

**Coke County Food Pantry discussed**

The Coke County Food Pantry was established in 2001, organized as a Coke County Ministerial Alliance. The following churches were participants: Pecan Baptist of Robert Lee; First Baptist of Bronte; Central Baptist of Bronte; Northside Church of Christ of Robert Lee; First United Methodist of Bronte; First United Methodist of Robert Lee; Iglesia Bautista Orient Church; and Victory Assembly of God of Robert Lee.

The first volunteers were Charlotte McKnight and Pauline Brumley. There have been many others through the years who have volunteered.

Two volunteers travel to San Angelo every Tuesday to pick up food from Concho Valley Regional Food Bank for which we pay 18 cents per pound. Other volunteers work on Wednesday afternoon to assist those who come to the pantry to fill their bags. The recipients shop as in the regular grocery store and the volunteers put it in the bags.

We have been available for 13 years to residents of Coke County.

Each person is given a bag, to be brought each time, and only one person in a family is allowed to shop. Limited space allows only 3 shoppers at a time.

In the last 3 months, we have served 418 families for a total of 986 family members.

Our water bill was \$272.20, electric bill was \$229.96, CVRFB was \$1,857.20 and a fuel and bread purchase was \$579.02.

As there is a need by more and more people, we appreciate donations and accept memorial donations, food items, fresh or frozen vegetables, paper goods, etc.

**Donations**

- Southside Church of Christ
- Dale & Sue Wojtek
- Della Alexander's Sunday School Class
- First United Methodist Church, Robert Lee
- Polly Large
- Carolyn Scott
- Elna Duncan
- Mary Grim
- Mark Sides
- Kenneth Rasco Family
- Bill Eubanks
- Yvonne Devoll
- Becky Bass
- Rebecca Gonzales
- Susan Wellborn
- United Christian Fellowship
- Robert Lee Baptist Church
- Ron Waggonner
- Stover Taylor
- Menchaca Processing
- Mary Beth Drennan
- Annie Hambricht
- Judy Gibbs
- Elaine Crawley
- American Legion Chapter
- Fran Lomas
- Marilyn White
- Dan & Georgia McNabb
- Joe McKnight
- Beverly Hawkins
- United Methodist Women
- Super H (Sean)
- Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau
- Jamie Boren

- Josie Castleberry
- Cynthia Metcalf
- Johnetta Lawrence
- Jeff Barnes
- Clair Guidiche
- Janell Hale

**Memorials**

- Kenneth Harper**  
Jamie Boren
  - Weldon Fikes**  
Pat & Jack Clement
  - George Lomas**  
Pat & Jack Clement
  - Don Fields**  
Pat & Jack Clement
  - Wilson Bryan**  
Pat & Jack Clement
  - DJ & Nelia Walker**  
Judy Gibbs
  - Winnie Pitcock**  
Judy Gibbs
  - Douglas Gartman**  
Judy Gibbs
  - Don Blair**  
Bobby & Joyce Walker
  - Owen & Elaine Norvell**  
Ivan Reed, Marilyn & James
  - Joann Reese**  
Robert Reese Jr.
  - Charlotte McKnight**  
Roger & Della Alexander
  - Milborn Wink**  
Roger & Della Alexander
- There were also those that sent memorials but requested not to have their names published. You know who you are and you are sincerely appreciated.

**Livestock Producers urged to enroll in Disaster Assistance Program by October 1**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is encouraging producers who have suffered eligible disaster-related losses to act to secure assistance by September 30, 2014, as congressionally mandated payment reductions will take place for producers who have not acted before that date. Livestock producers that have experienced grazing losses since October 2011 and may be eligible for benefits but have not yet contacted their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office should do so as soon as possible.

The Budget Control Act passed by Congress in 2011 requires USDA to implement reductions of 7.3 percent to the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) in the new fiscal year, which begins October 1, 2014. However, producers seeking LFP support who have scheduled appointments with their local FSA office before October 1, even if the appointment occurs after October 1, will not see reductions in the amount of disaster relief they receive.

USDA is encouraging producers to register, request an appointment or begin a Livestock Forage Disaster Program application with their county FSA office before October 1, 2014, to lock in the current zero percent sequestration rate. As an additional aid to qualified producers applying for LFP, the Farm Service's Agency has developed an online registration that enables farmers and ranchers to put their names on an electronic list before the deadline to avoid reductions in their disaster assistance. This is an alternative to visiting or contacting the county office. To

place a name on the Livestock Forage Disaster Program list online, visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/disaster-register>.

Producers who already contacted the county office and have an appointment scheduled need do nothing more.

"In just four months since disaster assistance enrollments began, we've processed 240,000 applications to help farmers and ranchers who suffered losses," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Eligible producers who have not yet contacted their local FSA office should stop by or call their local FSA office, or sign up online before October 1 when congressionally mandated payment reductions take effect. This will ensure they receive as much financial assistance as possible."

The Livestock Indemnity Program, the Tree Assistance Program and the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program Frost Freeze payments will also be cut by 7.3 percent on October 1, 2014. Unlike the Livestock Forage Disaster Program, applications for these programs must be fully completed by September 30. FSA offices will prioritize these applications, but as the full application process can take several days or more to complete, producers are encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible.

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program compensates eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire between October 1, 2011, and December 31, 2014. Eligible livestock includes alpacas, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, poultry, reindeer, sheep or swine that have been or would have been grazing the eligible grazing land or pastureland. Producers forced to liquidate their livestock may also be eligible for program benefits.

Additionally, the 2014 Farm Bill eliminated the risk management purchase requirement. Livestock producers are no longer required to purchase coverage under the federal crop insurance program or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program to be eligible for Livestock Forage Disaster Program assistance.

To learn more about USDA disaster relief program, producers can review the 2014 Farm Bill fact sheet at [www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill), the LFP program fact sheet, <http://go.usa.gov/5JTk>, or contact their local FSA office.

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past five years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk



**Pretty Planters!** Members of Robert Lee's Vision with a Purpose were busy Tuesday morning adding fall decorations to the planters dotting Robert Lee's downtown area.

management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).



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