

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

Serving Coke County

(USPS 467-480)  
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Vol. 131, No. 21

Friday, November 30, 2018

### Pancake Supper slated for December 1

Coke County 4-H will be having a Pancake Supper on Saturday, December 1, 2018 from 5 pm until 8 pm at the Robert Lee Rec Hall. Your donation will include all you can eat pancakes with bacon or sausage, water, tea, orange juice, coffee or hot chocolate. The supper benefits Coke County 4-H Shooting Sports.

### Family Movie Night set for December 2

A Family Movie Night will be held Sunday, December 2, 2018, in the Family Life Center at First United Methodist Church in Robert Lee. Doors will open at 5 pm, with concessions open from 5 pm until the start of the movie at 6 pm. The evening's feature will be The Star, The Story of the First Christmas.

Proceeds from concession sales

will go to the Robert Lee Care Center Activity Fund. Please bring your lawn chairs, blankets, pillows, etc to be comfortable. Children 5th grade and younger will need to have an adult 18 years or older to accompany them.

Everyone is encouraged to bring the whole family and enjoy a night of family fun!

### Robert Lee Angel Tree kicks off December 7

It is once again that time of year! Folks will have the opportunity to ensure the children of Robert Lee will have gifts under their Christmas trees. Angels will be available for selection at DJ's Merle Norman beginning Friday, December 7, during Christmas Open House.

As in year's past, both boy and girl angels will be placed on the tree with "wishes" listed on the back of each angel. Wrapped

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

#### Friday, November 30

High School Basketball -  
Blackwell at Miles Tournament,  
Varsity Girls  
Bronte at Robert Lee Tournament,  
Varsity Girls and Boys

#### Saturday, December 1

4-H Pancake Supper, 5 pm - 8 pm,  
Robert Lee Rec Hall

#### Sunday, December 2

Family Movie Night, 5 pm, Family Life Center,  
First United Methodist Church, Robert Lee

#### Monday, December 3

Junior High Basketball -  
Bronte vs Veribest at Bronte, 5:30 pm  
Robert Lee at Blackwell, 6 pm

\*\*\*

Bronte Evening Lions Club Meeting, 7 pm,  
First United Methodist Church, Bronte

#### Tuesday, December 4

Robert Lee - Silver Lions Club Meeting, 6:30 am,  
Old Jail Annex, Robert Lee

#### Thursday, December 6

High School Basketball -  
Oak Creek Classic Tournament, Blackwell

#### Friday, December 7

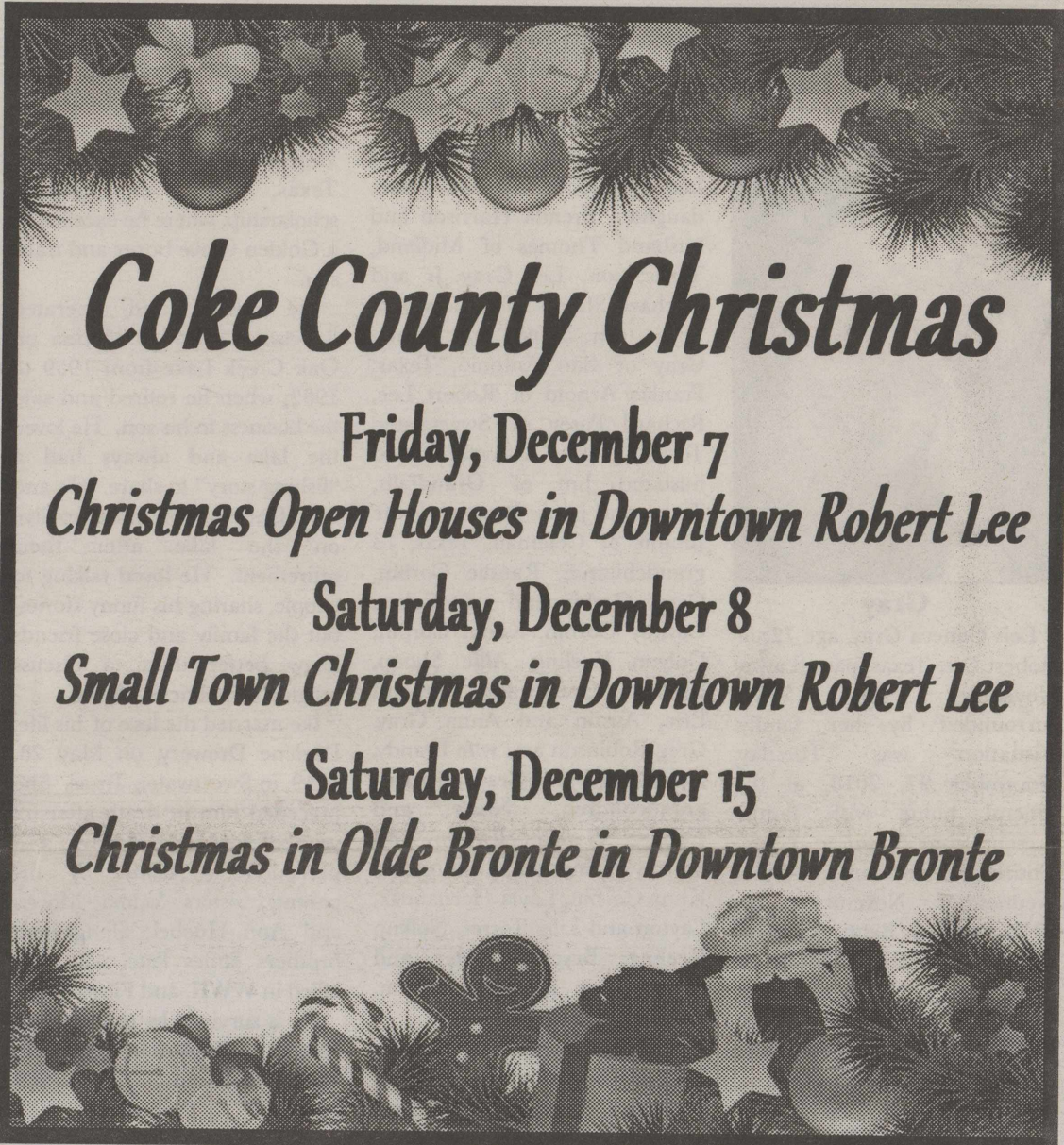
Robert Lee Open House Celebrations  
\*\*\*

High School Basketball -  
Oak Creek Classic Tournament, Blackwell

Provided  
By



EverythingCokeCounty.com



# Coke County Christmas

Friday, December 7

Christmas Open Houses in Downtown Robert Lee

Saturday, December 8

Small Town Christmas in Downtown Robert Lee

Saturday, December 15

Christmas in Olde Bronte in Downtown Bronte

gifts should be returned to DJ's Merle Norman no later than Monday, December 17.

In addition to the little angels, "Silver branches" have been added to the tree this year. Monetary donations of any amount may be made to ensure Robert Lee's senior citizens have a Merry Christmas as well.

Any questions regarding the Angel Tree or Silver Branches may be directed to DJ's Merle Norman, Debbie McCabe, Kaye Pitcock, Linda Burns, or Jo Nell Blair.

### Small Town Christmas slated for December 8

Small Town Christmas, hosted by Vision with a Purpose, is slated for Saturday, December 8. The festivities will kick off at 5 pm with the arrival of Santa at the gazebo on Austin Street in Robert Lee. A meal (stew and cornbread and chili and crackers) will be sold beginning at 5:30 pm at VP headquarters across the street from the gazebo. At around 6 pm (or dusk) the lighting of the Coke County Memorial Garden will be held, followed by hay rides. The rides will take you on a scenic drive of the best

decorated houses in town. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. There will also be several booths set up with goodies for sale, including caramel apples, popcorn, warm roasted pecans, and hot chocolate.

### Christmas music program set for December 9

Mark your calendars and make plans to enjoy an evening of Christmas music on Sunday, December 9. Don Vinson, Interim Pastor and Worship Leader at Oak Street Baptist Church in Colorado City, will be in concert at the Robert Lee Baptist Church.

Everyone is encouraged to come and enjoy, as he shares his talent and his love for Christ in songs of the season.

The concert will begin at 6 pm and a love offering will be taken.

### Robert Lee Open House celebrations set for December 7

The opening of the Christmas season in Robert Lee is Friday, December 7. A number of local offices and businesses hold open houses to serve refreshments and

celebrate the season with their valued customers and friends.

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

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

### Christmas Greetings deadline set for December 12

It is time once again for Christmas greetings! The Observer/Enterprise would like to remind businesses and individuals wishing to place a Christmas greeting in the newspaper to call and choose your greeting for the December 21 issue.

Deadline for this year's greetings is Friday, December 14, at 12 noon. For more information or to place your greeting, contact the O/E office at (325) 453-2433.



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 Melinda McCutchen, Publisher  
 Morgan McCutchen Brigham, Editor

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

**Obituaries**



**Gray**

Lois Geneva Gray, age 72, of Robert Lee, Texas, passed away November 25, 2018, surrounded by her family. Visitation was Tuesday, November 27, 2018, at the funeral home with family present from 5 pm to 7 pm. Church services were at 10 am, Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at Pecan Baptist Church. Graveside services followed at 2:30 pm, at Rough Creek Cemetery in Novice, Texas. Pallbearers were Casey Corbin, Kadin Corbin, Colynn Keeling, Greg Robinson and Gavin Gray. Honorary pallbearers are Noah Garcia, Conner Garcia, and Dallas Johnson. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Geneva was born in Tuscola, Texas, in her grandmother's house on August 14, 1946. She married Les Gray December 4, 1962, in Levelland, Texas. Together they were married 56 years and had three children, Brenda Kaye Harrison, Les Gray Jr., and Steven Alan Gray. They lived in Monahans, Odessa, and settled in Robert Lee, Texas. Geneva was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, known as Mimi. She was very proud of the fact she raised three successful children. She had a special gift of never forgetting extended family member's birthdays, wanting them to know they were special and loved. She loved traveling in their RV, family gatherings, and cooking. Laughter was a daily part of her life and simple things brought her joy. She was the backbone to our family. She was beautiful and one of the best friends you could ever have.

We always turned to mom in good times and bad. Her insight, advice, an

and sister, Marie Newman.

21-ltc



**Pate**

Isaac Booth Pate, Ike to friends and family, was born on January 13, 1929, in Columbus, Mississippi, to Marvin and Lena Pate. He graduated from Sweetwater High School and attended Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas, on an athletic scholarship, where he excelled as a Golden Glove boxer and track star.

Ike owned and operated Sportsman's Lodge Marina on Oak Creek Lake from 1959 to 1982, when he retired and sold the business to his son. He loved the lake and always had a "fishing story" to share. He and wife Darlene continued to live on the lake after their retirement. He loved talking to people, sharing his funny stories, but the family and close friends knew better than to discuss religion or politics with Ike.

Ike married the love of his life, Darlene Drewery, on May 28, 1949, in Sweetwater, Texas. She preceded him in death after 62 years of marriage. He was also preceded in death by his parents, sisters Velma Morris and Ann Huebel; along with brothers James Pate, who was killed in WWII, and Floyd Pate.

He is survived by son Randall Pate and wife Ann of Blackwell, Texas, Deborah Mulanax and husband Leonard of

Sweetwater, Texas, Lynn Pate of Bronte, Texas; five grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and one sister Ruth Pate of Port Arthur, Texas.

Above all, Ike loved the Lord, and was a loving husband to his wife, a wonderful Dad to his children and grandchildren, and a great friend to many.

Ike passed from this life to the glories of Heaven on November 25, 2018, after a short illness. Graveside services were held November 28, 2018, at Fort Chadbourne Cemetery.

21-ltc

**Simpson**

Geneva T. Simpson, 89, formerly of San Angelo, passed away peacefully at Bronte Health and Rehab Center on November 8, 2018.

She was the oldest child born on June 19, 1929, to Beal and Opal Speer Tomlinson. She grew up attending schools in Robert Lee and Bronte, graduating from Bronte High School. She retired from Ethicon. Geneva will always be remembered and loved by her family and friends.

Geneva was preceded in death by her two children, Douglas

and Debbie; her parents; sister Shirley T. Sweatt; brothers Jim and Dan Tomlinson; and her beloved cats Samson and Miss Kitty.

She is survived by brother Warren Tomlinson; sisters Bobbie T. (LeDrew) Arrott, Wanda T. (Donnie) Duncan, Zula T. (Jess) Blann, Susan T. (Cliff) Guess; beloved grandson Lt. Cole Breck Hale, US Air Force (Megan); special nephews Jason and James Tomlinson and Clift Duncan; several more nieces and nephews; and two great-grandsons.

Loving caregivers and companies were Carolyn Knight and Merry Carol Stuard.

Our thanks to the staff for their loving care at BHRC. Also thanks to Hospice of San Angelo and Pastor Everett and Becky Boyce for coming and ministering to her during her final days.

Upon her death, her body was sent to Lubbock's Texas Tech Science Program. She had made these plans with Johnson's Funeral Home and Texas Tech.

A memorial is planned at a later date.

21-ltc

**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 Bevly  
 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. 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

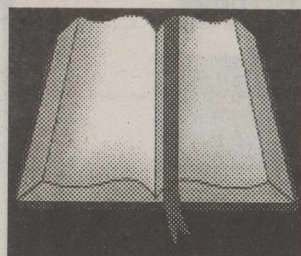
**St. James Catholic Church**

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, Brandon Broadbent, 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

**Northside Church of Christ**

PO Box 508  
 9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee  
 (325) 453-2685, (806) 543-2118 or  
 (325) 473-1053

**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  
 Chris Walls, Pastor  
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

**Victory Assembly of God**

Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting  
 (325) 453-2208, PO Box 638  
 6th & Houston, Robert Lee  
 Rev. Irving Smith, Pastor

**Tennyson Baptist Church**

Hwy 277 • Tennyson  
 (325) 473-2040  
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
 10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
 Wed. 6 pm, Bible Study

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 floyd@floydpetittinsurance.com

*Our office will be closed December 21, 2018, through January 1, 2019, to allow our employees the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with their families.*



## Death Notices

### Winkler

Melva Dean Gartman Winkler of Robert Lee passed from her earthly home on Wednesday, November 21, 2018, at Shannon Hospital in San Angelo, after a long fight with Lupus and CIPD (Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy), which is a rare neurological disorder similar to ALS or Lou Gehrig's Disease.

A memorial service was held at 11 am on November 26 at Robert Lee Baptist Church with William Hood and Chris Walls officiating. Melva's funeral service was held at 11 am on November 27 at Zion Lutheran Church in Abilene with Pastor Clyde Kieschnick officiating. Burial was held at Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene.

Melva leaves behind her husband Thomas Lee of Robert Lee; son Dan Winkler and wife Donna Ayers of Houston; sister Ann Walker and husband Curtis of Robert Lee; three grandchildren, Teri Burleson and husband Lonnie, Rachel Jackson and husband Bryan, and Erick Winkler; and two great-grandchildren, Hayden Burleson and Parker Burleson.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bryan Douglas and Sally Mae Gartman; husband Gotthilf "Butch" Winkler; daughter Debra Lindsey; sister Winnie Pitcock; brother Douglas Gartman; and special nephew Gaylon Pitcock.

### Santa Letter Deadline set for December 12

Deadline for Letters to Santa Clause to be printed in this year's Christmas edition has been set for Wednesday, December 12. We will forward these letters straight to Santa after we get through typing them up for the paper. That is why we have to have them early.

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

### "Paint the Town"

#### Improvement Project

The RL4Restoration Foundation is accepting applications for the "Paint the Town" Improvement Project. Since home is where the heart is and their hearts are for Robert Lee, the foundation decided their first project should be geared towards the homes and people in our town. The "Paint the Town" Improvement project is an opportunity to receive assistance in repainting or cleanup of homes in the community.

The project will be carried out by volunteers of the RL4Restoration Foundation and volunteers from groups or individuals that feel led to contribute their time and efforts.

Applications are being accepted through December 31, 2018, for project houses in 2019. You can fill out an application for your own property or nominate a neighbor. This is a great way to help each other make the town a better place to live and for future generations.

For more information on the project or about RL4Restoration Foundation, you can join their Facebook group or feel free to contact Crystal Stanford or Erin Oleksiuk through their Facebook pages.

### Christmas in Olde Bronte set for December 15

Christmas in Olde Bronte will be held Saturday, December 15, beginning with a parade at 10 am until 3 pm in downtown Bronte and the Cookie Crawl will be held from 11 am - 1 pm. A Fish Fry is set for the Texas Theater from 11:30 am until 1 pm and Mrs. Claus will host Story Time at the bank at 1 pm. Head on over to the Quilt Shop at 2 pm to get a photo with Santa and then settle in for a movie at the Texas Theater at 3 pm. Awards will follow at the theater at 4:15 pm and then the Bronte Longhorn Band will perform their Christmas Concert at 5 pm. The music doesn't stop there though as the Alvarado Road Show concert will start at 6 pm.

Other events taking place throughout the day include an essay contest, Gingerbread House competition, funnel cakes by the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department, cocoa and eggnog bar, kids crafts, and more!

### Fall into Good Planting Habits

by Erin Oleksiuk-District Technician, Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Fall is the time for planting in West Texas! Tree roots and

temperature is roughly 40 degrees. Planting in the fall and winter months give trees time to establish and ready themselves for the harsh summer months. If cared for properly, your trees will be bursting with life in the spring!

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

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

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

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

8. Trunk was damaged during transport or planting.

The vascular system of a tree is just below the bark. Young trees have thin bark and can be easily damaged.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Coke County Soil and Water District is currently

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

### Commissioners Court meeting minutes

November 13, 2018

The Coke County Commissioners Court met in regular session on November 13, 2018, 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 Clerk Mary Grim.

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

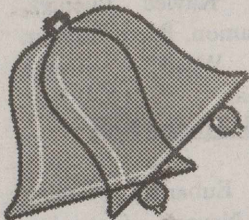
Judge Blair announced the presence of a quorum.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the minutes for October 23 as written. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

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

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the payroll as presented.

(Continued on page 5)



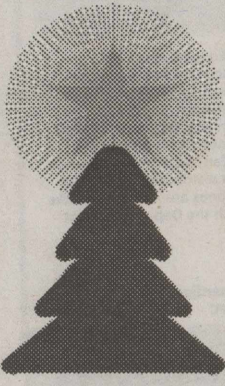
*Friends & Customers*


# IVEY MOTORS

*are invited to their Christmas Open House*

**Friday, December 7**  
11 am to 2 pm

**453-4561**

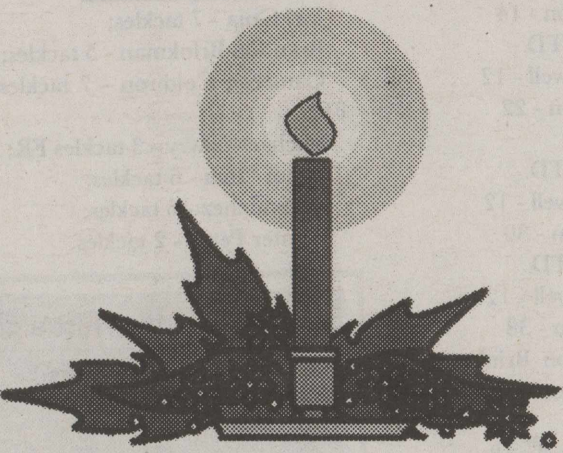





*Join us for our*

## *Christmas Open House*


**Friday, December 7,**  
*9:00 am to 3:00 pm*

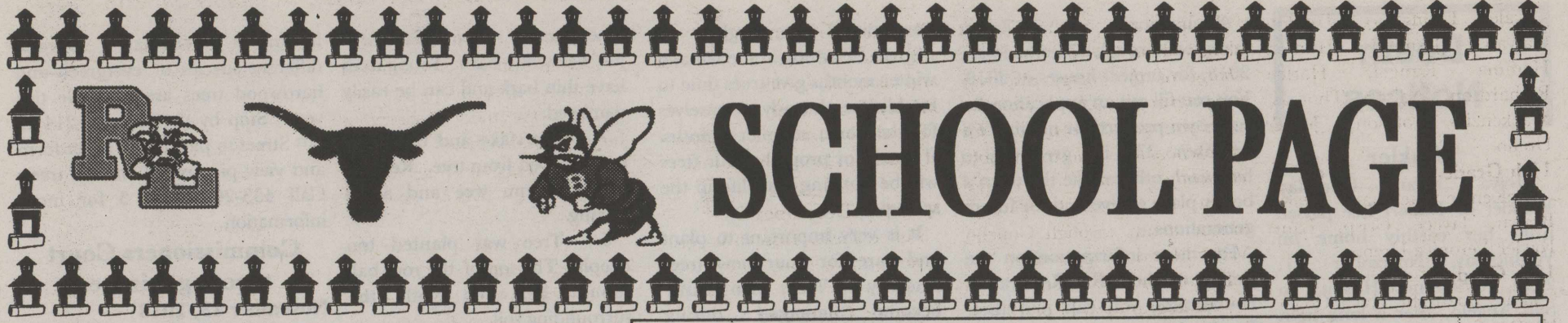
**Robert Lee State Bank**

621 Austin Street, Robert Lee, Texas

**453-2545**      MEMBER FDIC







# SCHOOL PAGE

## Lady Longhorns named to All-District Volleyball team

The following Bronte Lady Longhorns were named to the 2018 Volleyball All-District team for District 7-2A:

Hitter of the Year - Kristen Stillely;  
 Setter of the Year - Cassidy McWright;  
 First Team All-District - Bryton Percy, Searra Powell, Jayden Speary;  
 Honorable Mentions - Karissa Cervenka, Elexia Davis;  
 Academic All-District - Bailly Torres, Kaily Torres, Bryton Percy, Jayden Speary, Skyleigh Minjarez, Cassidy McWright, Kristen Stillely, Karissa Cervenka, Elexia Davis, Searra Powell, Dree Davis.

## Hornets football season ends with loss against Jayton

After recovering an early turnover and obtaining 6-0 lead, the Blackwell Hornets lost control and eventually the game as the Hornets fell to Jayton, 68-18. The Jaybirds captured a 14-6 lead and never trailed again. Michael Lowry, Peyton Hinckley, and Brandon Brinkman accounted for Blackwell's three touchdowns.

### 1st Quarter

8:22 - Michael Lowry to Peyton Hinckley 32 yds, PAT  
 Junior Guia no good.  
 Blackwell - 6  
 Jayton - 0

2:08 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 6  
 Jayton - 6

### 2nd Quarter

8:17 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 6  
 Jayton - 14

2:02 - Michael Lowry to Peyton Hinckley 23 yds, PAT  
 Junior Guia no good.  
 Blackwell - 12  
 Jayton - 14

1:53 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 12  
 Jayton - 22

### 3rd Quarter

6:18 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 12  
 Jayton - 30

3:26 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 12  
 Jayton - 38

3:10 - Brandon Brinkman 49 yds, PAT  
 Brandon Brinkman no good.  
 Blackwell - 18  
 Jayton - 38

1:23 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 18  
 Jayton - 46

### 4th Quarter

9:46 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 18  
 Jayton - 54

8:28 - Jayton TD.  
 Blackwell - 18  
 Jayton - 62

5:30 - Jayton TD.

### Final Score

Blackwell - 18  
 Jayton - 68

### Offensive Stats

#### Passing

Brandon Brinkman - 8 of 17 / 46;  
 Michael Lowry - 3 of 5 / 55 / 2 TD.

#### Receiving

Peyton Hinckley - 3 / 69 / 2 TD;  
 Brandon Brinkman - 1 / 0;  
 Michael Lowry - 4 / 3;  
 Cameron Coldiron - 2 / 36;  
 Devon Clower - 1 / -7.

#### Rushing

Brandon Brinkman - 5 / 79 / TD;  
 Joe Sanchez - 4 / 16;  
 Cameron Coldiron - 7 / 6;  
 Junior Guia - 5 / 31;  
 Peyton Hinckley - 1 / 4;  
 Michael Lowry - 3 / -5.

#### PATS

Junior Guia - 0 for 2;  
 Brandon Brinkman - 0 for 1.

### Defensive Stats

Joel Guia - 7 tackles;  
 Brandon Brinkman - 5 tackles;  
 Cameron Coldiron - 7 tackles  
 FR;  
 Michael Lowry - 3 tackles FR;  
 Junior Guia - 6 tackles;  
 Joe Sanchez - 6 tackles;  
 Hunter Perry - 2 tackles.



**FFA** Blackwell High School students recently competed at the Texas FFA Leadership Development Events District Competition. The Chapter Quiz Team, comprised of Jordan Jones, Carli Powers, Madison Solis, and Brendan Scott, placed third. In Senior Creed, Cami Davidson placed 10th overall and Emilee Sanderson placed first in her heat and fourth overall. Emilee also placed fourth in Job Interview. The Ag Advocacy team (pictured above) placed second and advanced to the Area Competition. This team includes Emilee Sanderson, Carli Powers, Madison Solis, and Cami Davidson.

### RIJH/HS Awards

#### 2nd Six Weeks

#### 'A' Honor Roll

#### 7th Grade

Abigail Arthur, Brayden Sherwood

#### 8th Grade

Cambreigh Fluhmann, Ryan Mendoza, Alex Munoz, Roxie Rangel

#### 9th Grade

Zane Avants, Gavin Freeman, Mia Galvan, Braylee Hood, Dylan Thomas

#### 11th Grade

Dianne Austin, Kaleb Gregston, Kari O'Dell

#### 12th Grade

Kaden Austin, Kelby Pitcock, Judah Smith, Koltun Clawson, Corbin Drennan, Williams

Manuel Gamboa, Megan 8th Grade  
 Grantham, Kaylee Puentez, Patrick Barrera, Kailey Autumn Ramon, Bryce Raynor, Bradshaw, Bella Minello, Presley Chelsea Wyatt, Aimee Oleksiuk, Cierra Pogue, Jocilyn Zimmermann Saxton, Myrka Sosa, Preston Warren

'A/B' Honor Roll  
 7th Grade  
 Caitlyn Eubanks, Kailey Julian Gamboa, Aubrey Freeman, Nevaeh Gonzales, Nichols, McKenzee Puentez, Tristan Grantham, Nolan Brisely Ureno, Mathis, Cloe Minjarez, Brody

9th Grade  
 10th Grade

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Kaleb Ellingburg, Trenton Galvan, Jasmine Hunter, Hemma Rangel, Harlee Richardson, Adison Thomas, Mackenzie Tollison, Jullisa Ureno

**11th Grade**

McKenzie Bachmann, Daisy Brown, Jaycee Crisp, Lane Fowler, Veronica Ureno

**12th Grade**

James Boatright, Kyler Cogger, Hunter Jowers, Daniel Mendoza, Nathan Scates, Jayton Warren

**Perfect Attendance**

**7th Grade**

Kyle Davis, Kailey Freeman, Payden Hunter, David Jowers, Nolan Mathis, Cloe Minjarez, Canyon Moran, Jimma Richardson, Brayden Sherwood, Trenton Smith, Koltun Williams

**8th Grade**

Patrick Barrera, Cambreigh Fluhmann, Danita Hernandez, Ryan Mendoza, Bella Minello, Cierra Pogue, Dustin Stephens, Preston Warren

**9th Grade**

Zane Avants, Julian Gamboa, Heather Huapilla, Michael Munoz, Aubrey Nichols, Caleb Smith, Dylan Thomas, Brisely Ureno

**10th Grade**

Kaleb Ellingburg, Mackenzie Tollison, Jullisa Ureno

**11th Grade**

Jaycee Crisp, Kari O'Dell, Reese Smith

**12th Grade**

Megan Grantham, Hunter Jowers, Aimee Zimmermann

**Government-in-Action Youth Tour deadline set**

You're a Texas high school student. You're smart; you have big dreams. Maybe you've never been out of the state, and maybe you've never flown on a plane, but you want to travel—experience a big city, visit historic landmarks and meet people, and not just fellow high schoolers but influential public figures like U.S. representatives.

If that describes you, then you're a candidate to apply for a slot on the Government-in-Action Youth Tour, an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 12-21, 2019, sponsored by Concho Valley Electric Cooperative and organized by Texas Electric Cooperatives.

Apply by December 12, 2018, for Concho Valley Electric Cooperative's contest for a chance to win a ticket for this adventure, which has been called the trip of a lifetime.

Youth Tour is an action-packed trip to the U.S. capital with more than 150 of your peers and chaperones from across Texas. You'll visit the Washington National Cathedral, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian Institution, memorials and more. Activities include learning about rural electrification, seeing a performance at the Kennedy Center, going on a boat cruise with dinner and dancing, and meeting elected officials.

You could be part of this legacy shared by the more than 3,800 past Texas Youth Tour students who have participated since 1965.

To apply, submit an application along with an essay on: *You are in charge of the energy efficiency program at your school. Describe ways you would recommend for your school to use electricity more efficiently.*

The essay will be judged independently through Concho Valley Electric Cooperative.

Eligible entrants must:

- Be in grade 10, 11 or 12.
- Applications must arrive at Concho Valley Electric Cooperative by December 12, 2018.

The contest will be open to any student who is a sophomore, junior, or senior during the 2018-2019 school year in one of these school districts: Sterling City, Grape Creek, Robert Lee, Bronte, Miles, Veribest, Wall, Christoval, Paint Rock, Lake View, Central, Irion County and Water Valley. Applicants do not have to be dependents of CVEC members.

For more information about Youth Tour, visit YouthTour.org and TexasYouthTour.com or contact Merissa Swink at (325) 655-6957 or email mswink@cvec.coop.



**Robert Lee ISD**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, December 3**  
Pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

**Tuesday, December 4**  
Burrito, hash brown, fruit, juice, milk

**Wednesday, December 5**  
Power breakfast, fruit, juice, milk

**Thursday, December 6**  
Piggies, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

**Friday, December 7**  
Griddle sandwich, fruit, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, December 3**  
Corn dog, tator tots, baked beans, apple-pineapple delight, milk

**Tuesday, December 4**  
Taco soup, tomato cup, cucumbers, cornbread, peaches, sherbet, milk

**Wednesday, December 5**  
Chicken sandwich, fries, corn, sliced veggies, Mandarin oranges, milk

**Thursday, December 6**  
Hamburger steak, brown gravy, biscuit, roasted potatoes, salad, fruity gelatin, milk

**Friday, December 7**  
Ham and cheese melt, soup, broccoli salad, fruit cup, graham crackers, chips, milk

**Bronte ISD**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, December 3**  
Pizza or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

**Tuesday, December 4**  
Donuts or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

**Wednesday, December 5**  
PB&J or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

**Thursday, December 5**

Tornado or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

**Friday, December 6**

Biscuit and sausage or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, December 3**

Stuffed shells, Tuscan veggies, garden salad, pears, breadstick, brownie, milk

**Tuesday, December 4**

Breaded drumstick, roll, carrots, green beans, orange smiles, milk

**Wednesday, December 5**

Crispy taco, veggie cup, refried beans, salsa, grapes, milk

**Thursday, December 6**

Chicken Parmesan, garden salad, corn, breadstick, pineapple, milk

**Friday, December 7**

Hamburger, tater tots, carrots, snowball salad, milk

**Blackwell CISD**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, December 3**

Kolache, fruit, juice, milk

**Tuesday, December 4**

Biscuit-n-gravy, fruit, juice, milk

**Wednesday, December 5**

Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk

**Thursday, December 6**

French toast, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

**Friday, December 7**

Danish, fruit, juice, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, December 3**

Meatball sub, black olives, onions, carrots w/ranch, chips, milk

**Tuesday, December 4**

Chopped BBQ sandwich, pickle spears, coleslaw, chips, milk

**Wednesday, December 5**

Chicken Parmesan, peas, breadstick, milk

**Thursday, December 6**

Pizza, breadsticks, marinara sauce, salad, milk

**Friday, December 7**

Corn dog, mac-n-cheese, baked beans, milk

**...Commissioners Court meeting minutes**

(Continued from page 3)

The motion, seconded by

Commissioner Millican, carried.

Commissioner Sefcik moved to approve accounts payable for payroll. The motion, seconded by Judge Blair, carried.

The Extension Report was presented by Agent Morgan Runyan.

Sheriff Wayne McCutchen presented his report.

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

County/District Clerk Mary Grim presented her report.

Constable Precinct 1 Marty Boyd's report was presented by Judge Blair.

Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Russell Johnson presented his report.

The DR Report was unavailable.

The Trapper's Reports for October through August and October through September were presented by Judge Blair.

No action was taken on the burn ban.

Judge Blair reported that they have received a check for \$4300 for salary funding from MHMR for Coke County Mental Health Officers but there is still no contract.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the bonds for Julie Privitt, Misti Hayes, Joe Sefcik, Paul Williams, and Jennifer Burdett. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Robertson, carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the recommended holiday schedule for 2019 excluding election day for November 5. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the five (5) amendments to the Coke County Personnel Policy Handbook and to check the box stating the County will follow the regulation as a county with less than 50 employees on the FMLA Policy for Counties under 50 employees. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Millican, carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the Tax

Assessor's Annual Report and was seconded by Commissioner Sefcik. The motion carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to allow the County Judge to contact Equify Auctions, LLC. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve Coke County to purchase meat, cooking supplies, and paper goods for the employees and their families for the Employee Appreciation Dinner on December 3, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robertson and carried.

Votes were canvassed for the November 6 General Election.

Judge Blair reported that he would be attending the Fall Judicial Training in San Marcos.

Commissioner Williams reported that Drew Darby is no longer in the running for the Speaker of the House. He also reported on repairs for the bridge.

Commissioner Robertson moved to pay bills and was seconded by Commissioner Millican. The motion carried.

Judge Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:08 am.

**November 19, 2018**

The Coke County Commissioners Court met in special session on November 19, 2018, at the county courthouse in Robert Lee.

Those in attendance included County Judge Roy Blair, Commissioner Precinct 1 Donald Robertson, Commissioner Precinct 3 Marshall Millican, Commissioner Precinct 4 Joe Sefcik, and 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 Williams was absent.

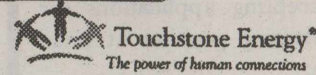
(Continued on page 7)

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JUNE 12-21, 2019



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For more information, visit [WWW.CVEC.COOP](http://WWW.CVEC.COOP).

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For additional information, visit [www.crmwd.org](http://www.crmwd.org).

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**NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
**COUNTY OF COKE**  
**BY VIRTUE OF AN**  
**ORDER OF SALE**

**DATED: October 4, 2018**

and issued pursuant to a judgment decree of the District Court, 51st Judicial District, of Coke County, Texas, by the District Clerk on said date, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said County, I have on the 1st day of November, 2018, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in December, 2018, the same being the 4th day of said month, at the Courthouse door, of said County in the City of Robert Lee, beginning at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title and interest of the defendants in such suit to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Coke and the State of Texas,

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821 Euel, Robert Lee  
Both 3 BR/1 BA  
Call James Thomas, Broker, at (325) 277-5478

to-wit:  
CAUSE NO. CV11-04400;  
COKE COUNTY V.  
LUIS ROJAS

TRACT 1: GEO: R000000794

All of Block E of the Austin & Northern Land & Cattle Company addition to the town of Robert Lee, Coke County, Texas, according to the map or plat of said addition now on file in the Office of the County Clerk of Coke County, Texas, municipally numbered as 1303 Childress, Robert Lee, Texas 76945.; being that property more particularly described in a special warranty deed Recorded in Volume 208, Page 563 in the Deed Records of Coke County, Texas.

CAUSE NO. CV1204410;  
COKE COUNTY V  
JASON MUNSEY, ET UX

TRACT 1: GEO: R000005001

All of Lots Number Seven (7) and Number Eight (8) in Block Number Thirty-One (31) of the Original Town of Bronte, Coke County, Texas, according to the map or plat of said town of record in the office of the County Clerk of Coke County, Texas.

CAUSE NO. CV12-04412;  
COKE COUNTY V.  
AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

TRACT 1: GEO: R000004897

All of Lot Nos. Seven (7) and Eight (8) in Block No. Seven (7), of the Original Town of Bronte, Coke County, Texas, according to the Map or Plat of said town now on file in the Office of the County Clerk of Coke County,

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**FOR SALE** - 1008 sq. ft. (+/-) Frame House, located at 1214 Chadbourne St., Robert Lee, Texas. The house is completely rebuilt inside and out. 2 BR/1BA, Living Room and 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** - 201 acres, close to Robert Lee, Texas. Good hunting with highway frontage and a creek running through the property.

subdivision of Coke County, Texas, according to the map or

CAUSE NO. CV1504522;  
COKE COUNTY V.  
MOXLEY, JAMES, ET AL

TRACT 1: GEO: R000003543

Being a 1.00 acre tract of land situated in Lot 23, Block 4 of the Bayview Estates, 2nd Filing, a

**ROBERT LEE CARE CENTER**

A 24-hour nursing and rehabilitation center is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

**DAY CNA**  
Full Time,  
2 positions available

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Full Time,  
3 positions available

Benefits include vacation, holiday, sick days, and insurance with pleasant work environment.

Interested applicants may apply in person M-F, 8am-5pm at  
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**BRONTE HEALTH & REHAB CENTER**

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LOVELY SPACIOUS HOME IN ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD! New A/C and other updates include privacy fence, electrical, work, and fireplace. Survey available. Mature live oaks provide shade to large bldg. Daily small town is currently enjoying a revitalization with emphasis on nearby park. **SOLD!**

BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED & UPDATED HOME! Three bedroom, three bathroom family home on almost 2 acres with producing pecan trees! Home has been completely updated with new wiring, plumbing, boring, paint, and so much more! Covered patio great for entertaining, huge workshop with electricity has plenty of storage potential, mature trees, and a privacy fence complete this large backyard! In-ground pool just waiting to be fixed up and filled! **SOLD!**

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.

PERFECT HOME FOR WEEKEND GETAWAY in the country and near lake. Landscaped and fenced yard comes complete with storage buildings, two covered RV sheds, chicken pen, greenhouse, outdoor shower and more! Well and rain water catch systems! Began life in 1978 as an open concept mobile home, but is now attached to beautiful den complete with wood burning stove! Both master and second bedroom have bathrooms! Enjoy the outdoors and area's wildlife from the wrap around covered porch!

208 +/- Acres west of Robert Lee, Texas, wells, creek, stock pond, wildlife. Additional land and building adjacent to property. \$1,200/acre **Under Contract**

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**...More Classifieds**

plat of record in Drawer 6, File No. 78, Plat Records of Coke County, Texas.

CAUSE NO. CV15-04533;  
**COKE COUNTY V. EUGENIA PUTMAN**  
 TRACT 1: GEO: R000000370  
 All of Lots 10, 11 and 12, Block 55, Original Town of Robert Lee, Coke County, Texas; being more particularly described by metes and bounds referred to in the Warranty Deed recorded in Volume 278, Page 80 of the Official Public Records of Coke County, Texas; such description being incorporated herein by reference.

CAUSE NO. CV1604597;  
**COKE COUNTY V. HALLJUNE, ET AL**  
 TRACT 1: GEO: R000000068  
 Being an undivided 1/2 interest in Lot 7 & 8, Block 6, OT Robert Lee.

TRACT 1: GEO: R000000069  
 All of lots Seven (7) and Eight (8) Block Six (6) of the Original Town of Robert Lee, Coke County, Texas; being more described in a Deed recorded in Volume 255 Page 120 of the Official Public Records of Coke County, Texas, such description being incorporated herein by reference.

CAUSE NO. CV1604636;  
**COKE COUNTY V. IB PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC**

TRACT 1: GEO: R000000914  
 A 0.321 acre tract of land out of Section Twenty-Three (23), Block One (1), Riverview Addition, Robert Lee, Coke County, Texas; being more particularly described in a Special Warranty Deed recorded in Volume 177 Page 449 of the Official Public Records of Coke County, Texas, such description being incorporated herein by reference.

Upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion thereof to satisfy said judgment, interest, penalties, and costs; subject, however to the right of redemption by the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem said property, or their interest therein, in the manner provided by law, and subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest, penalties and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sale to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

I have appointed the following as agent to conduct the sale, to-wit:

Perdue, Brandon, Fielder,  
 Collins & Mott, L.L.P.  
 Attorneys at Law  
 1031 Andrews Hwy, Ste. 210  
 Midland, Texas 79701  
 (432) 522-2427

At the time the sale begins, all bidders at the sale must be

registered with the above named agent conducting the sale and be eligible to bid according to the Property Tax Code.

Dated at Robert Lee, Coke County, Texas, this the 1st day of November, 2018.

Wayne McCutchen  
 SHERIFF,  
 COKE COUNTY  
 18-4tc

**...Commissioners Court meeting minutes**

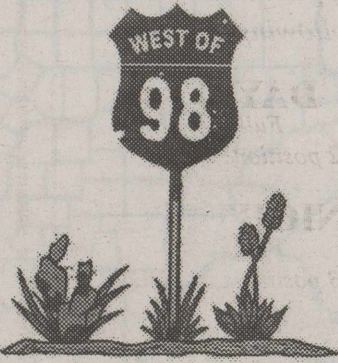
(Continued from page 5)

Commissioner Robertson moved to approve the payroll as presented. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve accounts payable for payroll and was seconded by Commissioner Sefcik. The motion carried.

Judge Blair reported that he had a good school and that it will be a tough year for legislation. He also reminded that the courthouse will close at 1:00 pm on Wednesday and that it will be closed Thursday and Friday. He reminded everyone about the appreciation party on December 3 at 6:30 pm.

Judge Blair adjourned the meeting at 11:25 pm.



**Making It Through December, Part 2**

by James M. Decker

Last year, shortly before Christmas, I wrote about my favorite Christmas song, Merle Haggard's "If We Make It Through December." This year, I wanted to turn my attention to that song right as the calendar rolls over into December, to carry us through the next month.

As I wrote last year, "If We Make It Through December" is about the brutal realities of Christmas time for too many people: miserable weather, hard times, and worries about being able to make your children happy. And yet, the entire song is filled with hope. Merle sings:

*Got plans to be in a warmer town come summertime  
 Maybe even California  
 If we make it through December, we'll be fine*

If Merle can just make it through December, life will get better. If you study the lyrics, there's no real guarantee that life will actually improve. There's nothing tangible happening in January: no new job, pay increase, or anything like that. He simply has hope that there IS something out there. If you don't have hope, the world can be a mean, dark, miserable place, but as long as you still have hope, you've always got a chance.

In this day and age, it's very easy to become inundated and annoyed by the Christmas season. Christmas cheer can drown in a tsunami of television ads, harried shopping trips, and exhausting efforts to "win" Christmas with your children, family members, or neighbors.

Our rural communities are the same way. We can drive through other towns and lament that our downtown Christmas decorations are not as impressive as theirs. How do their lights on the main street look so perfect? Why do some towns have an excellent Christmas parade and others struggle to keep a parade going?

Ultimately, there's nothing wrong with the commercial aspects of Christmas. Our lives can be happier with children taking pictures with Santa Claus, family members exchanging gifts, and streets full of beautiful Christmas lights. But was it worth what it took to accomplish it? Sure, our communities can look great when they're all decked out for Christmas. But how much stress and in-fighting did it take for the community to look that good? None of that is

the be-all, end-all of the Christmas season. Christmas can be successful whether your gift cost \$2.00 or \$2,000.00. The be-all, end-all was born in a manger in Bethlehem so many years ago.

As the Christmas season ramps up in the coming weeks, we'll all be stressed, exhausted, or annoyed at some point or another. We'll wonder if we're doing Christmas well enough to satisfy our family and friends or to make our communities proud. But when we face those inevitable struggles, think back to Merle Haggard. He wasn't worried about a downtown full of Christmas lights or providing

a truly legendary Christmas for his children. He was just hoping to afford to buy SOMETHING, ANYTHING for his kids.

When you get down this next month, think about Merle and think about hope. Think about the hope provided by the birth of Jesus Christ and think about the hope in your own life. All of us will make it through December and we'll be fine.

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

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| <b>2013 Toyota Avalon Limited</b><br><i>Silver w/Black Leather! 2.5L 14 Hybrid! Great Fuel Efficient Vehicle! 96K Miles!</i>                               | <b>\$11,900</b><br>#7061A |

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### New Online Features Make Visits to Texas State Parks Easier

In 2019, it will be easier than ever to plan day and overnight visits to Texas State Parks thanks to improvements in the online reservation system. The new features will allow visitors to reserve a specific campsite, buy day passes in advance and buy or renew a Texas State Parks Pass online.

The system will include features that are easy to use both online and through mobile devices. Once the new system launches, for the first-time visitors will be able to:

**Pick Your Site-** Campers will be able to reserve specific campsites, screened shelters, cabins and lodge rooms with the click of a button. Visitors can search for sites by specific parks and site types, see photos of the site before making their decision and see details for each site including utilities, parking pad length and width and amount of shade. Groups can use the new system to book neighboring sites that work best for friends and family enjoying the outdoors together.

**"Save the Day" Pass-** Visitors will never have to worry about driving to parks only to be turned away because it is full. "Save the Day" day-use entry tickets can be purchased up to one month in advance to ensure access to even the most popular state parks in Texas. This addresses a growing issue, since more state parks now have to temporarily turn day visitors away when they fill to capacity at busy times.

**Buy a Parks Pass-** Parkgoers will be able to renew or purchase a Texas State Parks Pass online. With a Texas State Parks Pass, an entire vehicle of guests will get unlimited visits to more than 90 Texas State Parks with no entry fee for 12 months. Parks pass holders also receive camping discount coupons, discounts on Texas State Park store merchandise, reduced rates on recreational equipment rentals and opportunities to participate in special park programs and events for reduced fees.

To be notified when these new features go live, sign up at [www.texasstateparks.org/better](http://www.texasstateparks.org/better) or text TPWD BETTER to GOV311 (468-311).

### Seasonal Rainbow Trout Stocking Begins Statewide Nov. 30

After a long, hot summer, many Texans are looking forward to going outside and enjoying the long-awaited cool weather this holiday season. Starting Nov. 30, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will be stocking thousands of cold weather-loving rainbow trout at ponds, lakes and rivers statewide so that family members of all ages can enjoy the crisp seasonal air and catch a feisty, colorful sport fish for fun or to prepare a tasty meal.

With 170 locations being stocked throughout the state, from El Paso to Texarkana and everywhere in between, most Texas anglers are likely to find a

place close to home to enjoy catching these fish and spending time in the outdoors.

For urban and suburban families in major cities, Neighborhood Fishin' lakes offer some of the best opportunities to catch rainbow trout this winter. TPWD manages 19 Neighborhood Fishin' lakes statewide in most major urban centers, including Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio. These lakes are stocked with rainbow trout every two weeks and offer plenty of amenities so that family members of all ages can enjoy a fun and relaxing day fishing and connecting in nature.

Families looking to spend a day or weekend exploring a Texas State Park can add fishing to their list of activities, as 22 state parks throughout the state will receive periodic stockings

of rainbow trout this winter. Many state parks offer excellent fishing amenities such as fishing piers and shoreline access, cleaning stations, and equipment rentals for tackle and kayaks or canoes. As a bonus, state parks are the only locations in Texas that anglers can fish for free without a fishing license.

For anglers interested in tailrace fishing, TPWD will be stocking rainbow trout below several dams and spillways, which often have very cool water and provide excellent conditions for trout fishing. This year, TPWD will stock rainbow trout into the Canyon Tailrace on the Guadalupe River below Canyon Lake, the Lewisville Tailrace located on the Elm Fork of the Trinity River below Lake Lewisville, and the Possum Kingdom Tailrace on the Brazos River below Possum Kingdom Lake.

Other stocking locations include dozens of local city and county managed park ponds, the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center casting pond, and several rivers including the Frio, South Llano and Guadalupe rivers and the Clear Fork of the Trinity River.

Rainbow trout can be caught on a variety of baits and lures. Depending on an angler's experience level and interest, they can be caught using simple, light tackle or on hand-tied flies using a fly rod. Other tips to consider when trout fishing include arriving early to stocking sites on stocking days, maintaining a safe and courteous distance from fellow anglers, keeping an array of baits and lures nearby and having ice available when harvesting trout to keep fish fresh.

TPWD will be stocking a total of 322,568 rainbow trout at all

locations from Nov. 30 through the beginning of March. Because rainbow trout are unable to survive in Texas after the winter, anglers are encouraged to keep up to their daily bag limit of five trout. Rainbow trout are an attractive, tasty fish found on many restaurant menus, and anglers can easily find recipes to prepare these fish online.

In Texas, children under 17 fish for free, but a fishing license is required for adults in the family.

An angler fishing in a Community Fishing Lake or from a dock, pier or jetty within a Texas State Park may use no more than two poles. The statewide bag limit is five trout, except on parts of the Guadalupe River where special limits are in effect.

For more winter trout stocking program angling tips, to find a rainbow trout fishing location near you, or to find stocking dates visit [tpwd.texas.gov/troutstocking](http://tpwd.texas.gov/troutstocking).

## Water Weekly

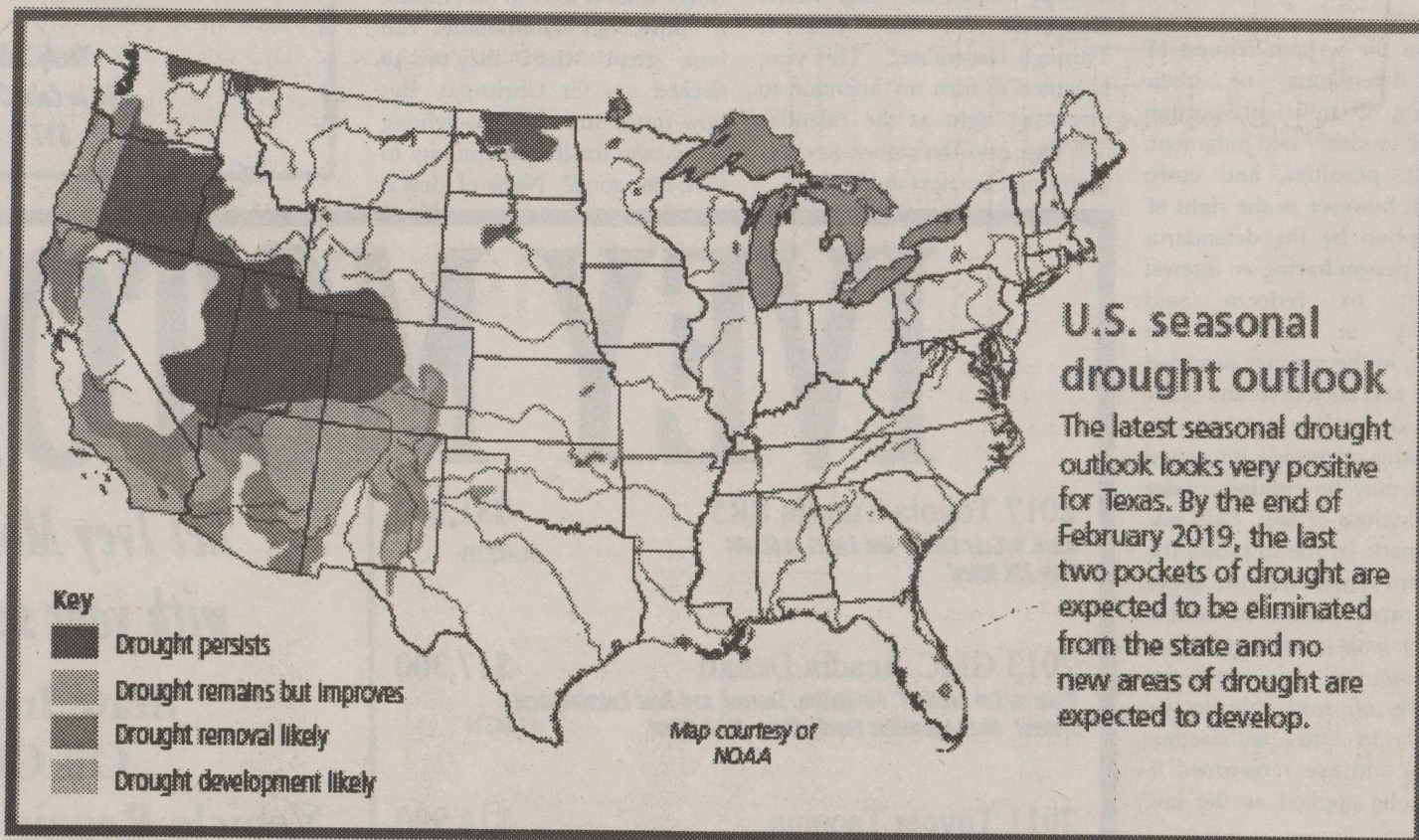
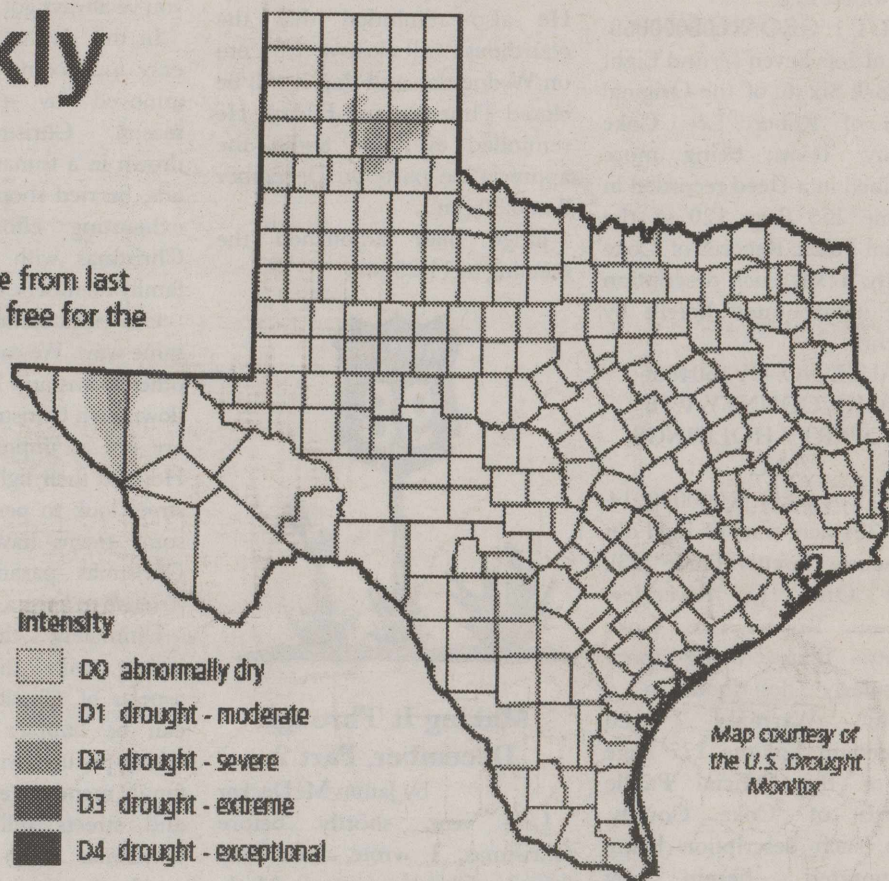
For the week of 11/26/18

### Water conditions

The latest drought map shows little change from last week. Most of the state has been drought free for the past six weeks. Two pockets of drought continue to persist, one in far West Texas and the other in the Panhandle.

#### Drought conditions

- ◆ 0.8% now
- ◆ 1% a week ago
- ◆ 60% three months ago
- ◆ 20% a year ago



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

Bryan McMath, Governmental Relations | [bryan.mcmath@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:bryan.mcmath@twdb.texas.gov) | 512-463-7850  
 Kimberly Leggett, Media Relations | [kimberly.leggett@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:kimberly.leggett@twdb.texas.gov) | 512-463-5129

[www.twdb.texas.gov](http://www.twdb.texas.gov)

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