

**Bronte Bands perform Christmas Program**

The Bronte bands played their Christmas concert on Sunday, December 13, in the Bronte ISD auditorium. The fourth grade recorders started the program with selections such as "Good King Wenceslas" and "Ode To Joy". The 5th grade band performed Jingle Bells and then combined with the 6th grade band to play A Christmas Medley. The 6th grade then joined the high school band in performing "O Come Emmanuel".

The Bronte High School band performed "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch", "Christmas Around The World" which featured Kacelyn Follis on trumpet and Aaron Cervenka on baritone with solos, and closed with a jazz waltz, "It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year".

On Saturday, Mr. Tomes led a group of band students in performing these songs for Christmas In Bronte, which was very well received. Mr. Dannheim and Mr. Tomes would like to congratulate the bands on their great performances and say thank you to the Bronte Band Boosters, parents, school faculty and administration, and the community of Bronte for their support. The next activity for the band is the UIL concert and sight-reading contest in early March held at Hamilton High

School. Please continue to support your band here in Bronte.

**Audubon Bird Count set for December 19**

The annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be conducted in Coke County on Saturday, December 19, by the Midland Naturalists who will gather at a local cafe at 7:45 a.m. Local birders are invited to join them to visit or go on a counting trek. This will be the 116th bird count of the Audubon Society.

There are almost 90 species of birds that are here, or migrate through, this area.

Anyone interested in the program can find the best

information by a Google search of the Christmas Bird Count.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife/ Texas Department of Transportation nature map lists five birding sites in the Coke County Caliche Loop. One more site will be added with publication of a new map next month.

The group will travel the back roads of the county and will stop at various locations with binoculars ready. There will be an estimated 72,650 bird counters across the whole North American Continent to count birds in our shared environment.

A backyard bird count will be offered February 12-15. A

fifteen minute watch and count is all that is needed to participate. See Great Back Yard Bird Count at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org).

**Small Town Christmas is success**

Vision with a Purpose's Small Town Christmas, held Saturday, December 5th, opened up the festivities with food and drink served at the VP headquarters on Austin St.

At 5:30, Santa arrived on a fire truck, then moved to the gazebo in Memorial Park, where he listened to children's Christmas wishes and passed out presents.

At dusk, everyone gathered in

Memorial Park where Robert Lee Mayor, Leroy Casey, turned on the Christmas lights, a wonderful and awesome sight. New this year was a display of 4x4 Christmas cards donated by local businesses and families.

Food was continually served thru-out the evening.

Hayrides were provided for children and adults alike. Todd Smith and Marshall Millican towed the wagons. This new activity this year was well received.

Small Town Christmas, sponsored by Vision with a Purpose, has become a much-loved tradition. Each year it gets better and better.

