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Robert Lee receives \$500,000 grant towards water pipeline

John Powell, USDA Rural Development Area Director, along with representatives from Congressman Mike Conaway's office, announced \$500,000 in emergency funding today to assist the City of Robert Lee with its water shortage due to drought conditions.

"USDA Rural Development remains committed to offering assistance to those affected by the droughts throughout Texas," said Rural Development State Director, Paco Valentin. "We offer funding, such as today's announcement to the City of Robert Lee, to reduce the impact nature has had on rural producers and families, and help those communities affected get back on their feet."

"In West Texas, water is a valuable commodity, especially during times of drought and hardship," said Congressman Conaway. "With a critically low water supply and in the middle of this historic drought, the citizens of Bronte and Robert Lee banded together and hammered out a difficult deal with our state and federal agencies that culminated in the awarding of the final

grant needed to begin construction of this emergency pipeline. I am pleased to know that their hard work will support and improve the well being of Robert Lee for years to come."

The historic Texas drought has severely impacted communities' water sources throughout the state. The E.V. Spence Reservoir, Robert Lee's drinking water source on the nearby Colorado River, was more than 99 percent empty in August of 2011. Currently it is only 46 percent full. The funding presented today, along with other outside funding sources, will be used to construct a new water transmission line, booster pump and water storage tank. The new 12 mile pipeline will provide access to an alternative water source, bringing water from nearby Bronte to the city of Robert Lee. The new water lines will increase the quantity and quality of water available to the Robert Lee community of almost 1200 rural residents.

Emergency community water grants are provided to assist rural communities that

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City Receives Funding! USDA officials arrived Wednesday, March 21, 2012, to present the City of Robert Lee with a check for \$500,000 to assist with the water pipeline expenses. Shown at the check presentation are (from left to right) E. R. Roberts, James Busby, Janie Munoz, Joanne Powell, Mayor John Jacobs, John Powell, Steve Dennis, and Sid Burns.

Time to renew Robert Lee Livestock Permits

It is time to renew Livestock Permits in the City of Robert Lee. New permits should be received by April 1. Any one failing to comply with ordinance by April 15 will be in violation of ordinance. Pick up permits at city hall or contact code-enforcement officer Marshall Millican at 325-473-0437.

RLISD to host public meeting

Robert Lee ISD will host a public meeting on the May 2012 Bond Election, Thursday, April 5, at 6 pm in the RLISD Cafetorium.

Vision meeting set for April 5

Robert Lee's Vision with a Purpose will have their monthly meeting Thursday, April 5, at 7 pm. The meeting will be held at Noel's, 5 miles west of Robert Lee on Highway 158.

Holiday Closings

Bronte and Robert Lee City Halls will be closed Friday, April 6, for the Easter Holiday. The Robert Lee City Landfill will be open on Saturday, April 7, weather permitting. The Coke County Courthouse will also

be closed Friday, April 6.

Easter Egg Hunt to be held at BHRC

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the public will be held at the Bronte Health and Rehabilitation Center Wednesday, April 4, at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.

Red Hat Society to meet April 5

The Red Hat Society will meet at 11 am Thursday, April 5, at Noel's, west of Robert Lee. Drive west of Robert Lee for about 5 miles and look for the Noel sign on the right and then follow the driveway until you come to the buildings.

If you wish to carpool, be at the bank parking lot in Bronte by 10:30.

You are welcome to join this group where there is fun after fifty (and before) for women of all walks of life. We are usually together for about an hour or so.

For more information or directions, call Janet Wommack 473-5388.

Street Affair Bake Sale set for April 6

A bake sale benefitting Robert Lee Street Affair will be held at Robert Lee State Bank on Good Friday, April 6.

A meeting regarding this

year's Street Affair is set for Tuesday, April 10, at Victory Assembly of God Church at 6 pm. Anyone interested in the Street Affair is encouraged to attend. There are going to be a lot of changes due to problems which occurred at last year's event.

Also, donations will be taken for the city wide garage sale to be held in conjunction with the Bronte city wide sale.

If you would like to make a donation, please call John Hayes at 325-650-4499.

Bronte Golf Tournay slated

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is sponsoring a 2 person 18 hole select shot golf tournament on Saturday, April 7. Tee time is 9 am.

Carts are limited, so sign up early if one is needed. For more information, contact Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156 or after 4 pm on weekdays, call 432-661-3431.

Vision fundraiser set for April 22

Robert Lee's Vision with a Purpose will hold a fundraising chicken dinner on Sunday, April 22, from 11:30 to 1 pm. It will be drive-through only at Robert Lee Fire Department, corner of Highways 208 and 158.



Special Olympics! Coke County Sheriff Wayne McCutchen assists Nathan Robinson with the torch during the opening ceremony of this year's Special Olympics. The event was held at Bronte High School Saturday, March 24, 2012.