



By Mike Rader

My thoughts on the election. I have read, watched and listened to days of comments about the election. I prefer to have the hard facts such as the actual numbers to help me better understand what has occurred. The actual voter count will continue to vary over the next few weeks, so I will use the current data that I do not believe will change very much.

President Obama received 50.3% of the vote and Governor Romney and two lesser candidates received 49.7%. The Electoral College vote was over 300 for the President and less than 200 for Governor Romney. These facts tell me our country is still divided. There is not an overwhelming mandate for either party. The Democrats will try and portray the results as a total mandate for their policies by the American people. If the Governor had won, the Republicans would also portray the results as a total mandate. The vote says we look to be evenly divided.

If you look further you will notice approximately 94 million Americans did not vote. The 2012 turnout was lower than the previous two presidential elections. You will continue to see and hear explanations about why conservatives lost. One current thought being pushed is to run more "moderate candidates". Where "moderate" Republicans ran against more aggressive liberal candidates they lost.

I was asked many times by other Tea Party members and others what I expected. I only trust a few pollsters, and they said this race was too close to call. So, we are exactly where we were before the election. What can we do? We did very well in Texas, and we need to continue this trend. We must elect officials who represent conservative values. If we are not happy with their performance, then encourage other conserva-

tives to run for that office. Don't be bashful; go to the various government meetings. Ask them about our debt, how they are planning to pay off the debt and what they are doing to hold down costs. Be discerning, when you hear the responses. Are they managing our tax dollars the way we must manage our checkbooks?

At the national level, it appears the Republican leadership in the Congress is willing to raise our taxes and only symbolically cut spending. The President's approach appears to be the same: compromise, meaning you give up your principles and adopt our program entirely. The future for our taxes is not promising. It will affect everyone in Coke County, the poor, as well as the rich. I plan to slow my spending down to the bare essentials, continue to go to church, pray and tithe, and search for ways to help those less fortunate.

The Tea Party will have a guest speaker, in the near future, who is a professional tax preparer. Our guest will explain what these taxes means to us. More to follow.

## Coke County Comment

By Jim Clendennen

It's only been a few days since socialism was ratified by the mindless 51 percent of the electorate and already some people are ready to resume watching Dancing With The Stars or American Idol so they can dull their minds and not have to face reality. Unless we, the activists, keep fighting this, our Republic is gone.

Ronald Reagan said "Freedom is never more than one

generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

The tool of Nullification is being studied in nearly every state as possibly the best way to repair and preserve our Republic. If you are a person who is not willing to roll over and accept defeat then I urge you to Google up NULLIFICATION and begin educating yourself. The following quote is from the home page of [texasnullification.org](http://texasnullification.org)

"The central point behind nullification is that the federal government cannot be permitted to hold a monopoly on constitutional interpretation. If the federal government has the exclusive right to judge the extent of its own powers, warned James Madison and Thomas Jefferson in 1798, it will continue to grow - regardless of elections, the separation of powers, and other much touted limits on government power. A constitution, after all, is only a piece of paper. It cannot enforce itself.

Checks and balances among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, a prominent feature of the Constitution, provides little guarantee of limited government, since these three federal branches can simply unite against the independence of the states and the reserved rights of the people. This is precisely what Jefferson warned William Branch Giles was already happening in 1825: "It is but too evident, that the three

## Bynum earns trip to NFR

Tie-down roper Bradley Bynum from Sterling City has qualified in 14th place for the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas with \$66,849 in regular season earnings. This is his first qualification, but he watched his sister Terra compete in the barrel racing three times. Bynum is one of 38 contestants who will be representing Texas.



For the past 27 years, Las Vegas has gone country for 10 days in December as the city hosts the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (WNFR) where world championships are decided.

This year's rodeo is December 6 through the 15 and will feature 10 nights of the best contestants from the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association and Women's Professional Rodeo Association. Up for grabs is over \$6 million in prize money and world championships in bareback riding, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, tie-down roping, women's barrel racing and bull riding.

To compete at the WNFR contestants had to be among the top 15 in the world standings. They traveled across the United States paying their own entry fees and expenses hoping to earn enough money to be among the elite athletes that

advance to rodeo's championship event. The WNFR has seen continued growth in prize money and fan support since it moved to Las Vegas.

Each contestant will compete in 10 individual rounds which will pay the winner \$18,257. On Dec. 15th their total scores and times will be added together for average placings. First place in that category will win \$46,820 and a saddle as the WNFR champion.

World championships are determined by adding a contestant's WNFR and regular season earnings together. Those champions have the esteemed honor of wearing the traditional gold buckle that signifies they are the world's best in the sport of rodeo.

branches of the Federal Government are in combination to strip their colleagues, the State authorities of the powers reserved by them, and to exercise themselves all functions foreign and

domestic."

If the only tool you have is a Hammer then you must treat every problem as a nail. Nullification looks like a pretty good hammer. Never Quit! Never Give Up!

## Community Thanksgiving Service

*Everyone is Welcome!*

**Sunday, November 18  
7:00 pm**

**Hosted by Robert Lee Baptist Church**

22 W. Eleventh Street - Robert Lee

**Fellowship to Follow**

*Please bring finger foods for the fellowship to follow in the RLBC Fellowship Hall!*

*A love offering will be taken to help benefit the Coke County Food Pantry.*

*For more information contact Robert Lee Baptist Church at 453-2724.*

## HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

*All facilities of this bank will close at 1:30 pm*

*Wednesday, November 21, and will be*

**CLOSED**

**Thursday, November 22nd**



**Please plan your banking requirements during regular banking hours to avoid any inconvenience.**

**Robert Lee State Bank**

**Member FDIC**

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**Robert Lee, TX**

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