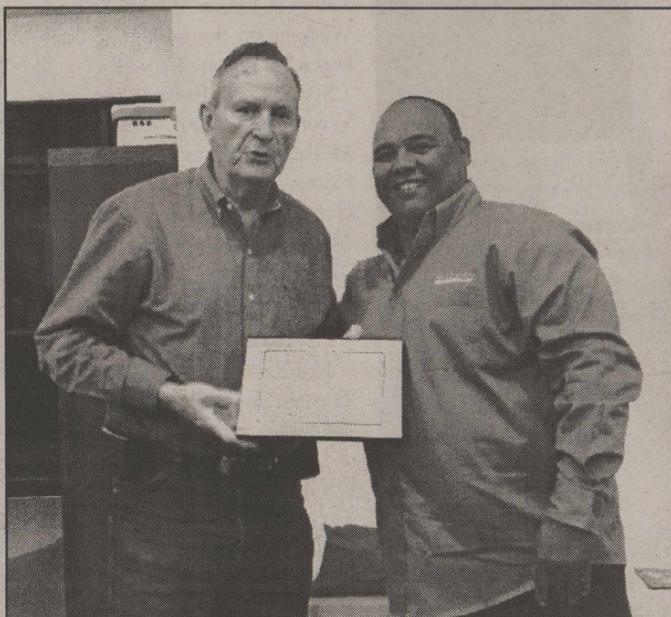
**Tennyson**

**Tennyson Baptist Church**  
 Hwy 277 • Tennyson  
 (325) 473-2040  
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
 11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship  
 Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

**For our Bronte customers' convenience, there is a Drop Box at Shirley's Place (formerly the blouse factory) in Bronte.**

**First Responder Thanksgiving!**

A "Thanksgiving Potluck" dinner was held Monday evening, November 23, 2015. The event, organized and hosted by the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department, was a time for those who often meet at the worst times could come together in fellowship and thankfulness. The large crowd enjoyed the good food and the time together. Included and honored at the dinner were members of the fire department, Bronte Ambulance Service, Coke County Sheriff's Office, Constable Precinct 2, Commissioners, and City of Bronte officials. Accepting certificates of appreciation presented by Bronte VFD Fire Chief Bill Torres were Everett Bedford on behalf of the Bronte EMS; Wayne McCutchen, Coke County Sheriff on behalf of the Coke County Sheriff's Office; Crystal Blevins, City Secretary on behalf of the City of Bronte; Terry Queen on behalf of the Bronte VFD, Marty Boyd - Coke County Constable; and Jodie Arrott on behalf of her efforts with Save the Park and Restoring Bronte Foundation.



Tomecek, AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, will be the keynote speaker. Individual registration fee will include breakfast. Those planning to attend should RSVP by calling the AgriLife Extension office in Coke County by Friday, December 4, at 325-453-2461.

**'64 Study Club Quilt Drawing set for Saturday**

The '64 Study Club raises money to provide scholarships for Robert Lee High School seniors. A drawing for this year's fund raising will be held at 10 am at the Coke County Library on Saturday, December 4, 2015.

Winners will be drawn for the Spirit Quilt or a gift certificate from either Sam's or Wal Mart. Before 10:00 a.m. on Friday during the Downtown Open House any member of the Study Club will be happy to provide raffle tickets, or they may be found at the Library.

Winners do not have to be present. They will be called immediately for pick up, or winnings will be delivered by mail or by a member of the club.

Donors to this drive are so much appreciated. Letters received from former winners express their appreciation for helping to prepare them for the future.



**Coke County 1-D-1 Ag Appraisal Workshop set for Monday**  
**AgriLife Extension program to explain wildlife property tax exemption**

By Steve Byrns

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the Coke County 1-D-1 Ag Appraisal Workshop on Monday, December 7, in the Commissioners Courtroom located in the Coke County Courthouse, 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee.

The workshop starts with registration at 8:30 am, followed by the program from 9-11 am, said Morgan Runyan, AgriLife Extension agent in Coke County.

educate landowners on the option of obtaining a wildlife tax exemption on their property," Runyan said. "Our goal is to outline the requirements of this particular exemption for those wanting to remove livestock entirely to allow their pastures to recover from the years of drought we've recently experienced." Runyan said Dr. John

**That's Happy!**

HAPPY TIMES during Christmas is what we all desire! And when you open a Christmas Savings Account with us, you can sock away money months ahead to pay for Christmas bills and be content. It's a tradition with lots of people. You will definitely be adding holiday joy to your family if you think ahead. Let's talk now!



**Robert Lee State Bank**

621 Austin Street Robert Lee, Texas

453-2545



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**ASU Presentation!** Jordan Kalina, an admissions counselor from Angelo State University, recently visited with seniors at Blackwell High School. Kalina provided the students with information concerning the admission process, scholarship opportunities, campus living, unique features affiliated with the university, and various academic programs and services provided by ASU. The students were given informational handouts. Interested students should visit [myfuture.angelo.edu](http://myfuture.angelo.edu).

**Steers named to All District Football Teams**

Austin Fowler, a senior at Robert Lee High School, has been named the 2015-16 District 6 Division 1 Offensive Most Valuable Player. Other Steers named to the First Team are Wide Receiver Gabriel Abalos, RLHS Junior; Spread Center Daniel Mendoza, RLHS Freshman Quarterback Jake Jackson, RLHS Senior; Running Back Kyle Fowler, RLHS Senior; Noseguard Kyle Fowler, RLHS Senior; Defensive Lineman Jake Jackson, RLHS Senior; Linebacker Bruce Buddin, RLHS Senior; and Cornerback Blaine Yanez, RLHS Junior.

Named to the All District 2nd Team are Wide Receiver Blaine Yanez, RLHS Junior; Kicker Kaleb Torres, RLHS Senior; Special Teams Player Isaiah Smith, RLHS Sophomore; Defensive Lineman Daniel Mendoza, RLHS Freshman; Safety Dylan Carter, RLHS Junior; and Safety Mauricio

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Ureno, RLHS Junior. Named Offense Honorable Mention were Dylan Carter, RLHS Junior, and Isaiah Smith, RLHS Sophomore. Isaiah Smith was also named Defense Honorable Mention.

**Lady Dogies fall to Water Valley**

The Robert Lee Junior High Lady Dogies faced the Water Valley Junior High Lady Wildcats on the basketball court and were defeated 15-34.

Scoring for Robert Lee were Veronica Ureno - 2 points McKenna Parker - 4 points Harlee Richardson - 2 points, Hemma Rangel - 2 points, Adison Thomas - 3 points and Crystal Salinas - 2 points.

**Robert Lee ISD minutes posted**

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session Thursday, November 19, 2015, in the Robert Lee ISD Conference Room 119 at 5 pm. The meeting was called to order by President Washam.

Member present included Tom Sawyer, Jeffie Roberts, Wes Washam, Beverly Sinclair, George Grim, Irma Torres and Erin Oleksiuk. No members were absent.

Invocation and pledge were led by George Grim.

Cathy Pitcock, CPA with Eckert & Company presented the 2014-2015 Audit for RLISD. Erin Oleksiuk made a motion to approve the Audit as presented, seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All voted for.

Public Hearing on School

FIRST will be presented at the December Board meeting.

George Grim made a motion to approve the minutes of October 20, 2015, seconded by Erin Oleksiuk. All voted for.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the financial reports given by Robin Allen and to approve the bills, seconded by Tom Sawyer. All voted for.

David O'Dell gave the high school report; enrollment for grades 7-12 was 111 and attendance rate was 96.3% for the month of October. Supt. Hood gave the elementary principals report; elementary enrollment for October was 166 students and 95.9% attendance rate.

Supt. Hood gave the presentation of Ballot and Vote for 2016-2017 Coke County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Jeffie Roberts made the motion to split the votes evenly between the Robert Lee Candidates, seconded by Tom Sawyer. All voted for.

Supt. Hood presented the Target Improvement Plan for State 1 PBMAS. Erin Oleksiuk made the motion to approve the plan as presented, seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All voted for.

Supt. Hood presented the 2015-2016 District and Campus Improvement Plans. George Grim made a motion to approve the plans as presented, seconded by Irma Torres. All voted for.

Supt. Hood recommended to take no action on the changes to the 2015-2016 School Calendar and address the issue in the December Board meeting.

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**Legend Jewelers**



Supt. Hood gave his superintendents report on budget update, superintendent evaluation packet, Update 103 and Staff Christmas party.

The next regular board meeting will be Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at 5 pm. The meeting was adjourned 5:58 pm.

**Blackwell Menu**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, December 7**

Pancakes, yogurt or choice of cereal & cheese stick, fruit, juice, milk

**Tuesday, December 8**

Chicken-n-biscuit or choice of cereal & yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

**Wednesday, December 9**

French toast, sausage or choice of cereal & cheese stick, fruit, juice, milk

**Thursday, December 10**

Breakfast pocket or choice of cereal & yogurt, apple slices, milk

**Friday, December 11**

Dutch waffle & bacon or choice of cereal & cheese stick, fruit juice, banana, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, December 7**

Chicken parmesan, savory green beans, garden salad, apple slices, breadsticks, milk

**Tuesday, December 8**

Tangerine chicken w/eggroll and brown rice, baby carrots w/ranch, steamed broccoli, chilled pineapple, cookie, milk

**Wednesday, December 9**

Lasagna w/meat sauce, hot roll, garden salad, veggie cup, seasonal fruit, milk

**Thursday, December 10**

Pulled pork slider, multi-grain chips, coleslaw, petite tomato cup, hot cinnamon apples, milk

**Friday, December 11**

Hamburger or cheeseburger w/garnish, oven fries, western beans, diced pears, milk

**Bronte Menu**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, December 7**

Pancakes or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

**Tuesday, December 8**

Blueberry muffin or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

**Wednesday, December 9**

Breakfast pizza or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

**Thursday, December 10**

PBJ sandwich or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

**Friday, December 11**

Sausage & biscuit or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, December 7**

Chicken Quesadillas, Mexicali corn, charro beans, salsa, cinnamon applesauce, milk

**Tuesday, December 8**

Steak fingers, gravy, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, roll, fruit, milk

**Wednesday, December 9**

Spaghetti bowl, breadstick, garden salad, Tuscan vegetables, peaches, pudding milk

**Thursday, December 10**

Chili w/cornbread, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange smiles, milk

**Friday, December 11**

Hamburger, potato tots, zesty cucumbers, fruit, milk

**Robert Lee Menu**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, December 7**

Chicken-n-waffles, fruit, juice, milk

**Tuesday, December 8**

Sausage kolaches, fruit, juice, milk

**Wednesday, December 9**

Toast, eggs, sausage, fruit,

juice, milk

**Thursday, December 10**

Pancakes, eggs, bacon, fruit, juice, milk

**Friday, December 11**

Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, December 7**

Chicken Quesadillas, salsa, corn, charro beans, cinnamon applesauce, milk

**Tuesday, December 8**

Steak fingers, baked potato, carrots, roll, gravy, strawberries & bananas, milk

**Wednesday, December 9**

Spaghetti, breadstick, Tuscan vegetables, salad, peaches, milk

**Thursday, December 10**

Chili w/cornbread, broccoli, orange salad, milk

**Friday, December 11**

Sloppy Joe, fries, cucumber dippers, fresh fruit, cookie, milk

**Community**

**Thanksgiving Service raises Food Pantry funds**

The residents of the Robert Lee community were very generous with donations at the annual service for the Coke County Food Pantry with over \$1,700 being donated.

Everyone enjoyed music by Kyle Long, Buddie Wallace, Jim Clendennen, Daryl Copeland and Keith Dillard. Nashville could not have been much better. The Methodist Pastor, Cyndi Weidner, presented a wonderful piano solo which was followed by a short devotion by Brother Hood. Hot dogs and cake were served afterwards. Everyone left truly blessed and this will help the food pantry for a time.

**Fall into Good Planting Habits**

By Erin Oleksiuk-District Technician, Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Fall is the time for planting in West Texas! Tree roots and shrubs grow whenever the temperature is roughly 40 degrees. Planting in the fall and winter months give trees time to establish and ready themselves for the harsh summer months. If cared for properly, your trees will be bursting with life in the spring!

It is very important to plant and care for your new trees properly. Trees can easily become damaged during transportation from the nursery to the home. If moving a tree by truck or trailer, make sure the limbs and leaves are wrapped with burlap or a bed sheet to protect them from the wind. An uncovered ride home can break limbs and cause leaves to drop after planting. During the first growing season it is crucial to make sure the tree has received proper watering; a new tree will need to be slightly watered everyday for the first week after planting, every other day the second week, every third day the third week, and once a month thereafter. Trees do not need fertilizer after planting, spring is the time to fertilize but even then it is recommended to go light on the fertilizer to avoid burning the roots. Staking or tying down a tree should be a last resort; ropes can damage tree bark and will weaken a tree by not allowing it to strengthen itself against the elements.

It is very disheartening to have a tree die; these are the top 10 reasons trees don't survive:

10. Tree is not suitable to live in West Texas heat. Do some research to find the best trees for your area.

9. Not adapted to the local,

clay soil. Clay soil can form a slick surface on the sides of the hole that will prevent root growth if not broken up properly.

8. Trunk was damaged during transport or planting. The vascular system of a tree is just below the bark. Young trees have thin bark and can be easily damaged.

7. Wire stake and tags were not removed from tree. Remove all tags from tree and avoid staking.

6. Tree was planted too deeply. The top of the root ball should be even with the surrounding soil.

5. Tree was not healthy when purchased. Check tree for splits, broken branches, insects or disease, and the root system. Do not purchase a tree with encircling roots because the root system will strangle the tree. If already purchased, spread out the roots and cut through them (new roots will grow where you cut the circling roots).

4. A weed eater or mower damaged the tree trunk. Be careful when doing yard work around trees.

3. Roots over dried while waiting to be planted. Make sure tree has adequate water if you are unable to plant after purchase.

2. Leaves dehydrated while being transported. Remember to cover limbs and leaves for the ride home.

1. Lack of water or over watering during the first growing season is the #1 killer of trees. Especially in heavy, clay soils. Use weekly soil wetness tests to ensure proper watering.

The Coke County Soil and Water District is currently hosting a Tree Sale. Several different species of evergreen and hardwood trees are available this year. Stop by the office at 214 E. 7th Street to pick up an order form and view pictures of mature trees. Call 453-2623 ext. 3 for more information.

For our Bronte customers' convenience, there is a Drop Box at SHIRLEY'S PLACE (formerly the blouse factory) in Bronte.

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...More Classifieds

**NOTICES**

**COKE COUNTY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION**

Is seeking bids from contractors for the painting of our two pump station buildings located at 780 Hwy 2034 and 838 Paint Creed Rd located in Coke County.

**Description of services:**

Paint interior and exterior of pump houses (white and under the eaves light blue matching the tank color)

Plumbing inside the pump house and paint blue (pump motors not included)

Clean rust from steel doors and paint white

Clean and paint electrical boxes gray

Replacement of roof rotating vents

Paint floors gray with epoxy paint

Include any necessary exterior repairs

Replace wooden doors on chlorinated room

Contact John Price at 325-763-8815 for an appointment to view the pump stations, bids must be in writing and received by CCWSC at our office at 10390 W State Hwy 158 by December 31. Late bids will not be opened and will be returned to sender. CCWSC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

20-6tc

**West Coke County Hospital Board Meeting**

By Pat Stephens

The Board of Directors of the West Coke County Hospital District met in regular session November 24, 2015. President Pat Stephens called the meeting to order at 9:30 and declared a quorum was present. Other Board members present were Sarah Green, Patsy Cason, Pat Carwile, and Noel Tinkler. Tom Killingsworth, Interim Administrator, Roger Alexander, and Janie Munoz, BOM, were also present at the meeting. Patsy Cason gave the invocation. There was one visitor. There were no absent Board members from the previous meeting, and the minutes from that meeting were approved.

The census count shows there are currently 30 residents in the facility, as of the meeting date.

In the staffing report, the only current opening is for a CNA for the 2 to 10 shift.

In the Administrator's report, several updates were given to the Board concerning (facility operations and finances.) some challenges at the facility, one being in the change of computer systems, thus causing the yearly audit to take longer than the usual amount of time to complete.

Accounts receivable were discussed, and the financial report, as it currently stands, was accepted.

Under the building maintenance umbrella, a new door has been ordered to replace the one which was broken.

The Board was informed that

someone anonymously purchased a VP Christmas Card for RLCC. Sincere appreciation was expressed by the Board for the generous gesture.

Open meetings/Open records training will be completed by new members of the Board in the near future, and the availability of Board training is currently being pursued.

The Board voted to appoint the Administrator as the election official.

The Employee Christmas Party will be held in the dining room December 18th. Bonus checks will be given out at that time.

The Board broke for lunch at 12:15 pm, returned to regular session at 12:55 pm and went into Executive session at 1 pm. They returned to regular session at 2:20 pm. No action was taken.

Future agenda items were discussed and the next Board meeting will be December 29, 2015. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

**Winters Christmas activities slated**

The Z. I. Hale Museum's Rock Hotel will have a completely new look and activities for the 2015 Christmas season. One of the new activities for this year is the Tamale Contest with Tamale Dinner. On December 12 at 5 pm, DJ Rudy Fernandez and friends will judge the tamales with cash prizes being awarded. At 5:30, the Museum Dining Room will begin serving a Tamale Dinner. In honor of this event, the hotel downstairs will be decorated "Mexican Fiesta". There will still be Christmas Trees and other traditional displays upstairs including a display of over 100 Santas from a New Mexico collector. There will also be an expanded Snow Village. The Rock Hotel is handicapped equipped.

This fall's fund raising raffle should complete raising the money needed to replace the

roof on the Rock Hotel. They are raffling something that will make someone a very nice Christmas present. The lucky winner of the raffle will receive \$200 at retail of Texas Scratch-Off Lottery Tickets which could be worth millions. Look for the display at different locations around Winters and at the Rock Hotel.

The Rock Hotel would make the perfect venue for a private or semi-private party. For the private parties, reasonable rental rates are offered and the Rock Hotel is closed to the public. There is catering available. With a Semi-private party, the public is still able to tour the museum. December's events at the Rock Hotel are listed below.

**December 3,**  
2 pm Texas Extension Education Association "Friendly Neighbors"  
5 pm to 7 pm Moonlight Madness Cookies and Punch served  
**December 5**  
8 am Snow Queen Interviews with the Crowning Ceremony  
(Continued on Page 8)

# Christmas in Olde Bronte

December 12, 2015  
Downtown Bronte, Texas

- 1 PM-Vendors open in Blue Goose Building  
Holiday Drinks and Christmas Cheer at  
Christmas Headquarters(Kickapoo Creek Lodge)
- 2 PM- Story time with Mrs. Clause at Christmas Headquarters
- 3 PM- Santa Arrives at Christmas Headquarters
- 4:30 PM- Live Christmas Music at Mini-Park (Weather Permitting)
- 5:00 PM- Chuckwagon Dinner provided by the Cowboy Church  
(Donation only)
- 6:30- "The Muppet Christmas Carol" at Texas Theatre  
(Free admission! Concessions available!)



# IVEY MOTORS

<p><b>2011 Ford F150 Super Crew #6793A \$22,995</b> <i>4x4 Lariat! White w/Pale Adobe Leather! Ultra Nice!</i></p> <p><b>2015 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado #6788A \$32,495</b> <i>Super Crew! Silver w/Charcoal Interior! Super Nice Ride!!!</i></p> <p><b>2013 Kia Sorento Ex SUV #R514A \$20,595</b> <i>Burgundy w/Dune Leather!</i></p> <p><b>2011 GMC Terrain SLE #6792B \$14,995</b> <i>Adobe w/Charcoal Cloth! Great Condition!</i></p> <p><b>2015 Ford Fusion SE Sedan #7162 \$19,995</b> <i>White w/Dune Cloth Interior! Super Nice! 18K Miles!</i></p> <p><b>2012 Ford Fusion SEL Sedan #579A \$14,995</b> <i>Silver w/Ceramic Leather! Moon Roof! Only 12K Miles!</i></p> <p><b>2007 Misubishi Galant #522B \$ 6,995</b> <i>4 Door Sedan! Burgundy w/Gray Cloth! Nice Clean Ride!</i></p> <p><b>2004 Chevrolet Tahoe LT #R5410 \$ 9,795</b> <i>White w/Tan Leather Interior, Rear Entertainment DVD</i></p>	<p><b>2013 Ford Mustang GT #R564N \$25,995</b> <i>California Special! Only 27K Miles! Silver w/Charcoal Leather!</i></p> <p><b>2013 Ford Escape SE #5210 \$16,600</b> <i>White w/Gray Cloth! Super Nice!</i></p>
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## Wilkes retiring after serving USA 20+ years

Sergeant First Class Wilkes will complete his distinguished service officially on 31 Jan 16, having served over 20 years in the defense of the American people. SFC Wilkes joined the United States Army on 3 August 1995 as a 77F (now 92F) Petroleum Supply Specialist.

SFC Wilkes assignments include: 123rd MSB Dexheim Germany, 1/7 CAV Fort Hood, TX, 53rd QM CO, Fort Hood, TX, 151 Aviation K-16, Seoul, Korea, 151 Aviation Fort Wainwright, AK, 528th QM CO, Fort Lewis WA, and 115th BSB, Fort Hood, TX. His Deployments include: Operation Joint Endeavor, Bosnia, March 96-December 96, Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 03-April 04, Operation New Dawn, July 11-Dec 11, Operation Spartan Shield January 12-July 12.

SFC Wilkes has held the following leadership positions including Team Leader, Squad Leader, Training NCO, Petroleum Inventory NCO, Arctic Light Infantry Course (ALIT) Instructor, Section Chief, and Platoon Sergeant.

SFC Wilkes awards and decorations include: The Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, Army Commendation Medal (4 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (7 OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal 6th Award, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal (2 Campaign Stars), NCO Developmental Ribbon (w/ numeral 3), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas

Ribbon (w/numeral 5) award, NATO medal, and Drivers/Mechanic Badge.

Currently Wilkes is on terminal leave from the Army and has begun a second career as a Program Support Assistant for the Institutional Review Board at the Central Texas Department of Veterans Affairs Research Center located in

Temple TX. Successfully using his Bachelor's Degree in Health Care Administration received from Columbia Southern University. None of this could have been accomplished without the love and support of family and friends.

### Annual Livestock Show - Not just for Kids!

The Coke County Livestock Show and Fair is slated for Friday and Saturday, January 15-16, 2016. In addition to the Junior Livestock Show, the following categories are open to ANY Coke County resident of ANY age.

Contest categories include: Art Photography AG Mechanics - Metal Works and Repurpose Project (trash to treasure).

All entries must be turned in to the Coke County Extension

office between December 28, 2015, and January 6, 2016.

Please contact the Extension Office at 325-453-2461 for more information.

### ... Winters Christmas activities

(Continued from page 7) following the parade.

#### December 7

6:30 pm Grand Opening with a Community Christmas Caroling - Fill the Halls With Christmas Carols and enjoy refreshments!

#### December 12

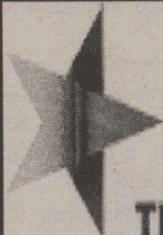
5:30 pm Tamale Contest and Tamale Dinner

#### December 13

Special Opening 1 pm to 4 pm Cookies and Punch served

#### December 19

7:30 Texas Lottery Scratch-Off Raffle Drawing



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# SMALL TOWN CHRISTMAS

*Is Coming To Robert Lee!*

## Saturday, December 5, 2015

Events begin at 5 pm.

*Hayrides!*

*Santa Claus is coming to town!*

*Stew, Chili, PB&J and all the fixins'!*

*Memorial Park Christmas Lighting at dusk.*

**Sponsored by Robert Lee Vision With A Purpose.**



\* *A Christmas Wish* \* \* *A Christmas Wish* \* \* *A Christmas Wish* \* \* *A Christmas Wish* \*