

The Bandera PROPHEET

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Bandera County Commissioners Court Briefings

By Jessica Nohealapa'ahi
The Bandera Prophet

“We will get through April the 8th,” Bandera County Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director Patricia Moore told commissioners, regarding the imminent solar eclipse.

A public meeting on eclipse preparedness, hosted by the CVB, the county Chamber of Commerce and the Bandera Business Association, is set for March 12, at the Pipe Creek Volunteer Fire Department Bingo Hall, from 6-7 p.m.

“Just to go over basics, and alleviate any fears people may have,” Moore said during commissioners’ regular Feb. 22 meeting.

This doesn’t mean people should begin hoarding toilet paper, Moore said, “but we will talk about things they may need to stock up on.” In other business, Carla O’Dell, executive director of the Christian Job Corps, told commissioners the organization had completed two faith-based classes at the Bandera County jail, graduating 15 men and four women from the program. Each class is a five-week course, held two hours a night, two nights per week. She said the third class will begin March 12.

“We can’t guarantee it makes an impact, but we can guarantee it is life changing,” O’Dell said, adding the inmates are given 25 hours of community service upon completion of the course.

~ A proposed document detailing rules and agreements for use of the courthouse lawn failed once again to gain traction. Headed by Pct. 3 Commissioner Jack Moseley, the proposal lines out who - and what -

may be on the courthouse lawn during special events, and requires vendors to carry \$1 million in liability insurance.

~ Bandera County Sheriff Dan Butts said in January, the Sheriff's Office responded to 497 calls for service; deputies traveled 21,537 miles, with an average tone to arrival time for priority calls of 16.04 minutes. Six felony and four misdemeanor arrests were made; 39 property crimes were investigated; and the county was the primary responder within the city limits eight times. The average inmate population was 47, including three contract inmates from other counties; 27 people were booked, "that's about half of what is normal," Butts said.

There were 59 animal-related calls, "that's down from 120," Butts said, who added 11 horses were recently seized.

Two horses were very sick, and the veterinarian recommended they be put down, Butts said. The remaining nine horses were placed with a local wrangler at the county's expense.

"The horses, once surrendered, become our responsibility," Butts said, adding the wrangler, who has a contract with the county, was able to find them homes.

Bandera County EMS Director Shannon Griffin said in January, EMTs responded to 290 calls for service, travelling 13,349 miles. The average tone to response time was 1.03 minutes; the average tone to on scene time was 11.02 minutes.