

UPCOMINGS!

Lunch and Learn event slated for September 25

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will host a Wildlife Lunch and Learn event on Wednesday, September 25, from 12 noon until 1 pm at Central Baptist Church in Bronte. The topic covered will be feral hogs with lunch being provided however you are welcome to bring your lunch. Please RSVP to the Coke County Extension Office at (325) 453-2461 or morgan.runyan@ag.tamu.edu by Monday, September 23.

Benefit dinner and dance to be held September 28

A benefit fundraiser for Cody Schenkel will be held on Saturday, September 28, at The Ranch on Highway 208 south of Robert Lee. The event will include a meal and dance, featuring Coke County's own Backroads West. The gates will open at 6 pm with the meal to begin at 6:30 pm. Please RSVP to noelinkler1@gmail.com by Saturday, September 21 for the meal. There will also be a silent auction. The event is BYOB and those attending are asked to please bring your own chairs.

The Shindig set for October 5

The annual Shindig event will be held on Saturday, October 5, at the park in Robert Lee beginning at 8 am. Activities will include a BBQ Cookoff, car show, inflatables, vendors, and a food court. The evening will end with a concert at 6 pm opened by Coke

County's own Kickapoo Creek for headliner Hayden Haddock.

Kid Fish Event slated for October 19

The third annual Bronte Kid Fish event is set for Saturday, October 19, 2024, from 8 am to 12 noon at Lake Knierim (Old City Lake) in Bronte. Bait, tackle, and lunch/snacks/drinks will be provided. This event is provided for children up to age sixteen (16) in Coke and surrounding counties. No fishing license is required for children under the age of seventeen. Parents are highly encouraged to attend with children. Volunteers will be on hand to assist with rigging tackle, baiting, and fish removal. Participants are welcome to take their catch home. Prizes will be awarded for biggest fish, biggest bag, etc.

Bronte Kid Fish is now a non-profit organization and is accepting donations to help with this event. Donations can be made at Bronte Guns and Tackle at 103 W. Main St. or at PO Box 151, Bronte, Texas 76933. Tax deductible donation forms available upon request. Bronte Kid Fish board of directors are Dan Waddell, president; Tim Smith, vice-president; and Jennifer Addona, treasurer/secretary.

Bronteoberfest slated for October 19

The 10th annual Bronteoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 19, at the park in Bronte.

The event will have a variety of activities including shopping, live music, the much loved

wiener dog races, and much more.

Live music concerts will begin at 6 pm with Coke County's own Kickapoo Creek Band, as well as local favorite McGinn of Dolly Shine fame. The headliner for this year's event is Cory Morrow.

Registration is now open for cook off teams, vendors, and food trucks. This can be done online at www.restoringbrontefoundation.org.

More information about Bronteoberfest will be available in the upcoming weeks.

Calling an Audible

By Mark Wangrin

Energized and raucous, it was largely a pep rally like any other. Teams introduced. Cheerleaders cheering. Students screaming. The sound was deafening, even if in fact nearly all the attendees were already deaf.

The differences in the packed Austin gym on the Thursday before the Texas School for the Deaf's homecoming game were subtle but noticeable. No band. No chanting.

Sign language more than made up for that.

That's the rule at TSD, the only Deaf high school in Texas. Although there's a wide range of hearing loss among the students and staff, American Sign Language is the only allowed means of communication.

Except on the football field. There, anything goes.

Pad-popping hits are a universal language. Players who can talk, talk loudly and emphatically—the Rangers even got flagged in a recent season for “cussing.” Music blares in the weight room, the more bass the better. But communication is mostly by sign language, the intense looks on coach's faces and the use of other senses sharpened by hearing loss.

Players can't watch their opponent and coaches simultaneously, so signing from the sidelines isn't an option on the field. They can't hear opponents changing plays to better counter or attack, or teammates shouting adjustments. Paul Hubbard, a player at Gallaudet College, a Deaf school in Washington, D.C., invented the football huddle in the early 1890s to prevent opponents from stealing signs.

TSD's Kenneth Montanez, who shared head coaching duties with Archie Savannah Jr. in 2023, played multiple sports growing up but always loved football. He played five years at what is now Gallaudet University and kept feeding his passion by playing semipro football and rugby.

“It's more than physical for them,” writes Montanez, who lost his hearing as a baby in New York City. “It teaches self-discipline and how to achieve things as a community.”

The Rangers' annual 10-game schedule includes at least two games against other Deaf state schools, one home and one away. The host school puts on a dinner and dance for the visitors, with the idea of forming a nationwide network of peers who face similar obstacles.

Ursa Rewolinski's network was closer to home. Her godfather is former TSD head coach Andy Bonheyo, and she grew up in Austin as a fan of the football team. By age 3, she could identify NFL teams playing on TV by their helmets. After graduating from the Maryland School for the Deaf, she returned to teach at TSD in 2019, her football passion evident but unfulfilled.

“Everybody's like, ‘Why are you not a coach?’ You know what, the door hadn't really opened up for me,” she says through an ASL interpreter. “And so, long story short, I came back here, became a teacher and the door opened, and now I'm here.”

She became the team's first female coach last season.

Great and Small

TSD began playing sports with a baseball team in 1887.

Since then its teams have won 69 national championships in 12 sports, including 16 in football. And while those titles were meaningful, they weren't statement-making the way a 2020 championship was. All it took was a pandemic and remarkable adaptability.

(Continued on page 7)

STERLING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioners' Courtroom
609 4th Ave.
Sterling City, Texas 76951

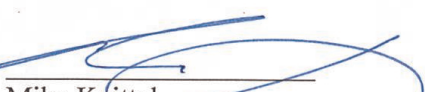
FILED August 26, 2024
AT 8:22 o'clock P.M.
JERRI McCUTCHEN
County Clerk, Sterling County, Texas
By _____ Deputy

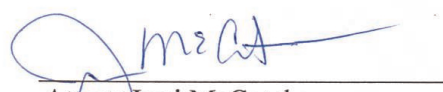
This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$242,055 an increase from last year's budget. Tax Rate is increased by .0303841. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$13,414.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we invite all attendees to advise us of any special accommodations due to disability. The Sterling County Commissioners' Courtroom is accessible to person with disabilities. If assistance is needed to participate, please call the office of County Judge at (325) 378-3481. Please submit your request as far in advance as possible before the meeting if you wish to attend.

- WHAT:** Public Hearing regarding Sterling County's Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2025
- WHO:** The Commissioners' Court of Sterling County
- WHEN:** Monday, September 9, 2024 – 8:45 a.m.
- WHERE:** First Floor of the Sterling County Courthouse, Commissioners' Courtroom, located at 609 4th Ave., Sterling City, TX
- AGENDA:** 1. Open Meeting and Determine Quorum
2. Take Public Input Concerning the Proposed Tax Increase
3. Adjourn Meeting

Posted this the 30th day of August, 2024.


Mike Knittel
County Judge
Sterling County, Texas


Attest: Jerri McCutchen
County Clerk
Sterling County, Texas

NOTE: The Commissioners' Court of Sterling County may discuss, deliberate and take all appropriate action on any matter listed on this Agenda. Items on this Agenda may be taken out of the order listed. Any testimony before the Sterling County Commissioners' Court may be taken under oath pursuant to §81.030 of the Local Government Code.

HOLIDAY

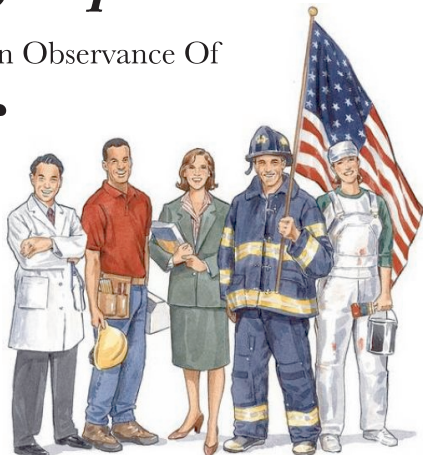
CLOSING NOTICE

All facilities of this bank
will be closed

Monday, September 2nd

In Observance Of

Labor Day



Please plan your banking requirements during regular banking hours to avoid any inconvenience.

Robert Lee State Bank

Member FDIC

453-2545

Robert Lee, Texas