

...More Classifieds

the plans and specifications, please e-mail: Dani Kay Gee at dgee@btcbuilds.com.

The Proposal Package Manual detailing specific work required and contractual obligations will be available with the bidding documents. BTC is not responsible for partial or incorrect information obtained from other bidding websites or plans rooms. Addenda will be posted on the SmartBidNet website only and registered proposers will receive a notification when addenda are posted. It is the responsibility of the proposers to obtain all the addenda.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the Robert Lee ISD Gymnasium Vestibule at 1:00 p.m. for all interested proposers. Interested parties will meet at the Gymnasium Vestibule at 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, TX 76945. A site visit will be conducted immediately following a short discussion of the project requirements. This pre-proposal meeting is not mandatory, but highly recommended, and proposers are responsible for all information discussed at the meeting.

21-2tc

BRONTE ISD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

On Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Bronte ISD Board Room. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss Bronte Independent School District's First rating on the State's Financial Accountability system in which Bronte ISD received "Superior Achievement."

22-1tc

...School Menus

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Lunch

Monday, December 9

Chicken tenders, biscuit, gravy, broccoli, roasted sweet potatoes, mixed fruit, milk

Tuesday, December 10

Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, roll, okra, strawberries, milk

Wednesday, December 11

Chicken spaghetti, breadstick, salad, carrots, apples, milk

Thursday, December 12

Enchiladas, beans, salsa, cucumbers, rosy applesauce, milk

Friday, December 13

Fish sticks, mac and cheese, coleslaw, green beans, oranges, rice crispy, milk

Blackwell CISD

Breakfast

Monday, December 9

Pancake on a stick, syrup, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, December 10

Kolaches, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, December 11

Pizza, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, December 12

Biscuits with gravy, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, December 13

PBJ, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, December 9

Chicken Alfredo, steamed

broccoli, garlic toast, milk

Tuesday, December 10

Meatball sub, cheese, black olives, onions, chips, milk

Wednesday, December 11

Hornet Chicken Bowl (popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, gravy, cheese), hot roll, milk

Thursday, December 12

Chicken quesadilla, nacho cheese, refried beans, salsa, milk

Friday, December 13

Corn dog, mac-n-cheese, baked beans, milk

...West of 98

(Continued from page 4)

It might require throwing away the old box entirely and building a new one. Well, in the Big Country of Texas, we might've just built a new box.

Stamford and Haskell are fierce rivals. They've met on the football gridiron almost 100 times. The football games can be bitterly contested and the antics between the towns before the games can be just as...enthusiastic. As a Stamford native, I've heard Haskell-related conspiracy theories for years. I'm quite sure that Stamford-related conspiracies abound in Haskell.

And yet, despite that rivalry, Stamford and Haskell are far more alike than they are different. Our towns are 15 miles apart and there's not exactly a great shift in landscape on U.S. 277 between us. We farm the same crops. We face the same challenges of weather and economics. Our people live, work, and own business in each others' towns. We intermarry. We might even be kin.

On November 19, 2019, the Stamford Hospital District and Haskell Memorial Hospital recognized that our similarities greatly outweigh our football rivalries and that the rural health care climate is more challenging than the outcome of a football game. The entities formed a new healthcare partnership to merge Stamford's rural health clinic with Haskell's clinic and operate their health care services as one.

As set forth in the joint press

release by the parties, rural hospitals face difficult profit margins, declining insurance reimbursements, difficulty in recruiting physicians and health care providers, and an aging population that requires a higher level of care. By working together, the communities and their respective health care leaders are better able to meet all of these challenges and offer higher and better levels of services.

John Henderson, president and CEO of the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals stated, "we're encouraged to see regional collaboration among rural health care providers aimed at maintaining access to care and controlling health care costs, and view it as a model for other regional rural groups to follow. We hope to see more of this type of cooperation across the state."

I've said for years that, despite our rivalries, Stamford's fate is intertwined with that of the

communities around us. We need to work together, because rural communities are not a win-lose scenario. If Stamford survives and its neighboring communities do not survive, we didn't "win." In fact, we lost too. If Stamford is the only community left, that lessens the number of people trading with our local businesses.

In March 2019, I told you I didn't have a lot of answers about rural healthcare. I also told you that we were starting the conversation to get creative and think beyond the status quo. Our health care leaders in

Stamford and Haskell have done just that and they might have set a precedent for other rural communities to follow. Today, the future of health care in Stamford and Haskell is stronger than it has been in a long time.

Let's keep thinking beyond the box and building new boxes. There's no telling what we might be able to accomplish next.

James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and mayor in Stamford, Texas, and the creator of the forthcoming "West of 98" podcast and website. He may be contacted through Facebook at facebook.com/james.decker.



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