

Seeking Gold Star Families

On Saturday, November 18, 2017, at 11 am, the Fort Chadbourne Foundation will be dedicating a Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, followed by a reception inside the Visitor Center. A Gold Star Family is any family that has lost a loved one while serving our country. WWII Medal of Honor recipient Hershel Woody Williams will be present at the dedication and reception to visit with guests. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on Iwo Jima.

A few years ago Woody Williams established the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation to honor Gold Star Families. It was his desire to place these monuments all over the United States. The one being dedicated at Fort Chadbourne will be the first one in the West Texas area.

The purpose of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument is to honor Gold Star Families, preserve the memory of the fallen, and stand as a stark reminder that Freedom is not free. This stunning black granite monument features two sides. One side bears the words: Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, a tribute to Gold Star Mothers, Fathers, and Relatives who have sacrificed a Loved One for our Freedom. The other side tells a story through the four granite panels: Homeland, Family, Patriot, and Sacrifice. The scenes on each panel are a reflection of each community's Gold Star Families and their fallen Heroes. At the center of this tribute is the most distinct feature of the monument, the cut out which represents the Loved One who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the name of Freedom.

Ann Pate, Fort Chadbourne Director, and Honorary Board Member of the Hershel Woody Williams Foundation said it is very special that Coke County has a memorial such as this erected in our county and at Fort Chadbourne. It honors our families that have paid the ultimate sacrifice and have lost a loved one while serving our country. If you are a Mother, Father, Grandparent, Sister, Brother, Aunt, Uncle, or Cousin who has lost someone, you are a Gold Star Family and this Memorial Monument is for you.

Although, the memorial pays tribute to all Gold Star Families across the United States, Fort Chadbourne would especially like to honor the Coke County Gold Star Families, and for them to be present at the dedication in November. The ceremony is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend. A reception will follow inside the Visitor Center. If family members would like to share a photo of their loved one on that day, they are encouraged to bring a photograph with them. If unable to attend you may email or mail a photo of your loved

one.

For more information please call (325) 473-5311 or (325) 743-2555. You may also send an email to the foundation at fitchadbourne@taylortel.net

'64 Study Club meeting held

The '64 Study Club met on Monday, October 9, 2017, at the First Baptist Church. The program was presented by Morgan Runyan. She provided the group with succulent plants and soil to observe at home. She cautioned the group to let the plants dry out before watering. The experimental plot of drought tolerant plants at the Coke County Courthouse was discussed. Morgan explained that a variety of species had been planted to see how they reacted to the West Texas weather. Further plans include a water collection system.

The Coke County Extension Office includes 4-H programs, community health, ag and natural resources services through the A&M agrilife program.

The Study Club group also discussed plans for a chicken spaghetti casserole sale in the spring. Tickets will be pre-sold to determine quantity of supplies needed.

The next meeting will be held at Noel's on November 13 for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner.

November VP meeting held

Vision With A Purpose of Robert Lee held it's monthly meeting Thursday, November 4 at the Family Life Center at the First United Methodist Church.

Pastor Cyndi Weidner opened the meeting with prayer, then a meal was served.

Minutes from last month were presented and approved. Crystal Stanford then gave the Treasurer's report which was approved.

New officers were nominated for the coming year. They included President Nancy Wilson, Vice President Crystal Stanford, Secretary Sheri Millican, Treasurer Beverly Burdett, Sergeant of Arms Anthony Lopez, Parliamentarian Jeffie Roberts, Photographer Leta Caston, Reporter Dianne Hefner, and Long Range Planning



Memorial! Hershel "Woody" Williams poses with one of the Gold Star Families Memorials, which is similar to the one to be erected at Fort Chadbourne.

Commissioner Floyd Pettitt. New officers terms will begin in January, 2018.

Floyd Pettitt presented an update on our office on Austin Street. The elevator is being installed and the office will not be ready for use by Small Town Christmas on December 2. The celebration has been moved to the Family Life Center at the First United Methodist Church. All construction and improvements have been generously donated. All monies made by VP are going toward community improvements, not the building.

The Hunter's Bar-B-Q plans were finalized for Saturday, November 4. Assignments were given out for the event. Sales of raffle tickets for the UTV and guns were turned in. Tickets were also available at the door.

Small Town Christmas will be here very soon on Saturday, December 2, at the Family Life Center. Decorations will be put up November 11 in Memorial Park. Santa Claus will arrive by fire truck at 5:15 pm on December 2. Food will be available for purchase includes chili, stew and cornbread, drinks and gingerbread men. Plan on spending the evening with good music, good food and even a hay ride!

Also decorate your homes and/or businesses; we're having another lighting contest this year.

Entries must be turned in by November 30 and judging will be December 10.

Two beautiful quilts have been donated for a silent auction. Bids can be made Saturday, December 2 at our Small Town Christmas at the Family Life

Center. Several new members have joined VP and we are looking for more. Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 7 at the Family Life Center at the First United Methodist Church at 6 pm. A meal will be served.

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The oldest business in Coke County!

ROAR-R-R

**The Lions are on the prowl!!!
 The Robert Lee/Silver Lion's Club, joined by the 4-H**

**members will have a
 PANCAKE SUPPER**

**with all-the-trimmin's
 Those DEEElishus Pancakes, Sausage,
 Coffee, Milk, Orange Juice**

**Mark Your Calendars!!!
 Saturday • November 11**

**Robert Lee Rec Hall
 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm • \$5/Plate**

**A bodacious cake auction will
 follow with goodies provided
 by the '64 Study Club!**

Come one, come all!!

Cancer Messed with the Wrong Cookie

Benefit for Cookie Burns and her battle with cancer

Saturday, November 19 • Blaine's Pub

10 W. Harris, San Angelo, Texas

Poker Run Registration 9:30 am, \$25/Bike

First Bike Out - 10:30 am, All Back - 2 pm

Pulled Pork Meal 11 am - 4 pm

\$10/plate, to-go plates available

Silent Auction 11 am - 4 pm • **Live Auction** 3:30 pm

FMI or to donate, contact Cathy Sparks at (325) 245-8882 or Debra Friend at (325) 656-1353.