

What in the World?! ?! *That is the question these donkeys seem to have as they venture over to look at the large machine digging a trench for the recently completed pipeline through Coke County. You would have thought they would have waited for the machine to stop running before getting that close. Curiosity could have killed something bigger than a cat if they’d gotten much closer!*

VP meeting held
Vision with a Purpose held its monthly meeting August 3, at 6 pm, at the Family Life Center at the United Methodist Church in Robert Lee. A free meal and babysitting was provided.

Prior to the general meeting, the Hunter’s BBQ committee met. Raffle tickets for a Honda ATV and guns will be sold. ATV tickets are \$50 each and gun raffle tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Guns are being upgraded.

The general meeting opened with prayer with president Marshall Millican presiding.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved, as was the treasurer’s report, given by Crystal Stanford.

Anthony Lopez and Crystal Stanford reported on their meeting with the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department. The firemen agreed to help set up and tear down for the BBQ.

Nine teams had signed up to participate in the Sons of Pitches softball tournament, held the weekend of August 4-5. T-shirts and concessions were available.

VP is planning to start refurbishing the city park. The Restoration committee will start by repairing the swings so they will be safer for the children.

VP will be selling breakfast burritos at the Junior High Color Run, to be held Saturday, August 19. All proceeds will go to the park restoration.

The Honda ATV was purchased and exhibited to the group. It will be raffled off at the Hunter’s BBQ.

The next meeting will be held September 7 at 6 pm, at the First United Methodist Church Family Life Center. The meeting is open to anyone wanting to help improve Robert Lee. A meal and free babysitting will be available.

Pastor Cyndi Weidner closed the meeting with prayer.

Bronte Lions preparing annual program

The Bronte Evening Lions Club is gearing up for this year’s Longhorn football season by beginning preparations for the 2017 football program.

If you would like to be a part of this program, available at each home football game, please contact a member of the Lions Club or call Lions Club President Reese Braswell.

RL Cemetery needs assistance

There are several curbed lots at the Robert Lee Cemetery whose owners are unknown. These lots are in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 10. The lot in Section 2 includes the name “Spencer” in the curbing.

Anyone who has information on the ownership of these plots is urged to call George Grim at (325) 453-9902. The ownership of the

plots will revert to the cemetery association if not identified by September 1, 2017.

Donations needed for fire departments

The Robert Lee and Bronte Volunteer Fire Departments are requesting donations of water and Gatorade in preparation of the upcoming fire season.

Donations may be dropped off at the City Hall in each city or with any fireman. Your support of the area’s Volunteer Fire Departments is greatly appreciated.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The BRONTE ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:30 pm, August 31, 2017, in BRONTE ISD ROOM, 210 SOUTH JEFFERSON, BRONTE, TEXAS. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participating in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.170000/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)				
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.000000/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)				
Approved by Local Voters					
<u>Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget</u>					
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.					
Maintenance and operations	4.00% decrease				
Debt Service	0.00% increase				
Total expenditures	4.00% decrease				
<u>Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value</u> (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)					
	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year			
Total appraised value* of all property	\$257,950,520	\$241,797,600			
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 745,430	\$ 1,779,620			
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 76,097,919	\$ 80,400,039			
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 844,840	\$ 52,811,720			
* Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.					
** "New Property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.					
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.					
<u>Bonded Indebtedness</u>					
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$0					
* Outstanding principal.					
<u>Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates</u>					
	<u>Maintenance & Operations</u>	<u>Interest & Sinking Fund*</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local Revenue Per Student</u>	<u>State Revenue Per Student</u>
Last Year's Rate	\$1.040000	\$0*	\$1.040000	\$3,959	\$6,771
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.170000	\$0*	\$1.170000	\$4,241	\$7,097
Proposed Rate	\$1.170000	\$0.000000*	\$1.170000	\$4,898	\$7,291
* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.					
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					
<u>Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence</u>					
	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>			
Average Market Value of Residences	\$75,231	\$69,458			
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$75,231	\$69,458			
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.040000	\$1.170000			
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$782.40	\$812.66			
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 30.26			
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.					
Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest Rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.04. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.04.					
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.					
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance (s)	\$564,250				
Interest & Sinking Fund Balances (s)	\$0				