

**More than  
'just a farmer'**

by Julie Tomascik

Calloused hands and patches on his britches. Sun-kissed skin and mud on her boots. A tractor, cows and corn popping up in rows.

He's just a farmer. And so is she.

Those three words put what they do in the simplest terms. But it's so much more.

Farming and ranching is a lifestyle. A labor of love. It's the roots that hold a family legacy, brings communities together and fuels the world economy.

It takes all kinds of kinds. And their skills are many.

Because their job description changes daily. And it's always subject to the weather.

With each new day comes new challenges and new opportunities. To learn, teach and grow. Because there's more going on than just farming and ranching.

He's a truck driver, mechanic and welder. He drives a tractor in the morning and a truck and trailer in the evening. In between, there's repairs and taking care of routine maintenance.

Yet he's just a farmer.

She takes care of the land for future generations. An

environmentalist who thinks about leaving the land better than how she found it. She's an agronomist, using science and math to calculate fertilizer, determine seed rates and select the best crop variety for her farm.

Yet she's just a farmer.

He eyes the clouds and listens to the wind. He watches his livestock and the wildlife, looking for signs of changes in the weather. His radar is his best friend. He's a meteorologist without all the bells and whistles in a television studio.

Yet he's just a farmer.

She writes a column for the

local newspaper. She trades in her farm clothes for professional attire and takes on Capitol Hill. She understands legislation and the impact of that policy on her farm.

Yet she's just a farmer.

They counsel the next generation. Answer questions. And help solve problems. They understand the seeds they sow can grow relationships, foster understanding and cultivate a brighter tomorrow.

Yet they're just farmers.

He will be late to holiday events. She won't be able to RSVP for a wedding without checking the weather. Because

they have to make sure the crops are growing and the cows are fed.

Yet they're just farmers.

They have the experience and knowledge to feed a growing population. They're passionate. They're strong. Determined. It's their continued perseverance in the face of adversity to provide for their families and urban neighbors. They make farming and ranching a noble profession.

Their love for the land and growing things is innate. And strong.

If that's "just a farmer," then I'm proud to know a bunch of them in Texas.

**NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
(AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL EN EL CONSTITUCIONAL ENMIENDA)**

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
(EL ESTADO DE TEXAS)

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF COKE COUNTY, TEXAS:  
(A LOS VOTANTES CAPACITADOS DE COKE COUNTY, TEXAS)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on November 7, 2017, for the purpose to adopt or reject the proposed Constitutional Amendments as submitted by the 85th Legislature, Regular Session of the State of Texas;

(La Presente se Notifica que el lugar de votacion liste a continuacion estara abierto de 7:00 am a 7:00 pm, el 7 de Noviembre de 2017, para del proposito para adoptar o rechazar las enmiendas a la constitucion propuestas tal como fueron presentadas por la 85 Legislatura Sesion Regular, del Estado de Texas)

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE:  
(DIRECCION DE LUGAR DONDE LOS ELECTORES:)

Coke County Courthouse, 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee, Texas, Precinct 1 and 3  
Bronte First Baptist Church, 424 S. Washington, Bronte, Texas, Precinct 2 and 4

Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:  
(La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en:)

County Clerk's Office, Coke County Courthouse, 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee, Texas, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday, 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Friday, beginning on October 23 and ending on November 3.

Oficina del Secretario del Condado, Coke County Courthouse, 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee, Texas, entre el horario de 8:00 a 17:00 el lunes al jueves, de 8:00 y 13:00 el viernes, 23 de octubre y el 3 de Noviembre

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:  
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan enviarse a:)

MARY GRIM, COUNTY CLERK  
(Mary Grim) (Nombre del Secretario del Condado)


EARLY VOTING CLERK  
(Secretario de la Votacion Adelantada)

13 E. 7th St.  
(13 E. 7th) (Direccion)

ROBERT LEE, TEXAS 76945  
(Robert Lee) (Ciudad) 76945 (Zona Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on: October 27, 2017.  
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocia el: 27 de Octubre, 2017.)

Issued this 6th day of October, 2017.  
(Emitada este dia 6th de Octubre, 2017.)

  
Roy Blair, County Judge (Juez del Condado),  
Coke County, Texas

**2017  
Hunting  
& Fishing  
Guide**

**November 3rd  
Issue  
Deadline  
October 23,  
2017.**

**Call (325) 453-  
2433 or 473-  
8863 for more  
information.**

**For our  
Bronte  
customers'  
convenience,  
there is a Drop  
Box at  
SHIRLEY'S  
PLACE  
in  
Downtown  
Bronte  
on US Hwy  
277.**