

**Beef Conference set for August 20**

The West Texas Beef Conference is slated for Saturday, August 20, in San Angelo at the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo Fairgrounds.

The trade show opens at 8 am. The program begins at 9 am with Long-term Implications of the Ongoing Drought, Dr. Derrell Peel, Ag Economist, Oklahoma State University. His presentation will be followed by Cattle Marketing: Lessons Learned from Eastern Livestock, Paul Colman, Frontera Feedyard and Feeder Calves: Improving Health = Added Value, Dr. Ted McCollum, Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

After lunch, the program continues at 1:30 with Low Stress Cattle Handling: It's a Win Win (live animal demonstration), Dr. Ron Gill, Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Agriculture in the US is undergoing a change of face in 2011. Record commodity prices, rising inputs costs and an ever expanding global appetite are major sculptors. Despite the ever changing production environment, beef is still big business in West Texas. Cattlemen are encouraged to take a look at this one day conference constructed especially for them. Some of the industry's sharpest and best will share their insight.

Bring your neighbor and spend a Saturday in town.

To register go to <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu>

Keyword: Beef

For more information, call (830) 278-9151.

**Oncology patients in Concho Valley could receive gas cards**

A \$2,100 grant from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas allows Shannon Medical

Center to provide assistance in the form of gas cards to uninsured and underinsured cancer patients in the Concho Valley. The grant is funded by the Texans Conquer Cancer Patient Support Services Program.

The program is open to patients residing in Brown, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Glasscock, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, San Saba, Sterling, Sutton and Val Verde counties who must travel to San Angelo or another city to receive cancer care. Patients must first meet with the Patient Navigator in order to determine need before they receive assistance. Additionally, patients must provide receipts showing the gas card was used to purchase fuel.

Funds are raised through the sale of "Texans Conquer Cancer" specialty license plates designed to help non-profit organizations provide support services and assistance to cancer patients and their families. More than 400 newly diagnosed cancer patients are treated each year and the Shannon Oncology Center sees an average of 71 out-of-town patients a month. Approximately five percent of those patients are uninsured and require some additional support.

For more information, please contact the Patient Navigator at the Shannon Oncology Center at (325) 481-2025.

**Blackwell Ranch Rodeo set for September 24**

The Blackwell Ranch Rodeo will be held Saturday, September 24, 2011. The rodeo kicks off at 10 am. A trade show is scheduled and concessions will be available.

Events will include Calf Branding, Doctoring, Penning, and Wild Cow Milking. The top three teams

in the average will receive cash and prizes. Buckles will be awarded to the Top Horse and the Top Hand. The first place team in each event will receive ropes. The jackpot Panty Race is a new fun event which has been slated.

The San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo Ambassadors will perform at 1 pm and then again after the last event.

A dance featuring Tommy Alverson will begin at "dark thirty".

**Check Out Coke County Library**

Supreme Pizza winners will be announced Friday, August 12, in a drawing of the names of all readers who have turned in their Coke County Library books by then. Students have entered their names for each book they have returned this summer...all names will be entered in the final drawing. Don't forget to turn in those summer library books.

Some Texas history reading is on the shelf: Hotter 'n Pecos and Other West Texas Lies by Bobby Weaver is a short story book of West Texans and their encounters with each other; Get Along, Little Dogies: The Chisholm Trail Diary of Hallie Lou Wells begins in 1878; The Accidental Historian: Tales of Trash and Treasure by Monte Akers recounts the authors close encounters with historical events; As a Farm Woman Thinks: Life and Land on the Texas High Plains, 1890-1960 by Nellie Spikes who tells of one grandchild who learned to wade in rain puddles.

Also, Exploring the Edges of Texas by Walt and Isabel Davis listed as the ultimate road trip; and The Woman in the Oil Field is a book of funny and off-beat stories by Tracy Daugherty.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4;

Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Call 453-2495 for information.



**Letters to the Editor**

Dear Editor,

I want to personally thank the Robert Lee City water department workers for the hard work that they do. Yes, it has been inconvenient for the water to be shut off recently. We have all felt the problems when there is a water line leak that needs to be fixed. I watched some of the work that was done on the leak in front of Best Connection last week. The hole was so deep the guys were over their head. It was like a muddy swimming hole. They had to get the water out before they could repair the hole in the pipe. They worked steady from about 3 PM until 3 AM the next morning so that the city could have water. That's after starting work that morning on other projects. We all need to thank these workers for their efforts when ever we see them.

Wonder why we are having these problems? Some reasons are: hot temperatures, no rain, shifting ground, state and federal regulations, old pipes, and old equipment. The reason for the last two items is the low water rates we have had for many years. I'm guessing that some of the pipes have been in the

ground for 30 to 50 years. Yes, we all want affordable rates and steady clean water, but sometimes you get what you pay for.

All that being said we really need to thank our city workers for the work that they do. We also need to thank our Mayor and City Council for fighting the battles with other government entities to get us a source of water other than Lake Spence. Thanks to all of you from me.

Roger Alexander  
Robert Lee Resident

**Bronte Meet the Teacher set for August 17**

All Bronte Elementary students and their parents are invited to come to school and meet the teachers on Wednesday, August 17.

The event will begin with a general welcome and orientation in the auditorium at 5:30 pm and then parents and students will have an opportunity to visit classrooms and teachers until 6:30 pm.

Students are welcome to bring their backpacks and school supplies to leave in their classrooms for the first day of school.

We hope to see everyone at Bronte Elementary School on Wednesday, August 17, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

**New Steer Football t-shirts available**

The new Steer Football t-Shirts are for sale in August.

For more information, contact Maranda Hood at [maranda.hood@rlisd.net](mailto:maranda.hood@rlisd.net).

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