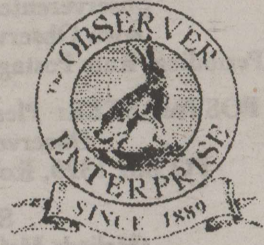


THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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Vol. 131, No. 04

Friday, August 3, 2018

Robert Lee faces revenue challenges

As the new officials at Robert Lee City Hall continue to work to correct issues, more problems are being discovered. It was explained to city council members Monday evening, July 30, 2018, that revenue was being lost from incorrect billing.

Robert Lee residents and business owners receive a "utility" bill each month from the city. This bill includes charges for water, sewer and sanitation (trash). Each of these departments is designed to be self-supporting. The trash company charges the city a certain amount per dumpster or roll cart and this charge is passed on to the consumer in their utility bill each month.

As of Monday evening, audits of the sanitation charges and sewer charges had begun. They are estimating that approximately 75% of the people who have dumpsters are not being charged the dumpster rate appearing to be due to a staff coding error from the past. If a resident has been provided with a dumpster and is only being charged for a roll cart, that costs the city approximately \$40 per month for each discrepancy. These figures have really added up and look to total over \$60,000 for 2018 alone. Other lost revenue appears to be from uncharged and uncollected late fees and ordinance violation fines, in



Home Destroyed in Bronte! This home at 401 South State Street in Bronte was completely destroyed by fire early Tuesday afternoon, July 31, 2018. It could have been much worse, but thanks to two local men, Don Bailey and Rusty Corley, authorities were alerted and the youngster inside was rescued.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Friday, August 3

RL Mini Cheer Camp, 9 am - 11 am,
Robert Lee High School

Saturday, August 4

Ladies Retreat, 10 am - 2:15 pm,
Robert Lee Baptist Church

Sunday, August 5

Bronte High School Band and Color Guard Car Wash Fundraiser,
1 pm - 5 pm, First National Bank Parking Lot

Bronte Elementary School Supply Distribution,
2 pm - 4 pm, Bronte Church of Christ

Monday, August 6

Robert Lee Care Center Auxiliary Meetings, 10 am and 6 pm,
Robert Lee Care Center

Vision with a Purpose Meeting, 6 pm,
VP Headquarters, Austin Street, Robert Lee

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

Tuesday, August 7

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

addition to uncollected pet registration fees. They have also begun to determine that a large number of customers are not being charged the correct sewer charge each month, if they are being charged for sewer at all.

Most residents' bills should run \$110 or more, depending on their water usage. This is for basic residential water, residential sewer, and a roll trash cart. A small business would pay at least \$50 for base water, \$52 for a dumpster and \$17.81 for sewer. In addition, the city collects \$5.02 for the water debt fund and \$1.25 for the capital improvement fund.

In the past, customers have donated \$2 for the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department each month. New forms must be signed if a resident chooses to continue making a donation each month to RLVFD and EMS.

Restoration Foundation formed for Robert Lee

A foundation has been formed in Robert Lee called "RL4Restoration Foundation". This foundation was built on the idea to work with several organizations in the community that have the same passion to see community-wide improvements and restorations for the next generation of Robert Lee.

Leaders from various organizations in Robert Lee have come to work together and have formed the first Board of Directors of the foundation. They include Crystal Stanford - President, Erin Oleksiuk - Secretary, Brandi Sawyer - Treasurer, Inga Elliott, Shaunna Grantham, Skyler Rainwater and Kayli Rose.

The foundation is in the process of filing for its 501c3 tax status and the first major project

that the foundation will be working on is to raise funds for the playground at Coke County Park. There are many other amazing ideas this board and others have begun coming up with.

Crystal Stanford will be speaking at the next Community Watch meeting set for Tuesday, August 21, and will be explaining more about the foundation and how the community can participate in fundraising and ideas for the foundation.

During the Robert Lee Junior High Cheerleaders Color Run on Saturday, August 25, RL4Restoration Foundation will have a booth set up to talk to those interested one-on-one with the board members of the foundation.

If you wish to donate to RL4Restoration, you can do so by mail at PO Box 581 Robert Lee, Texas 76945.

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

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.

Bronte Elementary School Supply Distribution set for August 5

Bronte Elementary School supplies will be distributed Sunday, August 5, from 2 pm until 4 pm at the Bronte Church of Christ.

If anyone would like to make a donation to this cause, you may do so at any of the Bronte churches.

RLCC Auxiliary meetings set for August 6

The next meetings of the newly formed Robert Lee Care Center Auxiliary will be Monday, August 6, at 10 am and 6 p. This will be the last day that they will have double meetings. The group hopes to be in the final stages of planning and organization so they can begin their year as of September 1. All interested parties are encouraged to attend one (or both) of these meetings.

Golf tournament slated for August 12

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club will host a golf tournament on Sunday, August 12, beginning at 9 am. The 18 hole tournament will be 3 person, best drive, everyone plays their own ball.

For more information, call (325) 473-2156 or (325) 262-6617.

Color Run/Fun Walk set for August 25

The Robert Lee Junior High Cheerleaders will be hosting a 5K Color Run/1K Fun Walk on Saturday, August 25, 2018, at the Mountain Creek Golf Course in Robert Lee. The first heat will start from the Club House at 8 am, with the second heat immediately following. Color will be provided and registration includes a Dogie Color Run t-shirt if registered by August 15. Extra color will be available for purchase, as well as any extra Color Run t-shirts.

Entry forms may be picked up from and returned to the Robert Lee High School office

beginning July 30 from 9 am until 3 pm or may be printed from the "Robert Lee Athletics" Facebook page.

All proceeds benefit the 2018-2019 Robert Lee Junior High Dogie Cheerleaders. Donations and volunteers are greatly appreciated! For more information, contact Shanna Freeman at (325) 453-4555 or shanna.freeman@rlisd.net.

Please come out and make this a fun family event for the whole community!

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 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 (325) 453-2724 or Erin Oleksiuk at (325) 656-9884.

Water well owner training set for August 22

A Texas Well Owner Network training has been scheduled for August 22 in San Angelo.

The Texas Well Owner Network, or TWON, program is for Texas residents who depend on household wells for their water needs, allowing them to learn more about how to improve and protect their community water resources.

The Well Educated training, which is free and open to the public, will be from 8 am until noon at the Tom Green 4-H Center, 3168 N. U.S. Highway 67.

"The TWON program was established to help well owners become familiar with Texas groundwater resources, septic system maintenance, well maintenance and construction, and water quality and treatment," said Dr. Drew Gholson, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service program specialist and the program's coordinator, College Station.

Gholson said participants may bring well-water samples to the training for screening. There is a fee per sample, which is due at the time samples are turned in.

"Water samples will be screened for nitrates, total dissolved solids and bacteria," he said.

Well owners who would like to have their well water sampled can pick up two sample containers from the AgriLife Extension offices in the following counties and addresses:

- Coke County, 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee
- Tom Green County, 113 W. Beauregard Ave., San Angelo
- Irion County, 209 N. Parkview, Mertzon
- Schleicher County, 203 S. W. Main, Eldorado
- Runnels County, 608 Sealy Ave., Suite A, Ballinger
- Sterling County, 609 4th St., Sterling City
- Concho County, 159 N. Roberts St., Paint Rock.

Gholson said bringing water samples to the training is not required, but those wanting to have water samples analyzed must attend. Attendees can register at <http://twon.tamu.edu/training> or by calling 979-845-1461.

The training is one of several being conducted statewide through the Texas Well Owner Network program.

"The core content of this program is the same as other trainings, but the information is tailored to local water quality issues and aquifers," Gholson said.

More than a million private

water wells in Texas provide water to citizens in rural areas and increasingly to those living on small acreages at the growing rural-urban interface. Private well owners are independently responsible for monitoring the quality of their wells.

"They are responsible for all aspects of ensuring their drinking water system is safe - testing, inspecting, maintaining it," Gholson said. "This training will help private well owners to understand and care for their wells."

Funding for the Texas Well Owner Network is through a Clean Water Act nonpoint source grant provided by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The project is managed by the Texas Water Resources Institute, part of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, AgriLife Extension and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University.

VP monthly meeting held

Vision with a Purpose held their monthly meeting Monday, July 2, at 6 pm at their office building on Austin Street in Robert Lee.

The meeting was dedicated to the late Mr. Ed Blackburn, an outstanding member of VP and the community of Robert Lee.

Special guests were Mary Bessent and Juan Rangel.



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Area Churches

Invite You to Worship

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Bronte</p> <p>Bronte Church of Christ PO Box 346 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte Preacher David Lewis Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm</p> <p>Central Baptist Church 324 S. Franklin • Bronte (325) 473-4811 Dale Patterson, Pastor Sun. 10 am Sunday School 11 am & 5 pm Worship</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Forgiven Ministries 117 W. Main, Bronte Russ Frasier, Pastor Sun. 10 am Tuesday 6 pm Table Time</p> <p>St. James Catholic Church 215 N. Washington, Bronte (325) 365-2687 Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Jr., Pastor Sunday Bilingual Mass 8 am</p> <p>4C Cowboy Church Texas Theater, Downtown Bronte Pastor James Brunson Sunday, 10:30 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Robert Lee</p> <p>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</p> <p>Emmanuel Pentecostal PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy Pastor Kevin Millstid 453-2360 Sundays 10 am, Wednesdays 7 pm</p> <p>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</p> <p>Iglesia Bautista Betel 101 Houston • Robert Lee Sun. 9:45 am • Sunday School 11 am Service • Bible Study Wed. 6 pm</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church 601 W. 10th, Robert Lee (325) 365-2687 Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Pastor Saturday Vigil Mass 5 pm</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Tennyson</p> <p>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</p>
--	--

The 4th of July celebration tent set up in the Robert Lee City Park distributed gift bags, water bottles, and other misc. items. Bricks for Memorial Gardens were available for purchase and membership sign-up was also available. VP encourages membership whether they can physically participate or not and all are welcome.

VP has purchased a golf cart that has been donated to the Robert Lee Golf Course. It is available free of charge to VP members and members of the Robert Lee High School golf team.

Additional street benches are being ordered to help beautify downtown Robert Lee and plaques will be available for dedication on the benches.

The Sons of Pitches Baseball Tournament to be held Wednesday, August 8, at Robert Lee City Park is moving right along. The old concession stand is being updated, cleaned, painted, and new electric and air conditioning by members of VP. Advertising banners will also be available to be placed on the back fences.

The next meeting will be held Monday, August 6 at 6 pm at VP headquarters. All are welcome!



Glitter and Rust

by James M. Decker

What makes a small town revival? The August issue of Texas Monthly has a feature on this very topic. This piece, titled "How a New Generation Is Reviving Small-Town Texas" tells stories from Lockhart, Brenham, and Alpine, each of which are currently experiencing new growth and enthusiasm. I encourage you to find the article on the Texas Monthly website or on newsstands, because it is an interesting and heartening read. Good things ARE happening in small towns across Texas.

This article has spawned a good discussion on Twitter with several rural-minded Texans whose opinions I respect. Each of these folks comes from a different professional and geographic perspective, but all are passionate about rural Texas.

This discussion, in turn, led me to my central question today: what makes a small town revival?

The Texas Monthly story spotlights several restaurants, bars, and other retail in these towns, most of which could fairly be termed as "trendy". As one of my friends observed, can a rural town revive itself on trendy restaurants, or does too much focus on that aspect of a town become "glitter on rust"? As my friend wrote, and I think

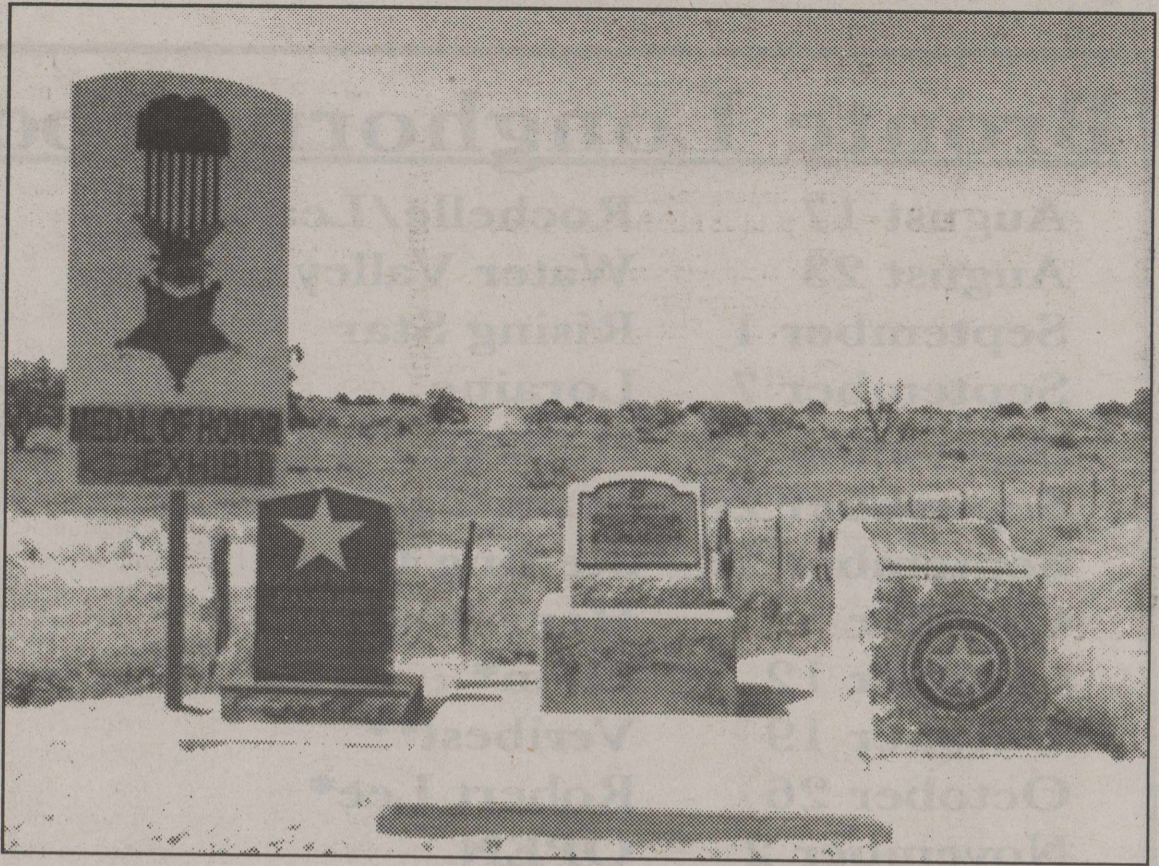
we can all agree, rural communities need jobs, healthcare, schools, and infrastructure.

This is a perpetual struggle in planning rural development ideas. Each of our communities has opportunities for glitter that will attract new traffic, whether it be new restaurants and retail, tourism and cultural events, or some other unique feature. But can that glitter sustain a town? What happens in the inevitable future economic downturn, when luxury items are the first to drop out of the family budget? Will traffic and spending in town dry up? Will sustainable glitter eventually require a larger local population, so that it isn't solely tourist dependent?

But on the flip side, is a little glitter necessary? How do you sustain a town without first having something interesting that attracts people to the town? Whether we like it or not, people are not just going to move to a random town because it seemed like a good idea. Every town needs a sales pitch, the so-called "elevator speech," that explains why a new resident should move there. Jobs are hard to attract without a suitable labor force. Healthcare, schools, and infrastructure are hard to improve without increases in sales tax and property tax spending, which are functions of new spending and construction in town.

These are hard questions without easy answers. If the answers were easy, someone would've unlocked the secret long ago and every rural community with a desire to grow would be booming. But here in the real world, we struggle with these chicken-and-egg questions. Glitter alone might not sustain a place, but you might need a little glitter to catch the attention of the people who WILL sustain you.

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.



New Marker! A new granite marker (second from left) was added at the entrance of Fort Chadbourne on Friday, July 20, to let those who pass by the fort that there is a Gold Star Families Memorial Monument on site. The other historic markers pictured include the Medal of Honor, Fort Chadbourne, and the Butterfield Overland Mail Route.

Commissioners Court meeting minutes told

The Coke County Commissioners Court met in regular session on July 10, 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 County Clerk Mary Grim.

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

Judge Blair announced the presence of a quorum.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the minutes for June 26, 2018, as written. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Hal Spain. Commissioner Sefcik

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

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the Payroll. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

Commissioner Robertson moved to approve Accounts Payable for Payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Millican and carried.

The Extension Report was unavailable.

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 presented his report.

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

The DR Report was unavailable.

The Trapper's Report was not available.

No action was taken on the burn ban.

No action was taken on the funding from MHMR for Coke County Mental Health Officers. There is still no contract.


Auditor Vallery Johnson presented the Line Item Transfers. Commissioner Millican moved to approve the Line Item Transfers as presented. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Robertson, carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the request from Frontier Communications to construct a communication line within the right-of-way of a county road in Coke County as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robertson and carried.

No action was taken on an Order approving a Tax Abatement Agreement between Coke County and Grape Creek Wind, LLC.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the TAC Insurance Rates for 2018-2019. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik, carried.

(Continued on page 7)



Russell Davis
Agent

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Central Baptist Church

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Bronte Longhorns Football Schedule

August 17	Rochelle/Leakey	Rochelle	5 pm
August 23	Water Valley	Away	7 pm
September 1	Rising Star	Rochelle	7:30 pm
September 7	Lorraine	Home	7:30 pm
September 14	Highland	Away	7:30 pm
September 20	Santa Anna	Away	7:30 pm
September 28	Sterling City	Home	7:30 pm
October 5	Hermleigh	Home	7:30 pm
October 12	Eden*	Away	7:30 pm
October 19	Veribest**	Home	7:30 pm
October 26	Robert Lee*	Away	7:30 pm
November 2	OPEN		
November 9	Paint Rock*	Home	7:30 pm

*District

**Homecoming

Robert Lee Steers Football Schedule

August 17	Sterling City	Away	TBD
August 23	Garden City	Home	TBD
August 31	Water Valley	Home	7:30 pm
September 7	Sidney	Away	7:30 pm
September 14	Santa Anna	Home	7:30 pm
September 22	Rising Star	Away	6 pm
September 28	Highland	Away	7:30 pm
October 5	Grady	Away	7:30 pm
October 12	Veribest*	Away	7:30 pm
October 19	OPEN		
October 26	Bronte**	Home	7:30 pm
November 2	Paint Rock*	Away	7:30 pm
November 9	Eden *	Home	7:30 pm

*District

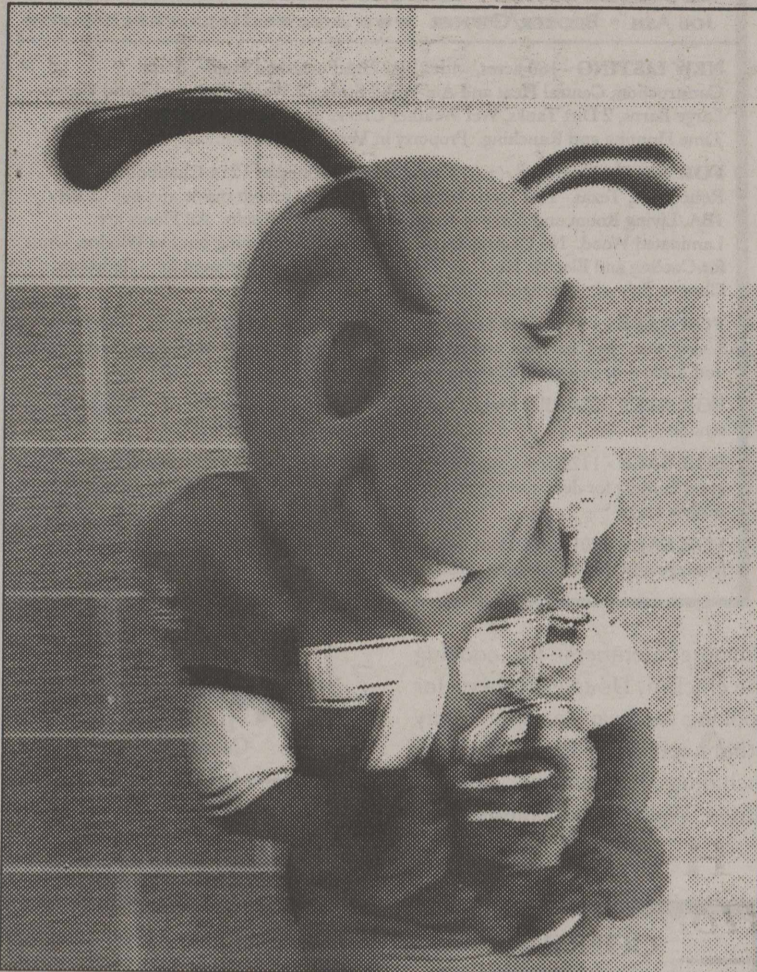
**Homecoming

Blackwell Hornets Football Schedule

September 1	Eden**	Home	7:30 pm
September 7	Roscoe Highland	Away	7:30 pm
September 14	Newcastle	Home	7:30 pm
September 21	Lueders-Avoca	Home	7:30 pm
September 28	Hermleigh	Away	7:30 pm
October 5	Veribest	Home	7:30 pm
October 12	Santa Anna	Home	7:30 pm
October 19	OPEN		
October 26	Moran*	Away	7:30 pm
November 2	Trent*	Away	7:30 pm
November 8	Lorraine*	Home	7:30 pm

*District

**Homecoming



Cheer Camp! The Blackwell spirit squads attended UCA camp at Angelo State University July 23 - 26. The Varsity squad won championship trophies in rally routine and cheer along, with a runner up trophy in game day. The Junior High/JV squad won a championship trophy in rally routine. The mascots won a championship trophy in game day.

The Varsity squad includes (top right photo, from left to right) Darrian Kenney - Sophomore, Emilee Sanderson - Junior, Jordan Jones - Junior, Caitlin Lange - Sophomore, Jady Feitshans - Sophomore, and Allison Panzer - Sophomore. Haylee Cason serves as the Varsity mascot (not pictured).

The Junior High/JV squad includes (right photo, from left to right) Shelby Rasco - 7th grade, Gloria Gonzalez - 9th grade, Autumn Clark - 8th grade, Luz Cano - 8th grade, Tori Campos - 9th grade, and Cadi Powers - 9th grade.

Representing the Junior High/JV as mascot is Chloe McKinney (pictured above).

Emilee Sanderson, Jordan Jones, Caitlin Lange, Gloria Gonzalez, Autumn Clark, and Tori Campos were also named as All American.

RLISD Pre-K, Kindergarten, Headstart Registration set for August 13

The Robert Lee Independent School District will hold Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Headstart registration on Monday, August 13, from 5:30 pm until 6:30 pm in the Elementary School office. Prospective Pre-K students must be 4 years old by September 1, 2018, to be eligible for the 2018-2019 school year.

Documents needed for Headstart will be proof of all family income, proof of age, child's shot record, SNAP (if applicable), and proof of Medicaid, CHIP, or private health insurance.

All new students to Robert Lee ISD, Pre-K through 6th grade are encouraged to attend. Required documentation for enrollment must include birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization records.

Registration packets may also be picked up at the Elementary School office anytime from 9 am until 3 pm. For additional information, please feel free to call the Elementary School office at (325) 453-4555.

Bronte Lady Longhorns Volleyball Schedule

August 7	Colorado City	Home	12 pm
August 10/11	Albany Tourney	Away	TBA
August 14	Sonora	Away	TBA
August 17/18	Nita Vannoy Tourney	San Angelo	TBA
August 21	Clyde	Away	5:30 pm
August 24/25	"A" Showdown	Home	TBA
August 28	Jim Ned	Home	5:30 pm
September 1	Bangs	Home	11 am
September 4	Clyde	Home	5:30 pm
September 8	Veribest	Home	12 pm
September 11	Water Valley	Away	5:30 pm
September 15	Sterling City	Home	12 pm
September 22	Paint Rock	Home	12 pm
September 29	Abilene Christian HS	Away	12 pm
October 2	Veribest	Away	5:30 pm
October 6	Water Valley	Home	12 pm
October 9	Sterling City	Away	5:30 pm
October 13	Miles	Away	12 pm
October 16	Paint Rock	Away	5:30 pm
October 20	Rochelle	Home	12 pm
October 23	OPEN		

...More Classifieds

SALES

CLOSING SALE!

Coke County Hardware Store, Robert Lee Tx. All inventory and Store at reduced prices. Call 325-453-2911

04-1tc

NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF ROBERT LEE**

City Council repealed Resolution #1281 having scheduled monthly meetings on the 2nd and 4th Monday.

Future council monthly meetings will be held only on the 2nd Monday at 6:00 pm.

04-1tc

BLACKWELL CISD

is accepting bids for gasoline and diesel to be used in school vehicles for the 2018-2019 school year. Bidder must furnish two 1,000 gallon on site tanks for dispensing fuel. Bidder must be responsible for all tax exempt documents. Blackwell CISD reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

For more information contact Abe Gott, Superintendent, PO Box 505, Blackwell, TX 79506, Phone: 325-282-2311.

Deadline for accepting bids is August 24, 2018, at 2:00 pm. Winning bid will be approved at August 29, 2018 Board Meeting.

04-2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOHN LAURENCE JACKSON, Deceased, were issued on July 25, 2018, in Docket No. PR1801877, pending in the Probate Court of Coke County, Texas, to: LINDA LOU JACKSON, 401 S. Washington, Bronte, Texas 76933.

The address for mailing claims is:

Dana A. Ehrlich
Attorney at Law
PO Box 1831

San Angelo, Texas 76902

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED July 25, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana A. Ehrlich
Law Office of Dana Ehrlich
PO Box 1831

San Angelo, Texas 76902-1831

Tel: (325) 655-5351

Fax: (325) 267-7515

dana@wcc.net

04-1tc

...Commissioners Court Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 3)

No action was taken on the TCDRS plan agreement for the Coke County retirement plan for 2018-2019.

No action was taken on the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Bronte and Coke County for hauling caliche/road material:

Judge Blair reported that the

cost to house inmates will be going up beginning October 1 to \$40.00 per day.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the agreement to house inmates between Coke County and Runnels County. Commissioner Millican seconded the motion and the motion carried.

No action was taken on the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension position contract.

Auditor Vallery Johnson reported that there will be a webinar for TAC RMP safety.

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

Judge Blair recessed Court for 15 minutes.

Judge Blair announced they were entering back into session for a budget workshop.

Judge Blair adjourned the meeting at 10:55 am.

Cotton is a major economic driver in Texas

by Gene Hall

It snows in Texas in the summer when cotton bolls sprout each year from South Texas all the way to the South Plains.

Suited for arid climates, cotton is pure, white and beautiful fluff. But its economic and social impact is rock solid.

Long an economic staple of the Lone Star State, cotton is a major driver to the tune of \$2.2 billion dollars annually for Texas, the top cotton state.

Where does it all go? To our clothes. Cool, crisp and stylish. That new pair of jeans, flowing dress and comfortable T-shirt are all made with cotton.

Cotton is also used for home furnishings. It's the dominant fiber in towels and washcloths and is popular in bed sheets and pillowcases. It's also used in plastics, paper products and cosmetics.

The seed, shell and oil serve as feed for livestock and oil for cooking.

Cotton is durable and drought-tolerant. It's made for Texas. A relationship grown to last.

ROBERT LEE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, Texas 76945

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Robert Lee ISD offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$2.10 lunch costs K-6 \$2.85, 7-12 \$3.10. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced price is \$.30, for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. If you received a notification letter that a child is directly certified for free meals, do not complete an application. Let the school know if any children in the household attending school are not listed in the letter.

The following questions and answers will provide additional information on how to complete the application. Complete only one application for all the students in the household and return the completed application to Samantha Burns, 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, Texas. If you have questions about applying for free or reduced price meals, contact Samantha Burns, Food Service Manager, (325) 453-4555 or by email at samantha.burns@rlisd.net.

1. Who can get free meals?

• **Income-Children** can get free or reduced-price meals if a household's gross income is within the limits described on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines.

• **Special Assistance Program Participants- Children** in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), are eligible for free meals.

• **Foster-Foster children** who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.

• **Head Start, Early Head Start, and Even Start-Children** participating in these programs are eligible for free meals.

• **Homeless, Runaway, and Migrant-Children** who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told about a child's status as homeless, runaway, or migrant or you feel a child may qualify for one of these programs, please call Aaron Hood at 325-453-4555.

• **WIC Recipient-Children** in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals.

2. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to Aaron Hood, 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, Texas 76945 or call (325) 453-4555.

3. My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out another one? Yes. An application is only good for that school year and the first few days of this school year. Send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for this school year.

If you have other questions or need help, call: Samantha Burns, Food Service Manager, (325) 453-4555. Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al telefono: Samantha Burns, (325) 453-4555.

Sincerely,
Samantha Burns
Food Service Manager

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING FREE AND REDUCED PRICE BENEFITS

Effective From July 1, 2018, To June 30, 2019

Family Size	Annually		Monthly		Twice per Month		Every Two Weeks		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$15,782	\$22,489	\$1,316	\$1,872	\$658	\$936	\$607	\$964	\$304	\$432
2	\$21,398	\$30,451	\$1,784	\$2,538	\$892	\$1,269	\$823	\$1,172	\$412	\$556
3	\$27,014	\$38,443	\$2,252	\$3,204	\$1,126	\$1,602	\$1,039	\$1,479	\$520	\$740
4	\$32,630	\$46,435	\$2,720	\$3,970	\$1,360	\$1,935	\$1,255	\$1,786	\$628	\$883
5	\$38,246	\$54,427	\$3,188	\$4,536	\$1,594	\$2,268	\$1,471	\$2,094	\$736	\$1,047
6	\$43,862	\$62,419	\$3,656	\$5,202	\$1,828	\$2,601	\$1,687	\$2,401	\$864	\$1,201
7	\$49,478	\$70,411	\$4,124	\$5,868	\$2,062	\$2,934	\$1,903	\$2,709	\$952	\$1,355
8	\$55,094	\$78,403	\$4,592	\$6,534	\$2,296	\$3,267	\$2,119	\$3,016	\$1,080	\$1,508
9	\$60,710	\$86,395	\$5,060	\$7,200	\$2,530	\$3,600	\$2,335	\$3,324	\$1,168	\$1,662
10	\$66,326	\$94,387	\$5,528	\$7,866	\$2,764	\$3,933	\$2,551	\$3,632	\$1,256	\$1,816
11	\$71,942	\$102,379	\$5,996	\$8,532	\$2,998	\$4,266	\$2,767	\$3,940	\$1,384	\$1,970
12	\$77,558	\$110,371	\$6,464	\$9,198	\$3,232	\$4,599	\$2,983	\$4,248	\$1,492	\$2,124
For each additional family member add:										
	+\$5,616	+\$7,992	+\$468	+\$666	+\$234	+\$333	+\$216	+\$308	+\$108	+\$154

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RLISD Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Information

Robert Lee ISD announced its policy recently for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the attached current income eligibility guidelines. Each school/site or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by anyone on request.

Starting on August 13, 2018, Robert Lee ISD will begin distributing letters to the households of the children in the district about eligibility benefits and any actions households need to take to apply for these benefits. Applications also are available at 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, TX.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

Income

1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels

Categorical or Automatic Eligibility

2. Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Program Participant

3. Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster

4. Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

Income Eligibility

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out free and reduced-price meal application and return it to Samantha Burns, Food Service Manager, 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, TX, 325-453-4555. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

- Names of all household members
- Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household member
- Last 4 digits of the Social

Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a social security number, check the box for "No Social Security number"

4. Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

Categorical or Program Eligibility

Robert Lee ISD is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. Robert Lee ISD will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have should contact Aaron Hood, Superintendent, Robert Lee ISD.

Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Samantha Burns at 325-453-4555.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

Determining Eligibility

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, Samantha Burns will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Aaron Hood, 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, Texas.

Unexpected Circumstances

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines.

50-280 (Rev. 4-16-03)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Bronte Independent School District will hold a public meeting at August 16, 2018 at 6:45 pm in the Board Room, 210 S. Jefferson Bronte, TX

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 1.1700000 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)

School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters \$ 0 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	0	% increase	or	2.27	% (decrease)
Debt service	0	% increase	or	0	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	0	% increase	or	2.27	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 241,797,600	\$ 381,198,630
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 1,779,620	\$ 2,227,630
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 80,400,039	\$ 132,280,070
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 52,811,720	\$ 2,036,260

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
 ** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-16-03) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.17000	\$ 0*	\$ 1.17000	\$ 5,334	\$ 7,326
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.03802	\$ 0*	\$ 1.03802	\$ 6,684	\$ 6,393
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.17	\$ 0*	\$ 1.17	\$ 7,533	\$ 7,000

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 69,458	\$ 53,485
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 69,458	\$ 53,485
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.17
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 812.86	\$ 625.77
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (186.89)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.17. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.17.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 511,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

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