

**Street Affair set for September 20 in Robert Lee**

The annual Robert Lee Street Affair will be held Saturday, September 20, 2014, in downtown Robert Lee.

A dedication at the old Coke County Jail is set for 9:30 am and will be followed by a presentation at SnaggleTooth Annie's booth at 10:30 am.

The day's activities will include food booths, crafts, vendors, a bounce house, a car show and a cook-off.

The bands are slated to begin playing at 5 pm. This year, listeners can enjoy Rough Creek, Alyssa Bagley, Cacy Savala Fuerzzo, The Judson Cole Band and Mark McKinney.

For more information, contact Scott at (325) 763-7418 or Lupe at (325) 763-9037.

**Historical Dedication set for September 20**

The Coke County Historical Commission will host a dedication gathering on Saturday, September 20, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. on the grounds of the Old Jail (1907) in Robert Lee, Texas, for invited guests, preservation project supporters, and visitors. The dedication ceremony is to present to the citizens of Coke County, the State of Texas, and the nation, a historic landmark that has been historically preserved for the next 100 years.

Historic buildings remind us that a law-abiding society has been the goal of citizens for centuries and that the forefathers worked diligently to make that happen for future generations. The Coke County jail represents many stories as collected by Bonita Copeland Cartrite in her book *A History of the Coke County Jail and Sheriffs with Related Facts and Tales*.

Mrs. Cartrite set out to document her father's service to Coke County. Sheriff Childress was also the last sheriff to live in the jail. After several years of research, she decided to include not only her father, but all the sheriffs who served Coke County since 1889. Coke County's current sheriff, Wayne McCutchen, will be included in the reprinting of the book in the near future.

There were no hangings in the Old Jail, although the equipment to do so is still there. Most folks who spent time in the Old Jail were treated with respect and dealt with in a manner reflecting Coke County's reasonable and rational way of handling those who disregard the law.

The Old Jail will have a plaque dedicated to Mrs. Robert Cole Johnson of Brenham, Texas, who entrusted Charles and Joy Millican Blake to distribute her estate among deserving preservation projects in Texas. The newly completed Annex to the Old Jail will have a plaque in honor of the Blakes for their efforts to protect and preserve projects in Coke County.

On-going plans for the Old Jail include programs and

displays of West Texas history, art, and genealogical efforts. It is hoped that the Annex will become a repository for Coke county history which will provide future generations information for research into Coke County's past. Much has been accomplished, but that just means much more must be done.

The dedication ceremony at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 20, 2014, is held in connection with the Robert Lee Street Affair which will provide a day of entertainment for residents and visitors.

**AgriLife Extension schedules five farm bill decision-making programs**

Submitted by Morgan Runyan Texas AgriLife Extension Service The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has set five farm bill programs across West Texas meant to help producers in their decision-making process, said an AgriLife Extension economist.

"This farm bill sign-up has lots of 'moving parts' that require producers to process quite a bit of data in order to make rational decisions," said Bill Thompson. "Our commodity groups and industry associations have done an excellent job of explaining the programs and the options in front of us, but now it's time to learn to work through the intricacies."

All the programs are set from 9 am until 12 noon at the following dates and locations:

- Sept. 23, Garden City, Glasscock County AgriLife Extension meeting room, 117 S. Myrl St.
- Sept. 24, San Angelo, Tom Green County 4-H Center, 3168, North U.S. Highway 67.
- Oct. 6, Stamford, Stamford High School Auditorium, 507 S. Orient, St.
- Oct. 7, Fort Stockton, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Center, 1618 Airport Dr.
- Oct. 8, Fort Hancock, Community Building, 562 Knox Ave., 562 Knox Ave.

Thompson said the meetings will recap both the programs available to producers, including Price Loss Coverage, or PLC, and Agricultural Risk Coverage, or ARC. They also will cover any base and yield update options available that can illustrate the data needed to complete the decision-making process.

"Though the new farm bill addressing cotton won't be in place until 2015, almost all farms will still need to enroll acreage into one of these two coverage areas," Thompson said. "We will



**Big Winner!** Yvonne Devoll was the winner of the gift basket at the Robert Lee Vision with a Purpose Membership Banquet held Thursday evening, September 4.

also have a short discussion of the disaster and conservation programs available."

Thompson said he'll introduce an online decision aid available to producers developed by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center of the agricultural economics department at Texas A&M University, College Station. The decision aid simplifies the analysis needed to choose between the PLC and ARC coverages.

"A significant emphasis was placed on crop insurance by Congress, so this decision aid will help producers identify optimal and viable insurance coverage levels to provide as much of a crop loss safety net as possible."

Thompson said he expects many questions to arise during the meetings, so he's allotted ample time for discussion.

For more information, contact Thompson at 325-653-4576.

**AgriLife Extension slates second set of Quail Appreciation Days**

Submitted by Morgan Runyan Texas AgriLife Extension Service The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a second set of Quail Appreciation Days across Texas this fall for landowners, naturalists and others interested in proper quail management aimed at stopping the decline of wild native quail.

"This is the first time in half a dozen years that I feel I've really seen a glimmer of hope in our wild quail population decline situation," said Dr. Dale Rollins, statewide coordinator for the Reversing the Quail Decline

Initiative in San Angelo.

"This fall's quail crop is shaping up to be the best since about 2008 in most areas. May and June brought real quail-making weather. Surviving quail were quick to take full advantage of the cool, wet weather, to 'seize the day' from a reproductive standpoint.

"It's our hope that this series of Quail Appreciation Days will help landowners make the most of their improved quail population by implementing and then demonstrating good habitat management practices."

All the programs share similar agendas, though each will be tailored to fit the area in which that particular appreciation day is set. All start with registration at 8:30 am and conclude by 4:30 pm.

Dates, counties and the AgriLife Extension agents conducting the workshops are as follows:

- Sept. 16, Archer County, Justin Gilliam.
- Sept. 17, Somervell County, Shawn Davis.
- Sept. 18, Palo Pinto County, Scott Mauney.
- Sept. 23, Tom Green County, Josh Blaneck.
- Sept. 30, Zavalla County, Marcelino Valdez.
- Oct. 1, McMullen County, Isaac Cavazos.
- Oct. 2, Duval County, Rogelio Mercado.

- Oct. 15, Wilson County, Bryan Davis.

Each workshop will include presentations on quail physiology and management, plus an afternoon tour demonstrating management and habitat assessment techniques.

Individual pre-registration is due one week prior to the field day and a late fee will be charged at the door for those not pre-registering.

Three Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units, two general and one integrated pest management, will be offered at each workshop.

"Our goal is to have attendees literally think like a quail for the entire day," Rollins said. "Once they experience the quails' world, they can better appreciate how their management decisions, particularly grazing and brush management, impact quail; either good or bad."

Rollins said the Quail Appreciation Day series is one component of AgriLife Extension's Reversing the Decline of Quail Initiative. Other components currently being implemented include a series of research projects and "QuailMasters," a series of continuing education workshops for serious "students of quail."

For more information on this series or other components of the quail decline initiative, go to [wildlife.tamu.edu/quail](http://wildlife.tamu.edu/quail).



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