

...More Classifieds

mail, or phone, to:
 Name: Hal Spain
 Title: Coke County Judge
 E-Mail: hal.spain@co.coke.tx.us
 Phone: (325) 453-2641

Coke County reserves the right to refuse and reject any or all bids, waive any or all formalities or technicalities, hold bids for a period of 60 days without taking action, and accept the bid to be the best and most advantageous to Coke County. Coke County reserves the right to accept multiple bids if it is in the best interest of the County.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS BID INFORMATION

THE BID(s) regarding the Coke County Pool in Robert Lee, TX.

Re-plaster with a commercial quartz plaster and re-tile the pool.

Tile the entryway and bathroom floors.

For more information or to submit bids, contact the Coke County Judge's Office at the email address or phone number listed above. Prospective bidders may also download the Invitation to Bid from the Public Notices section of the Coke County website at www.co.coke.tx.us.

38-2tc

...West of 98

(Continued from page 4)

Born in 1822 in Hartford, Connecticut, his landscape career began with a project in New York known as "Central Park." This project set the standard for urban parks in America and Olmsted would later build famed parks in Chicago, Boston, and numerous other cities, to say nothing of the parks built by his protégés. I'm not here to give you Olmsted's full biography (although it is a fascinating read and you should check it out). However, his park-building career was a transformative era in American city planning and it is deeply meaningful to modern cities and towns of every size.

In the mid-19th century, cities were growing rapidly. Green space had been plentiful in and around those cities, but farms and wilderness were rapidly being swallowed by new houses. City dwellers had to travel farther afield to reach fresh air, quiet countryside, and unspoiled landscapes. Consequently, leaders of those cities began to see the importance of preserving landscapes within the cities. The American city park (in many ways descended from the estate gardens of old-world Europe) arose as a quiet respite within these loud, bustling, booming cities. A city dweller might live in a multistory building and spend most of life on concrete, but a pleasant green space was only a few blocks away in a new city park. This was particularly important for city dwellers who lacked the means or resources to travel out

to the countryside. City parks unquestionably improved the quality of life for citizens of all ages and demographics.

As a rural leader, it can be easy to take for granted the importance of parks to quality of life. We've got all the green space we need, right? Farms, ranches, and wilderness are all around us. Why do we need city parks when we can be in the "country" in a two minute drive from the city center?

There was a time when I had that view as well. But my opinions began to change when I thought about the context of all the "country" around us. Who owns that property outside of town? Is it publicly accessible? What would happen if a group of children started playing out in the middle of a cotton field? Or what if a group of adults started fishing in someone's pond? For those in rural communities who own land or otherwise have access to it, that land is readily accessible. For all the many citizens in a rural town who neither own land nor have access to land, then that land around the community might as well be a million miles away. It is no more accessible to them then it is to a stranger from out of state.

We in Texas value our heritage as a private property state, but this creates a very different scenario from other Western states. My friends in places like Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico can step out their door and be minutes away from a national forest, national park, or other publicly accessible land. That is not the case in Texas, where well over 90% of land is owned by private citizens.

I am going to start a few essays on the importance of parks, playgrounds, and recreational areas within our communities. It is a critically important topic. If we seek to attract young people to our communities (whether they have

children or not), we need to be cognizant that parks matter. They make our communities more beautiful and pleasant, but they also improve the quality of life in a tangible manner.

Whether you live in New York, New York, or Stamford, Texas, city parks improve your community. They make life better for citizens. And if you want to attract new citizens, you better be ready to invest in your parks.

James Decker is the Mayor of Stamford, Texas and the creator of the West of 98 website and podcast. Contact James and subscribe to these essays at westof98.substack.com and subscribe to West of 98 wherever podcasts are found.

...Blackwell UIL results
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1st) Dusty Boyd (regional qualifier), 5th) Hunter Jackson

Poetry Interpretation
 4th) Autumn Clark, 6th) Brionna Sommerfeld

Prose Interpretation
 2nd) Dusty Boyd (regional qualifier), 5th) MaKinlee Killough-White, 6th) Ashtyn Hamilton

Ready Writing
 6th) Kinley Cummings

Science
 Top Physics - Samuel Ottaberry; Top Chemistry - Jesse McKinney

Social Studies
 1st) Karter Cummings (regional qualifier) 5th) Tyson Walls, 6th) Marlene Sanchez; 1st Team) Jesse McKinney (regional qualifier)

Spelling
 2nd) Kinley Cummings (regional qualifier); 2nd Team) Cooper Claborn, Shelby Rasco, Talia Campos

Journalism
 2nd Team - combines scores from Copy Editing, Editorial Writing, Feature Writing, Headline Writing, and News Writing

Speech
 1st Team - combines scores

from CX/LD Debate, Informative/Persuasive Speaking, and Poetry/Prose Interpretation



Bronte ISD Breakfast

Monday, April 4
 Pizza or Cinnamon Toast Crunch, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, April 5
 Donuts and sausage link or Cheerios, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, April 6
 PBJ or Lucky Charms, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, April 7
 Taquito or French toast sticks, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, April 8
 Pancake and sausage on a stick or cereal, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, April 4
 Drumsticks, garden salad, carrots, roll, peaches, milk

Tuesday, April 5
 Frito pie, pinto beans, veggie cup, pineapple, milk

Wednesday, April 6
 Cheesy garlic pizza, marinara sauce, broccoli, sliced apples, chocolate chip cookie, milk

Thursday, April 7
 Boneless chicken wings, chips, celery, carrots, mixed fruit, frozen yogurt cup, milk

Friday, April 8
 Steak fingers, roll, green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, applesauce, milk

Robert Lee ISD Breakfast

Monday, April 4
 Cereal, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, April 5
 French toast, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, April 6
 Power breakfast, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, April 7
 Pancake wrap, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, April 8
 Cinnamon roll, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, April 4
 Burger, fries, oranges, pudding, milk

Tuesday, April 5
 Chicken-n-waffles, veggie cup, fries, peaches, milk

Wednesday, April 6
 Asian bowl, carrot sticks, squash, grapes, milk

Thursday, April 7
 Hamburger, tomato cup, garden salad, chips, pears, milk

Friday, April 8
 Texas basket, rosy applesauce, cookie, milk

TPWC approves hunting regulations changes

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved hunting regulations for the 2022-23 season at its public meeting held March 24 in Austin. Commissioners adopted the following modifications and clarifications to the 2022-23 Statewide Hunting Proclamation:

Establish mandatory buck and antlerless white-tailed deer harvest reporting in Collin, Dallas, Grayson and Rockwall counties during white-tailed deer season.

Modify the definitions of "buck deer" and "antlerless deer."

Modify the proof of sex requirements for harvested buck deer.

Create definitions for two types of commercial cold storage facilities.

Modify tagging and proof of sex requirements, log procedures and destination regulations for commercial cold storage facilities. Expand mule deer antler restrictions to an additional 21 counties in the Panhandle.

Extend the general mule deer season in 15 southwestern Panhandle counties from nine to 16 days and add a special archery season.

(Continued on next page)

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