



Robotics Contest! Robert Lee Elementary had several students attend the robotics contest in San Angelo on January 18, 2020 (see next page for further information on the contest. Sixth graders robotics team members included Dalton Abalos, Austin Ashlock, Carter Fluhmann, Noah Gonzales, Skila Hagle, Garrett Laxton, Maci Lee, Aubrey Lofton, Vin Jeremy Morata, Danielle Munoz, Kallie Ortiz, Karmen Radloff, Savannah Reyes, Brenner Sherwood, Antonio Sigala, Wyatt Bosworth, Eli Bradshaw, Brittany Crisp, Trinita Dahlberg, Olivia Gregston, Cassidy Hearn, Alec Henson, Brennen Hood, Maggie Immel, Harper Mathis, Kylan Pitcock, Edward Samaniego, Nathaniel Samaniego, Jaqueln Saxton, and Isabella Taton.

...Sheriff's Arrests and Report

(Continued from previous page)

Natividad, Alexis, 12-20-19, Driving While License Invalid Alcohol Suspension; Piatt, Alexander, 12-31-19, Driving While License Invalid with Previous Conviction; Walsh, Zachary, 12-31-19, Criminal Trespass

Sheriff's Report

The following reports were made by the Coke County Sheriff's Office for the month of January 2020. Sheriff's Info Report - 5

Theft of a Firearm - Recovered	453
Theft of a Firearm - 1	Civil Process - 2
Driving While Intoxicated - 2	Prisoner Transport (including arrest and to and from court) - 15
Trespassing - 1	Warrant Served - 1
Theft - 4	Livestock Calls - 27
Criminal Mischief - 1	Accidents - 6
Assault Family Violence - 1	Accident Assist - 3
Warrant Arrest - 1	Traffic Stops - 97
Welfare Concerning Request - 4	Traffic Stops Resulting in Citations - 64
Contributing to a Minor (Tobacco) - 1	Total inmates in Runnels County and Mitchell County Jails as of Thursday, February 10, 2020:
Attempted Burglary of a Habitation - 1	Males - 4
Public Service (includes funerals, court, motorist assist, alarm calls, etc)	Females - 3



See-Through Leadership

by James M. Decker

In his book, "A Big Gospel in Small Places: Why Ministry in Forgotten Communities Matters," author and pastor Stephen Witmer introduces the concept of the "see through" church. If we're going to impact our places, we've got to understand why our places matter and why God wants us in our places. And if we're going to do that, we've got to understand why God wants his people impacting the world at all.

In Ephesians 3:8-10, Paul writes: "to me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. Before Christ, God was accessible only through the

intricacies of Old Testament law. The people approached God through the priests, who could approach God in the temple only as permitted by the law. When Jesus sacrificed himself on the Old Rugged Cross at Calvary, God became accessible to all, Jew and Gentile alike. But as Paul writes, we are called to be the vessel of God's accessibility. We the church are to show God's wisdom through our lives, through our words AND our actions. Pastor Witmer uses the great example of a window and a wall. When he officiates weddings, he charges the newlyweds to aspire to be more like a window than a wall. A wall may be gorgeous

and beautifully decorated, he writes, but our gaze stops at the wall. A window, on the other hand, provides an infinite view. The value of a window is not what we see on the window, but what we see through the window.

Imagine your favorite window to look out. It might be at home, at a family member's house, or at a vacation spot. Now imagine all the things you see from that window and all the happiness that the view brings you. That window provides you the opportunity to see it all. Witmer writes that a strong, Christ-centered marriage should be like a window - by looking at the marriage, you



State Debate! Blackwell High School's Cadi Powers, Emilee Sanderson, and Cami Davidson qualified for State Competition Congressional Debate. In a very rare event, all three girls advanced to the second day state finals. The day two finals are held inside the State Capitol building in Austin.

This was Cami's first time advancing to compete in the state competition and is expected to return as a senior in high school. There are high hopes that she will be in the medals next year.

Cadi Powers made her second trip as a competitor in the competition and earned a 6th place finish, which is awarded a state level medal. Cadi is a sophomore, so we are looking for more great finishes in the future.

Emilee Sanderson continues a remarkable high school career. If there was a hall of fame for speaking contests like there is for sports, Emilee would be an easy shoo-in. She finished state runner-up overall in the student congress competition. She also earned the coveted Outstanding Presiding Officer (performing speaker of the house duties for the chamber during the competition) honor. Filling this role reduces her opportunity to speak during the debate portions of the contest, otherwise she may very well have been the state champion overall. This makes Emilee's fourth UIL Speech/Debate medal and she is likely to earn two more this spring.

see through it the love between Christ and the church.

A church should be the same way. If you look at the local church and see a wall - pretty things, but the view stops there - the local church is not doing its job. The local church should be see-through like a window - when you look at the local church, you should see through to the love of Christ set forth in the Gospel. It's an old axiom that character is what you do when nobody is watching. When I think about the "see through" church, I think of that axiom. Local churches do many things with high visibility (praise and worship, children's programs, etc.) and as long as they're done with the right

heart, they're vital to the church. But a healthy church is also doing lots of things that very few people see and that may have little to no immediate return - ministering to shut-ins and serving the "least of these" among us comes to mind.

As you know, I'm keying on transformative action in 2020. Words matter, but so do actions. The action that matters is not action for action's sake, but action that truly changes a community. I think this requires see-through leadership in our communities, beyond just our churches. It's easy to undertake action that gets us on tv and gets a lot of "likes" on social media.

(Continued on page 7)

Re-Elect MARTY BOYD

Coke County Constable

I would appreciate your vote of confidence and support. I promise to continue putting Coke County first, as I have since my first election in 2005.

Early voting begins February 18th and primary election day is March 3.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Marty Boyd

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