



Box Tops for Education! This spring students in grades PK – 6th grade have been collecting Box Tops from specially marked packages of foods and household products to help raise money to purchase items for use by students at Bronte Elementary School. All of the students have been busy collecting Box Tops and have raised a total of \$222.70. The third grade class collected the most Box Tops and were rewarded with a popsicle party. Teresa Swecker, parent volunteer, has been coordinating the Box Top program.

Bronte Longhorn Golf Club announces Summer Youth Golf Program

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club will be hosting a Summer Youth Golf Program that is open to all area youth. This summer, learn to play golf or just improve your game.

The program will take place weekly, starting July 3rd from 9-10:30 am. Lessons equipment and refreshments are provided. The program is free, so mark your calendar and come have fun!

Blackwell Euterpean Club Update

The Blackwell Euterpean Club celebrated their “end of the year” meeting with a Hawaiian Luau on May 21 in the home of Rebecca and Robert Whipple. Guests were met with a lei by the hostesses, Rebecca, Gwen Ware and Shirley Lemley and gathered at the pool area for visiting and dinner. It was decorated with flamingos and parrots and hung with colored chains and lanterns. The hostesses furnished Hawaiian chicken with pineapple and cherries and a honey-cured ham with each guest bringing a dish.

Present were James Ware, Connie and John Tomlinson, Richard and Sue Crain, Bill and Bonnie McCloud, Jan Hall and Sheila Kovach.

It was reported the annual Euterpean Club Scholarship award was presented to Cody Shamblin by club member, Heather Sanderson for the highest grade-point average in Blackwell High School for the year 2012-2013.

Birthday recipients were given their special sacks for May, June and August. They were Rosie Ten Eyck, Nelda Lee, Bonnie McCloud, Heather Sanderson, Connie Tomlinson, Rebecca Whipple, Gwen Ware and Mary McBrayer.

Additional Drought Relief Funding to Texas Landowners

In response to Texas’ ongoing drought, the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist Salvador Salinas has announced that NRCS in Texas has additional funding available for agriculture operators wishing to address plant health conditions on their land through the agency’s Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

“With so much of Texas suffering from a lack of rainfall, this funding will help farmers and ranchers apply conservation practices to reduce the impacts of drought, while improving soil health and productivity,” says Salinas.

Through this additional EQIP funding, the NRCS will work with landowners in providing assistance to

establish and improve plant health on their private lands. Applications will be accepted in NRCS field offices until June 14. Priority for funding will target 129 counties that are designated as extreme drought (D3) or exceptional drought (D4), according to the current US Drought Monitor map. Currently, the vast majority of Coke, Sterling and Nolan fall into the D3-D4 range. Only the far northwest tip of Runnels is considered in this category. Priority counties will be adjusted as the drought changes.

Salinas suggests that landowners consult with their local NRCS district conservationist to develop a conservation plan, which is an effective strategy for pasture and rangeland recovery, along with helping mitigate the effects of Texas’ current drought conditions.

Landowners interested in participating are encouraged to contact their local USDA-NRCS field office located in the nearest USDA Service Center. For additional information about EQIP, or to find the NRCS service center nearest you, visit <http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.g>

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West Coke County Hospital Board Meeting detailed

By Pat Stephens

The Board of Directors of the West Coke County Hospital District met in regular session May 23, 2013. President Mary Bessent called the meeting to order at 9:52 AM, and declared a quorum was present. Other Board members present were Sarah Green, Pat Stephens, Dessie Kendall, and Pat Carwile. Roger Alexander, Administrator, and Janie Munoz, BOM, were also present at the meeting. Mary Bessent gave the invocation.

Judge Roy Blair came to swear in Board Members Mary Bessent and Dessie Kendall, and administer the Oaths of Office. Officers were then elected, with officers remaining in the same positions by acclamation: Mary Bessent, President; Dessie Kendall, Vice-President, and Pat Stephens, Secretary.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved, and there were no absent Board members from that meeting.

The Board went into Executive Session at 10 AM to discuss Personnel. The Board returned to regular session at 10:39. No action was needed.

In the census count, there are currently 36 residents in the facility as of the meeting date.

In the Administrator’s report staffing update, Roger reports the need of 3 nurses for shift work, and the resignation of 2 CNAs.

Under Capital Improvements, the renovated unit is in limbo until the State affirms all inspection concerns have been addressed. Work has begun in the yard outside the renovated unit, and a bid to do some cement work and curb some flower beds has been accepted. Architects for the next phase of the building renovation were discussed.

The Board then broke for lunch.



Hewitt Receives Scholarship! Kelsey Hewitt, daughter of Leroy and Jami Casey, received the 2013 Robert Lee-Bronte Eastern Star Chapter No. 187 \$300.00 scholarship.

Kelsey is a 2013 graduate of Robert Lee High School. She plans to attend Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, this fall and major in Deaf Education.

After lunch, the Board accepted the financial statements, and discussed accounts receivable. Roger was asked to research the best option for providing employee’s health insurance.

Robert Lee State Bank was named as depository.

Future agenda items were discussed, and the next Board meeting will be June 18, 2013. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

Sneaking a peek at the June calendar, there will be a fun trip to Ft. Chadbourne June 11th, at 10 AM. A Father’s Day party will be held in the dining room at 3:30 PM on June 14th. The monthly birthday party will be held June 18th, at 3:30 PM. Those honored this month will be Bernie McCarty, Gene Williams, Louise Walker, and Lou Ella Teague. Happy birthday to all!! The resident’s council meeting will be held at 3:30 June 25th, and the month will finish up with a Sing-Along on June 28th, at 3:30. If you happen to be in the neighborhood, drop by and join in the fun.

Here’s wishing all you fathers out there a very happy and blessed Father’s Day June 16th.

Enjoy your day!!

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