...More Classifieds

orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Adherence to the grant recipient's Section 3 Policy is required for all contracts and subcontracts.

Coke County on behalf of Coke County WSC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the

Bids may be held by the Coke County on behalf of Coke County WSC for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

The lobbying certification must be submitted with the bid packet to be considered complete and responsive.

Coke County on behalf of Coke County WSC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

All contractors/ that subcontractors suspended. debarred, otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

Minority Business Business Enterprises, Small Enterprises, and Women Business Enterprises, and Historically Underutilized Business firms are encouraged to submit bids.

Coke County on behalf of Coke County WSC Hal Spain, County Judge 40-2tc

...West of 98 (Continued from page 3)

That phrase made its way into her article. I liked it so well that I ran with it. It is still my

Twitter name today. When read this pamphlet from 1910 (it gets even wilder once you read past the cover!), I think of the proud boosterism that was evident in those early town leaders. There was certainly some embellishment, but above all else, it was HOPEFUL. That's what I admired so much. That's why I gleefully adopted that moniker. In a world full of negativity and decline, hopeful boosterism helps us dream of what is possible.

If I can't or won't be the shameless booster of our local hopes and dreams, then who will be? What's the job of a town mayor even for?

Next week: the modern day role of the shameless frontier mayor and booster.

James Decker is the Mayor of Stamford, Texas and the creator of the West of 98 website and the Rural Church and State and West of 98 podcasts. Contact James and subscribe to these essays at westof98.substack.com and subscribe to him wherever podcasts are found.

...District track results (Continued from page 5)

1) Emily Jackson, Bronte; 2) Jocelyn Martinez, Blackwell; 3) Jaquelyn Saxton, Blackwell; 6)

Jayla Corley, Robert Lee Varsity 400 Meter Relay 1) Bronte; 2) Blackwell; 3)

Varsity 800 Meter Relay

1) Blackwell; 3) Robert Lee;

Varsity 1600 Meter Relay

2) Blackwell; 3) Bronte Varsity High Jump

1) Emily Jackson, Bronte; 2) Mackenzie Galicia, Robert Lee and Emalyn Bohensky, Bronte; 5) Morgan Sullivan, Bronte

JV Long Jump

1) Braylie Morris, Bronte; 3) Alyssa Landeros, Robert Lee

Varsity Long Jump

1) Emily Jackson, Bronte; 2) Jaguelyn Saxton, Blackwell; 6) Bernica Hancock, Robert Lee

Varsity Triple Jump

1) Emalyn Bohensky, Bronte; 2) Jaquelyn Saxton, Blackwell; 3) Kinley Cummings, Blackwell;

Varsity Pole Vault

1) Natalie Immel, Robert Lee; 5) Brynlea Wojtek, Blackwell; 6) Avery Glenn, Blackwell

JV Discus

3) Hannah Sullivan, Bronte;

5) Savannah Reyes, Robert Lee **Varsity Discus**

Treyton McCullough, Bronte; 4) Maggie Immel, Robert Lee; 6) Mary Oviawe, Bronte

JV Shot Put

3) Hannah Sullivan, Bronte **Varsity Shot Put**

Treyton McCullough, Bronte; 6) Mary Oviawe, Bronte

Spring conditions normalize for pastures, rangeland

By Shelby Shank TFB Field Editor

Things are looking up for farmers and ranchers this spring with recent rainfall and mild temperatures.

"This appears to be the beginning of a more normalized spring season. We've had wet weather conditions across a large part of the state," Tracy Tomascik, Texas Farm Bureau associate director of Commodity and Regulatory Activities, said. "The drought monitor indicates

that, as well, with only a few spots of exceptional or extreme dryness in Texas."

The drier areas of the state are primarily in the Hill Country West Texas.

The latest Water Weekly drought map from the Texas Water Development Board shows about a quarter of the state is suffering from drought conditions.

National Weather Service, however, anticipates a large expansion of drought across the Panhandle and West and Central Texas by the end of June. The north central, east and coastal regions are expected to be drought free transitioning into summer.

Tomascik noted pastures across the state look good at this point in the year.

"That extra rain and relatively mild conditions throughout the winter have really helped those annual winter grasses," he said.

Recent wildfires in the Panhandle left over a million acres burned and left ranchers without grazing acres.

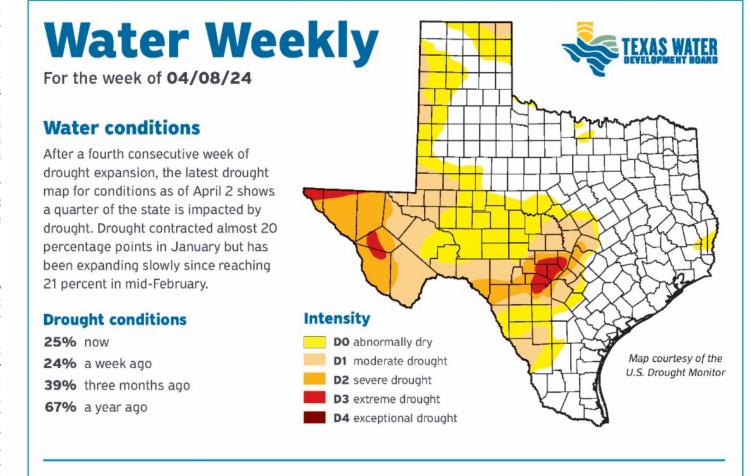
"The wet weather that has come in after the fires didn't bring in a lot of moisture, but it really helped to kick start forage recovery of those pastures," Tomascik said. "Unfortunately, a lot of ground was lost, but with moisture and time, it will recover."

Forage in West Texas remains

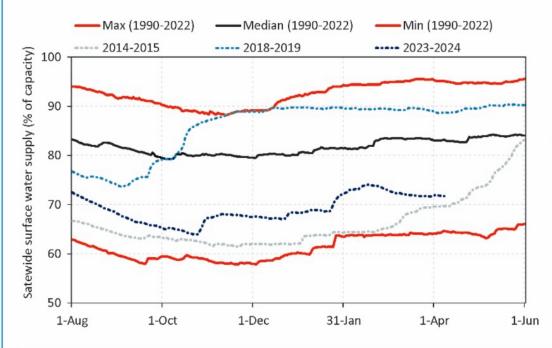
"They seasonally get rainfall in West Texas that allows farmers and ranchers to stockpile some grasses, but in general, it remains tight out there," he said.

With warm weather comes various pests that could impact livestock.

"This is a good opportunity for farmers and ranchers to reach out to their veterinarians and talk about control protocols to minimize the impact of the flies," Tomascik said. "It's also a perfect opportunity to review what you're doing from an animal health standpoint on minimizing internal parasites."



Water supply and El Niños update



An El Niño event during the winter of 2018-2019 brought a return to normal surface water supply storage conditions by early October. Recovery during the 2014-2015 El Niño was delayed until late May. Supplies in 2023-2024 continue to lag those in 2018-2019 and are approaching those in 2014-2015.

> Data courtesy of Water Data for Texas

By Dr. Mark Wentzel, Hydrologist, Office of Water Science and Conservation

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