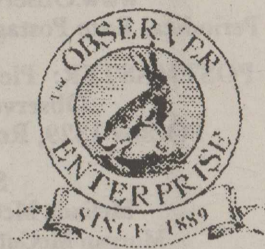


# THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Beth Prather 3/1/00  
PO Box 72  
Robert Lee TX 76945

Serving Coke County

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Vol. 130, No. 51

Friday, June 29, 2018

## Domestic dispute in Robert Lee leaves one man dead

Cisco Moreno of Robert Lee was shot and killed in his home during the early morning hours of Sunday, June 24, 2018. The investigation is under the direction of the Texas Rangers with the assistance of the Coke County Sheriff's Office.

### Movie in the Park set for Friday

Movie in the Park will be held Friday, June 29, at the Bronte Park Pavilion. A showing of "The Sandlot" will begin at 9 pm with concessions available.

### 4th of July celebration set at BHRC

Bronte Health and Rehab Center will host their annual 4th of July celebration beginning at 6 pm. The event will include a

silent auction and the famous Ed Cumbie auction, along with hot dogs, watermelon, and other goodies. Funds raised go to support the BHRC Auxiliary.

However, with deep regret the BHRC Auxiliary will not be hosting fireworks this year. The cost has gone up and the number of patrons at BHRC that can enjoy the fireworks has gone down. The Auxiliary hopes that another organization may consider taking on this project.

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Friday, June 29

Move in the Park, 9 pm,  
Bronte Park Pavilion

### Monday, July 2

Ladies Water Aerobics, 6:15 pm,  
Bronte Pool

### Wednesday, July 4

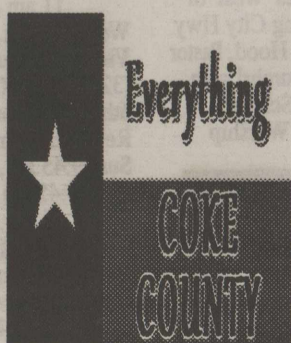
Bronte Health & Rehab Center  
4th of July Celebration

### Thursday, July 5

Red Hat Society Meeting, 11 am,  
Sandwich Shop, Ballinger  
\*\*\*

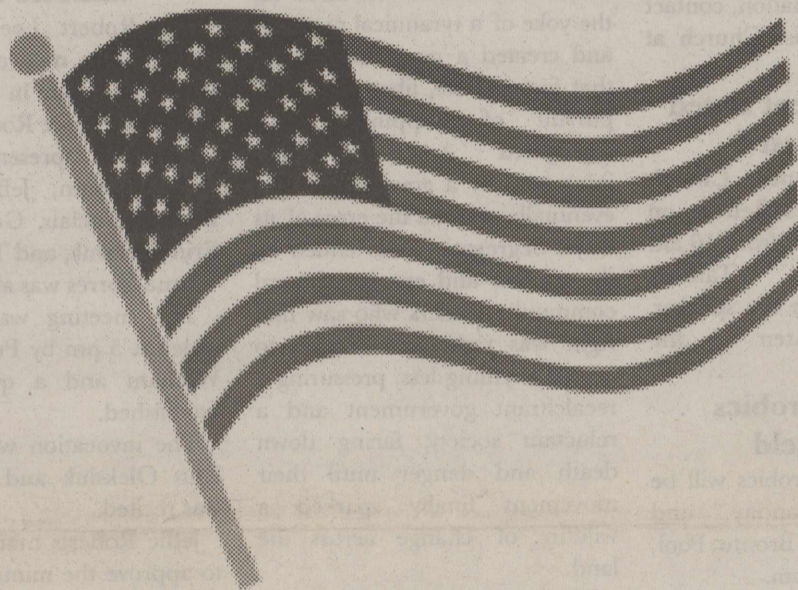
Ladies Water Aerobics, 6:15 pm,  
Bronte Pool

Provided  
By



EverythingCokeCounty.com

## Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July Holiday!



Please Pray for our  
Communities, Our County,  
Our State and Our Country.

### RL Mini Cheer Camp slated for July 30 - August 3

The Robert Lee High School Cheerleaders will host their annual Mini Cheer Camp July 30 through August 3. The camp will be held from 9 am until 11 am each day at the school tennis courts. Snacks will be available for sale and students will need to bring a water bottle each day of camp. Also new Steer shirts will be for sale that week.

For more information, contact Maranda Hood by email at

maranda.hood@rlisd.net.

### Red Hat Society to meet July 5

The rambling ladies of the Red Hat Society will be enjoying their July luncheon at the Sandwich Shop in Ballinger on Thursday, July 5, at 11 am. Put on your purple shirt and red hat and come enjoy the atmosphere of this renovated bank complete with the old vault door, and the company of a group of the most delightful, kind-hearted, interesting ladies you would ever want to meet!

### RLBC summer lunch delivery available

Robert Lee Baptist Church will be delivering lunches to children ages 4 - 18 at home within the city limits of Robert Lee. The lunches are delivered every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday June 11 through August 10. There are no qualifications to be included, just forms for delivery. The forms may be picked up at the church, Monday through Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

For more information, contact the church at 453-2724 or Erin Oleksiuk at 656-9884.

# HIGH FIRE DANGER BURN BAN IN EFFECT.

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

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**Vacation Bible School set for RLBC**

Robert Lee Baptist Church will hold Vacation Bible School July 9 through July 13, from 5:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Children going in to Pre-K through 6th grade are invited to attend. A pool party will complete the week on July 13.

For more information, contact Robert Lee Baptist Church at 453-2724.

**Ladies Retreat slated for August 4**

Robert Lee Baptist Church will host a Ladies Retreat on Saturday, August 4, from 10 am until 2:15 pm. Tammy Whitehurst will be the speaker, with Tammy Aten as the worship leader.

**Water Aerobics to be held**

Ladies water aerobics will be held each Monday and Thursday at the Bronte Pool, beginning at 6:15 pm.

**Sparks Becoming Wildfires**

by James M. Decker

If you've seen the national political news this past week, you're probably exhausted, annoyed, and frustrated. Our news has been consumed by incivility, ugly behavior, petty wars of words, and a general lack of leadership and servanthood. This soap opera is fueled by 24 hour cable news and social media, which keep us in a constant frenzy in the name of ratings, revenue, and clicks.

If you're tired of that, let me tell you about the news in Stamford this past week. Don't get me wrong, we've got our share of struggles and issues, but three developments stand out. First, an anonymous business owner offered to underwrite free admission to the city pool for the remainder of the summer, so that a cornerstone recreational opportunity in the community is accessible to everyone, as often as desired, regardless of financial limitation. Then, after news of a hospital layoff, our local bakery offered free sweet treats to any employees affected by the news. Finally, one of our churches announced a new summer program offering a weekly lunch at the city park to all school-aged children, free of charge, for the rest of the summer. Different people, stepping up in their own ways, with one goal: to improve their community.

When I compare discouraging

national news to inspiring local news, I think about America's history. Our most powerful changes have risen from the bottom up. They were rarely issued from the top down. America wasn't founded by a benevolent leader who kindly granted liberty to the people. America was founded by regular community leaders who threw off the yoke of a tyrannical monarch and created a new environment that fostered life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. A segregated America wasn't integrated by a government that eventually realized the error of its ways. Segregation was ended by the passion and energy of local community leaders who saw that right was right and refused to accept anything less, pressuring a recalcitrant government and a reluctant society, facing down death and danger until their movement finally sparked a wildfire of change across the land.

It's easy to be despondent about our country today: we seem polarized, divided, and unwilling to work together. Don't be. Instead, think about the tough times of our country's past, which are too numerous to list in this essay. New leaders have always risen to the challenges of their era. The people rarely waited on top-down government to save the day. Instead the people and new leaders sought out better days and better ways, and bent the

government and society to their will.

Don't let the national story be the story of our collective future. I am heartened by the leaders rising up in Stamford - people putting their own stamp on a better future for the community through business, philanthropy, public service, and ministry. I pray that this spark turns into a wildfire that sweeps through our town and spreads elsewhere. We need not wait on Washington or Austin to fix our society. With a wildfire of community leaders across the country seeking better days and better ways for their place, we'll be the ones who do the fixing.

*James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and mayor 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.*

**RLISD Board Meeting minutes told**

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees met on May 16, 2018, at 5 pm in Robert Lee ISD Conference Room 119.

Members present included Wes Washam, Jeffie Roberts, Beverly Sinclair, George Grim, Erin Oleksiuk, and Tom Sawyer. Irma Torres was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 5 pm by President Wes Washam and a quorum was established.

The invocation was given by Erin Oleksiuk and the pledge was recited.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of April 17, 2018, and was seconded by George Grim. All were for.

Beverly Sinclair made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented by Robin Allen and to approve the bills. She was seconded by Tom Sawyer. All were for.

The Conflict of Interest Disclosure was signed by the Board.

Elected Board Members were sworn in by Robin Allen. They included Wes Washam, George

Grim, and Tom Sawyer.

Erin Oleksiuk made a motion to keep Wes Washam as President, Tom Sawyer as Vice President and Jeffie Roberts as Secretary. The motion was seconded by George Grim and all were for.

David O'Dell gave the principals report; enrollment for grades 7-12 was 102 and attendance rate was 96.6% for the month of April. Lee McCown gave the principals report for elementary; enrollment was 174 students and 95.0% attendance rate.

Supt. Hood recommended signing the Interlocal Agreement with Concho Valley Council of Governments Head Start Program. Erin Oleksiuk made the motion to approve recommendation and was seconded by Tom Sawyer. All were for.

The Breakfast and Lunch Prices were tabled until June meeting.

Supt. Hood recommended the 2018-2019 TREA Legal Services Program as presented. George Grim made the motion to approve the recommendation and was seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All were for.

Supt. Hood recommended to

sign the Resolution to Consider Alternative Graduation Requirements and to adopt EIF Regulation as presented. Jeffie Roberts made the motion to approve the recommendation and was seconded by Tom Sawyer. All were for.

Supt. Hood gave his respective report on enrollment numbers, update on budget process, facilities update, graduation, and the the board signed the diplomas. Supt. Hood presented information on a possible May 2019 Bond Issue.

Supt. Hood read the resignation letter from Brett Glaze, effective May 25, 2018. Erin Oleksiuk made a motion to approve the resignation and was seconded by Jeffie Roberts. All were for.

Supt. Hood read the resignation letter from Susan White, effective May 25, 2018.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the resignation with regrets and was seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All were for.

The next regular board meeting will be Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 12 pm.

Tom Sawyer made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Jeffie Roberts. The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 pm.

**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 Bevy

Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,  
 10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Bible Study & Worship

**First United Methodist Church**  
 Wednesday 6 pm RA's & GA's,  
 6:30 pm Youth & Adults

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

**Rev. Everette 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

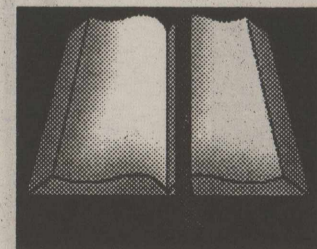
**St. James Catholic Church**  
 215 N. Washington, Bronte  
 (325) 365-2687

**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.pecanbaptistchurchrl.com  
 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, Wed 5:30 pm Bible Study

**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

**Russell Davis**  
 Agent  
 611 Austin Street  
 PO Box 1079  
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 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



## Robert Lee's Community Watch hosts officials

Coke County Judge Roy Blair presented the program at this month's meeting of Robert Lee's Community Watch. The well-attended meeting was held at 6 pm Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at the Family Life Center of First United Methodist Church in Robert Lee. The group's organizer Shauna Grantham welcomed the crowd and introduced Judge Blair and Coke County Sheriff Wayne McCutchen (above photo).

Judge Blair and Sheriff McCutchen provided information to the assembled members and answered many of the group's questions. A brief description of the items discussed is listed below.

They discussed our judicial system and explained the difference in the cases heard between county courts and district courts and the attorneys charged with prosecuting defendants in each of these. Law enforcement is responsible for investigating criminal activities. They present their cases to the court's attorney who decides either to move forward with prosecution or not. The county court handles misdemeanors and in Coke County is presided over by Judge Blair. The decision to move forward and prosecute a case is made by County Attorney Nick Arrott. Coke County belongs to the 51st Judicial District in Texas and is presided over by District Judge Barbara Walther. The decision to move forward with obtaining indictments for prosecution in this court is made by District Attorney Allison Palmer. The District Court hears felony cases.

When asked about the crime rate in Coke County, the elected officials pointed out that most of the local crime was property crime tied to the drug problem. Almost all violent crime in Coke County was the result of a domestic dispute. They explained that Coke County was adversely affected by drugs, but not more or less than the surrounding areas.

They urged the attendees to report suspicious behavior immediately - in most cases by

calling the Sheriff's Office 24/7 number (325-453-2717) that is answered by a local dispatcher. 911 is answered by dispatchers in San Angelo working for the Tom Green County Sheriff's Office. They pointed out that it was also a violation of the law to call 911 for a non-emergency. They also requested that citizens get photos or videos of the suspicious behavior if they could do so safely. They urged citizens to lock their vehicles and their homes.

When asked about the right to shoot someone in your home, they detailed the different laws surrounding this issue. The Sheriff gave a description of a person entering someone else's home, making a snack and sitting down to watch television. This person is apparently not threatening the homeowner. In this case, the homeowner should leave the residence and call law enforcement. He explained about an "avenue of escape" and how citizens are obligated to use this option if possible. However when pressed with questions about protecting additional residents in the home, such as children, the men said you are not obligated to leave these residents and escape. Force is warranted when you feel your life is being threatened or by protecting another life you feel is threatened. Common sense has to prevail in these situations.

Grantham took over at this point and discussed the different sections in Robert Lee and future patrols. It was determined that normal golf

carts are not allowed for patrols on city streets due to state laws. Future meetings and activities for the group were discussed before the meeting ended.

### Bronte City Council meeting minutes told May 18, 2018

The Bronte City Council held a special meeting on Friday, May 18, 2018, at 3:30 pm.

Those in attendance included Council Member Paul Gohman, Council Member Lee Wommack, Council Member Santiago Rodriguez, Council Member Steve Hines, Council Member Stormy Vaughn, Utilities Director Ricky Royall, and City Secretary Crystal Blevins.

Mayor Pro Tem David Bedford and City Attorney Eileen M. Hayman were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Prayer was given by Council Member Lee Wommack.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee Wommack to accept the resignation of City Secretary Crystal Blevins. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stormy Vaughn and the motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

The Council discussed considering City staff to advertise the City Secretary position and to appoint council member(s) to interview applicants. It was discussed to advertise in newspapers, social media, TML, Abilene, San Angelo, TMCA, Texas Workforce, etc.



**Robert Lee Community Watch Blocks!** These are the division lines separating Robert Lee into four Community Watch blocks. Each block has a block captain.

Discussion also took place regarding who would be on the interview panel. It was decided to include Council Members David Bedford and Stormy Vaughn, with Santiago Rodriguez as first alternate and Lee Wommack as second alternate. Paul Gohman, Ricky Royall, and Crystal Blevins would also be on the interview panel.

Salary range for the position was also discussed.

Discussion was also held in regards to municipal judge duties possibly being contracted out.

A motion was made by Council Member Lee Wommack to advertise for the City Secretary position and he was seconded by Council Member Santiago Rodriguez. The motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

A motion was made by Council Member Stormy Vaughn to adjourn the meeting at 3:52 pm. Council Member

Santiago Rodriguez seconded and the motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

### June 7, 2018

The Bronte City Council held a special meeting on Thursday, June 7, 2018, at 6:30 pm.

Those in attendance included Mayor Paul Gohman, Council Member Lee Wommack, Council Member Santiago Rodriguez, Council Member Steve Hines, Council Member Stormy Vaughn, Utilities Director Ricky Royall, and City Secretary Crystal Blevins.

Mayor Pro Tem David Bedford and City Attorney Eileen M. Hayman were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Prayer was given by Mayor Paul Gohman.

The Council discussed considering hiring a City Secretary for the City of Bronte.

The Council exited into Executive Session at 6:31 pm and returned at 7:38 pm.

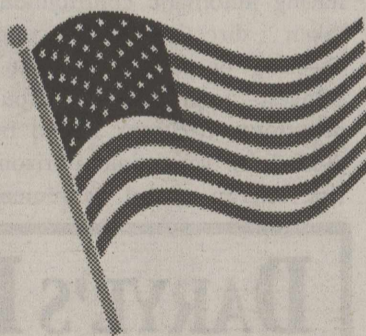
*(Continued on next page)*

## HOLIDAY CLOSING

All facilities of this bank will be closed Wednesday, July 4th.

In Observance Of

The 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY!



Please plan your banking requirements during regular banking hours to avoid any inconvenience.

**Robert Lee State Bank**

Member FDIC

453-2545

Robert Lee, Texas

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**...Bronte City Council minutes**

(Continued from page 3)  
A motion was made by Council Member Stormy Vaughn to offer the City Secretary position to Teresa Ballard with a salary of \$34,000. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee Wommack and the motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

Council Member Lee Wommack made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm and he was seconded by Council Member Stormy Vaughn. The motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

**2018 King Family Reunion held**

The descendants of Sam and Anna King met for their 57th annual reunion on Saturday, June 23, 2018, at the Victory Assembly of God Family Center in Robert Lee. Sam and Anna (Benson) King were long time residents of Coke County. Sam and Anna were married January 1, 1890, in the home of W.C. Benson in Edith. The first documented King Reunion started back in 1961 in the Boy Scout building in Robert Lee. Before that they were held in conjunction with the Edith Homecomings. They have been held at the Family Center starting in 2012.

The day was spent eating, visiting, sharing pictures and just trying to stay cool. There was a moment of remembrance for David Hall and Vivian Blair-Keel who had passed away since the last reunion. It was mentioned that Jess Gaines was the oldest attending at age 89 and Marcus Baker was the youngest attending at the age of 2 years. Barbara Daniels traveled the furthest coming from Seattle, Washington. It was mentioned that only 7 of the 41 first cousins are still living. Lavelta McVicker led the prayer before lunch and had the "hat passed" for donations. That evening Darlene Kelly gave a financial report and LaVelta McVicker led the prayer before the meal. Everyone had a good time and is looking forward to next year.

Attending the event was:  
Thomas King family - None  
Will King family - None

Beulah King Gaines family - Jess Gaines and Randy Gaines of Dallas, Texas; Belinda Biddle, Tanner Benko, Stephen and Milissa Biddle and Meredith McCown, all of Sherman, Texas; Joe David and Teri Key of Robert Lee, Texas; Katie and Waymond Dixon, Kylan, Kim, and Kohen Wilson, and Rena Dee Gaines, all of San Angelo, Texas; Dorothy McCormick of Fort Worth, Texas; and Barbara Daniels of Seattle, Washington.

Vela King Davis Plumlee family - Darlene Kelly of Ballinger, Texas; Travis, Sarah Kay (Gandy) and Marcus Baker and Judy Snowden, of all of Odessa, Texas; Shirley Strakos of San Angelo, Texas; and Christa, Emily, and Gracie McClellan of View, Texas

Frank Otis King family - None

**Reunion!** *The King Family met for their 57th annual reunion on Saturday, June 23, 2018. They included the fourth generation of descendants of Sam and Anna King (top photo), as well as the third generation (pictured along with their spouses).*

George King family - None  
Lillie King Gaines family - None

Dave King family - Joyce and Bobby Walker of Robert Lee, Texas; and Laurel Vicars of Odessa, Texas

Mae King Blair family - Sam Keel, Joe David and Wynell Keel, Paul, Candy, Vicky, and Emily Sinar, all of San Angelo, Texas

R.B. King Family - Burt and Lavelta McVicker of Burnet, Texas; Becky and Gary Vernor of Brazoria, Texas; Betty George of Lake Jackson, Texas; Cindy Mitchell of Katy, Texas; Eldon King of Athens, Texas; and Jeff King of Plano, Texas.

Visitors for the day were Michael Martin of Merkel, Texas; Ann VanSikes of Dallas, Texas; and Pastor Irving and Betty Smith of Robert Lee, Texas

**Work Toward Your Own Financial Independence Day**

We're getting close to the Fourth of July, our national Independence Day. This celebration may get you thinking of the many freedoms you enjoy. But have you thought of what you might need to do to attain financial freedom?

Your first step is to define what financial independence signifies to you. For many people, it means being able to retire when they want to, and to enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle. So, if this is your vision as well, consider taking these steps:

Pay yourself first. If you wait until you have some extra money "lying around" before you invest for retirement, you may never get around to doing it. Instead, pay yourself first. This actually is not that hard to do, especially if you have a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, because your contributions are taken directly from your paycheck, before you even have the chance to spend the money. You can set up a similar arrangement with an IRA by having automatic contributions taken directly from your checking or savings account.

Invest appropriately. Your investment decisions should be guided by your time horizon, risk tolerance and retirement



goals. If you deviate from these guideposts -- for instance, by taking on either too much or too little risk -- you may end up making decisions that aren't right for you and that may set you back as you pursue your financial independence.

Avoid financial "potholes." The road to financial liberty will always be marked with potholes you should avoid. One such pothole is debt -- the higher your debt burden, the less you can invest for your retirement. It's not always easy to lower your debt load, but do the best you can to live within your means. A second pothole comes in the form of large, unexpected short-term costs, such as a major home or auto repair or a

medical bill not fully covered by insurance. To avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for these short-term costs, try to build an emergency fund containing six months' to a year's worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account.

Give yourself some wiggle room. If you decide that to achieve financial independence, you must retire at 62 or you must buy a vacation home by the beach, you may feel disappointed if you fall short of these goals. But if you're prepared to accept some flexibility in your plans -- perhaps you can work until 65 or just rent a vacation home for the summer -- you may be able

to earn a different, but still acceptable, financial freedom. And by working a couple of extra years or paying less for your vacation home expenses, you may also improve your overall financial picture.

Putting these and other moves to work can help you keep moving toward your important goals. When you eventually reach your own "Financial Independence Day," it may not warrant a fireworks display -- but it should certainly add some sparkle to your life.

Email Your News to  
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**DPS Launches iWatchTexas Mobile App**

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) today announced the launch of the new iWatchTexas mobile application (app), which the public can use to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate ongoing or future criminal or terrorist activity. The iWatch Texas program was created as a partnership between communities and law enforcement, and utilizes citizen-sourced tips related to criminal activity. DPS developed the new iWatchTexas mobile app at the direction of Governor Greg Abbott to make it easier for the public to report suspicious activity in Texas, including criminal, terroristic or school safety-related threats.

"The new iWatchTexas mobile app is one of several solutions that Texas is implementing immediately to identify and report those who may pose a threat to our schools and to our communities," said Governor Abbott. "Our law enforcement officers often rely on vigilant Texans to help keep communities safe, and this new tool will give everyone the ability to quickly and easily communicate with authorities and help prevent future tragedies."

The app is now available for iPhone users on the Apple App Store (iWatchTexas) and for Android users on Google Play (iWatchTexas).

"Amid the growing threats to public safety by malicious actors, we want to remind the public that they can be law enforcement's greatest resource to combat those intent on harming others, including innocent schoolchildren and administrators," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "By launching this new mobile app at the direction of Gov. Abbott, we are providing an additional and easy way for the public to report any illegal or suspicious behavior, which may ultimately help save lives."

The public can report suspicious behaviors through the iWatch Texas program via the new mobile app, online at [www.iwatchtx.org](http://www.iwatchtx.org) or by calling 1-844-643-2251. A report usually takes fewer than five minutes to complete, and once submitted, each report is reviewed by law enforcement analysts. All reports are confidential (providing contact information, which is optional, will allow for follow-up questions).

Preparations for crime, terrorist attacks and threats to school safety may often be seen but not reported. When in doubt, speak up. Here are some examples of behaviors and activities to report:

Comments made regarding killing or harming someone.

Strangers asking questions about building security features and procedures.

Briefcase, suitcase, backpack or package is left behind.

Cars or trucks are left in no-parking zones at important buildings.

Chemical smells or fumes that are unusual for the location.

People requesting sensitive information, such as blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules, without a need to know.

Purchasing supplies that could be used to make bombs or weapons, or purchasing uniforms without having the proper credentials.

Taking photographs or videos of security features, such as cameras or hot spots.

Note: The iWatch Texas program is not designed to report emergencies. If a situation requires an emergency response, call 911. As a reminder, false reporting to a law enforcement agency is a violation of state law.

**Meat prices competitive for consumers this Fourth of July**

by Justin Walker

Consumers could have more than one thing to celebrate this Independence Day as retailers feature good prices for beef, pork and chicken, according to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension service experts.

Dr. David Anderson, AgriLife Extension economist, said there should be an assortment of steak prices over the Fourth of July holiday. But record production of pork and chicken, combined with lower beef prices, will attract shoppers.

"We're heading into the holiday with large meat production across beef, pork and chicken," he said in an interview with AgriLife Today. "Grocery stores frequently feature meat items in their sale papers and in-store and grocery store club card specials."

Anderson expects steak and other beef items to be competitively priced.

Ribeye and tenderloin prices are below last year's numbers, Anderson said, while strip loins are higher. Choice briskets have also seen a dip in prices, he said.

Anderson expects deals on pork too, as pork loins dropped roughly 15 cents per pound since 2017.

Bill Thompson, AgriLife Extension economist, said consumers will benefit from competition among the proteins, but it may add pressure to cow-calf producers. He said low beef prices were likely the cause of record per capita beef consumption, up to 59.1 pounds from 53.1 pounds in 2016.

"It's tough on the beef industry because people don't want to pay a premium," he said. "As much protein as there is available, it's tough to see a big rally for beef."

Annual pork and beef per capita consumption could surpass chicken consumption—111.1 pounds to 100 pounds, respectively—for the first time in years.

"This tells us that the economy is doing well enough that consumers are willing to spend a little bit more of their purchasing dollar on beef and



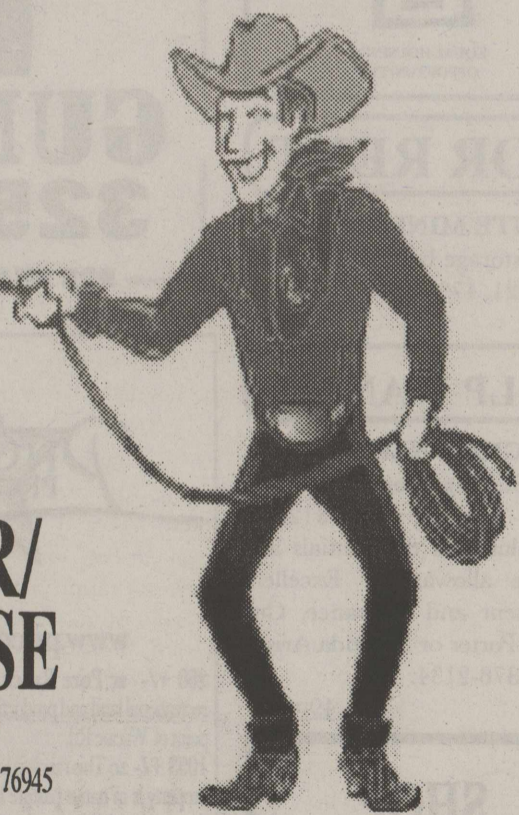
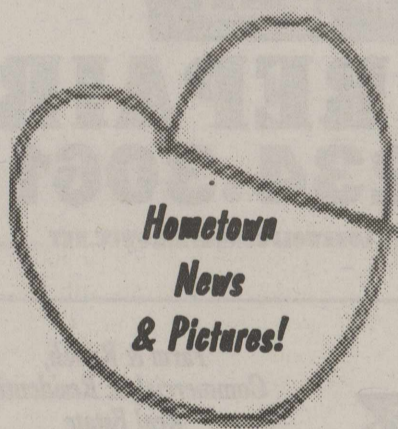
**Library Program!** Bernadette Nason presented an interesting program to local children at the Coke County Library on Wednesday, June 13, 2018.

red-meat cuts compared to poultry," Tracy Tomascik, Texas Farm Bureau associate

director of Commodity and Regulatory Affairs, said. "They are letting their taste buds,

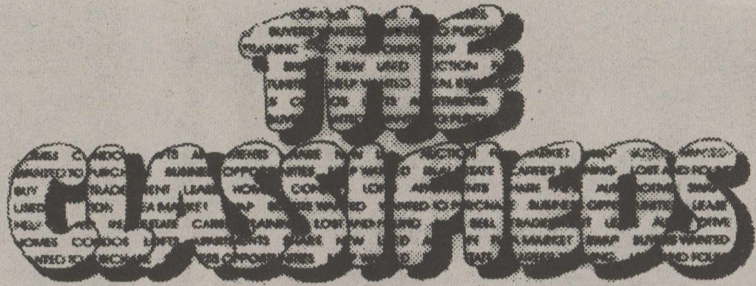
rather than their pocketbooks, dictate their meals a little more than usual."

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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45-tnc

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for Sterling County Nursing Home. Starting wages \$12.00/hour plus shift differentials and mileage allowance. Excellent retirement and insurance. Call Ashley Porter or Amanda Arispe at 325-378-2134.

49-tnc

**SHOP**

**LOCAL**

*Please Support Your Hometown Businesses!*

**HELP WANTED**

**COKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

is currently accepting applications for a TCOLE Certified Deputy to be stationed in Bronte, Texas.

Apply in person at 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee, Texas 76945 or call (325) 453-2717, Monday - Thursday, 8 am - 5 pm, Friday 8 am - 1 pm.

Experience preferred.

50-2tc

**CITY OF ROBERT LEE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER / CONVENIENCE CENTER OPERATOR**

City of Robert Lee is accepting applications for a part time, on-call Animal Control Officer as well as a Convenience Center Operator to work the 1st and 3rd Saturdays. Deadline to submit application is June 29th. Applications are available at City Hall, 6 East 7th Street.

Equal Employment Opportunity.

50-2tc

**CITY OF ROBERT LEE LABORER / OPERATOR**

City of Robert Lee is accepting applications for a full time Laborer/Operator. Position includes benefits, health insurance and retirement. Deadline to submit application is June 29th. Applications are available at City Hall, 6 East 7th Street.

Equal Employment Opportunity.

50-2tc

**CITY OF ROBERT LEE MOWER**

City of Robert Lee is accepting applications for a temporary mower. Deadline to

**Political Calendar**

The Observer/Enterprise had been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County.

Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement.

**Justice of the Peace Precinct 1**

Russell Johnson

**County Judge**

Hal Spain

**County Treasurer**

Therese Emert

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260 +/- ac Price Ranch Located just west of Robert Lee this ranch has a good combination of recreational land and productive grass land for livestock. It has good access from Hwy 158 and an access point of Wilcate Rd.

1053 +/- ac This ranch is located in Schleicher County, between Mertzon and Eldorado, Texas. The property is in native pasture land with moderate brush cover. Property would serve well to run cattle, sheep or be used for hunting.

2353 +/- ac, This ranch is just over 3 sections and is located between Eldorado, TX and Mertzon, TX. This ranch is fenced and cross fenced and is well suited for a running livestock or a recreational hunting ranch. There is approximately 95 acres in cultivation and the remaining portion of the ranch is in native pasture. Give us a call to schedule your showing.

400 +/- ac, Located in Schleicher County, between Mertzon and Eldorado, Texas. The property is in native pasture land with moderate brush cover. Property would serve well to run cattle, sheep or be used for hunting.

530 +/- ac, This 530 acre show place in Hamilton County, Texas, has unlimited potential. There is a lot of surface water with 7 lakes/ponds. There is a good combination of open pasture and brush cover for wildlife habitat. This is a great property within an 1.5 hour drive to the Metroplex.

**ASH REAL ESTATE**

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**NEW LISTING** - 160 acres, with 2BR/2BA Furnished House, Metal Construction, Central Heat and Air, Wood Stove. 2 Water Wells and Rural Water. Large Barns, 2 Dirt Tanks, Wet Weather Creek. For Weekend Getaways or Full Time Hunting and Ranching. Property in Very Good Condition!

**FOR SALE** - 1008 sq. ft. (+/-) Frame House, located at 1214 Chadbourne St., Robert Lee, Texas. This house has been completely rebuilt inside and out. 2 BR/1BA, Living Room and Kitchen Combination, Utility Room. All Floors are Laminated Wood. No Central Heating and Air Conditioning but has Window Units for Cooling and Electric Heat. A Third Room that could be used for a Bedroom. Close to School. Storage Building.

**FOR SALE** - 112 W. 12th Street, Robert Lee, Texas. 3BR/2B home, 1800 sq. ft. Living Area, Central Heat and Air, Hardwood Floors, Attached Garage, Large Patio and Backyard, Storage Building. Close to the school!

**FOR SALE** - 224 Riley Street, Bronte, Texas. Good Starter Home! Close to the school!

**FOR SALE** - 1120 acres, south of Robert Lee, Texas. Good ranch land with good hunting for deer, turkeys, and surface tanks. **UNDER CONTRACT**

**FOR SALE** - 201 acres, close to Robert Lee, Texas. Good hunting with highway frontage and a creek running through the property.

submit application is June 29th. Applications are available at City Hall, 6 East 7th Street.

Equal Employment Opportunity.

50-2tc

**CITY OF ROBERT LEE CITY SUPERINTENDENT**

City of Robert Lee is accepting applications for a City Superintendent with a TCEQ Water Operator License C or higher. City of Robert Lee will continue to receive applications until the position has been filled. Applications are available at City Hall, 6 East 7th Street.

Equal Employment Opportunity.

50-tnc

**WANTED**

**WANT TO LEASE**

Half Section to 2 sections of land for grazing. Contact Wayne McCutchen at (325) 473-3201.

03-tnp

**NOTICES**

**COKE COUNTY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION PUBLISHES WATER QUALITY REPORT**

In accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, a Consumer Confidence Report has been prepared for distribution to customers of the Coke County Water Supply Corporation. This report is available at CCWSC, 10390 Hwy 158, Robert Lee, beginning 7-1-18.

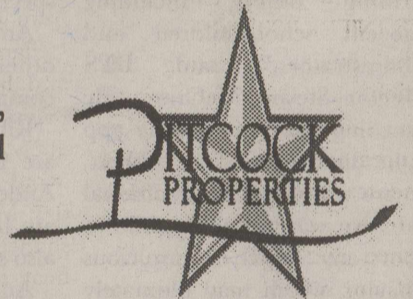
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LARGE HOME ON OVER 8 ACRES! Over 2,600 square feet in this home with large trees and many outbuildings on almost 9 acres just outside rural community. Completely updated kitchen and living area. Large utility room has space for crafting. Indoor sun porch on south side provides perfect place for plants. Lovely covered patio provides shade for evenings outdoors after a dip in the in ground pool. Room for kids, dogs, horses and other animals.

RESTAURANT WITH GREAT LOCATION in thriving rural community. Business sits at corner of US Highway and State Highway at the only traffic light in town. Completely renovated - dining areas, kitchen, storage and restrooms. This is the perfect opportunity to own a business with local customer base and extensive highway traffic.

BEAUTIFUL BUILDING ON MAIN STREET in thriving community! Perfect location for flower shop or boutique! Start your new business today! Reasonably priced!

208 +/- Acres west of Robert Lee - Windmills, wells, creek, stock pond, wildlife  
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(325) 473-8863

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Ashley Braswell  
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Jerrod Pitcock, Broker



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**NOTICES**

STATE OF TEXAS  
 COUNTY OF COKE  
 51st JUDICIAL  
 DISTRICT COURT  
 CITATION BY  
 PUBLICATION  
 CJ1800343

To: UNKNOWN FATHER  
 NOTICE TO  
 DEFENDANT: YOU HAVE  
 BEEN SUED. YOU MAY  
 EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY.  
 IF YOU OR OR YOUR  
 ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE  
 A WRITTEN ANSWER  
 WITH THE CLERK WHO  
 ISSUED THIS CITATION BY  
 10:00 AM ON THE  
 MONDAY NEXT  
 FOLLOWING THE  
 EXPIRATION OF TWENTY  
 DAYS AFTER YOU WERE  
 SERVED THIS CITATION  
 AND PETITION, A  
 DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY  
 BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the petition of plaintiff at or before 10 o'clock am of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 51st JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, COKE COUNTY, TEXAS, at the courthouse in the city of ROBERT LEE, TEXAS.

Said petition was filed in said court, on the 22nd day of May, 2018, in cause number CJ1800343 on the docket of said court and styled:

IN THE INTEREST OF JJ,  
 D.J., L.B, CHILDREN

vs

UNKNOWN FATHER

The nature of this cause is IN THE INTEREST OF.

The officer executing this citation shall promptly served the same according to requirements of law, and mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at ROBERT LEE, COKE COUNTY, TEXAS, this the 30th day of May, 2018.

MARY GRIM, CLERK  
 13 E. 7TH ST

ROBERT LEE, TX 76945

By: Monica Reyes, Deputy Clerk

ATTORNEY FOR  
 PLAINTIFF:  
 AMY LUHRS

622 S. OAKES, STE B  
 SAN ANGELO, X 76903

48-4tc


**Top 5 Heat Hacks to Stay Safe at Texas State Parks This Summer**

With temperatures soaring into the triple-digits, it's important to make sure you have the essentials before hitting the trails at a Texas State Park.

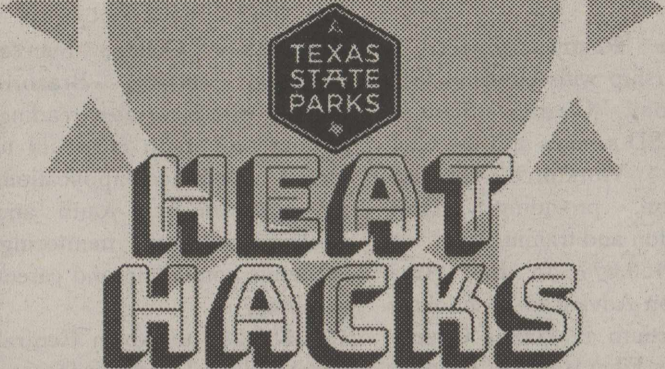
Experts from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are sharing their top five heat hacks for staying safe on the trails during the summer months.

Here are the top five hacks recommended for park visitors:


Hydrate - It's important to drink at least 16 ounces of




**HYDRATION**  
 Drink at least 16 oz. of water every hour in the heat to replenish your body and prevent dehydration. Don't forget to bring enough water for pets, too!




TEXAS STATE PARKS  
**HEAT HACKS**



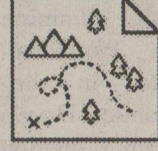
**DRESS SMART**  
 Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable clothing, a hat, correct shoes, sunscreen and wet bandanas to keep you cool.



**STAY SALTY**  
 Food helps keep up energy and replace salt lost from sweating. Snacks such as jerky, granola, trail mix, tuna and dried fruit nourish your body while on the trails.



**Buddy System**  
 Two brains are better than one. With high temperatures hitting Texas, heat-related illnesses are common. Having a friend around to help recognize early symptoms can save you from getting sick.



**PLAN AHEAD**  
 Study the map and have it with you. Give yourself plenty of time to avoid hiking in the heat. Be sure to rest in a cool or shaded area to recover from the heat.

water every hour in the heat to replenish your body and prevent dehydration. Don't forget your four-legged family members and make sure to bring enough water for them.

Dress Smart - Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable clothing, a hat, correct shoes, sunscreen and wet bandanas to keep you cool while in the sun.

Stay Salty - Food helps keep up energy and replace salt lost from sweating. Snacks such as jerky, granola, trail mix, tuna and dried fruit are a fantastic way to nourish your body while on the trails.

Buddy System - Two brains are better than one. It's beneficial to have someone with you in hot conditions so you can look after each other on the trail. With high temperatures hitting Texas, heat-related illnesses are common and having a friend around to help recognize the early symptoms can save you from getting sick.

Plan Ahead - Study the map and have it with you. Average hikers move at 2 miles per hour, allow yourself plenty of time to avoid hiking in the heat of the day. Make sure to rest in cool or shaded area to recover from the heat if necessary. It is also a good idea to let someone know

your plan before you hit the trails and what time you should be back. That way, if you become lost, people know where to look.

Parks are a great place to explore during the summer and there are things happening weekly at the more than 90 Texas State Parks. For a full calendar of state park events, visit the Texas State Parks calendar page on the TPWD website.

Find a park in your area at <http://texasstateparks.org>. Anderson expects deals on pork too, as pork loins dropped roughly 15 cents per pound since 2017.

**TPWD Launches Online Survey to Explore Opinions on Alligator Gar**

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is asking anglers and non-anglers to participate in a brief online survey to share their experiences and opinions about alligator gar, Texas' largest freshwater fish. The results from this survey will help TPWD make informed management decisions regarding this species in the near future.

"Our management goal is to sustain our unique alligator gar

fisheries for future generations of Texans," said Warren Schlechte, TPWD Inland Fisheries Research Biologist. "We spent the last decade learning about the biology of alligator gar, and from that we know we have a variety of management options on the table. What we need now is constituent input - this survey will give our constituents a place at the table."

The online survey is available now through July 31, takes about 10-15 minutes to complete and is accessible in English here and Spanish here.

Survey questions focus on gathering information about who constituents are, how anglers like to fish, angler harvest practices, and how people would like to see alligator gar managed in the future.

Once considered a "trash" fish, native alligator gar have been growing in popularity among anglers in recent decades and people from all over the world visit Texas to catch these large and challenging fish. Although some target alligator gar to catch the trophy fish of a lifetime, others intend to harvest them for a meal.

Texans are fortunate to continue to have healthy

populations of the species in the state, but even healthy alligator gar populations can only sustain harvest rates of about 5 percent each year. Schlechte said that equates to relatively few alligator gar that can be sustainably harvested each year. With more and more anglers pursuing these fish, it is critical that fisheries managers work to ensure not too many fish are being removed from Texas waters.

"At the end of the day our mission is to provide an enjoyable fishing experience for today's anglers while conserving this species for tomorrow," Schlechte said. "By balancing sound science with our constituents desires we believe we can achieve that goal."

To learn more about this species or view the findings of studies conducted by TPWD biologists before taking the survey, visit [tpwd.texas.gov/texasgar](http://tpwd.texas.gov/texasgar).

Full survey link in English: <https://survey.tpwd.state.tx.us/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=12KH3655&Preview=true>

Full survey link in Spanish: <https://survey.tpwd.state.tx.us/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=n2KH489K&Preview=true>

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### Governor Abbott Announces Grants for Workforce Training Programs

Governor Greg Abbott recently announced \$5 million in Texas Talent Connection grants to 13 workforce training and job placement programs across the state. This second round of 2018 Texas Talent Connection competitive grant awards, administered by the Texas Workforce Investment Council in the Governor's Economic Development and Tourism division, supports education and workforce training programs, that lead to successful job placement, increased wages and improved job retention, as well as programs serving workforce populations with special needs.

"Texas leads the nation in private-sector job creation because of our highly skilled workforce," said Governor Abbott. "When we asked Texas employers what the most important factor is for future job growth and business expansion, the top answer is continued access to a skilled and flexible workforce. With the \$5 million in Texas Talent Connection grants announced today, we are connecting more Texans to in-demand skills training and connecting more employers to work-ready skilled Texans, so they can grow even more good-paying jobs in the Lone Star State."

The \$500,000 in first-round Texas Talent Connection grants were awarded in April to six local workforce boards from across the state and specifically supported middle-skill STEM internship programs.

The \$5 million in second-round Texas Talent Connection grant awards announced today include:

- \$500,000 to the Concho Valley Workforce Development Board in Tom Green County for the 2018 Concho Valley Workforce Internship and Work Ready Community project, a community-based effort to certify workers in foundational workplace skills needed for high-demand, middle-skill STEM occupational jobs;

- \$500,000 to Kilgore College in Gregg County for the East Texas Workforce Partnership project, a collaboration with Workforce Solutions East Texas centers to provide skills-upgrade training for dislocated oil and gas workers through innovative, short-term, go-to-work training programs;

- \$500,000 to the Tarrant County Workforce Development Board for project BEST (Bringing Ex-Offenders Solutions Texas) designed to reintegrate ex-offenders back into the community and provide skills training leading to employment, with priority for placement in the program given to re-entering military veterans;

- \$499,990 to the University of Houston-Downtown in Harris County for the UHD STEM Training Center for Underrepresented Workforce

- Career Ready project, a partnership with Houston ISD, Harmony Charter Schools, Alief ISD schools and the Gulf Coast Workforce Board-Houston, providing STEM education and training;

- \$450,677 to Bay Area Houston Advanced Technology Consortium in Harris County for the Fiber Optics Training for Military Veterans project facilitating veteran's transition into the civilian workforce through job readiness, training and placement;

- \$450,000 to CARE - The Academy at Morgan's Wonderland in Bexar County for the SPIRIT Project - Job Readiness for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, with the goal of developing the untapped labor force in the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities community to meet workforce needs;

- \$398,758 to Alvin Community College in Harris County for the Alvin

- Community College Success Initiative serving Brazoria County with integrated reading, writing and math curricula to model workplace applications for postsecondary youth and adults, along with mentoring, academic counseling and career coaching;

- \$388,284 to North Central Texas College District in Denton for the Career Services Center project, a community connector linking students to valuable long- and short-term work, internships and co-ops;

- \$350,000 to Project ARRIBA in El Paso County for the Bridging the Gap project designed to improve the educational and employment outcomes of low-income, minority, veteran and unemployed or underemployed adults;

- \$325,000 to The Community Learning Center Inc. in Tarrant County for the Manufacturing and Aerospace Assembly Training project providing workforce transition

- and training for veterans and dislocated workers to address an increasing need for workers with advanced manufacturing knowledge and skills;

- \$258,755 to Workforce Solutions Borderplex in El Paso project offering GED training, work-based training and entry-level positions to re-engage disenfranchised youth, ages 16-24, in the growing computer science and information technology sector;

- \$177,520 to Lamar State College Port Arthur in Jefferson County for the Continuing to Build Our Future project offering training in construction site safety, site planning reading, form building, concrete work and scaffolding leading to an Intermediate Certificate in Construction Site Carpentry, as well as three national industry-based certifications; and

- \$165,900 to The Arc of the Capital Area for the Supported Employment project helping adults with intellectual and

- developmental disabilities in Travis and Williamson counties connect to job opportunities, navigate common barriers to employment and participate in specialized on-the-job training.

The Texas Workforce Investment Council assists the Governor and the Legislature with strategic planning for and evaluation of the Texas workforce system to promote the development of a well-educated, highly skilled workforce for Texas. The Council members represent workforce system partners and stakeholders, including business and industry, organized labor, education and community-based organizations, and state agencies, including the Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Education Agency and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The \$5.5 million in Texas Talent Connection grants awarded this year by Governor Abbott are Wagner-Peyser 7(b) grant funds allocated to the Governor's Office by the U.S. Department of Labor to encourage innovation in workforce training and job placement services.

## Water Weekly

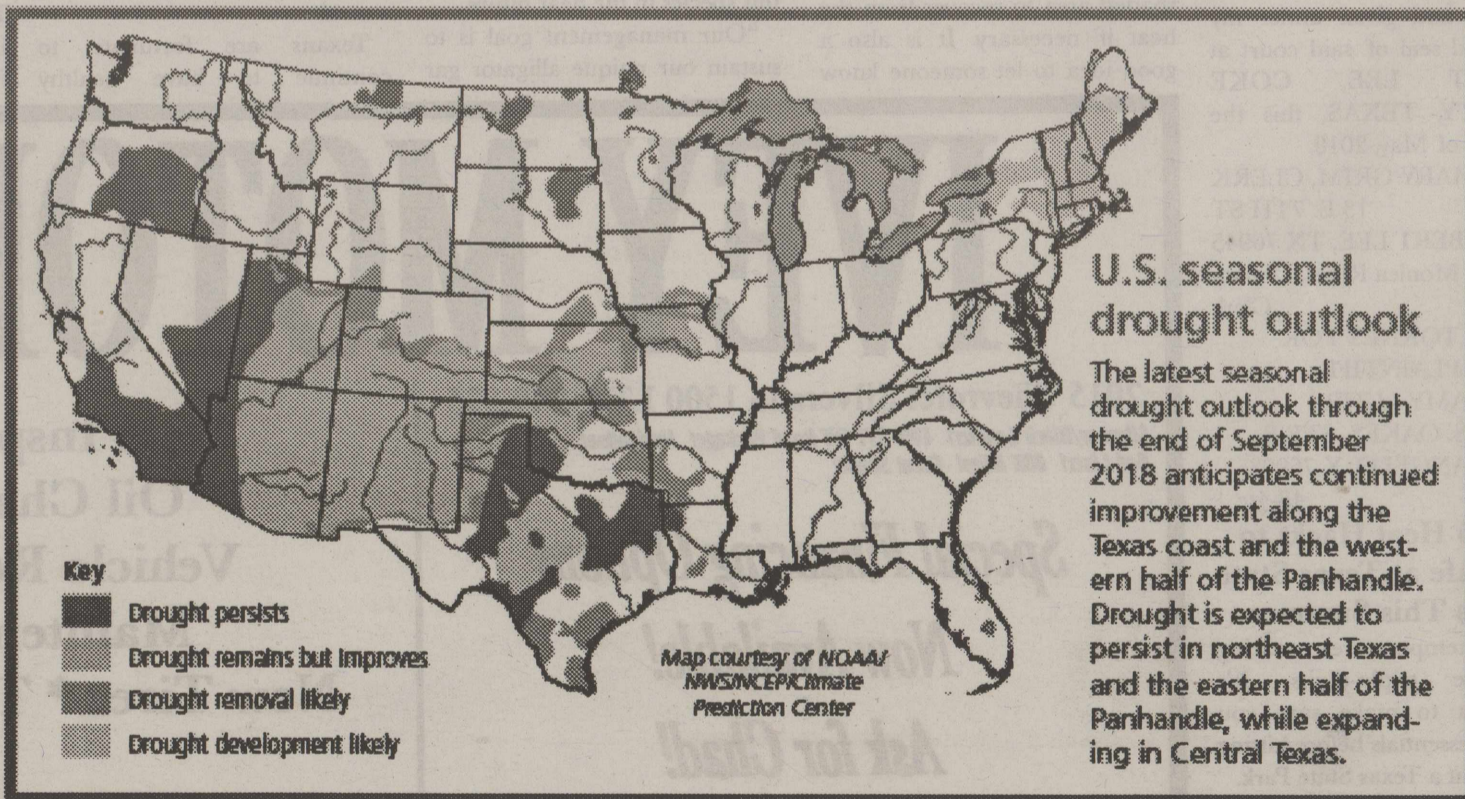
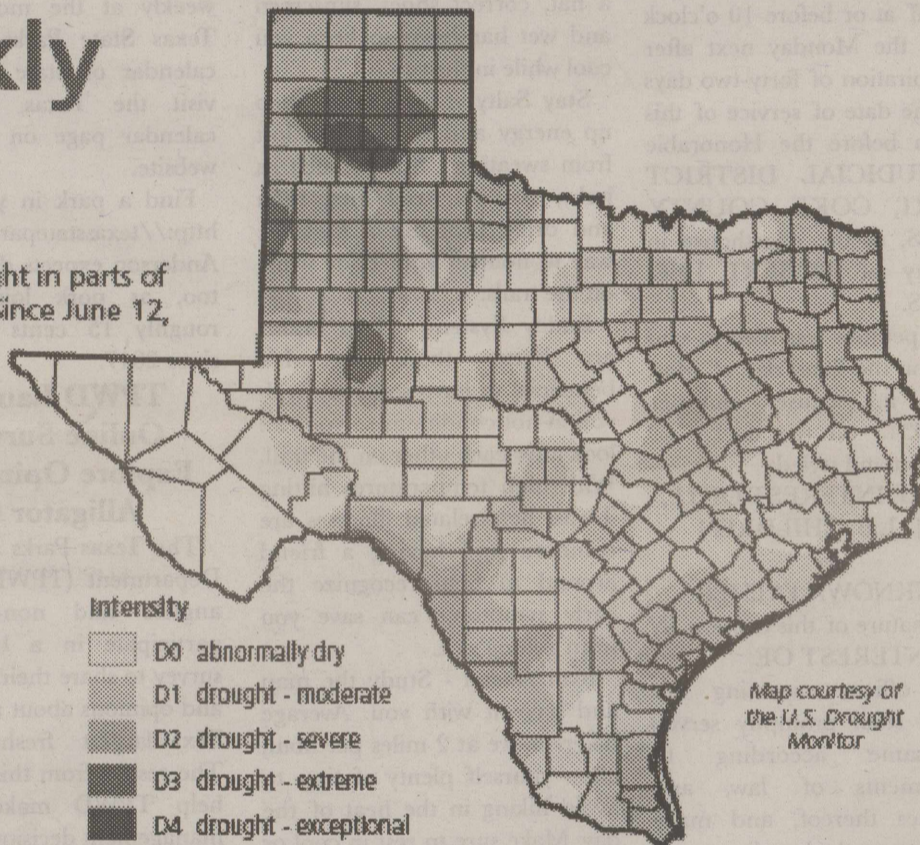
For the week of 06/25/18

### Water conditions

Recent rains reduced the intensity of drought in parts of the Panhandle and along the Texas coast. Since June 12, Amarillo has received 2 inches of rainfall, more than in the previous 6 months. Large areas of the coast have received 5 or more inches of precipitation.

### Drought conditions

- ▲ 47% now
- ▲ 50% a week ago
- ▲ 61% three months ago
- ▲ 5% a year ago



Written by Dr. Mark Wentzel — Dr. Mark Wentzel is a hydrologist in the TWDB's Office of Water Science and Conservation.

Tulsi Oberbeck, Governmental Relations | tulsi.oberbeck@twdb.texas.gov | 512-463-4864  
 Kimberly Leggett, Media Relations | kimberly.leggett@twdb.texas.gov | 512-463-5129

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Texas Water Development Board