

Letter from the Publisher

Dear Readers,
 It has been my honor to be a part of bringing you Coke County's news for almost 30 years. Our editor, Morgan McCutchen Brigham, began as a typist and clerk when she was just 12. After college and several years in the Human Resource Department at First Financial's corporate headquarters in Abilene, Morgan returned to the OE at the end of 2016. Both of us are completely dedicated and feel a huge responsibility with owning the "oldest business in Coke County".

This new digital world has seen the decline of print publications across our nation and we have not been unaffected by these changes – both positively and negatively. On the negative side, this business once was able to employ several people. Now, there is just Morgan and me and we must have another source of income as there are fewer businesses in our county to support a local newspaper.

One of the positive changes is that instead of people dropping by our office, we now receive email. This is the best way to receive items, because now the production of the newspaper is no longer cut, wax, and physically lay in copy on an actual page to be taken to a special camera. That process is now all done digitally.

Personally, I have fought the

changes and only made a change when breakdowns in old equipment forced new upgrades. The benefit of these upgrades has allowed us to produce the newspaper anywhere we had our laptop computers. Also a couple of years ago, you may have noticed your address labels were different from years past. This change came when the old mailing system finally died and couldn't be repaired. With the new system, we are now mobile with preparing the newspaper to be mailed out.

In 1989, the OE had offices in both Bronte and Robert Lee. The Bronte office was closed years ago and went to a drop box system. The Bronte drop box is at Shirley's. Two years ago, I began tracking our "in the door" traffic in Robert Lee. This showed that most weeks there were only one or two customers coming to the office.

With all of this being said and the price of fuel, it really isn't cost effective to keep the office in Robert Lee open more than a couple of mornings per week. We are now open on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 am until 12 noon. There is a drop box for our customers at Floyd C. Pettit Insurance.

With the many changes over the years, it is our sincere hope that you, our reader, is enjoying this publication and will enjoy it for many more years to come.

Melinda McCutchen, Publisher
The Observer/Enterprise

The payment due in April from QUIPP was received and the DSO is up a bit from last month. The work on the outside door locks should be completed this week, which will make the facility a secure unit.

Accounts receivable were discussed.

Roger Alexander gave the financial report, which was discussed and approved.

The Board voted to retain the last Tuesday in the month as the regular meeting date, and also retained Robert Lee State Bank as the WCCHD's depository.

The Board broke for lunch at 11:42 am and enjoyed a delicious lunch of pot roast and trimmings.

The Board reconvened at 12:15 pm and elected the following officers for the coming year: Pat Stephens - President, Sarah Green - Vice-President, Beverly Burdett - Secretary.

A request to waive penalty and interest on property died for lack of a motion.

Future agenda items were discussed and next Board meeting will be May 29, 2018. The public is invited to attend.

The Board adjourned into a short Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. No action was taken.

Some of the highlights of the May calendar include a Cinco de Mayo party at 3:30 pm on May 4, and a Mother's Day

Tea Party at 3:30 pm on May 8. Mother's Day will be celebrated at the facility with a movie and popcorn at 3 pm. Services by area churches are held on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 pm. Visitors are always welcome! The Sing-Along will be the May 14 at 3:30 pm and the Methodist Church will be entertaining on May 7 and May 21 at 3:30 pm. The monthly birthday party, sponsored by the Altar Sorority,



Burn Ban Violations! Several citations were issued last week by the Coke County Sheriff's Office for violations of the burn ban. This fire was the result of a man using a cutting torch without having a water source nearby. For more information, call the CCSO at (325) 453-2717.

will be held May 15 at 3:30 pm. Those celebrating May birthdays are Martha Brown, Antonio Martinez, and Sotera Galvan. Happy birthday to all!!! Jim Gross will be entertaining at the facility May 22 at 3:30 pm. Memorial Day will be celebrated at 3:30 pm, on May 28 with popcorn and a movie and that, plus all the regular activities, helps bring the month of May to a close. Blessed Memorial Day to all.



January 2018

Arrests

- Nevarez, Alice, Driving w/ License Invalid, 1-10-18;
- Mendoza, Stormy, Driving w/License Invalid, 1-10-18;
- Moore, Collin, Criminal Mischief >\$750 <\$30,000, 1-11-18;
- Baken, Joshua, Burglary of a Vehicle, 1-14-18;

- Torres, Sharon Kay, Abuse of Official Capacity >\$2500 <\$30,000, 1-17-18;
- Balderas, Daphene, Evading Arrest, 1-22-18;
- Selman, Tavian, Driving w/ License Invalid, 1-22-18;
- Westphal, Charles, Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon.

Dispositions

- District Court Dispositions - 1-8-2018 - None
- County Court Dispositions - None

Reports

- Sheriff's Info Report - 6;
- Civil Matter - 4;
- Criminal Mischief;
- Burglary of a Vehicle - 6 (suspects apprehended and numerous items returned to owners);
- Burglary of a Habitation;
- Unauthorized Use of a Motor

- Vehicle (Recovered and returned to owner);
- Theft of a Firearm (Recovered);
- Evading Arrest;
- Search Warrants Executed - 2;
- Public Service (includes funerals, court, motorist assist, alarm calls, etc) - 278;
- Civil Process - 2;
- Prisoner Transport (including arrest and to and from court) - 5;
- Warrants Served - 0;
- Livestock Calls - 7;
- Accidents - 1 – (3 – Blue Forms);
- Accident Assist - 2;
- Traffic Stops - 11;
- Traffic Stops resulting in Citations - 17.
- Total inmates in Runnels County Jail as of February 13, 2018:
- Male - 2;
- Female - 1 (parole violation).

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Please welcome
 our new veterinarian,
Jake McCabe, DVM,
 2005 Robert Lee High
 School Graduate!

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Jake McCabe, DVM • Rachel Werbelow, DVM

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LARRY DYESS AUTOMOTIVE, LLC

will be closed
 Friday, May 11 through
 Monday, May 14.

We will reopen
 Tuesday, May 15.

Re-elect

Paul Williams Commissioner, Precinct 2

Early
Voting
 May 14 - 18

Runoff
Election Day
 May 22

Your Fiscally Conservative
 Coke County Commissioner

Paid Political Advertisement by Paul Williams