



Field Prep! Debbie Childers, Jason Moran and Gina Moran were just three of the Robert Lee Vision with a Purpose members getting Robert Lee’s softball field ready for tonight’s tournament. The Sons of Pitches Midnight Madness Co-ed Softball Tournament will begin at 8:30 tonight (Friday), August 8.

Bronte Golf Tourney slated for Aug. 23

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is sponsoring a 3 person 27 hole golf tournament on Saturday, August 23. Tee time is 9 am.

When signing up you must let them know if a cart is needed and leave a call back number. For more information, contact Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156, 325-473-3231 or 325-262-6617. After 5 pm call 432-661-3431 or 325-864-3312 or 325-236-0089.

CRMWD Project named state’s top engineering project

A groundwater system that prevented a water supply crisis in West Texas has been named the top civil engineering project in Texas and one of the top five in the United States.

The Ward County Water Supply Project, owned and operated by the Colorado River Municipal, received the 2014 Texas Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers Texas Section. It is also one of the five finalists for the 2015 Outstanding Civil Engineering

Achievement Award, given by the ASCE national organization.

The project is a \$120 million groundwater well field and transmission system supplying an additional 30 million gallons of water per day to Odessa, Big Spring, Snyder, Midland and Stanton. As CRMWD’s emergency response to the drought, the entire system was designed and constructed in less than 18 months. That included 21 ground water wells, 65 miles of pipeline, four pump stations and related facilities. With this project CRMWD can now supply a total of 45 million gallons of groundwater per day.

The ASCE judges recognized the Ward County project as critical in meeting West Texas’ water needs amid dramatic population growth, the Permian Basin oil and gas boom, and sustained drought. The judges also commended the CRMWD team for completing the project \$15 million under budget.

The project draws groundwater from the Ward County North Well Field, west of Monahans. CRMWD bought the field from Luminant Generation in 2010 to diversify its supplies and provide an

additional water source over the long term. But then the severe drought struck; 2011 would become the driest year on record in Texas. CRMWD’s three

supply reservoirs-J.B. Thomas, E.V. Spence and O.H. Ivie-were projected to be completely dry in the spring of 2013.

The CRMWD Board of Directors responded to the emergency by moving quickly to develop the well field. It began the Ward County project in June 2011; to avoid interruption of the cities’ water supplies, the system had to be operational by Jan. 1, 2013. Meeting that demanding schedule required seven design teams, seven pipe production plants, five pipe-laying crews and four construction contractors. Major construction and startup was completed Dec. 13, 2012, two weeks ahead of schedule.

Freese and Nichols, Inc. designed and oversaw construction of the well collection and water transmission system; the company is headquartered in Fort Worth and has offices in Midland and Lubbock. Daniel B. Stephens and Associates, Inc. designed and oversaw construction of the well field; the company headquartered in Albuquerque and has an office in Lubbock. General contractors

were Garney Construction of Kansas City, MO; S.J. Louis Construction of Mansfield; Oscar Renda Contracting of Roanoke; and Hydro Resources of Sugar Land.

The CRMWD team will receive the Texas OCEA Award in September at ASCE Texas’ annual conference in Galveston; the winner of the national award will be announced in March 2015. In addition to the awards from the ASCE, the project has also been recognized by the American Council of Engineering Companies, receiving the Gold Medal in Water Resources at the 2014 Texas Engineering Excellence Awards and one of eight Grand Awards at the 2014 Nation Engineering Excellence Awards.

The CRMWD was created in 1949 to provide water to its member cities of Odessa, Big Spring and Snyder. It also has contracts to provide specified quantities of water to the cities of Midland, San Angelo, Abilene, Stanton, Robert Lee, Grandfalls and Pyote, and the Millersview-Doole Water Supply Corp.



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