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Local leaders discuss, pass policy at annual meeting

Coke County was represented at the annual meeting of the state's largest general farm and ranch organization in December. Two delegates from Coke County Farm Bureau traveled to Frisco December 1-3 where they helped shape the policy direction of Texas Farm Bureau (TFB).

"Texas Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization," John Ross Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president, said. "The needs of the entire state are considered by the voting delegate body to help address issues related to farmers, ranchers and rural communities."

Voting delegates discussed the 1944 water treaty between the U.S. and Mexico, supporting stronger efforts to ensure that water delivery to the Rio Grande and annual allocations are strictly honored instead of carried over into a five-year reporting cycle.

They also discussed hydrogen energy projects, issuing support for state oversight of all aspects of the projects, providing landowner education and safety, and studying the impact of these projects on agriculture and wildlife.

On the national level, voting delegates supported a resolution that would provide disaster assistance for poultry growers, along with a resolution that supports activities and legislation that discourages the unnecessary loss of productive farmland.

The TFB Annual Meeting includes district meetings for members, a business session, exhibits from companies offering TFB members benefits and young farmer and rancher competitions.

Several reunion activities and a 90th anniversary celebration and dinner were also part of the meeting festivities. Two-Time Entertainer of the Year Neal McCoy headlined the event.

"Ongoing drought conditions

once again brought challenges for agriculture, but we've continued to grow our crops and raise livestock," John Ross said. "The annual meeting was a chance for farmers and ranchers from across the state to share concerns, discuss solutions and to help move agriculture forward."

The following Farm Bureau leaders represented Coke County at the TFB 90th Annual

Meeting in Frisco: Kade and Morgan Hodges.

State resolutions adopted at the TFB annual meeting become policies that guide the organization in 2024. National resolutions adopted by the voting delegates are sent to the American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration in its resolutions process.

For more information on the TFB annual meeting, visit <https://texasfarmbureau.org/annualmeeting>.



The Local Livestock Show

By James M. Decker

The development of the modern livestock show is a fascinating bit of history. To Americans, that history dates to March 1896, when a small exhibition of animals was held under shade trees in Fort Worth, Texas. That event spawned interest and other similar events. Within a decade, the event now known as the Fort Worth Stock

Show and Rodeo would be joined by the American Royal in Kansas City, the National Western Stock Show in Denver, and the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago. In each case, ranchers and stockmen came from afar to the "City" to exhibit their animals in competition with one another.

My first livestock show was the State Fair of Texas in the fall of 1993. My hog and I quickly got the gate. In the interim between 1896 and 1993, the concept of the livestock show grew and changed wildly. Competition between ranchers and stockmen still exists, but the livestock show also grew into an industry in itself, with animal breeders and feed and supply companies rising up to serve the market of 4-H and FFA members who competed with one another in cattle, hog, sheep, goat, poultry,

Area Churches

Invite You to Worship

Bronte

Bronte Church of Christ

PO Box 346
118 S. Jefferson • Bronte
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

firstbronte@gmail.com

Pastor George Cooper

Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
10:30 am Worship

Wednesday 6 pm - 8 pm
Children and Youth

Bronte Methodist Church

Corner of Washington & Holmes
Bronte • (325) 650-4836

Pastor Keith Fletcher

Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship

St. James Catholic Church

215 N. Washington, Bronte
(325) 365-2687

Rev. Timothy Hayter, Pastor

Sunday Bilingual Mass 8 am

Bread of Life Church

314 Fayette • Bronte
(325) 227-0010

Michael Crane, Pastor

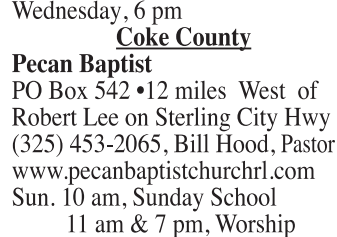
Sunday, 9 am
Wednesday, 6 pm

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
Sunday 10 am Sunday School,
11 am and 5 pm Worship,
Wed 5 pm Bible Study

Emmanuel Pentecostal

PO Box 794 • 1004 Hillcrest
Pastor Brantly Robertson
(972) 841-2009

Sundays 10 am, Wednesdays 7 pm

First Methodist Church

PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
Pastor Gary Karschner
Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417

Sun. 11 am Worship,
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
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Worship

Northside Church of Christ

PO Box 508
9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee
(325) 453-2685, (325) 763-2118
or (325) 473-1053

Services: Sun. 10 am
Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

601 W. 10th, Robert Lee
(325) 365-2687
Rev. Timothy Hayter, Pastor
Saturday Vigil Mass 6 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 Worship
Wed. 6:30 pm, Prayer Meeting

Victory Assembly of God

(325) 453-2208, PO Box 638
202 E. 6th Street, Robert Lee
Rev. Rocky Youngblood, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Bible Study

Obituaries



McCutchen

Jerry Mack McCutchen peacefully passed away at his home on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, in Abilene, Texas, following a long, courageous battle with Parkinson's disease.

He was born January 9, 1943, in Bronte, Texas, to Luther and Eula Maud McCutchen.

After graduation from Bronte High School and a couple of years working in the oilfield, Jerry enrolled at Hardin-Simmons University on a football scholarship and pursued a degree in education. He enjoyed a decorated teaching, coaching and administrative career with over 30 years of service with Abilene ISD. He was a beloved staff member at Madison Junior High, Cooper High School and Project Pass. Jerry was known for his steadfast integrity, strength of character, welcoming presence, and principled leadership.

In recreation, Jerry was the ultimate competitor. In his early years, he played football, basketball, baseball, golf, fast-pitch softball and ran track. He has relayed stories of his will to win being displayed in them all. He always enjoyed hunting, working horses, and all sports, especially golf. He also never passed up a game of 42 or straight dominoes. Despite his competitive nature, his greatest thrills came from spending time with family and friends.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory, his loving wife of sixty-one years, Bette McCutchen. In addition, he leaves behind sons, Terry

McCutchen and wife Carol, and Johnathan and wife Lana, of Abilene. Jerry was blessed with four grandchildren, Alyssa Ballard, and husband Dalin, Brandon McCutchen and wife Devan, Lilly Rhodes and husband Orel, and Ada McCutchen plus one great-grandchild, Bexley McCutchen. Survivors also include siblings Marlon McCutchen, Rita Abbott, Harold McCutchen and wife Gina and Keith McCutchen and wife Vicky as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Luther, and Eula Maud McCutchen.

Friends are invited to visit with the family from 6 pm to 8 pm, Friday, January 19, 2024, at Elmcrest Baptist Church, 517 N Pioneer Dr, Abilene, Texas 76903. Funeral services will be held the following day at 10 am, Saturday, January 20, 2024, at First Baptist Church of Bronte, 424 S Washington St, Bronte, Texas 76933 with Pastor Corey Cornutt officiating.

Honoring the family by serving as pallbearers are Tobin Abbot, Sterling Abbot, Eddie Moore, Jay Moore, Kevin Spiller, Kevin Spiller, Tim Abbott and Kyle Abbott.

Arrangements are under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home, San Angelo, Texas

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Russell Davis
Agent

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