

...Bronte City Council meeting

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Mayor Gohman distributed the sales tax trending report and it is continuing to hold up well.

The Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG), in the amount of \$275,000, was received. A map was distributed that shows where the lines will be replaced for the western side of town.

Ricky Royall would like the Council to start thinking about replacements for Bob Bailey and Lee Wommack, who are no longer on the board. There needs to be one Council Member and one citizen who resides in the City limits. This will be on next month's agenda.

Teresa Ballard reported that all documents have been submitted to the auditors and they will be onsite the week of December 28. She also attended a virtual municipal court training and has public investments training December 1 - 2.

Gwen Dyess would like to revisit Ordinance 19-06 Cargo Shipping and Sea Containers. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

On this Day in Texas History February 19, 1838

On this day in 1838, Indian captive Rachel Plummer was reunited with her husband after spending over a year with the Comanches. Born Rachel Parker in Illinois in 1819, she moved to Texas with her father, James W. Parker, and her family and married Luther Plummer in 1833. In May 1836 their settlement was attacked by a large group of Indians. Five settlers were taken captive: Rachel and her son James Pratt Plummer, Cynthia Ann and John Parker, and Mrs. Elizabeth Kellogg. James Pratt was taken from Rachel, and she never saw him again. Rachel became a slave to the Comanches, and traveled thousands of miles with the band. She was pregnant at the time of her capture and bore a second son about October 1836. The Indians thought that the baby was interfering with Rachel's work, so they killed him when he was about six weeks old. Rachel was ransomed by Mexican traders north of Santa Fe in June 1837. Several months later, Rachel's brother-in-law escorted her back to Texas, where she was reunited with her husband. In 1838 she published an account of her captivity entitled Rachael Plummer's Narrative of Twenty One Months Servitude as a Prisoner Among the Commanchee Indians. This was the first narrative about a captive of Texas Indians published in Texas. Rachel bore a third child in 1839 and died in Houston shortly thereafter; the child died two days later.

Since 1889, newspapers have served Coke County beginning with the Coke County Rustler. In the 1980s, the Bronte Enterprise and the Robert Lee Observer combined to become The Observer/Enterprise. The history told in these publications is fascinating and we want to share it with our readers of today. Each week, we will include items from the archives.

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Girls Win, Boys Lose District Games Here Tuesday Night

Bronte girl cagers won their first game in their try for the district title over the Mertzon girls here last Tuesday night. The second game in the two-of-three series was to have taken place last night at Mertzon and the results were not known at press time.

In an exciting game Tuesday, the Bronte girls won 56-49. Mary Ann Gray accounted for 28 points, and Wanda Snead for 21 points.

Mertzon girls entered the district playoffs by virtue of winning a two-of-three series from Water Valley last week to determine the winner of the south half of District 20-B.

6 COKE COUNTY WOMEN DRAWN FOR JURY DUTY

Six women have been drawn on the panel of 56 petit jurors called next Monday for duty during the third week of District Court in Coke County.

It will be the first time in history that women will see jury service in Coke County, and was made possible by a new amendment to the state constitution which makes women eligible as jurors.

Miss Zelda Caraway, Mrs. Howard Eaton, Mrs. Sid Ferrell and Mrs. T. A. Richardson of Robert Lee and Mrs. H. O. Whitt and Mrs. Otis Smith of Bronte are the women who have been drawn.

Miss Caraway is a clerk in the Robert Lee State Bank, and Mrs. Eaton operates her ranch south

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AD-LIB-BEN

A crew of SCS men were in Bronte Tuesday making a preliminary survey on damming creeks above Bronte and by so doing, remove the danger of another flood like we had less than two years ago.

Their comments were not too encouraging so far as getting 100 per cent federal help on the project, but at least when they complete their work, we will know what needs to be done. We think it certainly worth while to consider this project jointly from the standpoint of flood control and irrigation. A little water these last few years would have done wonders on these dry Coke County farms.

Diplomacy is the art of saying "nice doggie" until you find a rock.

Doctor to obese patient: "Jones I'm going to prescribe light exercise. Get rid of that car of yours—get one without power steering, power brakes, electric windows, automatic shift —"

Magazine salesmen and/or women are getting more plentiful these days. They almost pay you to take their periodicals, according to the line they hand you when they first come in, but if you should happen to decide to take it, you have to give them a little money for their cost of operating. We'd like to know the character who teaches these gals their selling techniques. Maybe he could show us how to sell advertising.

The Mertzon Hornets won the championship of District 20-B by defeating the Bronte Longhorns in two straight tilts. The Hornets took the first one at Mertzon by a score of 66-52. They then followed up by winning the second game here Tuesday night 70-69.

First Game

Bronte received one of their worst lickings of the season last Friday night when the Mertzon Hornets won out over the Longhorns in the first game of the playoffs by a score of 66-52. Bronte led at the end of the first period but Mertzon knotted it up at the half 25-25. At the end of the third quarter, Mertzon led by five points. In the final period, Mertzon continued to pull away from the Longhorns and wound up on top of a decisive victory 66-52. High for the Longhorns was K. Scott with 12 points, followed by S. Phillips and Noel Scott with 10, and Arbie Phillips with 9. High for Mertzon was Denton and Freitag with 16.

Mertzon 66, Bronte 52

Bronte — K. Scott, 5-2-12; Noel Scott 5-0-10; A. Phillips 4-1-9; S. Phillips 4-2-10; James 4-1-9; Smith 1-0-2; Total 23-6-52.

Mertzon — M. Tankersley 5-1-11; Denton 6-4-16; Freitag 7-2-16; B. Tankersley 4-0-8; D. Tankersley 4-7-15. Total 24-16-66.

Second Game

Mertzon was again the winner over the Bronte Longhorn cage team in the second final game of the playoffs for championship of District 20-B. The score was a close one and wound up 70-69.

A capacity crowd filled the gym and saw both teams play one of the best games of the season. Mertzon got the jump on the Longhorns in the first quarter and led at one time by 6 points, but the Longhorns closed the gap and only led by a score of 19-17 at the end of the first quarter. At intermission time the Hornets had pulled ahead by 8 points and led 39-

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Funeral Held Wednesday for Austin C. Coulter

Funeral services for Austin C. Coulter, 59, were held Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 2 p. m. from the First Baptist Church here. Rev. H. S. Earp of Merkel officiated, assisted by Rev. Charles Miles of Ballinger and Rev. Maynard Rogers, pastor of the Bronte Baptist Church.

Interment followed in the Blackwell cemetery, under direction of Clift Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were W. W. Millican, T. F. Sims, Howard Brock, Hiram Brock, Albert Grace and I. M. Cumble.

Mr. Coulter died at 6:30 a. m. Tuesday, February 15, in the Bronte Hospital. He had been seriously ill for 6 months and hospitalized about a week.

He was born August 26, 1895, in Windsboro, La., the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Coulter. He was married March 15, 1936 in San Angelo to the former Gladys Vest.

He is survived by his wife; one son, Grady Louis; his father, G. L. Coulter; two sisters, Mrs. Ida Beasley, Chase, La., and Mrs. Hubert Richardson, Redonda, Calif.; 1 brother, George L. Coulter of Hope, Ark., one granddaughter, Neleen Coulter of Hermit, Calif.; a niece, Mrs. W. C. Brewer of San Angelo and a nephew, C. S. Albert of San Angelo.

March of Dimes Total Over \$3600

The March of Dimes total climbed higher this week as more donations were turned in. Exact figures were not available but it was reported that Silver had sent in an additional \$287, making the west side total \$2324.56. On the east side the total climbed to \$1,310.87 when Scotties Place at Orient turned in \$27.35 in donations, thus making the Coke County total well over \$3600.00.

Study Is Made of Local Watershed

Soil Conservation personnel from both Coke County and state offices have been busy this week making a preliminary survey of the watershed of the Kickapoo Creeks which run through Bronte. The survey was prompted by action taken by local persons several months ago when they asked that the survey be made to determine the possibility of building dams on

the Kickapoo watershed. Purpose of the action was to get something started to prevent a recurrence of the disastrous flood which occurred here in August of 1953.

Men making the survey were unable to report whether or not they thought there is a possibility of federal aid in getting the project. They simply find out the facts in regard to the situation and report them to the State Soil Conservation Board at Temple. There the report is evaluated and it is decided whether or not the project will be recommended for federal aid.

From information learned by The Enterprise, the first consideration in developing a project of this kind is its agricultural benefits. However urban benefits are also considered. Main consideration in determining the feasibility of the project is whether or not the annual benefits will exceed the cost over a number of years.

A. V. Sheppard, Coke County soil conservationist, said Wednesday that as the group surveyed the Kickapoo watershed, they were aware of the fact that watershed treatment is what is primarily needed. However, he said that the need for flood control is definitely here.

Such projects as well prevent soil erosion and water runoff are needed much worse in Coke County than are dams to prevent big floods, the SCS men pointed out.

Proper use of terracing, contour farming, cover crops, reseeding of eroded land, brush control and other soil and water saving practices would do more good for the whole economy of the entire community than would big dams and big lakes.

Nevertheless, they thought that there may be a possibility of a project which would control runoff following big rains.

In addition to making a survey of the entire watershed, the group contacted about 20 local residents and asked their opinion of the project. They reported that Bronte area residents are deeply concerned over the need for something to prevent their soil and water from flowing down the Colorado River, but the majority feel that local assistance to the project would not be feasible at this time due to the long drought period which has been experienced the last several years.

WARNS KITE FLYERS

H. A. Springer, local manager for West Texas Utilities Co., asked the Enterprise to caution parents against letting their children fly kites near high lines and high tension lines. Springer said the practice can be very dangerous and that some child could be electrocuted.

POSTOFFICE AND BANK TO OBSERVE HOLIDAY FEB. 22

Both the bank and the post office will be closed next Tuesday, Feb. 22, in observance of George Washington's birthday. Other business houses in town will remain open.

In Colorado City last Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Lark Powers. They visited their son and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rogers.



James Coalson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Coalson, recently won first place with his entry in the Sears Heavy Litter Contest for 4-H club boys. James won \$30.00. This was the second consecutive year that he has won the contest for this area. He got his start from the Sears Foundation.

DEATH OF FRED GRAHAM

Word has been received here of the death of Fred Graham of Abilene. He died this week at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. Graham was a patient in the Bronte Hospital for six weeks before being transferred to Dallas. He was critically injured in an auto accident south of Bronte early in December.



C. N. Webb of Tennyson, left, visits with Rep. A. J. Bishop, of Winters at the capitol in Austin recently. Webb appeared in support of House Bill 230 by Rep.

Joe Burkett of Kerrville, a water conservation bill which represents the theories of the Soil Conservation Supervisors Assn. of Texas. Webb was recently

named a Director of the State Association of Soil Conservation District Supervisors at a meeting held in San Antonio. (Photo Courtesy Reporter News.)