

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

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Serving Coke County

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Friday, August 14, 1998

## Extravaganza shaping up to be a family fun day

The Labor Day Extravaganza is shaping up to be a family fun day in Robert Lee. The annual event, sponsored by the West Coke County Community Development, will again take place in the shady county park. Held the first Saturday of September, the date will be the 5th this year.

Activities will open with a parade at 9:30 am, beginning at the courthouse downtown, and will head up Austin Street to the park. Tentative entries include a detachment of the distinguished Fort Concho Cavalry, a number of horseback riders, and an appearance by Rudy Izzard, of San Angelo, Republican candidate for the US Congress.

Already set up at the park

### Expanded local calling extends to Wingate

GTE customers in Ballinger, Blackwell, Bronte, and San Angelo will get local calling to Wingate effective August 11.

Under the plan, all calls from Wingate to Ballinger, Blackwell, Bronte, and San Angelo will be local calls. Calls from these locations to Wingate will also be local calls. There is no additional charge to GTE customers for the Expanded Local Calling to Wingate.

"Prior to the start of Expanded Local Calling, each call between these areas was billed separately as a long distance call, and customers would see a long distance charge per call on their monthly bills. Now these calls are equivalent to local calls," said Bob Bates, Area Manager -- Customer Operations, West Central district.

The implementation of this service may require modification to some telecommunication equipment such as fax machines, speed calling, PABXs, key system, automatic dialers, and other equipment that may restrict or automatically dial long distance numbers.

Customers are not required to take any action to take advantage of the new service offering. Once extended calling is operational, it will no longer be necessary for customers to dial "1+" before the number when placing calls between these communities. Just dial the seven digit phone number for local and ELC calls.

will be Arts & Crafts booths, food booths, and other activities, including a dunking booth manned by the Baptist youth.

The open-air pavilion will be the site of the day's entertainment, with a DJ setup which will also provide music for the dancing Saturday night

### Pageant Ass'n. slates meeting

The Coke County Pageant Association will meet on Thursday, August 20, at 7 pm at City Hall in Robert Lee. This year's pageant production will be discussed, and planning will begin on next year's production.

All interested area residents are encouraged to attend.

### COME MEET THE LONGHORNS!!!

It's that time again... LONGHORN TIME!!! The annual "Meet the Longhorns Night" will be held Monday, August 17, 1998, at the Bronte park.

Project Graduation of 1999 will be serving hamburgers, chips, and tea starting at 5:30 pm. The "Meet the Longhorns" program will start at 7 pm.

Desserts will be served by the All Sports Boosters and Band Boosters. All parents of athletes need to bring a freezer of ice cream, and band parents will need to bring a cake or cookies.

Bring your lawn chairs and come join in the fun, as we pay special recognition to the athletes, band, and new faculty of Bronte High School for the 1998-99 school year.

GO LONGHORNS!!!

### Runnels Baptists set meeting

The Runnels Baptist Association will meet Monday, August 17, at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Ballinger. The Executive Board and W.O.M. will meet at 5:30 pm, with the evening meal being served at 6 pm.

The program begins at 7 pm with TEXAS 2000 Emphasis. Jan Daehnert, with the Small Membership Development Division with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will be the speaker.

The public is invited to attend.

from 8-12 pm.

Plan now to spend the day. Bring a blanket and lawn chairs and have a good time. If you need a booth and want to sing or tap dance, please call 453-4777, 453-2548, 453-2301, or 453-2713 for information. To be a part of the parade, lead a pet, ride a horse, drive a car or bicycle, or dress in costume, contact any of the numbers listed above, and get ready to enjoy a fun, hometown day!

### Farm Bureau county convention, talent find contest slated

The annual Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau County Convention and Talent Find Contest has been set for Saturday, August 15, at 6:30 pm. This year's activities will be held at the Recreation Center in Robert Lee, with Texas Farm Bureau President Bob Stallman scheduled to be the guest speaker.

Members are urged to attend and bring a guest to the annual meeting.

### Commissioners Court actions

The Coke County Commissioners met August 10, 1998. The meeting was called to order with the pledge to the flag and a prayer led by James Tidwell. Prior minutes were read and approved as corrected.

Several comments were made under open forum.

James Tidwell has appointed six people from Bronte to assist him in putting together a plan of operations for the work to be done at the Bronte Park. The Hoblizeil Grant is providing the funding for the project. The committee will include Ron Cooper, John Driggers, George Snapp, Conda Richards, Fran Crumpler, and David Rawlings.

The paving of Brother English Road is now completed and Commissioner Lee commended everyone that helped with the project. He also mentioned what a great job Tommy White's Nolan County crew had done.

County Attorney Lane Arthur reported that the plans with Wackenhut are moving along well. The final papers

(cont'd. next page)



During the recent TxDOT Safety Awards Banquet, Walter McCullough, San Angelo District Engineer, presents the second place San Angelo District Truck Rodeo Award to Douglas Roberts (left) of the Robert Lee Maintenance Section.

### Roberts qualifies for state competition

Douglas Roberts of Robert Lee was recently recognized as the Truck Rodeo Second Place Winner in the San Angelo district of the Texas Department of Transportation, qualifying him for the state competition in Waco in the fall.

After winning the Robert Lee Maintenance Section competition in the spring, Douglas qualified to compete in the district championship in San Angelo by scoring 305 points out of a possible 350 points. The competition included 13 other sectional winners from the 15-county TxDOT district. Douglas and the other finalist competed in the rodeo by mounting a seven-ton dump truck in a unique arena, an orange-coned obstacle course at the San Angelo district office at 4502 Knickerbocker Road.

While the annual program promotes safety vehicle operation, the competition also challenges and recognizes the skills of over 4,500 TxDOT commercial drivers license operators, according to the local TxDOT safety coordinator Rocky Youngblood. This competition also allows the state winner to advance to a national contest.

The events involve weaving a dump truck through a

course that simulates equipment maneuvers on a daily basis. Backing the truck into a confined loading dock area and driving forward and backward in a figure-eight pattern are a few of the skills that are scored.

Douglas is the Robert Lee assistant section maintenance supervisor, and has worked for TxDOT for nine years. He will be competing for his third time at the state level.

### RLISD sets upcoming budget hearing

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees has changed the date of its regular scheduled monthly meeting to August 18, 1998, at 6:30 pm. One purpose of the meeting will be to adopt a budget for the 1998-99 school year. Any taxpayer of the district may be present and participate in the hearing. The meeting/hearing will be held in the high school library.

### Bronte Band Boosters set meeting

A very important Band Booster meeting will be held Thursday, August 13, 1998 at 8 pm in the band hall. Volleyball is fast approaching, and it is essential to organize the concession stand for the Longhorn Band Fundraiser.

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**Shaffer receives committee nods**  
 Gary Shaffer, owner of Shaffer Funeral Homes in Robert Lee and Bronte, has recently returned from the Texas Funeral Directors Association Leadership Conference in Austin. All the committees of the association come together and begin to function at the annual meeting. Mr. Shaffer will be sitting on two of the most important committees, the state legislative committee and the political action committee. These two committees will shape the representation of the Funeral Directors Association in Austin

this year.  
 Gary also serves as president-elect of the extensive West Texas Region of the Texas Funeral Directors Association, which stretches from Eastland to El Paso. He stated, "I will be bringing a West Texas opinion to Austin while representing the needs and interests of the funeral directors and citizens of West Texas. The combined efforts of these two committees will help us control our destiny, rather than just being observers of the process."  
 Shaffer, a native of Big Spring, has been involved in funeral service in West Texas for the past twenty-seven years. "You meet a lot of funeral directors and families,

and you gain a lot of experience in that amount of time. You learn to recognize what needs to be fixed and what's not broken. I think it will be interesting to take that amount of experience to Austin and still be young enough to hopefully see the benefits of what we accomplish."  
 Mr. Shaffer closed his statement by saying, "Representation of Texas west of I-35 has been poor to nonexistent in our association and in legislation concerning my profession. Even though I will not accomplish everything I set out to do, I will promise that by the end of the legislative session that our small West Texas towns will have been heard from."

**Death Notices**

**Adams**  
 Roger Kay Adams, 59, of Haltom City, Texas, died August 7, 1998, at North Hills Hospital in North Richland Hills.

Services were at 10 am Monday, August 10, 1998, at Christian Temple Church. Burial followed in Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park under the direction of Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Nadine Lianne Barr Adams of Haltom City; two sons, James Adams and wife, Grace of Abilene, and Roger Adams, II, and wife Bekki of Goldsboro, North Carolina; two daughters, Jackie Neff and husband, Dan of Mancelona, Michigan, and Kayla "Sugar" Adams of Haltom City; mother, Faye Wheeler of May, Texas; three brothers, Joe Adams of Whitehall, Montana, Hank Adams of Helena, Montana, and Raymond Wheeler of May, Texas; two sisters, Anne Jayroe of San Antonio, Texas, and Belinda Coursey of Brownwood, Texas; and eight grandchildren.

**Allen**  
 Dora Ely Allen, 86, of Coleman, died Friday evening, August 7, 1998, at Holiday Hill Nursing Home. Services were held on Saturday, August 8, 1998, at Stevens Funeral Home Chapel with Britt Farmer officiating. Burial followed at Coleman Cemetery under the direction of Stevens Funeral Home.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Camille Martin Sandusky and Dr. Judge Sandusky of Hondo; three grandsons, Koby (wife Andrea and family), Daniel, Josiah, Elijah, Kami and Micah Ann Sandusky) of Reading, Pennsylvania, Sam

(wife Stacie and son Layne Ely Sandusky) of Spring, Texas, and Ross Sandusky of San Antonio.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Rosalie Whittington and Tina Whittington.

**Stancill**  
 Betty Stancill, age 60, a resident of Grand Prairie, Texas, passed away on Wednesday, August 5, 1998, in an Arlington hospital.

Services were held on Saturday, August 8, 1998, at Freetown Road Church of Christ in Grand Prairie, with interment following in Moore Memorial Gardens in Arlington. Bean-Massey-Burge Funeral Home directed the services.

She is survived by her husband of forty years, Jerry Stancill of Grand Prairie; a daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Randy Holton of Cedar Hill; two sons and daughters-in-law, Randy and Trish Stancill of McKinney, and Rick and Shelly Stancill of Dallas; four grandchildren, Natalie, Juston, Emilie, and Jeana; her mother, Bonnie Taylor of Bronte; a sister, Lynda Thornton of Abilene; and two brothers, Bobby Taylor of Commerce, and Stover Taylor of Bronte.

**Consumer Tips**  
 When hiring a contractor, don't be rushed into signing a contract, and always get a written estimate.

**Library News**  
 By Beth Prather, Librarian

Some say libraries should be quiet. That is probably true. But not THIS quiet. Now that school has started, the Coke County Library door doesn't open nearly as often as it did earlier this summer. One of the Camp Read-A-Lot mothers brought a picture of the group who attended the reading in the park. It couldn't be printed because of the lighting, but it is a good picture of the participants. The picture is on view at the library.

A library patron has donated a box of good reading. The box contained some new westerns, Max Brand, Luke Short, Judson Gray, and William Johnstone are among the authors. Also romance writers Jude Deveraux, Julie Garwood, Sandra Brown and Sally Quinn are represented. The books soon will be cataloged and ready to be checked out. There was also an Agatha Christie mystery in the box. It will be ready to be checked out when I get through reading it.

A new shipment of large print books has arrived from the Big Country Library System. This shipment always includes westerns and romance, and adult reading in large print as well as a few noted authors in regular print.

Books may be returned to Main Street Market in Bronte and to the library in Robert Lee on Tuesday mornings, all day Wednesdays, Thursday afternoons, and Friday mornings.

**...Court**

(ct'd. from page 1)

should be ready to sign next week.

The Treasurer's report as of July 31, 1998, included the following balances: Cash - \$510,193.92, Other Assets - \$787,177.40; Previous Month Cash - \$654,580.52, Previous Month Other Assets - \$787,177.40; and Previous Year Cash - \$691,710.52, Previous Year Other Assets - \$556,396.00.

The Extension report was approved.

No Sheriff's report was given.

The Commissioners approved the Sheriff's request to withhold the \$50/month raise for he and his deputies in lieu of a \$50/month clothing allowance.

A long discussion was held regarding the Bronte Park and Park Caretaker. Bronte Park Caretaker Clint Porter reported that energy bills for the Caretaker's home had been very high and that WTU had done an energy check and recommended insulation in the ceiling and storm win-

dows. The court agreed to have insulation put in the ceiling of the home and will investigate the cost of windows. Mr. Porter also questioned if the Park Caretaker had to live in the Caretaker's house. The court felt that it was beneficial to all concerned to have the Caretaker on the premises and as a result did not change current policy. Mr. Porter then requested that his wife become Park Caretaker with him helping her with the duties. The court replied that they could not legally do that and that if there was a need for a new Caretaker, the court would have to advertise the position.

Private road work was approved for Bob Boren in Precinct 1.

A discussion regarding the employees for the auditor's and treasurer's offices was tabled.

The commissioners approved GTE's request for the installation of a communication line.

Bills were paid and the meeting was adjourned.

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*Candace Phillips has been selected to work for the United States Postal Service in San Angelo. She wishes to say a cheerful goodbye to all her postal patrons on her routes, and to all the people she works with: Robert Lee HC 61, Silver, Mertzon, Barnhart, and Ozona. She'll miss everyone, dearly.*

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**Osborn, Breitschopf united in marriage**

Jennifer D'Ann Osborn and Travis Ross Breitschopf, both of Lubbock, were united in marriage on June 20, 1998, at the First Baptist Church of Robert Lee. Russ Murphy, college minister of Indiana Avenue Baptist Church in Lubbock, officiated the ceremony.

Jenny is the daughter of Steve and Joy Osborn of Robert Lee, and the granddaughter of Mildred Osborn of Lovington, New Mexico; Norman and Dorothy Caswell of Meadow and R.J. and Ruth Rowden of Wellman.

Travis is the son of Roland and Barbara Breitschopf of Georgetown, and the grandson of Anita Breitschopf of Bertram.

Escorted to the altar by her father, the bride entered the sanctuary wearing a white bridal satin gown that she designed and that was made for her by Jackie Moss of Brownfield. The halter bodice, enhanced with an applied sequin and pearl lace motif, also had shoulder straps that were accented with a delicate pearl edging. A drape was attached to the back waist of the princess seamed skirt with white satin rosettes, and was embellished with the same sequin and pearl lace motif used on the bodice. The pearl and sequin studded barrette crown and head band held a tiered silk tulle fingertip veil. It was also designed and made by Jackie Moss.

The bride carried a round bouquet of Virginia White roses surrounded with stephanotis and baby's breath. The bouquet was placed atop a Bible given to the bride at the age of eight by her great-grandmother, the late Lucy Decker.

For something new, the bride wore pearl earrings and a pearl bracelet given to her by her aunt, Elizabeth Rowden.

For something old, Jenny wore a wedding ring belonging to her grandmother, Ruth Rowden. Her something blue was a swatch of blue material taken from the wedding dress worn by the groom's mother.

Maid of Honor was Kelli Osborn of Robert Lee, sister of the bride. Matron of Honor was Kristi Coleman of Ropesville, sister of the bride.

Bridesmaids were Kim Wuthrich of Ropesville, cousin of the bride, Shannon Low of Lubbock, friend of the bride, and Kelly Carter of San Antonio, friend of the bride.

The attendants were attired in black chemise dresses with princess seams. The dresses were designed by Incite. They carried long stemmed Virginia White roses accented with white bridal satin ribbon.

Flower girls were Bailey and



Mrs. Travis Breitschopf

Sydney Coleman, twin nieces of the bride. They were dressed in white cotton jacquard float dresses accented with venice lace collars. White cotton broadcloth bloomers completed the dresses. They wore white satin floral halos and carried white baskets decorated with white tulle and silk roses. Bailey and Sydney were pulled down the aisle in a wooden wagon belonging to Molly Burns of Robert Lee. The wagon was decorated with white tulle and pearls, and lined with white eyelett. The wagon was pulled by Gage and Reese Rowden, cousins of the bride, who also served as ring bearers. They were dressed in black tuxedos.

Roland Breitschopf, the groom's father, served as Best Man. Groomsmen were Garrett Bowling of Plano, Lenny Morrow of Lubbock, Jason Taylor of College Station, friends of the groom, and Troy Pinkston of San Antonio, brother-in-law of the groom.

Wade Rowden, cousin of the bride, and Tom Edwards, friend of the groom, served as ushers. The groom, groomsmen, and ushers were all attired in black tuxedos.

The pianist was Beth Heard of Robert Lee. Vocalists were Brenda Pinkston of San Antonio, sister of the groom, Kristi Coleman and Loyd Jordan of Meadow, friend of the bride.

The guests were registered by April Jordan of Meadow, friend of the bride. Flowers and corsages were designed by Cookie Burns and Cathy Hendry of Robert Lee.

Leslie Jordan of Meadow, friend of the bride, served as wedding coordinator.

Following the ceremony, a reception and dance was held at the Promenade Square in San Angelo. The reception was coordinated by Dianne Simpson of Robert Lee.

The bride's cake was four-tiered, with each tier filled with white roses. The cake was made by Sharon Pitcock and decorated by Sharon and Cathy Hendry.

The groom's cake, also designed and made by Sharon Pitcock, presented a Texas Longhorn in the middle of a chocolate coffee cake.

Macy Hill, Tara Gardner, and Tonya Gardner, friends of the bride, served at the bride's table, and Lynn Ruska, cousin of the groom, served at the groom's table.

The bride is a 1993 graduate of Meadow High School and a 1998 graduate of Texas Tech University. She is employed as a teacher at Mexia ISD.

The groom is a graduate of Georgetown High School and a 1998 graduate of Texas Tech University. He is employed by Coolidge ISD as a teacher and coach.

Following a wedding trip to Jamaica, the couple is at home in Coolidge.

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### Finding college scholarship money gets easier

If you are seeking scholarship money to help pay for rising college costs, there is excellent help now available. Currently there are nearly 400,000 scholarship and grant sources to help pay for college costs, including tuition, room and board, text books, lab fees, and other expenses. Over 80% of these scholarships do not depend on financial need or high grades, but are awarded based on factors such as the student's interests, activities, field of study, age, ethnic background, or parent's work or military service.

Yet, according to the US Department of Education and financial aid experts, many students are missing out on financial aid opportunities available to them simply because they are not aware of the scholarship process and do not know how to locate scholarships that can help them. According to financial aid experts, "Students who take the initiative to find out what sources they qualify for are usually successful in funding either part or all of their education."

Ideally, students should begin the process of identifying scholarship sources starting in the spring semester of their junior year in high school. However, as long as there are college bills to pay, even for later years in college or graduate school, it is never too late to find out what money is available to help.

Each scholarship source has specific criteria to qualify; so the challenge for students is identifying those scholarship sources that can help them. The important thing is for students to take the initiative to find out what they qualify for and then apply for it.

Now through the resources of the National Academic Funding Advisory (NAFA), an updated publication for 1998-99 is available which provides important information for all students seeking to receive financial assistance, how to use the new tax changes to save money on educational expenses, and where to secure direct scholarship money.

For information on how to receive academic funding and scholarships for college, graduate school, or trade school, send \$3.00 to cover shipping and handling to the National Academic Funding Advisory (NAFA), 188 Summer Street, Scholarship Department S3, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

### Hunter Extravaganza set for Ft. Worth

The Texas Trophy Hunters celebrates its 22nd anniversary this year with the annual Hunters Extravaganza, set for August 21-23 at the Will Rogers Center in Ft. Worth.

The Extravaganza is a pure hunting show, with displays of the trophy bucks taken during last year's Boone & Crockett record season. Most every manufacturer, from deer stands to feeders, to camo clothing, calls, and deer scents, will be on hand at the Extravaganza.

This year's gathering includes the 3rd annual Taxidermy Competition, with hunting clinics that will include deer rattling and turkey calling techniques. Bowhunters will also have the opportunity to take aim at the most realistic video target system ever invented, complete with audio.

For more information on the upcoming Extravaganza, call (210) 523-8500.

### Personal

Juanita Parker of Bronte attended the wedding of her grandson, Greg Parker, in Merkel on Saturday, August 8. Greg married Shana Seymore of Merkel. Mrs. Parker was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. John Terrell of San Angelo, her daughter and son-in-law, and Mrs. Annie Rosser of Bronte.

# BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

### Infants and air bags: a deadly combination

Ninety-nine percent of parents with children under age one say they have heard about the risks air bags pose to children, according to a new national survey. Although most have heard and are heeding the warnings, alarmingly, 11 percent of parents who regularly transport an infant in a vehicle equipped with a passenger air bag continue to place babies in the front seat -- amounting to as many as 175,000 babies at serious risk.

The research reveals that these parents tend to be younger, have little formal education, and live in the South. And parents who don't wear their seat belts are more likely to place infants in the front.

"Infants should NEVER, ever ride in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag," said Janet Dewey, Executive Director of the Air Bag & Seat Belt Safety Campaign. "An air bag comes out of the dashboard in the blink of an eye with great force. Riding up front in an infant seat, a baby's fragile head and neck are always too close to the deploying air bag in the event of a crash."

While the overall rate of child deaths from air bags has declined by 50 percent and there are encouraging signs

that more drivers are properly restraining children in the back seat, too many children are continuing to die. Infants under one year of age account for roughly 1 in 12 of the children at risk; yet they account for about 1 in 5 of the child deaths. To date, of the 63 children who died in crashes involving air bags, 13 were babies riding in infant seats. Investigations also indicate that almost all of these infants were five months old or younger.

"We think some parents believe the risk of not seeing a baby is greater than the risk of injury in a crash. That's just wrong," said Joseph R. Zanga, MD, FAAP, American Academy of Pediatrics President. "Parents must understand that automobile crashes are the leading cause of injury to our children. The safest way for pre-adolescent children to ride -- including babies -- is properly restrained in the back seat."

The research also shows that parents are more likely to follow proper safety procedures as their children age: fully one quarter of parents incorrectly place infants ages one to three months old in the front seat, while only eight percent put ten to twelve month old infants in the front seat.

The risks air bags pose to children are entirely eliminated when children ride properly restrained in the back seat. Crashes are the leading cause of death to children. With or without an air bag, children are safer in the back. Studies show that, even in vehicles without air bags, the death rate to children drops by one third when kids ride properly restrained in the back seat.

The research also shows that twenty percent of parents with and without air bag equipped vehicles report not properly restraining their infants. Since crashes are the

leading cause of death to children and with or without an air bag, the back is the safest place for children to ride -- nearly 800,000 children are at increased risk in a crash.

The Campaign, NHTSA, and others are stepping up their outreach to new and expectant parents by providing free materials through national organizations that can best reach their target audiences. For more information, contact them at (202) 625-2570.

### Coke Co. Couples Tourney results told

Included below are the results of the Couples Tournament held the weekend of August 8 & 9.

Championship Flight: 1st. Hodge & England, 65-62; 2nd. Conley & Blair, 66-65; 3rd. Littleton & Weaver, 65-70.

First Flight: 1st. Doan & Tate, 70-65; 2nd. Corneillie & Corneillie, 72-65; 3rd. Carr & Cates, 70-67.

Second Flight: 1st. Blair & Conley, 76-69; 2nd. Hood & Hill, 75-71; 3rd. Jones & Jones, 76-71.

Third Flight: 1st. Graham & Graham, 78-75; 2nd. Zapata & Zapata, 77-76; 3rd. French & French, 80-75.

Fourth Flight: 1st. Head & Head, 82-77; 2nd. Wright & Wright, 82-78; 3rd. Keating & Keating, 82-80.

### Postal Service to open entrance examination

The Battery examination will be open to the general public August 24, 1998, through September 4, 1998 for the offices in the San Angelo area.

Offices accepting applications in the San Angelo area are Big Lake, Bronte, Eldorado, Mertzon, Ozona, Robert Lee, San Angelo, Sonora, and Sterling City. For more information contact Harrell Johnston at 453-2778 or Ray Barnett at 473-5881.

## SCHOOL MENU



### Breakfast

**Monday, August 17**  
Cereal, Sliced Peaches, Teddy Grahams, Milk

**Tuesday, August 18**  
Sausage, Apple Juice, Pancakes, Milk

**Wednesday, August 19**  
French Toast Stix, Orange Juice, Blueberry Muffins, Milk

**Thursday, August 20**  
Scrambled Eggs, Grape Juice, Biscuit, Milk

**Friday, August 21**  
Breakfast Burrito, Red Grapes, Donut, Milk

### Lunch

**Monday, August 17**  
Chicken Strips w/gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Milk, Banana Pudding

**Tuesday, August 18**  
Corn Dogs, Tator Tots, Macaroni & Cheese, Sliced Peaches, Milk, Rice Krispie Bars

**Wednesday, August 19**  
Soft Tacos w/cheese, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Lettuce & Tomato, Flour Tortilla, Milk, Jello

**Thursday, August 20**  
Spaghetti w/meat sauce, Steamed Broccoli, Sweet Corn, Apple Sauce, Bread Sticks, Milk

**Friday, August 21**  
Submarine Sandwich, Ham & Cheese, Red Grapes, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Bun, Chips, Milk, Peanut Butter Cookies

### Bronte board of trustees meet in special session

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees met in Special Session on August 9, 1998, at 1:00 for the following reasons. All board members were present.

\*A tax rate for 1998-99 was discussed. Motion was made and passed to propose a tax rate of \$1.38.

\*A public hearing on the tax increase was set for Monday, August 31, 1998 at 7:00 pm.

\*The board hired Eloisa Wiegand as parttime ESL teacher.

The board adjourned at 2:04 pm. The next meeting will be a special meeting on August 31, 1998, 7:00 pm.

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COUNTRY AGENTS  
NEWS

by Tommy Antilley  
Coke County Agent

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS

**Strategic culling due to drought**

With the continued hot and dry conditions we are having, the long-range outlook for available forage in our area is bleak. With these type of conditions, our available forage or grass production is greatly reduced or in some cases almost nil. Even if we get some much needed rains in the next few weeks, the prospects of us growing a lot of tonnage is not great. Most of these drought stressed grasses will green up and shoot a tall single stem with the seed head on it that from a distance looking across your pasture you get the idea that there is lots of grass out there, but in reality, if you go out in the pasture and look straight down, we have not grown a lot of forage. Even if we get significant rains in the next few weeks, we are basically looking at the amount of forage that will be available for livestock from now until next spring. Reduced body condition in cattle is of great importance simply because what condition a cow is in now and going into winter not only determines what kind of calf she will have this spring and how big it will get but can also determine the reproductive efficiency and productivity of that cow for the next year or more.

With this greatly reduced amount of forage we have or expect to have, there may become a time that we will have to cull our livestock to maxi-

mize the production of our herds. A strategic plan for culling cows of at least immediate economic benefit and maximum production of remaining animals is as follows. Cull in the following order: 1) open fall-calving cows; 2) dry spring and summer calving cows; 3) open replacement heifers; 4) shortbred fall/winter calving cows; 5) bred replacement heifers; 6) wet cows with poor teeth or other unsoundness; 7) wet, historically poor producers; 8) wet, open cows and heifers; 9) wet, bred individuals in poor body condition, cows below body condition score 4 and heifers below body condition score 5; 10) wet, bred cows over 7 years of age; 11) wet, bred first and second calf heifers; 12) remaining wet, bred cows, 4-7 year old, as conditions require.

Culling of your herds that have taken years of selection and pride to build is no easy task but sometimes conditions force us to do it. There are always some animals that can be culled for some reason or another. Another good rule of thumb is that if conditions get bad enough to feed your cows, don't hold onto low production animals or too many animals and wind up owing the bank for cows and the feed store for feed. As conditions worsen, take a load of cows to town and buy that much feed to save the rest.

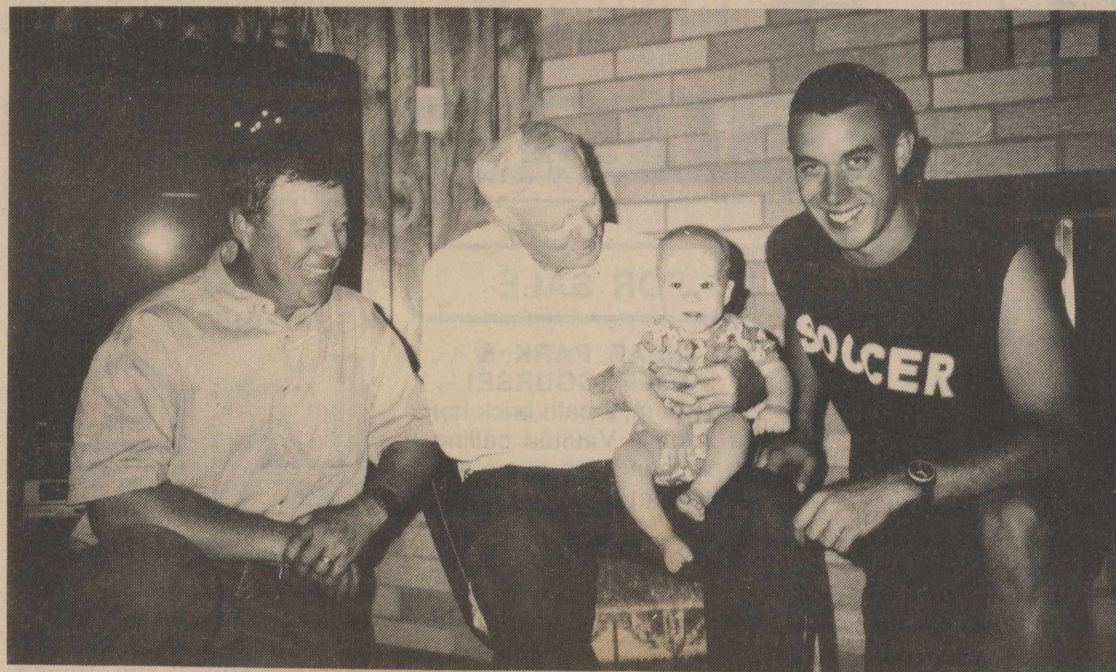
**RL VFD News**

Robert Lee Volunteer Firemen responded to a structure fire at 305 E. 5th Street in Robert Lee at 1:05 pm Saturday, August 8, 1998.

The cause of the fire at the Smith residence is under investigation. Seven fireman and three fire trucks arrived at the scene of the fire. However, fireman were hindered in their efforts by two inoperable fire hydrants.

**AON meets for "Ladies Night Out"**

AON Service Club met for their regular monthly meeting and "Ladies Night Out" at China Garden August 6. There were 13 members present. Plans were made for the Labor Day Extravaganza



The 4th of July marked the first opportunity for four generations of the Roe family to come together. PFC T. J. Roe, a native of Coke County, with his wife Michelle, and new son Cayleb were visiting T. J.'s parents, Billy Jack and Kristy Roe of Silver on his first leave from Ft. Benning, Georgia. The big family reunion held on the 4th at the home of Billy Wayne and Dolores Roe gave everyone an opportunity to meet Cayleb for the first time, and get to know Michelle a little better. Bill and Inez Roe of Robert Lee had a good time showing off their newest great-grandbaby. Pictured are (from left) Billy Jack Roe, Bill Roe, Cayleb Roe, and T. J. Roe.

"Train Ride". AON will again offer rides for children 12 and under for a small fee.

The annual spaghetti supper has been set for September 25, before the Bronte/Robert Lee football game. Plans will be finalized at the September meeting. Cathy Hendry, chairman of the supper, would like to encourage everyone from Bronte and Robert Lee to make plans to attend. The proceeds will go into the Kirk Bagwell Scholarship Fund to be awarded to a RLHS senior.

The next regular meeting of the group will be held in the home of Elena Sanchez, September 14.

**RL PTO gears up for new year**

The Robert Lee PTO is gearing up for the 1998-99 school year. They are in need of parents to help serve on several different committees. The organization's two main committees are for the Book Fair and the Accelerated

Store. The children love both of these and would be very disappointed if they were not available.

This year, the organization hopes to have the Accelerated store for students in 1st through 12th grades. All of this is only possible with the help of the par-

ents.

If you would like to serve on either the Book Fair committee, the Accelerated store committee, or any of the other committees, please call Lorrie Martin at 453-4500 by September 1. The children gain so much by reading - let's not let them down.



**School Menu**

**Breakfast**

**Monday, August 17**

Orange Juice, Breakfast Pizza, Cold Cereal, & Milk.

**Tuesday, August 18**

Orange Juice, Banana Nut Muffin, Cold Cereal, & Milk.

**Wednesday, August 19**

Orange Juice, Donuts, Cold Cereal, & Milk.

**Thursday, August 20**

Orange Juice, Sausage & Blueberry Pancake on Stick w/syrup, Cold Cereal, & Milk.

**Friday, August 21**

Orange Juice, Breakfast Burrito, & Milk.

**Lunch**

**Monday, August 17**

Fish, Macaroni & Tomatoes, Blackeyed Peas, Hushpuppies, Diced pears, & Milk.

**Tuesday, August 18**

Chicken Fried Steak w/gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Homemade Rolls, Peaches, & Milk.

**Wednesday, August 19**

Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Carrots, Crackers, Fruit Cocktail, & Milk.

**Thursday, August 20**

Fajitas, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pinto Beans, Cantaloupe, & Milk.

**Friday, August 21**

Chick-Fil-A w/pickles, Tator Tots, Baked Beans, Chocolate Pudding, & Milk.

**FREE 2 Liter  
Coke,  
Diet Coke or Sprite  
with purchase of  
Medium Pizza**



**2 FREE 2 Liters  
with purchase of  
Large Pizza**

Must Present Coupon at Time of Purchase Valid Through August 28, 1998

**C&W One Stop #14**

819 Commerce Robert Lee  
453-2047

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25¢ Per Word

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE**  
Tuesdays at 5 pm

**Political Calendar**  
The Observer/Enterprise

has been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County. Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement. All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.

- COKE COUNTY JUDGE**  
Jackie Walker
- COKE COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK**  
Mary Grim
- JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 2**  
Jack Moore
- STATE REPRESENTATIVE 72ND DISTRICT**  
Robert A. "Rob" Junell  
Russ Duerstine

**FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE**  
Fixer upper home with knotty pine den at 906 Childress, Robert Lee. \$300 month, need some cash down or work for credit. Plumbing works. Call 655-9141.  
02-3tp

**FOR SALE**



**NEAR PARK & GOLF COURSE!**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home on 3 lots! Vaulted ceiling & fireplace in living area! Large utility room & appliances stay! \$50s!!! **HURRY!**  
**BRONTE BEAUTIFUL LOCATION!**

Brick home on corner lot shaded by large trees! 3 bedrooms and 2 baths with built-in bookshelves and cabinets in living area! \$60s!!! **HURRY!**

**LOCATED AT EDGE OF TOWN!**  
This 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home has huge double car garage! Well-manicured lawn and OWNER **MAY FINANCE!** \$50s!!! **HURRY!**  
120+ Acres Contract Pending with cre...

600+ Acres between Bronte and Robert Lee.  
300+ Acres Yellow Wolf Creek.  
130 Acres, Owner Finance!!

**Other Listings Available**  
*Concho Realty*

 5 E. 6th St.  
Robert Lee, TX 76945  
453-5005 

**CLEAN, AFFORDABLE** home for sale by owner. Bayview Estates, near Lake Spence. Call 453-4724.  
03-4tp

**INVESTORS**  
Pennies on the dollar. 9 used mobile homes, 653-1152.  
03a-1tc

**MOTOR HOME FOR SALE**  
1984 Midas - 25 foot self contained. Sleeps six. Price negotiable. See at Highway Garage, Bronte.  
03b-1tp

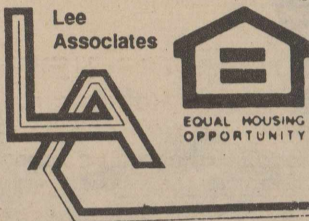
**PRE-APPROVAL HOTLINE**  
653-1152 or 800-626-9978.  
03a-1tc

**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
in Robert Lee. Corner lot, 3/2, 2 living areas, swimming pool, privacy fence. Call 944-9876 after 5 or leave message.  
03-1tp

**ROBERT LEE**  
Your dream home with all the extras, 2 living areas, 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Call for an appointment.  
Small acreage for sale. Owner will consider financing. Excellent location for home site. Call for further details.  
New roof on this 2 bdrm home with hardwood floors. Owner will consider financing.  
**BRONTE**  
Two living areas enhance this home. 3 bdrm with 2 baths, priced to sell. Call for an appointment.

Call for other listings.

**Elaine Lee, Agent**  
453-2995



**FOR SALE**  
Big, handsome home on corner at 508 W. 9th, Robert Lee. Huge attic for play room. Owner financed, qualified buyers. Call 655-9141.  
02a-3tp

**ONLY \$500 DOWN**  
on huge 18 x 80 doublewide and a \$1400 rebate from Fleetwood. A-1 Homes of San Angelo, 653-1152 or 800-626-9978. \$249 per month, 10.25% for 360 months.  
03a-1tc

**FOR SALE**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath home on 10 acres in Bronte School District between Bronte & Robert Lee. Call 453-2548 after 5 pm.  
02-2tc

**USED TRAILER**  
653-1152.  
03a-1tc

**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
Older home, priced for quick sale. 117 W. 10th Street, Robert Lee. Call 944-9876 after 5 or leave message.  
03-1tp

**FOR RENT**

**FOR RENT**  
3 Mobile Homes: Call 453-4659 for information.  
01-3tc

**TAKING APPLICATIONS**  
for one, two & three bedroom apartments. Contact Housing Authority of Robert Lee, 170 N. Bishop, 453-2912. Equal Housing Opportunity.  
49a-EOW

**"TEXAS BEST"**  
**DEFLOODING & CARPET CLEANING**  
Free Estimates  
473-6603

**FOR RENT**  
BHA Activity Room, 1/2 day - \$35. Full day - \$70. Seats 50. Call 473-3541 Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings or see at 116 NE Railroad, Bronte.  
51b-tnc

**MISC**

**CRUMPLER GENERAL CONTRACTING**  
Painting, carpentry, remodeling. Call 473-2691.  
02b-tnc

**WANT TO BUY**  
Large used chest-type deep freeze. West Coke County Community Development, call 453-4777, 453-2147, or 453-2548.  
02a-2tc

**BOOTH SPACES**  
\$15 (\$25 with electricity). Reserve now for the Labor Day Extravaganza in Robert Lee's shady park. Call 453-2548, 453-4777, or 453-2147.  
02a-4tc

**TREES & SHRUBS**  
trimmed and hauled off. 453-2450.  
02-2TP

**PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING**  
473-2515  
45b-tnc

**D & L DOZER SERVICE & CUSTOM FARMING**  
Larry Spivey, owner-operator. PO Box 160, Bronte, Texas. Phone (915) 282-3038.  
45b-tnc

**DONNIE'S APPLIANCE & REFRIGERATION**  
Window Units serviced & repaired. Electrical Trouble-shooting. (915) 453-2188.  
45a-tnc

**A-1 HOME IMPROVEMENTS**  
W. H. & Pat Smith, local representatives, 215 S. Melwood, Winters (915) 754-4727. Free estimates. 100% financing WAC.  
42b-tnc

**MISSING**  
4 heifers strayed from Waldrop place at Hayrick. Spur brand on left hip. Call Clifton Reed, 786-2370.  
03b-2tp

**PARKER PLUMBING**  
Residential & Commercial. All types plumbing repair - new construction, remodeling, fixtures, and sewer service. Licensed Master Plumber. 473-2131, Bronte.  
34b-tnc

**MOTHER'S DAY OUT**  
at Bronte Church of Christ  
Tuesday & Thursday  
8-3 • Ages 3-5  
\*Planned Curriculum  
\* Certified Teacher  
Begins August 18th!  
Limited Space Available  
Call Kim Stewart-Lee • 473-2075

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01-4tp

**HELP WANTED**

**BRONTE ISD**  
is accepting applications for the following: Bus Driver for the Bronte to San Angelo route and Full Time Janitor. These vacancies will be open until filled. Bronte ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Contact Superintendent's office at 473-2511 for application.  
02b-2tc

**HELP WANTED**  
CNAs needed for all shifts. Full time and part time. Competitive pay. Contact Sarah Lee, DON, Senior Citizens Nursing Home, Winters. Phone 754-4566.  
36b-tnc

**THE ROBERT LEE CITY COUNCIL**  
is looking for an individual interested in serving as Municipal Court Judge. Monthly Salary \$100. Qualifications: 3 year resident and real property owner of the City. High School Diploma or G.E.D. Must be able to attend school once yearly. Send your resume to City Hall no later than August 28.  
03a-1tc

**GARAGE SALES**

**GARAGE SALE**  
Friday - Saturday, 214 W. Barclay, Bronte.  
03b-1tc

**INSIDE SALE**  
211 W. George, Bronte. Microwave, heaters, linens, glassware, misc. Friday noon-?, Saturday 8-3, Sun.  
03b-1tp

**GARAGE SALE**  
Ladies, baby clothes, boys and girls, mens dress shirts and suit coats. 8-12, Saturday, 15th, 713 SE Railroad, Bronte.  
03b-1tp

**MOVING SALE**  
Household goods, linens, books, furniture, 30 years worth of stuff!! Saturday 8:30 - 2:30, 402 Key Street, Bronte.  
03b-1tc

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"An Employer/Employee Service Company"

**For Info Call 643-1238 or 1-800-643-1863**

**NOTICES**

**CARD OF THANKS**

**THANKS SO MUCH**  
To employees of Robert Lee Care Center for your kind and loving care that you gave to Ralph during his stay there. We will always be grateful.

Sincerely,  
Elveta and John Ruth  
03a-1tc

**WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS**

our heartfelt gratitude for your love, support, prayers, and contributions of food, clothing, and financial assistance.

Special appreciation goes to the Robert Lee and Bronte volunteer fire departments for their courageous efforts.

The Family of Ray Atwater  
03-1tp

**NO WORDS CAN TELL**  
how grateful we are for your sympathy, prayers, food, flowers, memorials, and cards. Your love and support has made our loss easier to bear.

Dennis Courts & Family  
03-1tp

**THANK YOU**

for sharing in the loss of our loved one with your prayers, cards, phone calls, memorials and beautiful flowers. We gratefully appreciate your thoughtfulness. God bless each one of you in a very special way.

Edd Poehls  
Edward & Joan  
Ronnie & Gloria  
03-1tp

**THANK YOU**

Dear friends and neighbors, thanks so much for all your help and concern during the recent fire at Silver. A special thank you goes to the Robert Lee, Bronte and Blackwell Fire Departments. Without their assistance, the outcome could have been much worse.

Jerry, Doug, & Debbie Wilkes  
03-1tp

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, the 24th day of August, 1998, at 11:00 am in the District Courtroom, Coke County Courthouse, Robert Lee, Texas, for the purpose of hearing comments on the amount of annual compensation of the County Auditor and Assistant Auditor.  
03a-1tc

**WTU donates \$100,000 to assist customers**  
West Texas Utilities recently announced that it is providing \$100,000 in emergency funds to assist customers hardest hit by the summer heat wave. The company is also working on an individual basis with customers who are having problems paying their electric bills.

"We're taking these steps to assist as many people as we can, especially those who face the greatest difficulties," said Paul Brower, WTU General Manager and President. "The most important thing is to take care of yourself and not put your health at risk because of concerns about the cost of running fans or air conditioners when temperatures are extremely high. If you think you're going to have a problem paying your electric bill, we urge you to call us as soon as possible, and we'll work with you to develop payment arrangements," he said.

The company's emergency contribution will be to 13 West Texas agencies associated with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The donation will boost the money available for short-term assistance to WTU customers facing financial hardship. These various agencies throughout WTU's 52 county service area will be administering the emergency contribution locally. For Coke County, the funds will be handled by the Tom Green Community Action Council.

"We hope these measures will provide some short-term relief. However, we're aware that long-term payment problems can develop; so we urge customers to make every effort to stay current on their bills and call us to work out a payment plan," Brower said.

Already this summer, WTU has set five all-time company records for power demand by customers. WTU, headquartered at Abilene, serves about 186,000 customers in 52 West Texas counties.

**LOOK WHO'S NEW!**  
**Maddisen Robertson**  
Devin Quade Robertson, age 3 1/2, welcomed a brand new baby sister to the family this past week. Maddisen Marie Robertson was born on Monday, August 3, 1998, at 12:12 pm in Shannon Women's and Children's Hospital in San Angelo. The new arrival weighed 7 lbs. 11 1/2 oz., and was 19 inches long.

In addition to the welcome from her brother, she was also introduced to her parents, Scott and Terri Robertson of Midland.

Grandparents are Donald and Ruth Robertson of Robert Lee; Fred J. and Carol Legendre, Jr., of Metairie, LA; and John and Carol Minica of San Angelo. Great grandparents are Edith McGinley of San Angelo; Melvin Dussel of Kenner, LA; and Leona Legendre of Metairie, LA.

**Personal**  
Two Bronte men were in the Papaw, New Guinea area in World War II. Joe Ed Scott and Noah Pruitt, Jr. were there in 1943. Recent current events in that area have brought back many memories to these two.

**Personal**  
Ginger Eubanks of Natchitoches, Louisiana, visited her mother, Helen Murtishaw, and other relatives and friends recently. Ginger did some chores around the house for her mother. Mary Sharp of Carlsbad, Texas, and Maurine Sparks of San Angelo, Ginger's aunts, came for a visit on Sunday. Ginger returned home on Friday.

Also visiting were Cathy DiMaria, daughter of the late Allen Bryan and Pat Bryan Oglesby and granddaughter of the late G. D. and Mattie Luckett, and three daughters, Christina, Toni Lynn and Carrie of Anchorage, Alaska. Cathy and Christina visited some colleges so Christina could make up her mind which she wants to attend when she graduates next spring.

The gang all got together at the "Box L Ranch" for a big fish fry Saturday evening. Dewey Luckett was the fisherman and the chef. Others brought potato salad, red

beans, cole slaw, hush puppies, ice tea, and of course, apple pie and peach cobbler. Some folks tried fishing, but had no luck. There were lots of visiting and picture taking. Those enjoying the evening were Cathy, Christina, Toni Lynn, and Carrie of Anchorage, Alaska; Tim Bozarth and Riley; Darrell and Peggy Bozarth; Joy and A. J. McDaniel; Debbie and Scott Bayer, Aaron, Amanda, and Cory from San Angelo; Matthew Plowman of Lubbock; Bill and Diane Luckett, Joey Luckett, Dewey Luckett, and Helen Murtishaw, all from Bronte. Cathy and girls returned home on Tuesday.

**Consumer Tips**  
"Earn big \$\$\$ selling internet products and services". Investigate all earnings claims. Talk with others who have purchased the opportunity.

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Treatment By Appointment Only

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**(915) 453-2529**

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Robert Lee, Texas 76945

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1-800-657-4113  
MON-FRI  
10:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

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The Christmas Seal People

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**For Info Call 643-1238 or 1-800-643-1863**

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Day shifts in Winters - Great company!

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**Assembly II- Riveter/Spot Welder!**  
Mon-Sat • Day Shifts in Winters. Don't Delay • Apply Today!

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### King family reunion held

The descendants of Sam and Anna King met for their annual reunion on Saturday, August 10, 1998. Sam and Anna King were long time residents of Coke County. They were married on January 1, 1890, at Edith. Their children were Thomas, Sam Beulah, Vela, Frank, George, Lillie, Dave, Anna, Clara, and R.B. The day was spent visiting, swimming, playing games, eating, and just resting.

Those attending were R.B. and Corrine King, Loucille Middleton, Shirley Strakos, Pam and Sarah Kay Gandy, Clara Belle Deese, Rena Dee and Garland Gaines, Waymond and Katie Dixon, Karla, Kay, Kari, and Kylan Wilson, Sam Keel, Jess and Dorothy Gaines, Vivian Keel, Frank, Robin, and Teri Smith, and Michelle Smith, all of San Angelo; Christa Gower and Brent McClellan, both of Abilene; Darlene Gower of Ballinger; Anna Mae and Claude Hartsell, Larry and Kathy Hartsell and Robert, Jan, Ashton, and Tyler Hartsell of Ardmore, OK; Thomas L. King of Ft. Worth; Kay, Ramon, and Brian Morin, Shannon, David, and Joshua King, and Madelle Thomas, all of Arlington; Tom King III of Houston; Sam and June Plumlee, Sam Jr., and Debbie Plumlee, Stan, Mary, Katrinia, and Christina Smith, Allan, Josephine, A.J., K.C., Jackie, and R.J. Barnes and Eugenia Smith, all of Carlsbad, New Mexico; Lorraine Brooks, and Angela and Mike Wade, all of Artesia, NM; Trudi Green of Sun Lakes, AZ; Judy Snowden; Ann and Eddie Bedrick, Beth Brice, Mychelle, Brytanie, Tamara, and Kramer Woodard, Linda Scott, Dave, Donna, Laurel and Meredith Walker, and Bobby and Joyce Walker, all of Odessa; Bertie and Forrest Wanker of Fairview, OK; Jesse III, Kayla, John and Jesse IV Eads, and Tonda Gaines, all of Midland; Burt and Lavelta McVicker of Burnet; Bonnie McVicker, and Eldon and Joan King, all of El Paso.

Also attending were Annie Faye and Jim King of Wingate; Becky and Gary Verner of Brazoria; Bud Davis of Portland, OR; Dorothy and Don King, Andrew King and Curtis Beach of Stanley, NM; Don and Wanda Plumlee of West Columbia; Rasler Smith of New Braunfels; Jewel Puckett of Thousand Palms, CA; Mike McVicker of Austin; Randy Gaines of Dallas; Carl and Pauline Blair, and Pamela Kresta, all of Bronte; and Buddy, Carolyn, and Tiffany Brockett of Spring; Steve and Jesi Gaines of Christoval; Lauri, Jim, Jessica, Robert and Dusty Hall, and James, Rachel, and Brittany Glaze of Hawley; Kenny Middleton of Eules; Alvin and Katherine King of Whitesboro; and Larry, Joyce, Shane, and Michelle Allen of Lubbock; and Sharon and Joe Glaze of Merkel.

Those attending from Robert Lee were Bessie Brice, Willie and Jesse Eads, Jr., Dee Anna Harmon, Jessica Key, Teri Key, Alene and David Key, Vivian King, Raymond E. Smith, and Willa Plumlee.

Friends joining them for the day were Mikey Anderson and Carrie Wright of San Angelo; Tim Mayhill of Lubbock; and Tommy Hood of Robert Lee.

### Weathering the current market

by Jimmy L. Newsom with Edward Jones Investment Firm

Some equity investors have adopted "The sky's the limit" as their investment motto. If you're one of these investors, it's time to come down to earth. It's no wonder that investor expectations have risen so high. Over the past three years, the stock market has more than doubled its value. The Dow ended 1994 at 3834.44. This year it has hovered around 9,000.

Corporate earnings have also enjoyed unparalleled growth. According to David L. Babson & Co., the S&P 400 shows that corporate earnings have averaged a growth rate of 13.2 percent over the past three years. Here's a reality check. The 30-year average of the S&P 400 is 7.4 percent.

Is the ride over? Probably not. The economic climate of low interest rates, low unemployment, strong export sales and controlled inflation shows every indication of continuing. However, corporate earnings are expected to return to more normal levels as the effects of corporate restructuring and technological investments begin to have less impact on the corporate bottom line. Indeed, some companies have already begun announcing lower corporate earnings.

#### Keep your feet planted firmly on the ground

One of the most basic rules of investing is to regularly review your investments. These reviews will give you an accurate picture of your investments, so you can easily determine whether they are still meeting your needs and goals. It will also allow you to put the investments current performance in perspective. Are current returns something you can expect to continue? If you know the history of your investments, you already know the answer. Annual reviews help keep your feet planted firmly on the ground and maintain your long-term investment bearings.

#### Maintain your investment bearings

Sticking to your long-term investment strategy isn't always easy. Here are four rules that will enable you to maintain your investment bearings regardless of current market conditions.

##### 1. Invest for the long term.

The market will always rise and fall in the short term. Adopt and maintain a long-term investment strategy to increase your investment success. Trying to time the market is futile. Instead, stick with a buy-and-hold strategy. One study showed that you would have to time the market correctly at least 82 percent of the time to equal the performance of an investor who buys and holds stock. Remember... it's time in the mar-

ket, not timing the market, that's crucial.

##### 2. Invest systematically.

Invest a fixed amount at regular intervals. This strategy, also called dollar-cost-averaging, allows you to buy more shares when prices are low and fewer shares when prices are high. Over the long term, systematic investing typically allows you to purchase shares at a cost that's below the average price of the security.

##### 3. Select quality.

Select individual stocks and stock mutual funds that have demonstrated consistent growth in earnings and dividends over at least the past ten years, longer if possible. A "hot" stock often fizzles as quickly as it rose, but quality is timeless.

##### 4. Diversify.

Spreading your money among a variety of investments can significantly reduce risk. A properly diversified stock portfolio should include seven to ten stocks. One study found that 90 percent of a portfolio's overall performance depends on how well diversified it is. Diversify by maturity, industry and geographical location in addition to investment type.

The most important thing to remember when investing is to avoid rash decisions based on the current market situation. If you've chosen quality, long-term investments, and your investment needs and objectives haven't changed, you should probably stick with your present investment strategy.



Don Hester and Madelyn Smith were married in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on June 12, 1998. Don is a former Robert Lee resident and son of the late Walter and Marie Hester. They were attended by Madelyn's children. Don's sister, Sondra Hester, lives in Robert Lee; his son, Brian and family live in San Angelo, and his daughter, Lee Ann Hines and family live in Clyde.

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The West Coke County Hospital District will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll by 3.176617 percent. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on August 20, 1998 at 5:00 PM at Robert Lee Care Center Board Room.

**FOR** the proposal: Mary Bessent Linda Burns  
Winton Milliff

**AGAINST** the proposal:

**PRESENT** and not voting:

**ABSENT:** Dwayne Vincent Bill Casey

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average residence homestead value	\$34,120	\$34,120
General exemptions available	\$0	\$0
<small>(amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)</small>		
Average taxable value	\$34,120	\$34,120
Tax rate	0.233106	0.233106
Tax	\$79.54	\$79.54

**Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$0.00 or 0.00 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$0.00 per \$100 of taxable value or 0.00 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.**