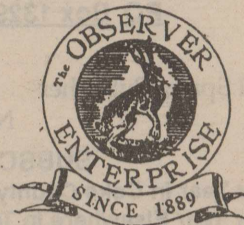


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE



Serving Coke County

(USPS 467-480)
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 112, No. 21

Friday, December 17, 1999

Estate planning seminar set for Tuesday, December 21

Merry Christmas!! It's the season to be jolly, but if something happened to you, would your family be so joyous when the tax man shows up. Estate planning is vital to everyone to ensure that your heirs can carry on or enjoy your successes in life. Proper planning can ensure that your estate is passed on to your kids or heirs without a tremendous tax burden in estate taxes. It is never too early to plan. There is a misconception that if you don't own a large business or a lot of land, there is no need for an estate plan, but this is far from the truth. When you figure your total assets, it may surprise you actually how big your estate can be. It would be a shame for the state to get everything you have worked hard to acquire over the years or your heirs to have to sell everything to pay the tax.

On Tuesday, December 21, the Coke County Extension

Coke County Ministerial Alliance formed

According to Rev. Jim Reeves, pastor at First United Methodist Church of Robert Lee, the exploratory meeting on Thursday, Dec. 9, of area pastors, resulted in the initial steps toward organization of a Coke County Ministerial alliance. The next meeting of the county pastors will be Thursday morning, January 20 at 7:00 am in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church. Subsequent monthly meetings will be rotated between the various churches, both in Robert Lee and Bronte.

"We want to stress that this is a county-wide ministerial alliance, indicating the cooperation of churches throughout the county." According to Rev. Reeves, the initial emphasis of the alliance will be on two areas: the creation of food closets and other services for people in need, with locations in both Robert Lee and Bronte, and secondly, upon seeking ways to further increase the cooperation between churches of the county. All ministers throughout the county are invited to be at the meeting on the 20th of January.

Program Council will sponsor an Estate Planning Seminar in the recreation hall in Robert Lee. The Program Council will have a short business meeting beginning at 7:00 pm to discuss the Texas Community Futures Forum, finalize plans for Extension education activities for 2000 and select new members. The Estate Planning Seminar will begin about 7:30 pm with Jackie Smith, Extension Economist from Lubbock giving the program. He will be giving some insight and important steps to begin your estate plan and will to ensure your estate stays with your family.

This should be a very informative meeting and during this season of giving, think how you can give your family future security through proper estate planning. You're also welcome to attend the Program Council meeting prior to Jackie's program.

Individuals who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodations in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the Coke County Extension office at 453-2461.

Primary filing dates noted

Applications for a place on the ballot in the general primary elections must be received by the county chair by 6:00 pm, Monday, January 3, 2000.

Postmarks by this deadline without actual receipt by the appropriate county chair is not sufficient.

Those interested in filing for county offices should contact Kathy Pentecost for filings in the Republican Primary at 453-2920. Patty Ivey is the Democratic county chair, and may be contacted at 453-2582.

The general primary election has been set for Tuesday, March 14.

RLBC Candlelight Service

Robert Lee Baptist Church Candlelight Service will be Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, from 6-6:30 pm. Bring your family...come casual...experience the true meaning of Christmas.



Bronte and Robert Lee students completed their DARE program with graduation ceremonies December 10 at the Coke County Courthouse.

Tax office closing

The Coke County Tax Office will be closed on December 24 for the Christmas Holiday, as well as December 31 for the New Year.

In order to assist taxpayers who wish to have their tax payments posted in December, all payments received either in person or by mail on Monday, January 3 will be dated and posted as a December 31 payment. We hope this will help adjust for any inconvenience caused by holiday closings.

Please accept the tax office staff's sincere wishes for a joyous holiday season and a very happy new year!

Santa is set to visit Bryan's Barn

Bryan's Barn, a mile west of Robert Lee, has been a busy place every evening since it opened for visitors December 1, 1999.

Santa Claus himself has stopped by and said, "The Barn lights are beautiful! I'm coming back every time I can!" So-

Santa marked the Barn's calendar and will return from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on those dates. He loves to visit his friends there and hear what they want him to bring on December 25.

His return dates are:
Thursday, Dec. 16
Saturday, Dec. 18
Monday, Dec. 20
Tuesday, Dec. 21
Wednesday, Dec. 22
Thursday, Dec. 23

Coke County Courthouse closes

The Courthouse will close for Christmas Holiday on December 23 at 3:00 pm and all day on December 24.

The Courthouse will also be closed Friday, Dec. 31, for New Year's.

Christmas Greetings set for Dec. 24

It is time once again for Christmas Greetings! The *Observer/Enterprise* would like to remind businesses and individuals wishing to place a Christmas greeting in the newspaper to call or stop by and choose yours.

Deadline for this year's greetings is December 21. They will be printed in the December 24 edition of the *Observer/Enterprise*. For more information or to place an ad, contact the Bronte office at 473-2001 or 453-2433 in Robert Lee.

Community food baskets to be given

The First United Methodist Church is again making up food baskets for families in need for the Christmas season. These baskets will be delivered on Dec. 21. Anyone who wants to request a basket is asked to contact Carla Wojtek at C & H Automotive or to call the church phone: 453-2417.

Anyone wishing to help out by supplying non-perishable food items for the food baskets is asked to either bring your food items to Mrs. Wojtek or to the church.

Christmas Eve Service

First United Methodist Church will be offering a Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm on Dec. 24 in the sanctuary. The service will last about forty-five minutes in order to allow families to spend time together both in worship and at home. Everyone in the community is invited to come and share in this time of remembering the Christ child.

CNA classes set for January 4

Bronte Health and Rehab Center is pleased to offer education and employment opportunities within our community.

Any interested person should come in and fill out an application prior to January 4, 2000. Classes will consist of 75 hours of training in a 14 day course to mature individuals who demonstrate an interest in providing care to the elderly and disabled. Applicants must be committed to attending all classes in order to receive certification. After completion of 16 hours of classroom training, students will be given the opportunity to work in the facility performing skills they have mastered in class.

We wish to encourage anyone who may be interested in attending the classes to contact Elizabeth Baird, RN Program Director or Marcy Holland, LVN S.D.C. at 900 S. State St., Bronte, TX no later than December 30, 1999.

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Nikki Digby

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year in Coke County.....\$20.00
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$22.00
Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

**Santa visits the
Coke County Library**

Story Hour children arrived at the library like a basket full of puppies. Usually they spill into the library and surround the bin of children's books or go to their favorite animal books on the shelves.

Tuesday the children spilled into the library and stopped on an invisible line, bouncing off one another in wide-eyed amazement. Santa Claus was sitting in the corner smiling and waving and ho-hoing. Some of the children rushed forward to another invisible line just in front of Santa Claus and a few took to the corner to survey the situation. In seconds one child crawled into Santa's lap, and then another and another until all had a chance to talk to Santa. Most were very sure of what they wanted. A few could think of only one thing at first, but soon added to their list. The adults tried to get each child's picture with Santa and Santa patiently sat while everybody posed individually and then collectively.

Roger Alexander of the Robert Lee Care Center was able to persuade Santa to come to the Library even though Santa would have to return to the North Pole in a dust storm. We are fortunate that Mr. Alexander had a close association with Santa.

For families planning to travel throughout the holidays, the library has a good supply of audio cassettes. There are some which are children's stories. Tom Brokaw's

tape *The Greatest Generation* is an especially poignant collection of stories of WWII families and their heroism.

The library will be open 8-12 on Tuesdays; 8-4 on Wednesdays; 1-5 Thursdays and Fridays, 8-12 through December. An early closing at 3:00 pm on Thursday, December 23 is scheduled, and the library will be closed Friday, December 24.

**Memorials for
RLVFD**

- Mrs. Alva Newsome**
Mrs. A.J. Roe Jr.
- Otho Long**
Mrs. A.J. Roe Jr., Butch & Glenda Service, Mike & Fran Lomas
- Mrs. Inez Minjarez**
Butch & Glenda Service
- Frances Green**
Nell's sisters & brothers, Polly & Bob Large
- Billie Barrett**
Joe & Marilyn White, Joyce Roach
- Bobbie McCoy**
Betty Barrett, Maurice & Elna Duncan, Wilbern & Charlotte Millican, Doug & Debbie Wilkes, Coke County Maintenance Employees of Texas Dept. Transportation, Jack & Nina Brewer
- Margaret Eaton**
Mike & Fran Lomas
- Bill Howard**
Kenneth & Nancy Rasco
- Erma Wink**
Dianna Tinkler
- Benny Joe Reppond**
The 64 Study Club
- Donations**
Mrs. Wayne S. Reed
Glenn-Bivins / Hochheim
Prairie Farm Mutual Ins.

Death Notices

Jackson

Ruby Ray Jackson, 87, of Robert Lee died Monday, December 13, 1999 in a San Angelo Hospital.

Services were set as follows: there was a visitation Wednesday December 15, 1999 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm at Shaffer Funeral Home in Robert Lee. Ms. Jackson's funeral service was at 10:00 am Thursday, December 16, 1999 at the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Graveside services were at 3:00 pm at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa, Texas.

Survivors include three daughters: Betty Taft of Levelland, Tx; Jamie Fanning of Abilene, Tx and Sara Green of Robert Lee, Tx; one sister Audie Meason of Odessa, Tx; eleven grandchildren, twenty-one great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews.

All arrangements are by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Henderson

Pat L. Henderson, 48, of Midland, Texas passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1999.

Services were held in Comyn, Texas Friday, Dec. 10 at 2:00 pm.

He is preceded in death by three brothers, Tommy James, Ronnie Wayne, and Ted Clayton.

Survivors include his wife, Ernestine Henderson of Midland, TX; a son, Michael of Midland, TX; his mother, Mitch Gooch of Robert Lee, TX; and Tommy Freeman of Robert Lee, TX; and his father, Ted L. Henderson of Marathon, TX.

Rives

Funeral services for John F. Rives of Odessa were held on Wednesday, Dec. 8, in the Sunset Memorial Chapel, followed by burial in Sunset Memorial Gardens. He died

Dec. 5 in the New Horizon Nursing Center.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Buford Rives of Odessa; his daughters, Floy Heath of Odessa and Johnnie Lou Caston of Fort Stockton; his brother, Tom Rives of Robert Lee; sister, Daisy Trimble of Corsicana; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Jones

Billy M. Jones, 78, of Burnet and formerly of Robert Lee, died Friday, Dec. 10, 1999, in a Burnet nursing home.

Graveside service was held at 11 am Monday, Dec. 13, in Sweetwater Cemetery. Arrangements were by McCoy Funeral Home.

Survivors include two sons, Keith Jones of Round Rock and Scott Jones of Lake Jackson; and four grandchildren.

Perkins

Mrs. Lillian Middleton of Robert Lee has learned of the death of her younger sister, Mrs. Calla Mae Perkins of Big Spring on Dec. 11, in a local hospital.

Services were held at 10 am Wed., Dec. 15, in the Myers and Smith Funeral Chapel in Big Spring and burial in Trinity Memorial Park.

She is survived by her husband, Vergil Lee Perkins of Big Spring; two sisters, Mrs. Lillian Middleton, Mrs. Willie Gene Dickson of Clifton; a brother, Mr. R. M. Williams of Oklahoma City. Among nieces and nephews are; Mrs. Zeld Woodard of Robert Lee; Mrs. Glo Snead of Ft. Washington, Md; Mr. Jim Caraway of College Station; Ms. Jane Dickson of Stephenville; Mrs. Libby Hail of Austin; Mr. John Williams of Edmund, Ok; Mr. Bob Williams

of San Francisco; Mrs. Judy Leon of Bakersfield, Ca; Mr. Aubrey Fisher of California; several grand nieces and nephews.

**New Bible study
to begin**

A new Bible study, "DISCIPLE: The New Testament" will begin Sunday the 9th of January, at 5:30 pm. in the fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church. This eighteen week course will cover the New Testament of the Bible. The class will end on May 21 with a break for Easter.

In addition, the Bible study, "DISCIPLE: The Old Testament", which is ending this Sunday, Dec. 19, will also be taught again in the Spring. It will be taught on Monday night at 5:30 pm, beginning January 10. This course is also eighteen weeks in length, covering the Old Testament, and it will end on May 22.

Rev. Jim Reeves, pastor at First United Methodist, stresses that the DISCIPLE Bible study is non-denominational, and open to anyone in the community who is interested in a better understanding of the Bible. The program works best with a class size of ten to twelve people. Anyone interested in participating in either of these two classes is urged to contact Rev. Reeves at 453-2417 as soon as possible.

**Churches of
Robert Lee**

Invite You to Worship

Emmanuel Pentecostal
PO Box 609 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
(915) 453-2360

Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

First United Methodist Church
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
(915) 453-2417

Rev. Jim Reeves, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am Worship

Wed. 7 pm Choir
Northside Church of Christ

PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
(915) 453-2619 or 453-2270

Tommy Williams, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
Wed. 7 pm

Pecan Baptist
PO Box 542 • 12 W. Sterling City Hwy
(915) 453-4645

Rev. Dale Patterson, Pastor
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Southside Church of Christ
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
(915) 453-2176

Frank J. Daniels, Preacher
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship

Wed. 7 pm, Worship
Robert Lee Baptist Church

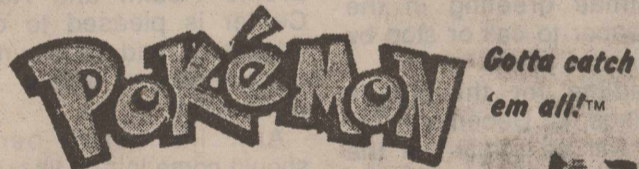
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
(915) 453-2724

Bro. Waide Messer, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
**Our Lady of Guadalupe
Catholic Church**
601 W. 10th
(915) 365-2687

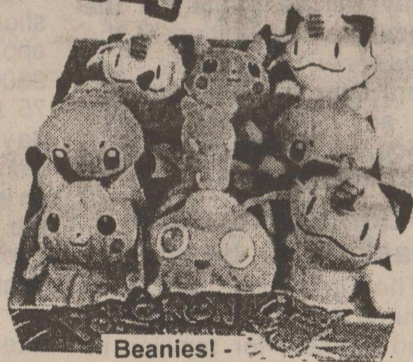
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
Sat. 6 pm

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453-2715

66th Annual Farm Bureau Convention

Five voting delegates from Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau recently participated in the 66th annual Texas Farm Bureau convention November 28 - December 1 in Corpus Christi.

They were John Stephens, Bobby and Jeffie Roberts of Robert Lee; and Edward and Jane Cumbie of Bronte.

Policies directing the state's largest farm organization were adopted by more than 1,200 delegates from 208 organized Farm Bureaus. Approved recommendations on national policies will advance to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting to be held in January in Houston, TX.

Addressing the delegates were Bob Stallman of Columbus, TFB president; Delmas McCormick of Floydada, secretary-treasurer; and Vernie Glasson, TFB executive director.

The business session covered the final two days of the meeting. The last order of business was the election of the president, Bob Stallman of Columbus.

This year's youth winners were: Traci Gohmert of Victoria, Miss Farm Bureau; Caleb Harris of Gruver, Talent Find winner; Kelli Stuart of Woodville, Free Enterprise Speech winner.

Named "Outstanding Young Farmer/Rancher of 1999" was Darrell Glaser of Milam County.

Letter to the Editor

On Saturday, December 4, 1999, a major project was completed. A beautiful and inspiring ceremony honoring the Coke County and surrounding area Veterans was enjoyed by all who attended the unveiling of the monument in Bronte.

Red, White and Blue Bunting, Flags waving in the strong winds, the flyover by the Big Country Squadron of the Confederate Air Force, the firing of the cannon from Fort Chadbourne, and the posting of colors by Goodfellow AFB Honor Guard, set the stage for honoring those valiant members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

It was a day of remembrance of those who served and those who died in the service of our country. The roll was called for all of those who paid the supreme sacrifice and whose names are engraved in the granite monument. It caused us to remember the cost of our freedom. The playing of Taps and the firing of the guns in salute was a touching tribute to the fallen.

We also acknowledge the men and women who are serving in the military today, preserving the peace we all cherish. Many will be far from home this Christmas and we appreciate their sacrifice.

Overall, the inspirational speech on "Heroes and Flag Waving", the beautiful rendition of the song "Fallen, but not Forgotten", the reading of the essays on Patriotism by the contest winners stirred in us that feeling of love for our Country and for our Country and for our fellow man.



These voting delegates represented Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau at the 66th annual Texas Farm Bureau convention recently. They include (front row, from left) Jane Cumbie, Jeffie Roberts, (back row, from left) Ed Cumbie, John Stephens, and Bobby Roberts.

Preparation for this momentous occasion was on its way when Bronte Chapter #1048, Order of the Eastern Star voted on June 6, 1999 to sponsor the construction of the Veterans Memorial and a committee was appointed that night. The Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas OES gave her approval for sponsorship without reservations.

But none of this would have been possible without the donation of the land upon which this beautiful edifice sits. The property belongs to the Masonic Lodge, and through the efforts of the local Masons, permission was secured by the Grand Lodge of Texas AF&AM to allow the monument to be placed there. It is no surprise to those of us who are familiar with their charitable efforts, that they so willingly gave property and their support to

honor those who have served our Country. Many of the local Masons answered the call to duty and served in the military and their names are engraved on the monument.

Because of the special significance of the Depot, where many men and women left to go to war, some never to return, this county should be eternally grateful to the Masonic Lodge for their contribution.

Since that date in June when plans were first begun, there has been a renewal of patriotism in Coke County. Everyone came together to accomplish the project to commemorate our veterans. It was a project that didn't just happen. Hundreds of people contributed to the success of this living memorial, and we should all be justly proud.

God Bless America and May Freedom Reign!

Ettie Hubbard

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Bob Wrinkle**

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Regular Price.**

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**Asst'd Varieties
Del Monte
Vegetables
3 to 15.25 oz. cans / .99**



Robert Lee School News

Lady Steers defeat Christoval 64-37

The Lady Steers were able to coast to a 64-37 victory over the visiting Lady Cougars of Christoval. The Lady Steers led at the half 30-13 and never looked back in route to their fourth victory in a row. It was a game in which all ten players contributed to the scoring column and the Lady Steers hit on 23 of 43 shots from the field for 53.5%.

The Lady Steers were led by Deshira Dickey's eighteen points as she connected on nine of thirteen from the field. Jodee Helwig also had an outstanding game hitting on four of eight from the field and six of eight from the line for fourteen points, to go with her eleven rebounds, three blocked shots, seven steals and six assists. Dixie Simpson contributed eight points as she hit on four of five from the charity stripe and had three steals. Other scorers were: Whitney Millican with six points, Shanna Wojtek with five, Kizre Matthews five, Macy Hill and Jennifer Alexander two each, Jennifer Hamilton three, and Amber Freeman rounded out the scoring with one point.

Next action for the Lady Steers will be Friday, Dec. 17, at Eldorado then they will host Irion County in a rematch of the Irion County Championship game, Monday, December 20 at 6:00. The Lady Steers will also be in the Sterling City Tournament during the Christmas break, as they will match up with Garden City in their opening game on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at 9:30 am. It will be the third time the Lady Steers have met Garden City and are looking for a little redemption as the Lady Steers dropped each of the first two contests by two points. The tournament will run through December 30 with Grady, Water Valley, Angelo Cornerstone, Sands, Forsan, Miles and Sterling City being the other entries.

RL JV defeats Christoval

On December 7 the JV girls also played Christoval. They won by a score of 38-21.

Amanda Kuhl and Rachelle Mills led the team with ten points each. Bobbie Sparks had six, Krystal Soliz and Christina Middleton had four each, Amie Kendall had two,

In 1981, Congress enacted the largest tax cut in U.S. history, approximately \$750 billion over six years.

and Nicole Sanchez and Kindra Matthews each had one.

RL JV wins second place at Sterling City tournament

On December 10 the JV girls played Sterling City. Sterling City won the first game in overtime by two points.

Bobbie Sparks led the team with ten points, followed by April Cowart and Misti Brothers with four points each. Kindra Matthews, Krystal Soliz, Christina Middleton, and Rachelle Mills all had two points each.

During the second game the JV girls played Bronte. Robert Lee won by a score of 35-25.

Bobbie Sparks was the leading scorer for the team with thirteen points, Rachelle Mills and Misti Brothers each had six. Krystal Soliz had five points, Kindra Matthews and Nicole Sanchez had two points each and Amie Kendall had one point.

The third game the JV girls played Miles and won by a score of 46-24. Christina Middleton led the team with fourteen points. Kindra Matthews had eight points, Krystal Soliz six, Bobbie Sparks, Misti Brothers, and Rachelle Mills all had four points, Amie Kendall, Amanda Kuhl, and Nichole Sanchez had two points each.

RL FHA attends leadership training conference

Eight members of the Robert Lee Future Homemakers of America attended a weekend leadership training conference held November 12-14 in Ft. Worth, Texas. The group arrived in Ft. Worth in time to eat at Spaghetti Warehouse and

toured the Stockyards. The "Leadership for Tomorrow" theme was reinforced by Friday's powerful general session where a three-screen multi-media presentation and geared up for a variety of leadership training opportunities was offered throughout the weekend. Keynote speaker, Fran Kick, challenged members and advisers to take advantage of their opportunities as an individual and team leader.

Saturday's workshops involved leadership training, community involvement, family related issues and public relations. Jodee Helwig presented a workshop on a STAR event, job interview. After the afternoon sessions the group walked around downtown, ate at Razoo's (a very unique experience) and went ice-skating.

Sunday's activities concentrated on developing leadership skills through leadership workshops. Keynote speaker, Eric Chester, closed out the meeting with the inspirational message, "The Time of Your Life."

The group had a great time, met new friends, and saw old ones. They hope to use some of the things learned this year in FHA. Those attending the meeting were Ashlee Millican, Shelby Roe, Nicole Sanchez, Latisha Bohannon, Joanna Pederson, Robert Sailor, Stewart Millican, Jodee Helwig, and advisor Sheri Millican.

Personal

Billie Wallace of Ft. Worth spent the weekend with her sister, Joan Davis, in Robert Lee. The pair went to Brownwood Saturday to see an aunt and uncle, Dovie and Earl Childress. The Childresses are natives of Coke County.



These Robert Lee High School Future Homemakers of America attended a leadership training conference in Fort Worth with their sponsor Sheri Millican. They include Ashlee Millican, Shelby Roe, Nicole Sanchez, Latisha Bohannon, Joanna Pederson, Robert Sailor, Stewart Millican, and Jodee Helwig.

I would like to take this opportunity to announce my intention of running for another term as Tax Assessor-Collector for Coke County. I have enjoyed serving the people of this county in that capacity, and would like to have the opportunity to use the knowledge and experience that I have gained in the position to continue to help and promote Coke County and her citizens. I want to thank the people of Coke County for their past support and hope that I can count on you in the upcoming election year.

Sincerely,

Kristeen Roe, RTA

Coke County Tax Assessor/Collector
Pd. Pol. Adv. by Kristeen Roe

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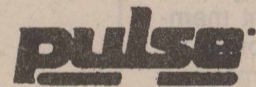


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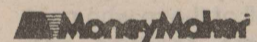
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Bronte School News

Bronte Lady Horns defeat Highland

On December 7 the Lady Horns won by a score of 19-12 over Highland.

Kayla Hilliard led the team with five points. She also had two steals. Chrissie Counts had four points, Heather Richey had four points, three rebounds, Lindsay Springer had four points, and Stormy White had two points.

Bronte Longhorns defeat Highland 77-33

The Bronte Longhorns won against Highland by a score of 77-33.

Brandon Gibbs lead the Horns with twenty-four points. He also had seven rebounds, four assists, three steals. Jerrod McClure and Henry White had eleven points each. McClure also had five steals. Ryan McCorkle had nine points, four assists, four steals, Steve Eldred had eight points, Tim Green seven, Josh Schoenfield four, Zeb Speary three points, five assists, three steals, and Blake McKee had five rebounds.

Longhorns travel to Miles for tourney

Bronte played Panther Creek during their first game of the tournament. They won by a score of 45-31.

Zeb Speary led the team with fifteen points. He also

had five rebounds, three steals, Jerrod McClure had eight points, eight rebounds, Ryan McCorkle had eight points, eight rebounds, four assists, Henry White had six points, ten rebounds, Steve Eldred had five points, and Brandon Gibbs had three points, and seven rebounds.

During the second game Bronte played Central Sophs and won by a score 54-38.

Brandon Gibbs led the Horns with seventeen points and nine rebounds. Zeb Speary had eleven points, three steals, Henry White ten points, ten rebounds, Tim Green had six points, three steals, Ryan McCorkle had four points, four assists, Steve Eldred had four points, Jerrod McClure had two points, five assists, and Blake McKee had four rebounds.

Bronte lost the championship by a score of 43-49 in overtime against Menard.

Jerrod McClure, Zeb Speary, and Henry White all led the team with eight points each. McClure also had three steals, Speary four assists. Ryan McCorkle had five points, four assists, Brandon Gibbs had four points, five rebounds, four assists, Tim Green three points, Steve Eldred had three points, seven rebounds, Blake McKee and Josh Schoenfield each had two points.

Bronte JV travels to Sterling City for tourney

Bronte JV boys took second place in the Sterling City basketball tournament.

On Thursday, Dec. 9 Bronte played Miles. They won by a score of 48-19.

Charlie Bettis led the team with twenty nine points, Harley Hall ten, Joel Webb five, Randy Johnson and James Graves each with two points.

On Saturday, Dec. 11 Bronte played Robert Lee. They lost by a score of 49-29.

Bettis was the leading scorer for the Longhorns with eighteen, Silva nine, Webb and Graves each with two.

During the last game Bronte played Sterling City. They lost by a score of 48-34.

Bettis was again highpoint for the team with twenty, followed by Silva six, Johnson five, Webb two, and Hall one.

Bronte JV boys defeat Highland

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, the Bronte JV boys basketball team defeated Highland 35-19.

Bettis led the Longhorns with twenty-one points, followed by Jeremy Silva seven, James Graves, Anthony Flores, and Jeremy Sanchez all having two points

each, and Randy Johnson had one point.

Bronte JV girls

Bronte JV girls placed third in the Sterling City tournament.

On December 9 the Lady Horns played Miles and won by a score of 44-17.

Lindsay Springer led the team with twelve points. She also had four rebounds, and three steals. Kelly Cooper had six points, five steals, Chrissie Counts had six points, five rebounds, three steals, Stormy White had six points, three rebounds, Heather Richey had six points, seven rebounds, Lindsey Williams had five points, Kayla Hilliard had one point, Joel Sefcik had two points, Kyla McGinnis had three rebounds, and Tiffany Riordan had three steals.

On December 11 the JV girls played their second game against Robert Lee. They lost by a score of 35-25.

White was the leading scorer of the game with twelve points and was 3-4 from the three point line. She also had five steals. Richey had four points, five rebounds, Springer had four points and five rebounds, Counts and Riordan had two points each, and McGinnis had one.

The last game Bronte played Sterling City. The

Lady Horns lost by a score of 37-29.

Springer was the highpoint scorer of the game with twelve points. She also had five rebounds. Richey had eight point, four rebounds, Counts had four points, seven rebounds, three steals, Riordan had two points, Cooper had two points, four steals, two assists, White had one point, five rebounds, four steals.

The girls placed third in the tournament and played three great games.

Bronte JV girls travel to Wall tournament

On December 2 the Lady Horns played San Angelo Central and lost by a score of 39-14.

Springer led the team with ten points, followed by Chrissie Counts with four points.

Game two the JV girls played Sonora. They lost by a score of 40-14.

Chrissie Counts was the leading scorer with five points, Heather Richey and Lindsay Springer each with four and Tiffany Riordan with one.

The Lady Horns lost game three against Eden by a score of 29-18.

Lindsay Springer was highpoint scorer with six points, Stormy White five, Kayla Hilliard and Heather Sturgill each with two, Kelly Cooper, Chrissie Counts, Kyla McGinnis all having one point each.

Bronte resident graduates from Schreiner College

Bronte resident Anissa Gibbs graduated from Schreiner College last summer.

Gibbs is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Gibbs of Bronte. She received her bachelor of arts degree in exercise science.

Schreiner College is a primarily residential liberal arts college in Kerrville, Texas, with a current enrollment of 803. The school is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Schreiner grants a master's degree in education and baccalaureate degrees in the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. Visit our web site at www.schreiner.edu.

I would like to announce that I have filed for election to the office of Coke County Sheriff. I have served the past fourteen months as Sheriff since my appointment by the Commissioners. Prior to that, I was a deputy with the Coke County Sheriff's Department for nine years. I have enjoyed serving the citizens of Coke County and ask for your support in the upcoming election.

Thank you,
Rick Styles

Sheriff of Coke County

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Rick Styles

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453-9002

453-5005 Robert Lee
653-4535 San Angelo

REBATES UP TO \$2,000. A-1 Homes 653-1152.
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Oak Creek Lake home. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Large den with fireplace. Nice trees and yard. Beautiful water front. Steve Stewart Realtor. 944-8611, nights 949-3835.
49b-tnc

NEW 3BDR HOME with property. Approved for Credit Repair Program or First Time Buyer. Call 653-1152, Jackie.
21a-2tc

COMPUTERS
Complete systems with monitor, keyboard & mouse. Starting at \$200. Pentium Systems starting at \$549. Call Ed at EMCO Computers, 473-3004.
03b-tnc

SINGLE MOM NEEDS to sell, 3bdr/2bth with 1 acre. Call Trina, 653-1152.
21a-2tc

GOOD CREDIT
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21a-2tc

WRANGLERS \$19.99
Hometown Hardware
21b-1tc

REPO 18 WIDE or Double wide. Must sell before year end. BIG RED, 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.
21a-2tc

FOR SALE
House in Norton. 1 bdr. 1 bath. Older home. Needs work. Has three lots and a barn. \$6,000. 903-455-4217.
20a-2tc

BEEFMASTER BULLS for sale. Breeding age. Quisenberry Beefmasters. 915-453-2428 if no answer, leave a message on recorder.
19a-4tc

FOR RENT

TAKING APPLICATIONS for one, two & three bedroom apartments. Contact Housing Authority of Robert Lee, 710 N. Bishop, 453-2912. Equal Housing Opportunity.
49a-EOW

HOUSE FOR RENT
309 N. Lombard, Bronte. 3 Bdr., 1 Bath, near school. \$350 mo. rent. Call 915-692-5003.
19b-4tc

MISC

I LOST 47 LBS with Metabolife 356™. Call Leslie Thurman, Dist. 453-2076.
17a-tnc

PLEASE CALL ME for scrapbook albums and supplies. Creative Memories Consultant Karen Rasco 1-888-779-4082.
20-4tp

TREES TRIMMED
Topped, or removed. Call 453-9902 after 6 pm.
19-9tp

NEED A BABYSITTER while you shop or go to Christmas Parties? Experienced with references. All Ages. Daniel Cates 453-9634.
20-2tp

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34b-tnc

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10a-tnc

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Larry Spivey, owner-operator. PO Box 160, Bronte, Texas. Phone (915) 282-3038.
45b-tnc

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02b-tnc

MOWERS REPAIRED
Mowers for sale. 305 E. 3rd, Robert Lee. 453-2363.
17-8tp

GENEROUS REWARD for the return of necklace believed to have been lost Dec. 4 at the Veterans Memorial Dedication in Bronte. Necklace is spur clip with name Freda in the spur. Great sentimental value, given to me by my parents on my 18th birthday in 1943. Contact Mrs. W. R. Brooks at 915-378-4791 or Box 804 Sterling City, TX 76951.
20b-3tc

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MADISON'S AVENUE
216 S. State (Hwy. 277), Bronte. 25% off sale. Christmas wrap, bows, gift bags and Christmas cards. Open Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 10-6.
20b-2tp

BRONTE MINI STORAGE has storage buildings for rent. Call 473-2221 or 473-2140.
19b-tnc

HELP WANTED

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

NEED PART TIME
Janitor for Robert Lee Care Center. Call Johnny Elam at 453-2511.
21a-1tc

NEED PART TIME
Van Driver for Robert Lee Care Center. Call Roger Alexander at 453-2511.
21a-1tc

FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT
Requires some lifting. Apply in person at Hometown Hardware, Bronte, Tx.
21b-tnc

DEPENDABLE FEED LOT
worker, must work well with cattle, drive tractor and five speed. Must have good math skills. Part time to full time position. Contact Burton Lawson at 915-786-2031 days or 915-365-8222 nights.
21b-2tc

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE
12/17 & 12/18
Laila and Bud don't have room for all their stuff. Balance to be sold at storage shed on Robert Lee Highway in Bronte, Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Like new Maytag Washer/Dryer, computer table/chair, dining room table w/leaf and six chairs, nick/knacks children's toys and clothes.
21b-1tc

RL Varsity girls travel to Stanton tourney

On December 9-11 the Robert Lee Varsity girls played in the Stanton Basketball tournament. They played Greenwood for the first game. The Lady Steers lost by a score of 45-40.

Helwig led the Lady Steers with eleven points, DeShira Dickey ten, Whitney Millican eight, Shanna Wojtek six, Dixie Simpson three, and Jennifer Alexander had two points.

The second game the girls played Denver City. The Lady Steers won by a score of 39-51.

Jodee Helwig again led the team with eighteen points, Whitney Millican eleven, DeShira Dickey ten, Shanna Wojtek six, Kizre Matthews three, Dixie Simpson two, and Macy Hill had one point.

The Lady Steers made it to the semi-finals in the consolation bracket. They played Alpine and won by a score of 39-51.

Helwig was the leading scorer with twenty-two points, followed by Dickey with sixteen, Matthews seven, Hill and Millican each with two, and Wojtek and Simpson with one point each.

The Lady Steers played Brady in the final round. They went in to double overtime to lose by a score of 67-66.

Helwig led the final game with twenty-one points, Dickey eighteen, Millican

twelve, Wojtek six, Hill four, Alexander three, and Hill four.

A good tournament for the Lady Steers with some very good competition. The double time loss in the Consolation final was a tough loss.

Sixth grade gossip by Vanessa Saucedo

The sixth grade class has had a successful fall semester. The class has a class meeting at the beginning of each six weeks to elect class officers. The officers for the first six weeks were: President-Kayla Medrano, Vice-President-Cara Eaton, secretary-Analy Gallegos, and Reporter-Tiffany Bagwell. The officers for the second six weeks were: President-Bridgette Barnett, Vice-President-Lance Millican, Secretary-Stephanie Trejo, and Reporter-Vanessa Saucedo. Serving as class officers for this six weeks are: President-Brandon Soliz, Vice-President-Cassidy Wink, and Secretary-Branden Phillips.

The theme for our Homecoming float on October 1 was "Send Them to Bed Without a Victory." The sixth grade won second place in the Homecoming Parade.

The sixth grade band is the Dogie Band during football season. The Dogie Band played at each Dogie pep rally and is under the direction of Mr. Steve Ratliff. The Dogie Band presented their Christmas concert on Tuesday. The band will compete next semester in March.

On Friday, Dec. 3, the class traveled to Fort Concho for several interesting demonstrations. The class enjoyed watching a blacksmith work and listening to a Mescalero Indian talk about using materials found in nature. He made a beautiful arrowhead while talking to the class. Part of the time, he used an antler to chip around the edge of the arrowhead. After visiting Fort Concho, the class used some of the money they won in the Homecoming parade to enjoy lunch at Enrique's.

Next semester, members of the sixth grade class are looking forward to UIL competition and to another field trip to the Caverns of Sonora.

Agricultural Weather Open House

The National Weather service in San Angelo cordially invites everyone associated with farming and ranching to our Agricultural Weather Open House.

The Open House is set for Friday, January 14 and Saturday, January 15 from 9 am until 5 pm. It will be held at the NWS San Angelo office. For more information, contact the NWS at 944-9445.

51st District Court of Coke County Disposition

On December 9, 1999, The State of Texas vs. Guadalupe Martinez Lopez.

Charge: Felony Driving While Intoxicated

Plea: 10 years Texas Dept of Criminal Justice I.D./Probated for 10 years, \$2,000 fine, License Suspension for 2 years, \$222.25 court costs.



Richard Taylor of Robert Lee brought down this 8 point buck west of Robert Lee on November 30, 1999. The buck field dressed 130 pounds.

Lott and Fluhmann's articles published in The High School Writer

Two junior high students from Robert Lee had their articles published in The High School Writer.

Tyler Lott's article was as follows:

Glorious Trees

by Tyler Lott

Have you ever been slightly misjudged? Has someone else been glorified above you when you knew you were above them? Well, if you haven't, trust me, it will ruin your whole day. For example, take the case of me, a glorious tree and a flower that sits foolishly with its face scorching in the blazing sun. People ooh and aah as the flower prances around, showing off. But they do not acknowledge me or realize what I have to offer. Even when my leaves dance and shimmer in the sunlight, their eyes are fixed on the tiny flower. I'll bet you never thought of all I've done. Like when a child clumsily slips off a branch, my leaves and branches cradle them like a mother's loving arms to break their fall. I shield runners from the rain when a cloud fogs up and, with an evil grin, bursts open and rain pours out to ruin their sunny day.

Children build play houses above my trunk. My arms ache and my legs hurt as I strain to keep their house steady in the air. No one realizes how beautiful I am. When the wind howls and whirls around me, my arms fly up and begin to wave like a student in the class room. I am like an old wise man who has endless tales to tell, but no one to tell them to. I have sat and watched centuries go by and have seen all that you read in your history books.

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But not once have I been able to sit down and tell my stories. I am used as a target when a boy gets a new bee bee gun for Christmas and not once have I let out a cry, but I sit still and wait for the pain to drift away. So the next time you hear me weep or see tears rolling down my cheeks, don't worry its just me, a little OLE tree.

The article written by Jessica Fluhmann was as follows:

The Cowboy Hat

by Jessica Fluhmann

Howdy ya'll! I am the one and the only cowboy hat. Have you ever felt like no one likes you by the way you look? Well think again. Let me tell you what happened to me a few days ago.

There I was, minding my own business in the window, when I was suddenly grabbed by the manager. He let a young fella' try me on, but the guy shook his head and rolled his eyes. I thought, what's the matter? Cat got your tongue? Am I too good for you?

Then the manager said, "Yeah! You're right, he does look a bit dingy."

I was in disbelief! Was this joker telling the truth?

He continued, "I'll put him in the back and when I get around to it I'll throw him away. What a waste!"

I know I look dirty and all, but that's how you get when

you're not being used. My dream is to be on the head of the best bull riding cowboy, but let's not get carried away!

Not long after that, a young stud looking man, about the age of 17, came in the doorway. He was an angel from heaven. His eyes glowed with joy as he drew nearer to me. He looked so happy! Everyone called him John, short for Johnny.

John said, "Hey, Joey, come here!" Joey is his best friend. John continued, "I think I found him!"

Joey said, "Yes, he's the chosen one, Johnny!"

John gave the cashier his money, and was on his merry little way. He left the store with the biggest smile, from ear-to-ear, I have ever seen! On the way I flew off a couple of times, but he picked me up and kept on going. Joey kept saying he was going to be late for his appointment.

It must have been important because he was going as fast as the wind. Guess where he ended up! To my surprise it was the Rodeo of Time! The Rodeo of Time is a place where beginner riders come for a test. The test is to see how long a rider can stay on a bucking bull. John won first place! I guess dreams do come true after all!

In the end all was swell and I wasn't grungy anymore. He kept me clean and waxed. I was a new man! Now we are like two peas in a pod! To him I am ubiquitous!

McCabe serves as Principal of the Day for RLES

On Monday, Dec. 13, Cody McCabe served as Principal of the Day for Robert Lee Elementary School. Cody earned this day as a result of reading, taking AR tests, and earning AR points. One of Cody's main responsibilities for the day was setting up the Child Find booth at the Health Fair. He also helped with cafeteria duty. One thing Cody learned from his experience is that being a principal requires a great deal of paperwork. An additional duty that Cody performed will benefit his fellow students. He composed the AR Prize List for RLES for the spring



Cody McCabe and Mrs. Shook get some important work done during his term as Student Principal at Robert Lee Elementary School.

semester. Cody's day on the job was made easier with assistance from RLES secretary, Judy Shook.

Veronica Cerritos all with two points each.

RLJH girls vs. Irion County

"A" girls

On December 6 the "A" team girls defeated Irion County. The final score was 23-9.

Jennifer Fluhmann had seven points, Julie Riley had four, Monica Rodriguez and Shannon Honse with three, and Lindsey Roe, Tyler Lott, and Jessica Fluhmann all having two points each.

"B" girls

The Robert Lee "B" team girls also won their game against Irion County by a score of 12-8.

Michelle Sanchez led the team with four points followed by Alana Parker, Brittany Soliz, Stacy Denton, and

Robert Lee City Hall closes

The Robert Lee City Hall will close for the Christmas Holiday on December 24 as well as December 31 for the New Year. The Landfill will close on December 25 and January 1. Trash service will run as scheduled.

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BEN BESSENT CHEVROLET
453-2632

My name is Jeff Menges. I'm gathering information on Bronte, Texas, for a book I'm writing. I've visited numerous libraries, including the County Library in Robert Lee, culled information from the Internet and visited Bronte on several occasions. What I'm still needing are the personal stories, (happy, tragic, colorful or otherwise), which have made up the rich history of Bronte. All information will be kept completely confidential and no real names will be used. Also, could you help with these specific questions:

1. Can you tell me anything about "Hutchinson, died 1897"? This is the oldest headstone I've found in the cemetery.
 2. How many crossings/bridges, including road, train and foot, are there over the Colorado River as it passes through Bronte?
 3. How long has the Juvenile Center been in Bronte, and how many citizens work there?
 4. How long has the Goodyear Testing Ground been south of Bronte, and how many citizens work there?
 5. Can you share with me anything specific about the large cattle ranch just to the south of Bronte?
 6. Is there anybody in Bronte who would be willing to be my "tour guide for the day"? I'm interested in seeing and exploring the outlying areas, such as Hayrick Mountain, Hayrick Cemetery, Dripping Springs, the banks of the Colorado River, and a walking tour through town.
 7. What are the hobbies of the town's young adults?
- Again, ANY and ALL information will be kept confidential. You may forward your feedback to me a few different ways:

1. Mail: Jeff Menges
7704 Meadowlark Drive
Fort Worth, Texas 76133
2. Phone/fax: Office: (817) 294-9393
FAX: (817) 292-9273
3. Email: Jme2295557@aol.com

I appreciate your assistance and thank you.



Jim Farrar of Houston, son-in-law of Bobby and Jeffie Roberts of Robert Lee, took this nice 8 point deer sporting a 16 1/4" spread on the Bobby Roberts Ranch near Robert Lee November 26, 1999.

Bronte ISD Board of Trustees meet

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a Public Hearing on the Academic Excellence Indicator System Reports at 6:00 pm on Thursday, December 9. Those in attendance included Wayne Coalson, Jeff Schoenfield, Bob Frazee, Terry Charles, Jolene Henderson, Andra Arrott, Alan Richey, Terry Marrs, Rick Howell and Vicky McCutchen.

The Bronte FFA provided a meal for the Board and the Board conducted a walk-through of the new facilities.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees began at 6:45 pm. All members were present.

The Annual Audit report presented by Burl Lowery, C.P.A. was reviewed and approved.

The Principals gave their reports to the Board.

Discussion was held on Board of Trustee Operating Guidelines.

The Board reviewed proposals on the repairs needed at the tennis courts. The proposals from West Texas Tennis Court Construction Co. and Bassett Homes were accepted by the Board.

The renewal of the Insurance Policies with Glenn-Bivins Insurance for Auto, Property, Liability and Errors and Omissions was approved.

Renewal of the retainer for Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Schulze and Aldridge, P.C. was approved.

Discussion was held concerning new flooring for the Elementary Hallways. Approval was given to accept the proposal from Callaway's Carpet for ceramic tile.

Discussion was held on the updates from TASB on Update 62.

Personnel positions were discussed including custodial, PE teacher at CCJJC and other positions at CCJJC.

The Superintendent's Report included the following: Updates on the TEA Appeal, Facilities, GSC supplies and the faculty Christmas party. Results of the Coke County Appraisal District Election were reported and those

elected to serve for 2000-2001 are Luis Charles, John Conley, Melvin McCabe, Walter Metcalf, and David Scott.

Mr. Richey reminded the Board of the Band Concert and Open House of the new facilities, December 13, 1999.

The November bills were paid.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 13, 2000, at 7:00 pm.

Letter to the Editor

We all owe a debt of gratitude to the Chairmen, Committee Members, and a host of others working behind the scenes who made the Coke County Area Veterans Memorial Dedication such a resounding success.

I have never experienced such a feeling of pride and satisfaction for God, Country, and Home as I did at this impressive ceremony. Everyone who worked on the project went beyond the call of duty. The patriotic music, the flyover, the posting of the colors, the speeches, the essays, and the prayers made one realize how important it is to be a member of a society who still cares. We are constantly reminded of all those who made the supreme sacrifice for all. The Memorial Stone will stand as a worthy reminder for those who have gone before us.

A round of applause to all who did so much to make this moment in our lives a living memory. We are so proud of Coke County and all of those loving, caring people and so we offer our personal thanks to all.

Sincerely,
Vetal Flores



Becca Skinner (left) and Katie Bessent were the Robert Lee DARE Essay contest winners. They received their medals during graduation ceremonies December 10 at the Coke County Courthouse.

Roberts family members visit during holiday

Bobby and Jeffie Roberts of Robert Lee were pleased to have visiting in their home, many of their family for Thanksgiving Day and during the holiday. Those present were Floyd and Jessie Harmon, Marshall, Sheri, Kannan, and Stewart Millican, Douglas, Denise, Kacee, and James Roberts all of Robert Lee; their daughter and family, Sheila and Jim Farrar, Crystal and Lauren Hammerton of Houston; Howard and Lawana Perry of Carlsbad; Jerry and Janie

Harmon of Weatherford; Darwin Harmon of Big Spring; Rena Johnson and Jason Harmon of San Angelo; and Troy, Susan, and Cayla Millican of Sterling City.

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