

took place in a ring hastily erected on a sandbar on the Mexico side of the Rio Grande. Masterson served as master of ceremonies and head of security. British boxer Bob Fitzsimmons knocked out Peter Maher, an Irishman, less than two minutes into the first round. In 1902, Masterson and his wife moved to New York City, where he caught on with The Morning Telegraph. "The last of the old time gun fighters" loved city life, loved strolling around town wearing a dapper bowler hat and carrying a cane. In Guys and Dolls, the stage play and movie based on short stories by Masterson's friend Damon Runyon, one character, a Colorado gambler willing to bet on anything—the Marlon Brando character in the movie—is called Sky Masterson.

As a columnist, Masterson had a way with aphorisms, including the one he wrote on deadline, literally. Appearing two days after his death, Masterson's final column concluded with this observation: "There are those who argue

that everything breaks even in this old dump of a world of ours. I suppose these ginks who argue that way hold that, because the rich man gets ice in the summer and the poor man gets it in winter, things are breaking even for both. Maybe so, but I'll swear I can't see it that way."

Bat Masterson was 67 when he died. His fingers weren't wrapped around a six-shooter on a dusty Western street; they rested near a typewriter in a New York City newsroom. The "best known man between the Mississippi and the Pacific Coast" lies buried in a Bronx cemetery.

Joe Holley, a former editor of Texas Co-op Power, is the Native Texan columnist for the Houston Chronicle and author of six books. He is currently at work on a history of electric cooperatives in Texas that is scheduled for release in 2022 from Texas A&M University Press. This article also appeared online at www.texascoopower.com.

Tips to beat the heat at Texas State Parks

Last year, as temperatures soared into the triple digits in Texas, staff at 39 Texas State Parks handled 132 heat-related illnesses in humans and pets. Now that the summer has officially begun and temperatures are steadily climbing, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is sharing their top six heat hacks for staying safe in the outdoors.

Here are the top six heat hacks recommended for park visitors:

Hydrate- It's important to drink at least 16 ounces of water every hour in the heat to replenish your body and prevent dehydration. Don't forget to bring enough for your four-legged family members too.

Block the Rays- Apply a generous amount of sunscreen or sunblock before heading

outdoors. Be sure to reapply every couple of hours, and after swimming or sweating.

Dress Smart- Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable clothing; a hat, correct shoes, sunscreen and wet bandanas to keep you cool while in the sun. For pets, protect paws against blistering by hitting the trails during cooler times of the day when the ground isn't hot or by putting booties on pets to help shield paws from the hot ground. Touch the pavement or ground with the back of your hand. If you cannot hold it there for five seconds, the surface is too hot for your dog's paws.

Stay Salty- Food helps keep up energy and replace salt lost from sweating. Eating snacks such as jerky, granola, trail mix, tuna and dried fruit is a fantastic way to nourish your body while on



Basketball Camp! Robert Lee ISD held their Steer/Lady Steer Basketball Camp last week and kids of all ages had a great time working on their skills. The groups consisted of campers in first through third grades (top photo) and campers in fourth through seventh grades.

the trails.

Buddy System- Two brains are better than one. It's beneficial to have someone with you in hot conditions so you can look after each other on the trail. With high temperatures hitting Texas, heat-related illnesses are common and having a friend around to help recognize the early symptoms can save you from getting sick.

Plan Ahead- Study the map and have it with you. Average hikers move at 2 miles per hour, so allow yourself plenty of time to avoid hiking in the heat of the day. Make sure to rest in a cool

or shaded area to recover from the heat if necessary. It is also a good idea to let someone know your plan before you hit the trails and what time you should be back. That way, if you become lost, people know where to look. For more information about heat safety, visit the TPWD website.

All guests, including annual pass holders, are encouraged to pre-purchase or register for day passes and overnight reservations in advance through the Texas State Parks Reservation System before heading out to a state park. Park capacities are limited, and

permits sell out fast. Reservations can be made online at www.texasstateparks.org or by calling 512-389-8900.

Find a park in your area at <http://texasstateparks.org>.

Binge on your favorite shows, not electricity

It seems like everyone is binge-watching movies and TV shows these days. Of course, constant use of the TV can push up the household energy bill.

Here are seven ways to conserve energy while watching TV:

(Continued on next page)

Serving Coke County

Vol. 132, No. 27

Friday, January 10, 2020

Joke County Water Supply Corporation awarded grant

The Texas Water Resources Institute announced a grant awarding \$500,000 to the Joke County Water Supply Corporation for water conservation projects. The grant will be used to fund water conservation programs in the county, including the installation of water-saving devices in homes and businesses. The grant is part of the state's effort to reduce water consumption and conserve resources.

Winkler Rig Southwest of Robert Lee

By Melissa McClellan, Publisher

A new oil rig is being constructed in a field southwest of Robert Lee. The rig is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The rig will be used to produce oil and natural gas. The rig is owned by a private company. The rig is expected to produce about 1,000 barrels of oil per day. The rig is expected to produce about 1,000 barrels of natural gas per day.

Special Government Section

Coke County Courthouse • Robert Lee

Coke County covers 928 square miles on the Edwards Plateau in west central Texas. The county was founded in 1860 and named for Richard Coke, the 17th governor of Texas. As of the 2010 census, the population was 3,320.

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2019 Year in Review Issue

By Melissa McClellan, Publisher

We are excited to announce our 2019 Year in Review Issue. This issue features a collection of articles from the past year, including a special section on the county's economy. The issue is available for purchase at a special price. The issue is available for purchase at a special price.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, January 13, 2020

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Friday, January 17, 2020

Serving Coke County

Vol. 132, No. 43

Friday, May 13, 2020

Saluting the Robert Lee High School Class of 2020

Annual commencement ceremonies for the Robert Lee High School Class of 2020 were held on Friday, May 13, 2020. The ceremony was held in the school's gymnasium. The ceremony was attended by family members and friends of the graduates. The graduates were presented with diplomas and certificates. The graduates were congratulated by school officials and community members. The graduates were congratulated by school officials and community members.

Saluting the Blackwell High School Class of 2020

Annual commencement ceremonies for the Blackwell High School Class of 2020 were held on Friday, May 13, 2020. The ceremony was held in the school's gymnasium. The ceremony was attended by family members and friends of the graduates. The graduates were presented with diplomas and certificates. The graduates were congratulated by school officials and community members. The graduates were congratulated by school officials and community members.

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in Texas

As of May 13, 2020, there have been 1,337 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Texas. The number of cases has increased significantly since the beginning of the year. The number of cases has increased significantly since the beginning of the year.