



Bronte VFD! Architect in training Hannah Sullivan recently presented the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department with her thoughts for a future Fire Department Facility.

Bronte Volunteer Fire Department update posted

By Bryan Swecker
Here we are in September, with a quiet summer behind us, but we've used that "extra" time to our advantage! First, we were able to secure a grant from the Texas Forest Service to pay for 99% of the cost of training materials (videos, books) that will allow us to train our Firefighters to a Level II Certification. Achieving these certifications provides our department with better trained firefighters, greatly improving their safety and ability when responding to a wide range of emergency situations. As well, it will lower the Insurance risk factor, resulting in lower insurance bills for everyone.

Second, we took on the task of submitting a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant for structural firefighting equipment. Going in, we thought it would be a simple written submission, but as time went on it was anything but simple. However, after a little more than a year we had our award! The award paid for all but 5 percent of the cost for 12 full (helmet to boots) sets of structural firefighting gear. New structural equipment is a first for the department, as up to this point we've been issuing used equipment from other departments.

Our improvement efforts aren't stopping here! After these successes, we're now taking on a new project...construction of a new Fire Station. The new station will be located in the fenced lot to the west of the Water

Tower, which is currently our second station now. This facility will house all five of our trucks in a single location, provide much needed classroom training space, and the capability to handle sustained operations (which we hope to never need, but need to be prepared for). At this point we have an initial design, as well as an initial start to the funding. Thanks to federal money we've received for fighting the Wildcat fire and generous donations from individuals and companies in the area, our effort is starting out with just over 10 percent of the estimated cost in the fund. It's a good start, but there is a long way to go to reach full funding, so we've established a Building Fund account at First National Bank of Sterling City in Bronte, to which anyone may contribute if they wish (you can still give it directly to the Fire Department) and we'll be submitting grants as well. We're confident that within 5 years, we'll be celebrating the opening of

a new Fire Station.

Thank you and we appreciate all the support you give to our Bronte VFD! Be safe.

Dillard, Harris wed in ceremony

Haden Dillard and Kaitlyn Harris were united in marriage at Lytle Cove Cottage in Abilene, Texas, on Saturday, August 10, 2013. The outdoor wedding ceremony was officiated by the bride's uncle, Robbie Harris, of Aspermont.

Haden is the son of Keith and Cynthia Dillard of Robert Lee and the grandson of Mickey and Jerry Dillard of Millersview and Martha and the late Carroll Hemphill of Brady. Kaitlyn is the daughter of Lance and Melva Harris of Spur and the granddaughter of Donald and Rita Harris of McAdoo, Doris VanMeter of Crosbyton, Doris Davis of Duncan, Oklahoma, and the late Howard Pierce of Duncan, Oklahoma.

Brody Dillard, brother of the groom, served as the best man. Groomsmen were Logan Philley, Josh Tennison, Geoff Pinkerton, and Kyle Boatman. Ring bearer was Bentlee Molina. The groomsmen wore tan tuxedos with coral ties and boutonnieres accented with burlap.

Holly Fine, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Tenley Howell, Lyndie Hinson, Katie Mundy, and Krystal Newsom. Flower girl was Joryn Dillard. The bridesmaids wore short coral dresses and carried bouquets of coral roses with mint color accents and lace.

The bride wore a strapless diamond white wedding dress with delicate English net overlay. The slender fit bodice and train were satin with lace appliques. She wore a birdcage veil with a white and pearl feather clip. Kaitlyn's bouquet was made of coral and white roses with babies breath



Mr. and Mrs. Haden Dillard

accented with burlap and lace.

Haden is a 2011 graduate of Robert Lee High School and a 2013 graduate of Western Texas College with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Golf Landscape and Turfgrass Management. He is employed by San Angelo Country Club.

Kaitlyn is a 2011 graduate of Spur High School and is currently attending Howard College and will graduate in May 2014. She is employed by First State Bank of Paint Rock in San Angelo.

The couple spent their honeymoon at Corpus Christi and Fredericksburg and will make their home in San Angelo.

... Jail Tours

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A tour of the Old Jail is just the beginning of the progression of the future of Coke County's historical preservation. A grand opening of the Old Jail and Annex will be held at a later date. Plans for the Annex include storage of paper and picture historical collections and techni-

cal equipment to allow historians to catalog and copy family histories for the grandchildren and great-grandchildren who will some day seek a connection to their forefathers and mothers who lived in Coke County. A collective project to chronicle the communities that made Coke County history rich and varied will be enabled by the storage and equipment and workspace planned for the Annex.

At this time, it is the opinion of the Coke County Historical Commission that the Annex does not have space for the addition of anything but paper and picture historical pieces. It is hoped that another building will become available for a museum-type collection of artifacts. The Old Jail building is on the National Register of Historical Places, and, for the time being, will stand as a historical site in itself and its space will be used for regional art shows, personal family collection displays, educational opportunities, and other special projects.

Thank you!
Thanks to all my wonderful friends and relatives for coming to my birthday celebration. It was such a joy to visit with each of you. Again, thanks for the wonderful day and the memories I will always treasure.
Olean Stricklan

Bessie Plumlee Brice

1930 - 2008

Though your smile is gone forever and your hand I cannot touch,
I still have many memories of the mom I loved so much.
Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part.
God has you in his keeping, I have you in my heart.



Love you mom always

Darlene