

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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Friday, April 6, 2018

Validation tag orders due by April 13

Students that are needing to order validation tags for steers or all animals for the State Fair of Texas, please contact your Ag teacher or the County Extension office at (325) 453-2461. Tag orders are due by April 13.

Red Canyon Gun Club meeting canceled

The Red Canyon Gun Club yearly member meeting that was scheduled for April 7, 2018, has been canceled due to lack of interest. If you have any questions, please contact Shaunna Grantham at (325) 895-1723.

Bronte VFD Fundraiser slated for April 21

A fundraiser to support the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department will be held Saturday, April 21, from 11 am until 3 pm at 413 W. Main (on Highway 158 next to the water tower). The event will include a brisket lunch, live and silent auctions, as well as

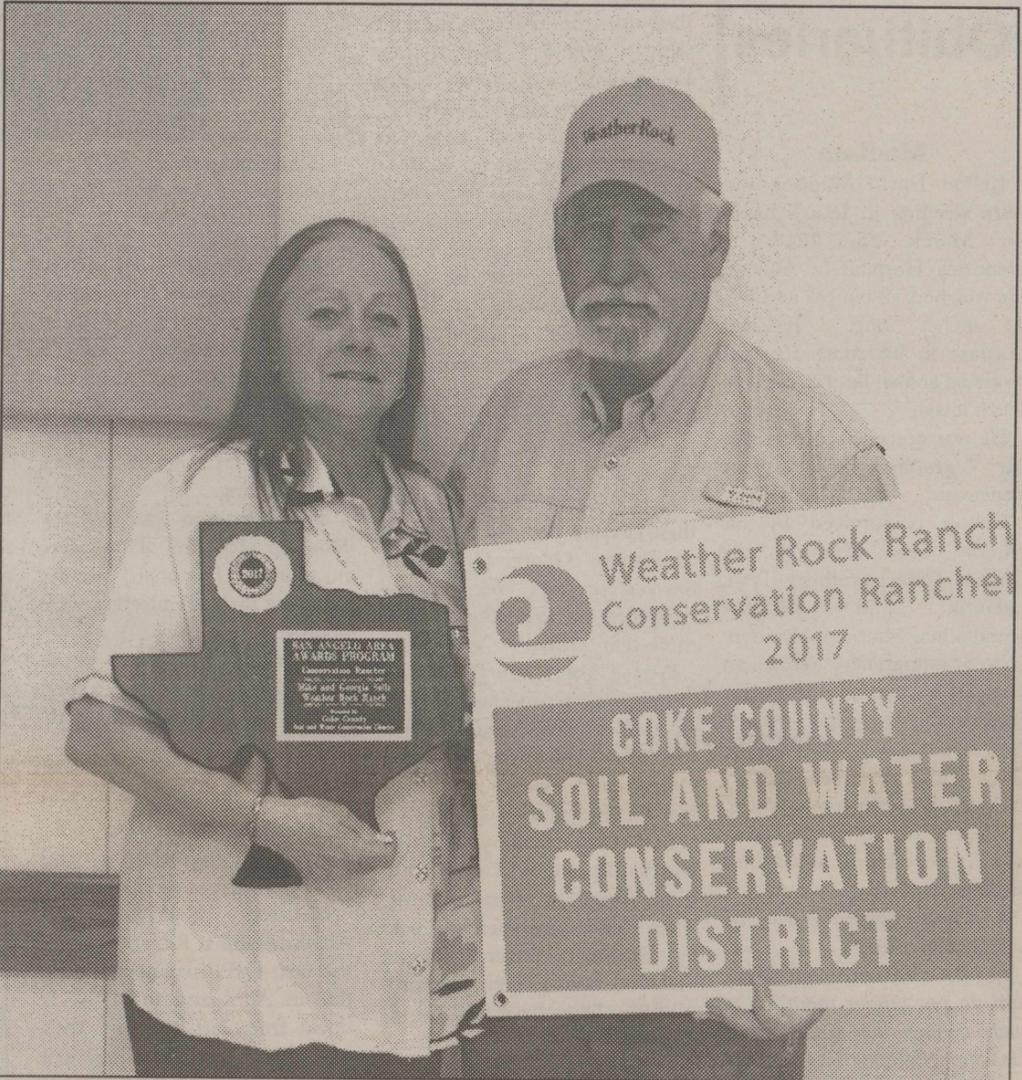
entertainment. Everyone is invited to attend.

West Texas Gas to hold first responder course

West Texas Gas will be conducting a free Pipeline Response and Mock Line Strike. The purpose of this course is to educate emergency responders about pipeline products in the local area, leak identification, and proper response procedures.

The event includes a Pipeline Response class, Facility tour, lunch, and Mock Line Strike. The Mock Line Strike will feature an underground facility damage and illustrate the importance of emergency responders and pipeline operators working together to properly resolve the simulated natural gas release.

The event will be held April 17, 2018, at the James Gas Plant in Silver. Registration is from 9:30 am until 10 am, with the class following from 10 am until 11 am. Lunch will begin at 12 noon, following the Mock Line



Salls, Grantham Recognized at Banquet! *Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District winners attended the San Angelo Area Conservation Awards Banquet on March 22 in Wall, Texas.*

Mike and Georgia Salls (top photo) were named as the 2017 Conservation Rancher and Tristan Grantham, of Robert Lee, as the Poster Contest Winner from Coke County. Mike and Georgia Salls of Weather Rock Ranch were honored for their commitment to conservation on their ranch, located north of Robert Lee.

Tristan Grantham was accompanied by his parents, Austin and Shuanna Grantham and sister, Addison. He is in Mrs. Avants sixth grade class at Robert Lee ISD.

Strike from 11 am until 12 noon. The event will conclude with the facility tour from 12:30 pm until 1 pm.

Registration can be done online at mocklinestrike.com/pipeline/meeting/21.

For more information on the event, contact Jeannette Wood at (316) 858-8008 x 1022 or jeannetew@chertech.com.



WEEK AT A GLANCE

Friday, April 6

High School Track -
District Meet at Sterling City

Saturday, April 7

Earth Day at Bronte Convenience Center,
1 pm - 5 pm

Bronte High School Prom

Robert Lee High School Prom

Monday, April 9

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, 6 pm,
First Baptist Church, Bronte

Bronte Volunteer Fire Department Meeting,
7 pm, Bronte City Hall

Tuesday, April 10

Commissioners Court, 9 am,
County Courthouse, Robert Lee

Friday, April 13

Regional UIL Academic Meet, San Angelo

Provided
By



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Obituaries

Madison

Kelton David Madison was born sleeping in Jesus's hands on March 23, 2018, at Hendrick Hospital in Abilene. He weighed 12 ounces and was 11 inches long. Kelton's purpose in his short life may never be known but he was very much loved.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Vicky Beneteau.

Kelton is survived by his parents, Sean Madison and Chenoa Casey; brothers, Tyler, Lelantos, and Antonio; grandfather, Matthew Madison; great-grandparents Leroy and Jami Casey; aunts, Lori Davis, Sorcha Easley, and Kelsey Hewitt; uncles, Todd Davis Daniel Madison, Jason Slate, and Blake Hewitt; cousins, Tabitha Davis, Stephan Davis, and Gregory Davis, and a host of other relatives.

A private memorial will be held at a later time.

Let the children come to me and do not hinder them for to such belong the kingdom of Heaven - Matthew 19:14

39-1tc

Early Voting begins

April 23 for

May 5 local election

Early voting will begin April 23, 2018, for the May 5, 2018, local government entity elections.

The City of Robert Lee will hold an election for the position of mayor and for three council members. The offices are currently held by Mayor Leroy Gasey and council member Shaunna Grantham. Also open are the council member positions formerly held by Toni Rainwater and Joe Longoria. Leroy Casey has filed for re-election as mayor and will be joined on the ballot by Allyson Crenshaw and Shell Williams. Billy Williams, Nora Broadbent, Brandi Brosh, Ricky Green, and Casey Scruggs have all filed for seats on the Council.

The City of Bronte has terms expiring for mayor and two council positions. These are two year terms.

The offices are currently held by Mayor Gerald Sandusky and council members Wade Stautzenberger and Paul

Gohman. Buzz Gohman has filed for the mayor's position, with Donna Hall, Lee Wommack, and Steve Hines filing for places on the council.

Bronte ISD will hold an election to elect three members to the Board of Trustees. These are three year terms currently held by Ashley Braswell, David McWright, and Blake Braswell. Blake Braswell, David McWright, and Ashley Braswell have filed for re-election. Bill Torres, Chris Jernigan, TJ McCullough, and Walt Smith have also filed for a place on the board.

Robert Lee ISD has canceled their election due to no opposed candidates. George Grim, Tom Sawyer, Jr., and Wes Washam have filed for re-election to their three-year terms.

West Coke County Hospital District has also canceled their election. The terms of Pat Stephens, Pat Carwile and Sarah Green are expiring and all have filed for re-election.

East Coke County Hospital District Board of Trustees has three two year terms expiring. These offices are currently held by Howard Baker, Lanette Fletcher, and Everett Bedford. All incumbents have filed for re-election.

WCCHD Board meeting minutes

by Pat Stephens

The Board of Directors of the West Coke County Hospital District met in regular session March 27, 2018. President Pat Stephens called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and declared a quorum was present. Board



Donation! Sorosis Study Club treasurer, Denise Gallaway presents a donation to Martin DeLaGarza, Bronte Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief for the new fire station.

members present were Sarah Green, Pat Carwile, Noel Tinkler and Beverly Burdett. Houston McGuire, Robert Lee Care Ceter Administrator, Roger Alexander, West Coke County Hospital District Administrator, and Janie Munoz, BOM, were also present at the meeting.

The invocation was given by Houston McGuire. There were no visitors. The board minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

There are 29 residents in the Care Center as of the meeting date. The facility is currently fully staffed.

Accounts Receivable was discussed. The board received copies of the completed audit, reviewed financials, and accepted them as presented.

Houston gave his Administrator's Report, stating the next QIPP payment will be due in April and the DSO is down from last month. He's waiting for bids for a new call light system on the west side and also bids in order to make the facility a locked unit.

The Board voted to cancel the election due to the fact that only incumbents had filed to run for the Board of Directors.

Future agenda items were discussed and the next board meeting will be April 24, 2018.

The public is invited to attend.

The facility calendar looks to be a busy one this month, beginning with a movie, complete with popcorn, to be enjoyed by the residents as they celebrate Easter on April 1. There will be a shopping trip to the Dollar Tree the following Friday at 3:30 pm. Sunday services will resume on their rotation schedule beginning April 8 and will be led by the

Northside Church of Christ, at 3:30 pm. On April 10 at 11 am, the Sierra Vista Singers will be entertaining at the facility, followed by Arts and Crafts that afternoon. The monthly birthday party, sponsored by the Eastern Star, will be April 19 at 3:30 pm. Those celebrating birthdays this month are Virginia McMillan, Joan Davis, and Vivian Keel. Happy birthday, ladies!!

Area Churches

Invite You to Worship

Bronte

Bronte Church of Christ

PO Box 346
118 S. Jefferson • Bronte
Preacher David Lewis
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 & 5 pm Worship

First Baptist Church

424 S. Washington • Bronte
(325) 473-2331 • Pastor Lee Bevlly
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Bible
Study & Worship
Wednesday 6 pm RA's & GA's,
6:30 pm Youth & Adults

First United Methodist Church

Corner of Washington & Holmes
Bronte
(325) 473-3281

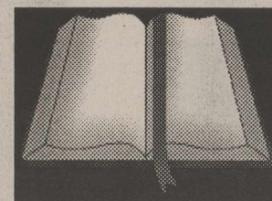
Rev. Everett Boyce, Pastor
Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship

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. Yesu Mulakaleti, Jr., Pastor
Sunday Bilingual Mass 8 am
4C Cowboy Church
Texas Theater, Downtown Bronte
Pastor James Brunson
Sunday, 10:30 am

Coke County

Pecan Baptist
PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of
Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy
(325) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Pastor
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, John Fiore, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School,
11 am Worship,

Emmanuel Pentecostal

PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
Pastor Kevin Millstid 453-2360
Sundays 10 am, Wednesdays 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
Recardo Reyes, Preacher
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 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. Yesu Mulakaleti, Pastor
Saturday Vigil Mass 5 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



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Agent

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Town Hall Meetings! Mike Conaway (above photo), Coke County's Representative in the United States House of Representatives came to Robert Lee Tuesday morning, March 27, 2018, to meet with constituents. He gave a detailed update on the farm bill situation and other bills recently passed or pending. Laura Lewis, Senator Charles Perry's District Director, came to Bronte on Monday, March 26, 2018, to meet and visit with local residents.



On April 20, weather permitting, residents and staff will be getting their garden planted at the facility. On April 2, April 16 and April 30 at 3:30 pm, Roger Alexander will lead the Sing-Along with some good ol' gospel songs. The alternating Mondays, April 9 and April 23, the Methodist Church will be entertaining with some good music. Jim Gross will be singing at the facility at 3:30 pm on April 25 and a Mid-West Play Day at 3:30 pm on April 28, rounds out the busy schedule for April.

May...here we come!!

Commissioners Court meeting minutes told

February 13, 2018

On February 13, 2018, the Coke County Commissioners Court met in regular session at the county courthouse in Robert Lee. Those in attendance included County Judge Roy Blair, Commissioner Precinct 1 Donald Robertson, Commissioner Precinct 2 Paul Williams, Commissioner Precinct 3 Marshall Millican, Commissioner Precinct 4 Joe Sefcik, and County/District Clerk Mary Grim.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag and prayer was offered by Commissioner Williams.

Judge Blair announced the presence of a quorum.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the minutes for January 23, 2018, as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sefcik and carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Hal Spain. Commissioner Sefcik moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Millican, carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Millican and carried.

Commissioner Williams

moved to approve Accounts Payable for payroll. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Millican, carried.

Judge Blair presented Extension Agent Kandice Everitt's report.

Sheriff Wayne McCutchen's report was presented by Chief Deputy Brandon Neal.

The Tax Collector's Report was presented by Judge Blair.

County/District Clerk Mary Grim presented her report.

Constable Precinct 1 Marty Boyd presented his report.

Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Jackie Walker's report was presented by Judge Blair.

The DR Report was presented by Judge Blair.

The Trapper's Report was presented by Judge Blair for 10/1/2017 to 12/31/2017.

No action was taken on the burn ban.

County Attorney, Nick Arrott, along with Diana with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality San Angelo Regional Office, and Eva with the TCEQ Abilene Regional Office, visited with the court about applying to the Texas Commission on Environment Equality for a permit by rule nuisance or abandoned buildings landfill to be located on land owned by Coke County, Texas. This is including but not limited to acreage south of Bronte, Texas, surrounding the prison facility. Commissioner Millican moved to go forward, give a little more time, and take this up at a later date. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to accept the Racial Profiling Report for the Sheriff. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Robertson, carried.

Due to lack of motion, discussion on the Coke County Financial Report was not held. Commissioner Williams requested to have Wayne Barr at the next meeting.

Commissioner Williams moved to accept tax deed and

property card for trust property in the City of Bronte from Texas Communities Group as proposed. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the Budget Amendment for hospital insurance for the Robert Lee Park in the amount of \$6,538. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robertson and carried.

Judge Blair reported on a landfill and pipeline meeting in Stamford.

Commissioner Williams reported on 2000 yards of caliche and requested some education training for sexual harassment.

Commissioner Robertson discussed putting natural gas in the rec hall.

The County/District Clerk reported that early voting will be held February 23 through March 2.

Commissioner Millican

presented a private road work request, which died due to lack of motion.

Commissioner Williams moved to pay the bills with a change of Tom's bill from Precinct 1 and 3 to Precinct 2 and 4. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

Judge Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:35 am.

February 27, 2018

On February 27, 2018, the Coke County Commissioners Court met in special session at the county courthouse in Robert Lee. Those in attendance included County Judge Roy Blair, Commissioner Precinct 2 Paul Williams, Commissioner Precinct 3 Marshall Millican, Commissioner Precinct 4 Joe Sefcik, and County/District Clerk Mary Grim.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag and prayer was offered by Judge Blair.

Judge Blair announced the presence of a quorum.

Commissioner Precinct 1

Donald Robertson was absent.

Commissioner Millican moved to reinstate the burn ban. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Sefcik moved to approve the payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve Accounts Payable for payroll. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the Racial Profiling Report for the Constable. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sefcik and carried.

Steven K. DeWolf, with Wind Tex Energy, introduced himself to the court and discussed the Grape Creek Energy Project. It is about 35,000 acres and they would like to start and end the project in 2019. They will be asking for a tax abatement.

Commissioner Williams moved to go forward with the process and was seconded by Commissioner Sefcik. The motion carried.

(Continued on page 5)

Important Election Dates

Local Entity Elections

Early Voting
April 23, 2018 through May 1, 2018

Election Day
Saturday, May 5, 2018

Primary Run-Off Election

(Commissioner, Precinct 2)

Early Voting
May 14, 2018 through May 18, 2018

Election Day
Tuesday, May 22, 2018



SCHOOL PAGE

BISD Yearbook Order deadline set for May 10

Bronte ISD yearbooks are available for order through May 10, 2018. Online ordering is available and parents can choose from different package options, customize the order, and pay online. The website to order from is ybpay.lifetouch.com and enter the yearbook ID code 13115118.



Robert Lee ISD

Breakfast

Monday, April 9
Oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit, juice, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Tuesday, April 10
French toast, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Wednesday, April 11
Pancakes, bacon, fruit, juice, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Thursday, April 12
Cheesy toast, fruit, juice, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Friday, April 13
Burrito, hashbrowns, fruit, juice, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Lunch

Monday, April 9
Mexican combo plate, refried beans, salsa, Mexicali corn, sliced peaches, milk

Head Start - Mexican combo plate, refried beans, salsa, sliced peaches, milk

Tuesday, April 10
Texas chili, cornbread, celery sticks, carrot sticks, orange smiles, brownie, milk

Head Start - Texas chili, cornbread, celery sticks, carrot sticks, orange smiles, milk

Wednesday, April 11
Breaded pork chop, mashed potatoes, carrot coins, roll, strawberries and bananas, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Thursday, April 12
Spaghetti bowl, breadstick, California blend veggies, salad, fruit cup, milk

Head Start - Spaghetti bowl, breadstick, California blend veggies, fruit cup, milk

Friday, April 13
Sloppy Joe sandwich, broccoli bites, oven fries, seasonal fruit, milk

Head Start - Same as above

Bronte ISD

Breakfast

Monday, April 9
Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, April 10

Donut holes, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday, April 11

PB&J, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, April 12
BK Tornados, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, April 13
Sausage, biscuit, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, April 9
Taquitos, queso, refried beans, seasoned corn, fruit, milk

Tuesday, April 10
Meatball sub sandwich, potato rounds, fresh veggie cup, fruit, milk

Wednesday, April 11
Chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, green beans, garden salad, fruit, milk

Thursday, April 12
Frito pie, Mexicali corn, baby carrots with ranch, salsa, peaches, milk

Friday, April 13
Hamburger, sweet potato fries or tots, coleslaw, fruit, milk

Blackwell CISD

Breakfast

Monday, April 9
Pancakes, bacon, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, April 10
Zucchini or banana bread, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, April 11
Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, April 12
Biscuit with sausage, egg, and cheese, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, April 13
Assorted fruit filled danish, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, April 9
Cold cut sub sandwich, chips, pickle spears, veggies, fruit, milk

Tuesday, April 10
Taco salad bowl (shell, ground beef, cheese, lettuce, tomatoes), pinto beans, Spanish rice, fruit, milk

Wednesday, April 11
Frito pie, chili and cheese, chili beans, fruit, milk

Thursday, April 12
Chicken sandwich, potato cubes, veggies, fruit, milk

Friday, April 13



Rifle Team! The Coke County 4-H Rifle Team competed at the Central Texas Shootout on March 24, 2018, in Brownwood, Texas. This was the first shoot of the season and all of these team members did a great job. On three different occasions, Coach De La Garza was complimented on how well behaved the Coke County team was. Julian De La Garza won third in Junior Air Rifle Silhouettes and Tristan Grantham won third in Intermediate Light Rifle Silhouettes.

Soft tacos, pinto beans, Spanish rice, fruit, milk

Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship Contest open

Don't mess with Texas Scholarship contest are now being accepted. Eligible applicants include any Texas high school senior currently attending public, private or home school and planning to attend an accredited Texas college or university in the coming year.

Presented in partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful, the Don't mess with Texas Scholarship contest will award one \$6,000 scholarship and two \$2,000 scholarships in June. The scholarships recognize the

achievements of high school seniors who take a leadership role in preventing litter in their schools and communities while working to build awareness for the Don't mess with Texas initiative.

"We're proud to offer the Don't mess with Texas Scholarship to support higher education in Texas and recognize outstanding students who are using their creativity to beautify their communities," said Becky Ozuna, program administrator for TxDOT's Don't mess with Texas

campaign. TxDOT's Don't mess with Texas program has been educating Texans about litter prevention since 1986. The program includes Adopt-a-Highway and a grassroots partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful as well as spring "Trash-Off" community outreach events, all in an effort to keep Texas roadways litter free. To apply for the Don't mess with Texas Scholarship, visit dontmesswithtexas.org. Applications must be received by administrator for TxDOT's online submission or postmarked by 5 pm (CST) April 20, 2018.

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by buying a Steer Hoof Print!

\$20 for a Name and a Hoof Print
Any additional logos or numbers are \$1 each.

To purchase, contact a member of the Sophomore class or call RLHS at (325) 453-4555. Order forms are also available at the High School office.



District Golf! The Coke County high school girls golf teams both did very well at the 2018 District 14 Golf Tournament. The Bronte High School girls team was named District Champions (right photo), with the Robert Lee High School girls being named District Runner-Up. Congratulations ladies!

...Commissioners Court meeting minutes

(Continued from page 3)

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the bond for Deputy Clerk Martha Ratliff. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

County/District Clerk Mary Grim requested that the monies deposited to the County from the Secretary of State for the Primary Election be transferred to her to be deposited into the Registry Account in order to take care of bills for the election and to pay the election workers. Commissioner Williams moved that this money be transferred to the County Clerk to take care of election expenses. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Millican, carried.

A request from the Robert Lee Street Affair to be placed on the No Charge List for the rec hall died for lack of motion.

The Robert Lee Street Affair requested to use the show barn and pavilion for the annual Street Affair. The request died for lack of motion.

Commissioner Williams reported on the stock pile of caliche.

Extension Agent Morgan Runyon reported that she has been traveling a lot of miles.

There being no private road work requests, no action was taken.

Commissioner Sefcik moved to pay the bills. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Millican, carried.

Judge Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:05 am.

Finding Unity in the Big Picture

by James M. Decker

[Editor's Note: The article referenced below was printed in the March 16, 2018, issue of The Observer/Enterprise.]

A few weeks ago I wrote about nostalgia for the "good old days" in our community. If you've not read that essay ("Nostalgia...With a Purpose"), I would encourage you to do so. The crux of that essay was to focus on the "why" of nostalgia rather than the "what." The "why" is the community purpose and identity underlying the

nostalgia. That purpose and identity is what made the community special and is the key to build on. The "what" is the tangible expression of that purpose and identity. We may long for the "what," a certain restaurant, place of entertainment, or an era of our community's primary industry, but that time may be past. Our goal should be to build around the "why," to recapture our innate purpose and identity, and in doing so, create new tangible expressions of that identity, a "what" for a new era, if you will.

But something that I want to address moving forward is "how": how do we go about planning to build around our "why"? How do we determine what that "why" is? How do we actually formulate a plan? We cannot simply snap our fingers and restore our community greatness.

Over the years, I've participated in several community meetings with outside facilitators and consultants. The big idea of each meeting was largely the same: the outside person would help community leaders identify community goals and vision. Some of those conversations were productive, some not so much. Looking back, they've all had the same net result: everyone had the meeting and thought of ideas, then the meeting was promptly forgotten.

That's not to say facilitators and consultants are a poor investment. They can be helpful. But a common thread in many meetings is a fanciful hope that a third party will help inspire a group of local leaders into a unifying purpose. Having a community vision meeting AFTER you're unified might be quite successful. Expecting a

group of disjointed leaders to work together by expressing their own visions, which might be at odds with one another? That's tougher.

Unity has to come from within. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. You can't make local leaders work together just because you had a meeting about it. Unity is about the big picture, not specific details. We may have different ideas for new restaurants, expanded parks, or locations for new housing, but those specifics are all the "what," the tangible expressions. They all underlie the big picture "why," the dream of a better, more prosperous community.

When you attempt to unite people around the specifics, you end up with everyone proposing their own ideas they believe are best and little being accomplished. When you start with the big picture first, it's easier to see that the leaders all want the same big picture. We begin to realize the little details are less important - your idea may be better here, my idea may be better there - but in the end we're working towards the same destination.

I've got more to say in the future about putting pen to paper and actually identifying a community's "why", but for now, think about the big picture. This applies to national political discourse as much as it does local communities, but don't let disagreement on the specifics destroy the big picture goal. All of us mostly want the same big things, even if we disagree on how to get there. When we start the conversation with the disagreeable specifics, we're destined to fail and probably get mad at each other in the process. Instead, let's realize that we all

see the same big picture and don't lose sight of that.

James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and city councilman in Stamford, and the creator of the forthcoming "West of 98" podcast and website. He may be contacted through Facebook at facebook.com/james.decker.

Psalm 23

[Editor's Note: The following is the fourteenth in a series of articles submitted by Brandon Broadbent.]

People often wonder why one Christian may receiving many blessings while another very few. All good and perfect gifts come from the Father. Our walk with the Father and our faith in the promises lead to a more abundant life.

Psalms 23:1-5

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

If we look at the scripture above it gives us insight to being blessed.

1. He is lord and shepherd, you must let Him watch over and protect you. If a wolf

comes, you need to let the Shepherd protect you. You don't need to run to the wolf and just plan to come back to the flock tomorrow or when you get beat up enough.

2. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. Jesus will lead you to the best places. We cannot follow our own instincts because we follow after what we think looks good to us and maybe not what is good for us. He leads we must follow.

4. He restores us. It is not something we can do. He has restored us. We don't fear because we know without a doubt that He already has this worked out for our good.

5. You have enemies, but He raises you up while they are looking on. The last sentence sums it up, my cup runs over. You see, if you are Christian, you have a cup. It is up to us if we want to turn it upwards to catch what is flowing down from above or if we just lay there on our side. Not following the will of the Father, you may not receive the full blessing that is available

Love y'all. Tell someone what Jesus has done in your life.

Work zone fatalities on the rise

In recognition of National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 9 - 13, the Texas Department of Transportation reminds drivers that every day requires caution when driving through work zones. In 2017, work zone fatalities in Texas increased 9 percent over the previous year, resulting in 199 deaths and 813 serious injuries statewide.

(Continued on page 7)

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NOTICES

AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL

A los votantes registrados de la Ciudad de Bronte, Texas:

Por la presente se da aviso de que los centros de votación listados a continuación estarán abiertos de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m., el sábado 5 de mayo de 2018, para votar en una elección general para elegir a un (1) alcalde y dos (2) concejales miembros en:

Bronte Senior Citizens Center
613 East Oliver Avenue
Bronte, Texas 76933

La VOTACIÓN TEMPRANA por aspecto personal se realizará cada día de la semana en:

Bronte City Hall
114 South Washington Street
Bronte, Texas 76933

Entre las 8:00 a.m. y 5:00 p.m. los días 23, 25, 27, 30 y 1 de abril; entre las 7:00 a.m. y las 7:00 p.m. los días 24 y 26 de abril.

LAS SOLICITUDES DE BOLETA POR CORREO se enviarán por correo a:

District and County Clerk
Mary Grim
13 East 7th Street
Robert Lee, Texas 76945

Las solicitudes de boletas por correo se deben recibir a más tardar al cierre de los negocios en:

April 24, 2018
Publicado esto el 5 de abril de 2018.

39-5tc

...Work zone fatalities

(Continued from page 5)

With 4 percent of those fatalities being road crew workers, the remaining 96 percent was comprised of motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

"We always urge drivers to exercise great caution and obey traffic laws, especially in work zones," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "Doing so helps ensure everyone - motorists and work crews - gets home safely to their loved ones."

As the state's population continues to boom, the price of progress can mean more than 2,500 active TxDOT work zones at any given time. In 2017, there were 103 work zone crashes in the 15-county San Angelo District, resulting in one fatality and nine serious injuries. The leading causes of statewide work zone crashes - speeding and driver inattention - are entirely preventable. Fines in work zones double when workers are present and can cost up to \$2,000.

"Roadside crews often work only a few feet from fast-moving traffic," Bass said. "Driver vigilance is paramount to ensuring the safety of everyone in the work zone. We urge anyone driving through a work zone to minimize distractions, give their full attention to the road and be prepared to slow down or stop on short notice."

As part of its ongoing Work Zone Awareness campaign,

TxDOT also reminds drivers of the Move Over/Slow Down law, which requires drivers to move over or slow down when approaching TxDOT crews, law enforcement, emergency vehicles or tow trucks stopped on the roadside or shoulder with flashing blue or amber lights. Failure to do so can result in fines up to \$2,000.

To further help raise awareness about the need for driver responsibility in work zones, TxDOT is partnering with Austin-based Texas Mutual Insurance Company to spread the campaign message around the state. An integral part of Texas Mutual's mission - helping employers prevent workplace incidents and minimizing their consequences - aligns with TxDOT's Work Zone Awareness efforts.

Texas A&M launches International Beef Academy

by Jessica Domel

Ranchers, researchers and other leaders in the beef industry across the globe are invited to apply now for Texas A&M University's inaugural International Beef Academy (IBCA).

The advanced online course will begin in September and continue through July 2019.

"It's going to be a certificate program to advance the knowledge in beef cattle production for industry professionals, for producers and for anyone that works with beef cattle anywhere," Dr. Reinaldo Fernandes Cooke, associate professor at Texas A&M University, said in an interview with the Texas Farm Bureau Radio Network. "It's going to have nine modules going from cattle nutrition to cattle reproduction, quality of beef products and safety of beef products."

The academy will include hands-on experiences at Texas A&M and on a commercial

cattle operations.

The graduation ceremony will be held during the annual Beef Cattle Short Course.

"It's going to be an advanced learning opportunity. People that are wanting to take the academy have to have a basic knowledge in beef cattle production. In terms of level of learning, it's going to be beyond other grad beef cattle production classes," Cooke said. "It doesn't mean that the students have to have a bachelor's degree in animal sciences, but they have to have experience in beef cattle production."

The academy will offer the latest, innovative technologies in beef cattle production.

"This is something that's unique across the globe - an advanced learning experience that is going to be relevant to every single location in the planet. The way we're building the courses is we have the fundamentals that are similar across all regions of the planet, but then we're going to go specifically in terms of technologies that are going to be adopted in different parts of the globe," Cooke said. "With that, we want to make the academy something relevant to people across the planet. That's why we call it the International Beef Academy."

Due to the personalized nature of the course, space is limited.

"I want to talk to every single student. We're going to meet every week using online platforms, and hopefully, they're all going to come to campus at the end of the program so we can meet in person," Cooke said. "They're going to be here for about 10 days for hands-on training. To have that customized experience, we're limiting the class size, so we can provide a one-to-one service and really tailor the academy to the needs of each student."

The nine modules are: global beef production, cattle welfare and behavior, forage production

and utilization, nutritional management and requirements, reproductive physiology and management, breeding and genetics, immunology and herd health management, safety of beef products and carcass and beef quality.

To earn a certificate, a student must complete at least six of the nine modules.

"Our goal is to have a balanced group of students from different regions of the globe," Cooke said. "They can not only share the information with some of their clients, their students, their colleagues, their neighbors,

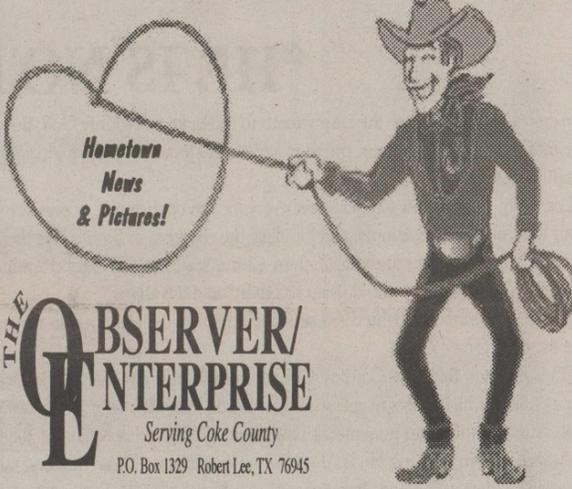
but also recruit new students to the academy for the future. We're looking for students that are really willing to learn from the best, and this is what the academy is about."

A fee structure and payment options for IBCA online at <https://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/animalscience/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2018/02/Fee-Structure-and-Payment-Options.pdf>.

Applications are due July 15, 2018.

Cooke encourages anyone with questions to email ibca@tamu.edu.

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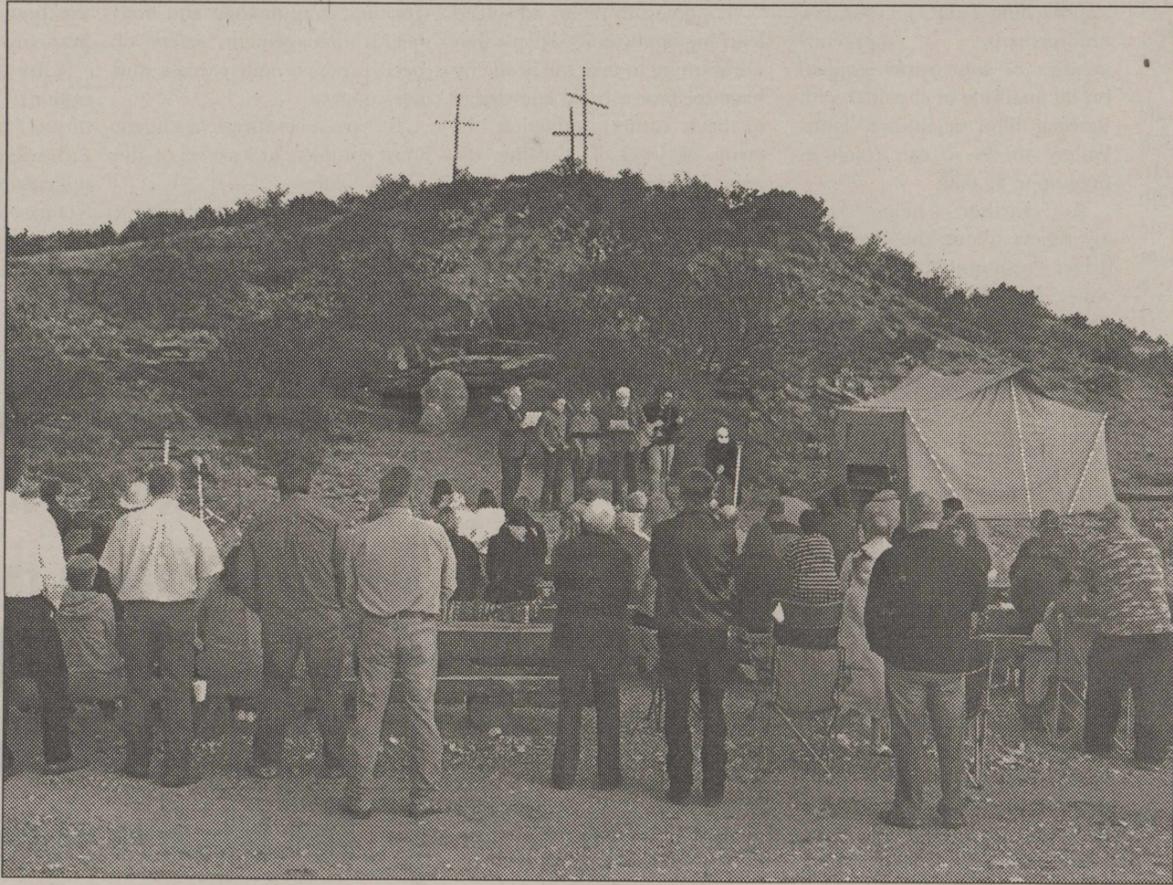
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Easter Sunrise Service at Gentry Ranch



The angel said "HE IS NOT HERE! HE HAS RISEN!"

As the crowd gathered before the empty tomb to celebrate and glorify God, they felt the presence of Jesus, the risen Son of God. Rev. Everett Boyce, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Bronte, welcomed everyone into the presence of Jesus, the risen savior. All joined in prayer, giving thanks for all the blessing He has given. David Bedford led as we sang our praises, "Up from the grave he arose...and he lives forever. Hallelujah! Christ arose."

Rev. Lee Bevely, First Baptist Church, gave everyone the opportunity to pray for someone they knew that needs special prayers, some needs of our community, and for each of the churches. He gave thanks for God's love in our lives, our families, Bronte, and for all of the churches in Bronte. He then led in the Lord's Prayer.

Rev. David Lewis, preacher at the Church of Christ, read Matthew 28:1-10, which gives the account of Mary Magdalene and Mary going to the tomb at dawn on the first day and seeing the angel sitting on the stone by the empty tomb. "Don't be afraid, Jesus has risen" said the angel.

As everyone sat below the lighted crosses, David led the congregation in singing "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and "The Old Rugged Cross", reminding us that someday we will share in His glory and exchange the cross for a crown.

Mr. James Brunson from the Cowboy Church invited those present to acknowledge God as our Savior, thanking him for the strength and guidance he gives us. We can share God's love by giving to the Bronte Community Chest, which assists people with their needs. An offering of \$1,137.00 was given.

The Blackwell Youth group presented a skit, giving a chilling description of the feelings of His followers after the death of Jesus, then reenacting the scriptures of the biblical events - from finding the empty tomb to the appearance of Jesus proving He is Alive and He has Risen. Those in the youth group sharing the resurrection story included Tori and Brendan Scott, Zach Pazer, Jarod McMurtrey, and Nicole Kitten. Narrating were the group leaders, Chad and Brandy Scott.

Special music, "Because He Loved Me", was sung by the Oak Creek Boys - Ray Barnett, Steve Clark, Martin DeLa Garza, and Bro. Lee Bevely. Accompanying them included Wes Henson, and Ryan Jones.

Rev. Dale Patterson, Central Baptist Church, declared today is Resurrection Sunday. Because Jesus lives - 1) We have His presence. He will never leave us or forsakes us. 2) We have His peace. Even with all the problems we face, we still feel God's peace. 3) We have His power to sustain us. 4) We have His promise to secure our future. My Redeemer Lives.

Rev. Everett Boyce challenged everyone to go forth to share God's love and the resurrection story. We do not go alone for God the Father, his Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit go with us.

A large breakfast of casseroles, sausage, nut breads, cinnamon rolls, fruit, coffee, hot chocolate, orange juice and other goodies were shared.

He is Alive! We are Forgiven! He has given us Salvation!

Thanks to all:

Participants in the service: the ministers, the youth, and the song leaders.
Those who set up the lighting, the tent, the sound system, and the breakfast area.
The coffee cooks and all who brought food. The Coke County Sheriff's Office.
ALL who came to share in the Glory of the Resurrection.

Thank you,
Juanette Gentry

