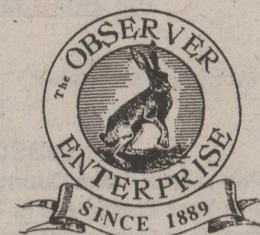


# THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE



Serving Coke County

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

Vol. 112, No. 38

Friday, April 21, 2000

## County Easter services slated

### Mount Margaret services scheduled

The annual Easter Sunrise Service on Mount Margaret is scheduled for 7:00 am with Rev. Morris Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Bronte, as speaker and he will also direct the music.

There will also be another service at the same time at the Tennyson Baptist Church with Rev. Bryan Ross, pastor, speaking. Bob Wilcox, Music Director of the church, will lead the music.

A free breakfast will be served at the Tennyson Community Center at 7:35 am for those who attend the services.

The regular Sunday morning service, at the Tennyson church, will be at 11:00 am. Sunday School will not meet.

### "Resurrection Services" to be held Sunday

"Resurrection Services" for a new Hispanic work, as well as a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, will be held at the large recreation building of the County Park in Robert Lee this Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 pm.

Baptista Iglesia Nueva Vida, New Life Baptist Church, was formerly known as the Bethel Baptist Church. Pastor is

Gene Gloria.

Sponsored by the Robert Lee Baptist Church special guest will be Jimmy Edwards, former Tejano recording artist. He is a member of the "Sunny and the Sunliners" and "Latin Breed" bands. He is now a solo recording artist of religious music.

A free BBQ meal will follow the services.

### Gramm aide joins Robert Lee to honor local library

Robert Lee held a ceremony on Thursday, April 13 to recognize the efforts of the Coke County Library in commemoration of National Library Week.

Sondra Ziegler, regional director for U.S. Senator Phil Gramm, visited the library and presented a letter from the senator praising the work of the library toward the education of the community.

Libraries truly represent a vast resource of knowledge, a fountain of understanding for citizens yearning to enlighten themselves and expand their horizons," Gramm wrote in the letter. "I want to applaud your community for its dedication to preserving and expanding the nation's body of knowledge, and invite you to celebrate your library and your librarians.



### Early voting begins in local elections

Early voting for three local governing entities began Wednesday, April 19, and will continue until May 2, for the May 6 election.

West Coke County Hospital District voters may vote at the County Clerk's office Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. Four candidates are vying for the three vacancies. Incumbents Winton Milliff, Linda Burns and Patty Byrne will be joined on the ballot by Mary Bessent.

Those wishing to vote early in the Bronte Independent

School District Board of Trustees election may do so in the Superintendent's office Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. Seven candidates are running for the three 3-year terms. They include incumbents Wayne Coalson, Bobbie Frazee, and Jeff Schoenfield, along with Connie Tounget, Joe Sefcik, Doug Hoyt and Paul Williams. Terry Charles is unopposed in his bid to retain his 1-year term.

Robert Lee Independent School District early voters may cast their ballots at the County Clerk's office, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. Four candidates are running for the three 3-year terms. They include Wes Washam, Brian Hamrick, Ray Aldridge, and Fredda McCabe.

The City of Bronte, the City of Robert Lee, and the East Coke County Hospital District have all cancelled their elections due to the fact that there were no opposed races.

### Gospel Singing set for April 30

Everyone is cordially invited to a Gospel Singing of all denominations at First Baptist Church in Blackwell, Texas from 2:00 to 4:30 pm on April 30, 2000. Please come join the fun. Praise & Worship to bless your soul. For more information call Paula at 282-2127.

### Robert Lee City Hall set to close

The Robert Lee City Hall will

be closed Friday, April 21, in observance of Good Friday. Trash service will run as scheduled. The Robert Lee Landfill will be closed on Saturday, April 22. Have a safe Easter Holiday.

### Graduation issues slated

The *Observer/Enterprise* will publish the special editions dedicated to the Senior Classes of both Bronte and Robert Lee high schools during the latter part of May. The issue honoring the Robert Lee class is scheduled for May 19, with the issue honoring the Bronte class being the following week, May 26.

In the near future, representatives from our office will be calling on local businesses and individuals to sponsor these seniors. If you would like to honor a senior by sponsoring them in these special editions, please call our office in Robert Lee at 453-2433 or in Bronte at 473-2001.

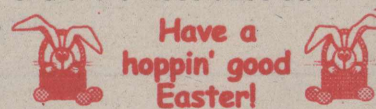
### "The Empty Cross" in view at Bryan's Barn

In annual observance of the glorious season of Easter, "The Empty Cross" will again be seen beginning April 17, 2000 from dusk until midnight at Bryan's Barn west of Robert Lee.

To view the lighted Cross, travel on FM 1904 to the north end of the Robert Lee dam.



The Coke County Library was recently honored by U. S. Senator Phil Gramm. Present at the awards ceremony were (from left) Coke County Judge Jackie Walker, Robert Lee High School Librarian June Gully, Robert Lee Elementary Librarian Cynthia Dillard, Coke County Librarian Beth Prather, and Sondra Ziegler, regional director for Gramm.



**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

Published Weekly Except Christmas  
707 Austin (915) 453-2433

(USPS 467-480) (ISSN 8750-197X)  
Periodical Rate Postage paid at Robert Lee, TX.

**POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to  
Observer/Enterprise  
PO Box 1329, Robert Lee, TX 76945.**

**STAFF**

Hal Spain, Publisher Melinda McCutchen, Editor  
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

**Two escape from  
juvenile facility**

Two young men, ages 16 and 17, escaped from the Coke County Juvenile Justice Center at approximately 9:20 pm Sunday evening, April 16.

The juveniles were cleaning in a secured area and escaped through a door that hadn't shut properly. The pair climbed a section of fence without razor wire and were free of the facility. They crossed Highway 277 and entered Jerry Wilkins' pasture.

They continued traveling across country before hiding in a barn. They were captured by Wackenhut personnel at 12:30 pm Monday in the Billingsly barn on Humble Road.

The sixteen year old was returned to CCJJC pending a decision by juvenile authorities. The seventeen year old was taken to Tom Green County Jail where felony escape charges were filed.

Taking part in the search were officers from the Coke County Sheriff's Department, Department of Parks and Wildlife, Texas Department of Public Safety, and Tom Green County Sheriff's Department. These officers were assisted by Wackenhut personnel.

**Relay for Life to be  
held June 9 & 10**

The San Angelo Relay for Life will be held from 6 pm Friday, June 9th until 6 pm Saturday, June 10th at San Angelo Stadium. The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is a combination of many things.

It is an outlet to honor and memorialize those with cancer. The Survivor Parade is a celebration of life. The opening lap of the relay begins at 5:45 pm on Friday, June 9th and is made up of cancer survivors only. ALL CANCER SURVIVORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME

AND PARTICIPATE. Later that evening at 10:00 pm is the Luminaria Ceremony. Thousands of hand-decorated luminaria bags are lit in honor or memory of those with cancer. It is a very special way to remember cancer survivors as well as those who have lost their battle. Luminaria bags can be purchased in honor or in memory of someone for a minimum donation.

All money raised from Relay for Life goes directly to the American cancer Society benefiting Tom Green and the surrounding counties. The American Cancer Society provides many valuable programs for cancer patients and their families including transportation, complimentary hotel rooms, support groups, medical equipment, education, research and much more! For more information on ACS services, call them at 944-2509.

Relay for Life promotes a great spirit of friendship and camaraderie. Again this year, a group from Robert Lee will be having a team. If you are interested in being a part of the team or simply want to make a donation or purchase a luminaria, contact Cindy Bessent at 453-2393 or Dee Anna Harmon at 453-2804.

**Robert Lee Spring  
Concert set for  
May 1**

On May 1, at 7:00 pm, the Spring Band Concert will be presented at the City Park Pavilion. This program will feature the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and High School bands. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, or anything else to sit on. You could even bring along a picnic. Encourage family and friends to come and listen to the wonderful music under the open sky.

If the weather turns bad, the concert will be moved to the school auditorium.



**Alta C. Bell Bilbo**

Alta Cleo Bell Bilbo, 98, of Robert Lee, died Wednesday, April 12, 2000, at the Shannon Hospital in San Angelo.

Family and friends gathered Saturday, April 15, at 1:30 pm to celebrate the life of Alta Bilbo. The service was held at the Robert Lee United Methodist Church. The Rev. Jim Reeves officiated with arrangements by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Alta was born October 11, 1901 to Elizabeth and Willie H. Bell in Robert Lee. She was the seventh of ten daughters and one son. One sister, Robbie Turner of San Angelo, survives.

Alta graduated from Robert Lee High School in 1920. She went to school one year in Portales, NM where she took homemaking courses in preparation for her forthcoming marriage. Alta Bell and Alley James Bilbo were married June 15, 1921. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in 1991. Alley died January 15, 1992 at the age of 92.

Alta's foremost calling in life was to be a wife and a mother to her six daughters. Later she became "Mur" to her 15 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 13 great-

great grandchildren. She will be remembered by all for her sunny disposition and her positive attitude toward life.

From 1942-1952, Alley and Alta owned and operated Bilbo Drug. "Doc" was known for his medical advice and Bilbo-made ice cream. Alta specialized in selling beauty products, gifts, and gift-wrapping. After the drug store years, Alta was an assistant postal clerk for 20 years at the Robert Lee Post Office. One of her hobbies in her retirement years was to bake pecan pies for the dozens for family and friends.

Alta was a lifetime member of the Robert Lee United Methodist Church. In October 1997, on her 96th birthday, she was honored by the United Methodist Women. They presented her with a Special Mission Recognition pin.

In September 1998, Mur moved from her home at 901 Bishop to a new home, the Robert Lee Care Center. She enjoyed the food, fellowship, and varied activities until a few days before her death.

Alta was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Alley James Bilbo; two daughters, Ferrell Jean Bilbo and Peggy Bilbo Gilmore; two grandsons, Brent Evans and Randy Littlefield; her parents, eight sisters, and one brother.

She is survived by four daughters and three sons-in-law, Alta Bell and Lamar Kay of Alpine, Texas; Jamie and Bob Boren of Robert Lee, Texas; Jo Ann and Jarvis Littlefield of Grove, Oklahoma; Janet Rathmell of Mertzon, Texas; thirteen grandchildren, Jan Hungate of Waco, Texas; Mark Kay of Andrews, Texas; Kathy Alexander of Midland, Texas; Tom Bilbo Boren of Lubbock, Texas; John Boren

of Snyder, Texas; Jerry, Jim, & Rick Littlefield and Lynda Caudill, all of Grove, Oklahoma; Sandy Evans of Arlington, Texas; Steve Evans of Mineral Wells, Texas; Billy Havins of Austin, Texas; Rebecca Levesque of San Angelo, Texas; 32 great grandchildren, 13 great-great grandchildren; one sister, Robbie Turner of San Angelo and numerous nieces and nephews.

38a-1tc

**Obituaries**

**THERE'S A  
KILLER  
ON THE LOOSE!**

Amotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive disorder of the nervous system.

**HELP US FIGHT ALS**

**MDA**

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1-800-572-1717 • www.mdausa.org

People Help MDA...  
Because MDA Helps People

**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

**Victory Assembly of God**  
6th & Houston  
(915) 453-2208

Rev. Erma Johnson  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**Many Thanks**

*As of Saturday, April 15, Wrinkle Hardware will close for transition into change of ownership.*

*Thank you so much for your patronage and support for Bob throughout his twenty-nine years in business.*

*A special thanks for your assistance with the benefit dance at the Pavilion during his 7-month battle with cancer.*

*Your memorials in Bob's name have finished paying off the cost of the Pavilion in the Park in Robert Lee, a project which he was instrumental in constructing.*

*The community has responded in such a way that you have helped us deal with this void in our lives in a very positive manner.*

*Joyce, Brenda, Jimmy, Kathy  
& the Wrinkle Family*

**Thoughts on the Scripture**

By Rev. Jim Reeves

**2 Corinthians 4:18** "For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever."

Think back on the things we thought, at the time, were major disasters. They all passed. Then think back on the times God has been with us, and the answer is always! Even the disasters are temporary in this life, but God is forever!

May God bless each one of you.  
Brother Jim

**Stokes-Hambright engagement announced**

Pam Stokes, of San Angelo and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Stokes, of Boerne are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Courtney Lynn Stokes of San Marcos to James L. Hambright, of San Antonio, son of Ben and Kay Hambright of Bronte and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Shedd of Abilene. Miss Stokes is the granddaughter of Alex and Geraldine Halfmann of Wall and Patsy Stokes of Florence, Texas, and the late Irvin D. Stokes, Sr.

The wedding is planned for June 10, 2000 at the Hotel Cactus in San Angelo.

The bride-elect is a 1996 graduate of Bronte High School and is attending Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.

The prospective bridegroom is a 1995 graduate of Bronte High School and a 1996 graduate of the Hallmark Institute of Aviation in San Antonio, with an Associate Degree in Aeromechanics. He is employed at Cessna Citations in San Antonio.



**James Hambright and Courtney Stokes**

younger readers. The format is suitable for reluctant readers, but certainly not restricted to that group. Anyone with a curiosity about Shakespeare, mythology, Twain, Dickens, H.G. Wells, Defoe and others will be interested in this selection. This donation is a welcomed addition to the Library collection.

**RL VFD News**  
By Marian Thompson, Secretary

The Fire Department held its second meeting of April on the 17th, at the Fire station. Rick Drennan presided. Eleven members were present.

The smoke report at Silver on the 13th was a controlled fire. Three fire trucks, and seven men responded.

They reviewed equipment needed in the near future and repairs needed to the tank truck now.

An Incident Command School is scheduled for May. Training and certification were tabled, as more information is needed regarding requirements.

They discussed the fund raisers in progress including 911 address signs that are reflective at night for emergency personal and are easily seen by the Sheriff's Dept, EMS, and Fire Dept. They can be mounted either horizontally or vertically.

Firemen will take orders and mount the signs if needed.

A completely hand-stitched quilt was donated to the Fire Department, and will be raffled. Raffle tickets are available for \$2.00 each from the Firemen. Those interested can view the quilt at City Hall.

The Fire Department Rummage Sale is scheduled for May 13th. Donations of rummage items will be accepted by any fireman or they will pick up large items.

The new meeting time is 7 pm on the first and third Monday of each month.

**Winters Annual Mayfest celebration**

The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce is having their annual Mayfest Celebration Saturday, May 6, 2000 at the Winters Ted Meyer City Park and Community Center. A big day of fun, food, entertainment, shopping and fellowship.

Be sure to join up for this big day of fun in Winters. For more information, please call Chamber of Commerce, 915-754-5210 or email wacc@wcc.net.

**"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body."**  
--Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward

*Iglesia Nueva Vida*

**Resurrection Service**  
Sunday, April 23, 2000 • 3 pm  
Robert Lee Large Recreation Hall  
at County Park  
Guest Artist: Jimmy Edwards  
BBQ Following Service  
For more information, contact  
Pastor Gene Gloria • 658-6112

LONE STAR CARDS WELCOME **Super H IGA** LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

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Store Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 8-8 Sun. 8-6  
SPECIALS GOOD 4/19 Thru 4/25

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Limit 2, Thereafter Regular Price

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**Portion Ham**  
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Cook's Butt  
Portion Bone-In Ham  
Lb. **.99**

California  
**Strawberries**  
Lb. Ctn. **.99**

**IGA Charcoal**  
10 Lb. Bag **.99**



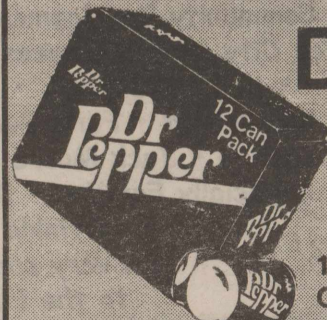
**IGA Medium Eggs**  
2 <sup>12 Ct.</sup> Ctn. **/\$1**

Original, Country or With Calcium Frozen Concentrate

**IGA Orange Juice**  
12 oz. can **.79**



**Dr. Pepper or Pepsi**  
12 Pk, 12 Oz. Cans **\$2.99**



Check out  
✓ Coke Co. Library

**Story Hour graduation slated for April 25**

Story Hour graduation has been set for Tuesday morning, April 25, at 10:00 am at the gazebo next to the Library. Students will receive their diplomas and caps at that time. Refreshments will be served to parents and children.

Story Hour children enjoyed the Easter egg hunt at the courthouse. Those who worked to provide this event are appreciated.

Recognition of librarians and libraries during National Library Week was given by the office of Senator Phil Gramm. Sondra Ziegler of the Senator's Lubbock office presented a certificate of appreciation to local librarians.

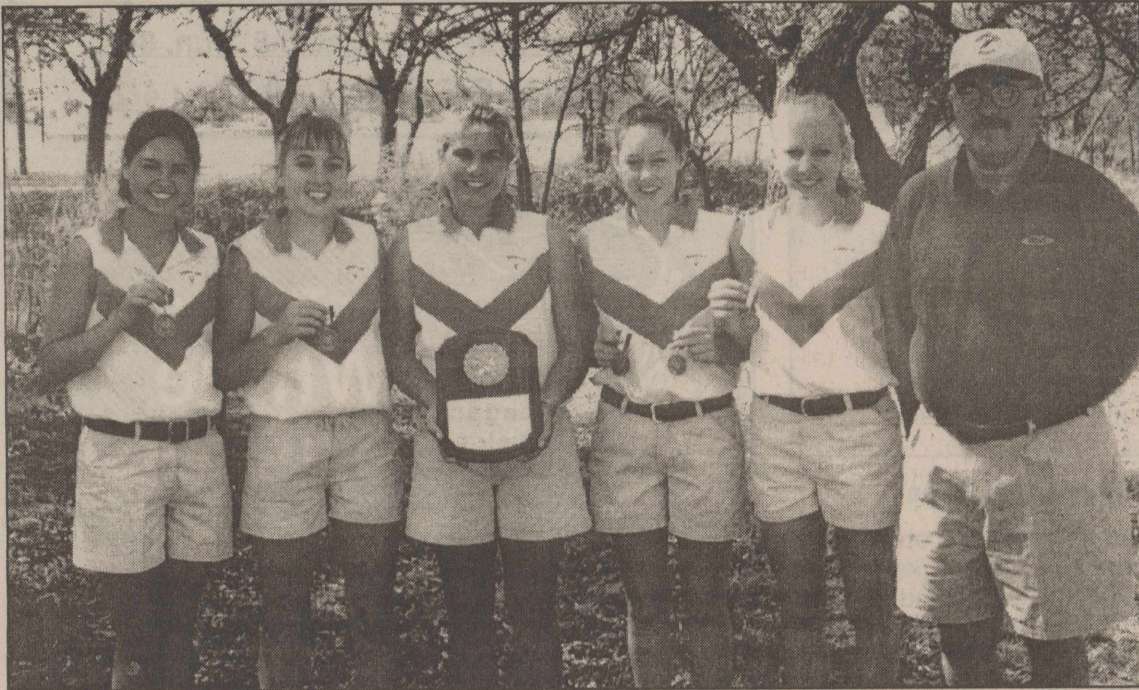
The Library will be closed for Good Friday. Normal hours are Tuesday 8-12; Wednesday 8-4, Thursday 1-5 and Friday 8-12. Books may be returned to the Main Street Market in Bronte, as well as to the Coke County Library. The food-for-fines is still in progress. The food will be used to stock the Food Closet, a county-wide church effort temporarily housed at the Methodist Church in Robert Lee.

The Library has received a large selection of classics for

**AUTO-HOME-LIFE**  
HELPING YOU is what we do best.  
Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau 453-4505

Texas Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co.  
Texas Farm Bureau Underwriters  
Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.  
Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.

# Robert Lee School News



The Robert Lee High School Ladies Golf team won the District Tournament and will travel to Abilene next Monday and Tuesday to compete in the Regional Tournament. Dee Van Huss was named Second Medalist at the District competition. The girls and their coach include (from left) Macy Hill, Shanna Wojtek, Whitney Millican, Dee Van Huss, Dixie Simpson, and Coach Wayne Alexander.

## Robert Lee Elementary sets PreK and Kindergarten Roundup

On Thursday, May 4, Robert Lee Elementary will host its annual PreK and Kindergarten Roundup activities. Prospective PreK students and their parents are invited to visit with Mrs. Treadaway about the PreK program from 9:00 am - 10:00 am. Mrs. Shook will be available to assist parents with the registration process. Parents are encouraged to bring the child's birth certificate, Social Security card, and immunization record. To be eligible for

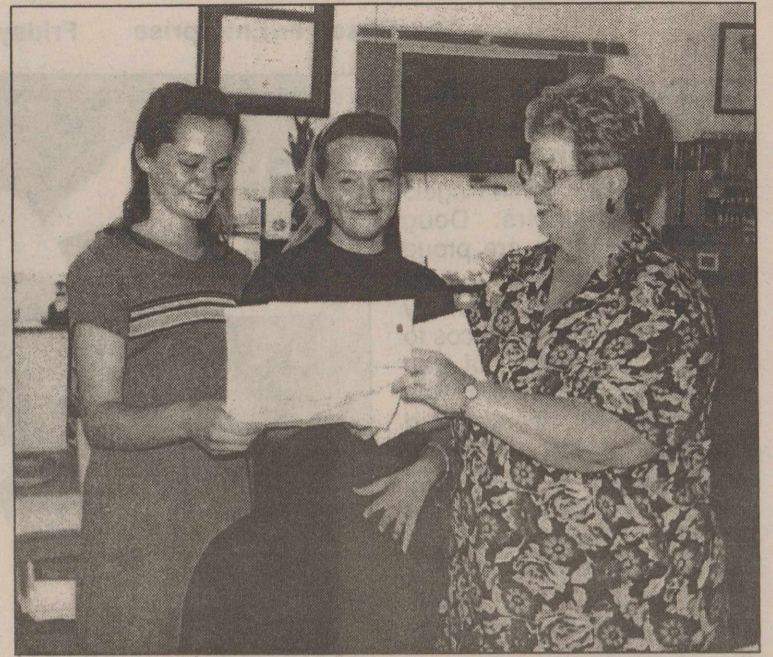
PreK, a child must be 4 years old by September 1.

Prospective Kindergarten students will attend Kindergarten classes from 9:00 am until 11:40 am. This will provide the students with the opportunity of attending the regular morning session of Kindergarten, which includes PE and lunch. Parents should be available to pick up students by 11:40 am. To be eligible for Kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old by September 1.

If you have additional questions about PreK and Kindergarten Roundup at Robert Lee Elementary School, please contact Judy Shook or Janet Wallace at 453-4555.

## RLHS girls golf team members medal at Big Lake

The girls golf team played in a Regional Qualifiers Tournament this past Monday. The girls did well as four of the six members received top ten medals. Dee Van Huss tied for 5th with a 91, Shanna Wojtek tied for 7th with a 92, Ashley Townsend was 9th with a 95, and Dixie Simpson shot a 96 for 10th place. Other scores included Whitney Millican with a 98 and Macy Hill with a 106. The girls shot a team score of 377, but no team scores were kept. The girls will play in the Regional Tournament April 24 & 25, at the Maxwell Golf Course in Abilene.



Robert Lee Elementary School "Principals for a Day" (from left) Brettie Reed and Becca Skinner obtain assistance from Mrs. Judy Shook.

## Reading has its rewards

Brettie Reed and Becca Skinner know that reading is very important. These young ladies earned enough Accelerated Reader points to serve as Principal of the Day at Robert Lee Elementary School. They thought it would be exciting to share the day. They realized very quickly that being a principal means being very busy. Brettie and Becca delivered AR prizes to eager students. They also delivered carnations to deserving staff members who were in need of encouragement after the stressful TAAS test. The most important task that Brettie and Becca performed was writing thank you notes to local businesses that have donated to the Science Spectrum fund. Brettie and Becca want to pass along this advice to aspiring Principals of the Day. Take your vitamins and get plenty of rest the night be-

fore. You will be working hard. Congratulations, Brettie and Becca. Keep reading.

## Take our daughters to work day

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees have selected May 5, 2000, as TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY. The TODTWD program is promoted annually nationwide by the Ms. Foundation for Women. This day provides an opportunity for districts to extend plans for career investigation activities. The national TODTWD focuses primarily upon students in the junior high school age range. Robert Lee ISD encourages junior high school age students to participate in this opportunity. The title suggests that the opportunity is limited to girls, but it is not. Boys are encouraged to participate as well. If you would like more information about this program, please contact Bill Hood at 453-4555.

## SCHOOL MENU



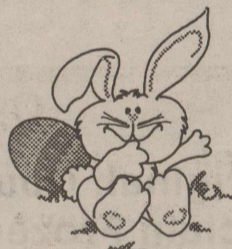
- Breakfast**  
**Monday, April 24**  
 Holiday  
**Tuesday, April 25**  
 Orange Juice, Donut, Cereal, Milk  
**Wednesday, April 26**  
 Orange Juice, Biscuit, Sausage, Cereal, Milk  
**Thursday, April 27**  
 Orange Juice, Muffin, Sausage, Cereal, Milk  
**Friday, April 28**  
 Orange Juice, Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Milk  
**Lunch**  
**Monday, April 24**  
 Holiday  
**Tuesday, April 25**  
 Barbecue Meatballs, Broccoli & Cheese, Corn, Rolls, Applesauce, Milk  
**Wednesday, April 26**  
 Tacos w/Cheese, Lettuce & Tomatoes, Spanish Rice, Fruit, Milk  
**Thursday, April 27**  
 Chicken O's, Macaroni & Cheese, English Peas, Rolls, Pineapple, Milk  
**Friday, April 28**  
 Hot Dogs w/Chili & Cheese, Tator Tots, Fruit Cocktail, Rice Krispie Treats, Milk

## WINK INSURANCE AGENCY



Home • Auto  
Life • Commercial

715 Austin • 453-4551



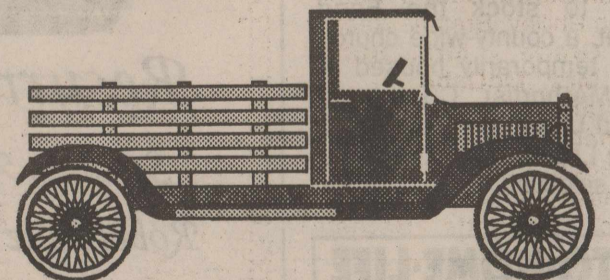
## THE KIDS OF COKE COUNTY

Say thanks to Coke County businesses and organizations. You provided us with an Easter Egg Hunt that we will not soon forget. You make growing up in a rural county wonderful.

Silver/Robert Lee Lions Club • West Coke County Community Development • Courthouse & Robert Lee City Hall Employees • Cathy's Flowers & Gifts • Key Feed Store • West Texas Utilities • Wackenhut • Farm Bureau • Town & Country • Super H • Jack Moore • Mountain Creek Lodge • Especially For You • Robert Lee State Bank • Wrinkle Hardware  
 & a very special thank you to the Easter Bunny!

## For Your Convenience Our Drive-Through Banking Hours

8:30 am to 2:30 pm  
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Monday through Friday



## Robert Lee State Bank

Member FDIC

621 Austin Street  
Robert Lee, Texas

Phone 453-2545  
Tele-Bank 453-2585

**RLES**

**Fifth six weeks Accelerated Reader Honor Roll**

**1st Grade - Mrs. Drennan and Mrs. Payne**

Paul Pineda, Haden Dillard, Meagan Ross, Kacee Roberts

**2nd Grade - Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Horn**

Briana Brisbin, Cody Brosh, Dylan Deanda, Sarah Jones, Ivan Landeros, Nancy Landeros, Terry McDonald, Blake Millican, Emilee Yanez, Breana Anderson, Emily Arellano, Cayetano Carrera, Sarah Coppedge, Justina Gloria, Tanner Hanigan, Jacob Moreno, Stetson Nesbit, Olivia Trejo, Jathan Williams

**3rd Grade - Mrs. Devoll and Mrs. McCown**

Garrett Blair, Kaden Duncan, Jasmine Gloria, Norma Rojas, Cori Torres, Cody Williamson, Jimmy Womack, Holly Austin, Morgan Hill, Caleb Millican, Olga Perez, Michael Rodriguez, Mason Ross

**4th Grade - Mrs. Bessent**

Molly Burns, Brody Dillard, Ashley Hopson, Anna Rojas, Jesse Braswell, Allison Millican, Taylor Percifull, Andrea Pineda, Chase Roe, Kasie Skinner

**5th Grade - Mrs. Byrne and Mrs. Roberts**

Katie Bessent, Jordan Brown, Cody McCabe, Tony Munoz, Brettnie Reed, Ashleigh Rogers, Kelsy Duncan, Brian Eubanks, Colton Holmes, Rosa Rojas, Robin Taylor, Eleasar Vera

**6th Grade - Mrs. Burns and Mrs. McCabe**

Tina Arellano, Clayton Austin, Tiffany Bagwell, Cara Eaton, Analy Gallegos, Olivia Martinez, Amanda Robinson, Vanessa Saucedo, Stephanie Trejo, Bridgette Barnett, Andra Braswell, Lewis Hearn, Kayla Medrano, Kyla Millican, Lance Millican, Eric Ortega, Carolina Vera, Cassidy Wink

**RLES**

**Honor Roll**

**Fifth Six Weeks**

**3rd Grade - Mrs. Devoll and Mrs. McCown**

Garrett Blair, Kaden Duncan, Jasmine Gloria, Cori Torres, Morgan Hill, Michael Rodriguez, Mason Ross

**4th Grade - Mrs. Bessent**

Briana Longoria, Allison Millican, Taylor Percifull, Chase Roe, Kasie Skinner, Molly Burns, Brody Dillard, Ashley Hopson, Sterlin Ebenstein

**5th Grade - Mrs. Byrne and Mrs. Roberts**

Kelsy Duncan, Brian Eubanks, Dixie Johnson, Becca Skinner, Ashleigh Roberts, Katie Bessent, Jordan Brown, Cody McCabe, Sarah Philley, Brettnie Reed

**6th Grade - Mrs. Burns and Mrs. McCabe**

Tiffany Bagwell, Josh Conner, Cara Eaton, Analy Gallegos, Shannon Martin, Vanessa Saucedo, Stephanie Trejo, Bridgette Barnett,

Andra Braswell, Kayla Medrano, Kyla Millican, Lance Millican, Eric Ortega, Carolina Vera, Cassidy Wink

**RLES**

**Perfect Attendance Fifth Six Weeks**

**PreK - Mrs. Treadaway**

Dawson Brisbin, Jordan Gartman, Justin Gartman, Zachary Skinner, Zachery Sanchez

**Kindergarten - Mrs. Bagwell and Mrs. Gibbs**

Janzen Digby, Chad Martin, Kimberly Roach, Diana Vera

**1st Grade - Mrs. Drennan and Mrs. Payne**

Foster Allen, Heidi Austin, Ginny Caston, J.P. Conner, Haden Dillard, Amanda Mendoza, Logan, Philley, Kacee Roberts, Meagan Ross, Travis Sailer, Diego Saucedo

**2nd Grade - Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Horn**

Cody Brosh, Cayetano Carrera, Justina Gloria, Sarah Jones, Stetson Nesbit

**3rd Grade - Mrs. Devoll and Mrs. McCown**

Holly Austin, Amy Barnett, Garrett Blair, Kaden Duncan, Morgan Hill, Olga Perez, Mason Ross

**4th Grade - Mrs. Bessent**

Jesse Braswell, Chelsea Conner, Brody Dillard, Cameron Hodge, Ashley Hopson, Briana Longoria, Melissa Martinez, Eddie May, Allison Millican, Taylor Percifull, Andrea Pineda, Chase Roe, Kasie Skinner

**5th Grade - Mrs. Byrne and Mrs. Roberts**

Katie Bessent, Jordan Brown, Kelsy Duncan, Kevin Honse, Dixie Johnson, Jessica Long, Tony Munoz, Casey Nesbit, Johnathan Pagan, Sarah Philley, Brettnie Reed, Rosa Rojas, Julianne Samaniego, Becca Skinner, Robin Taylor, Eleasar Vera, Chelle Wright

**6th Grade - Mrs. Burns and Mrs. McCabe**

Clayton Austin, Andra Braswell, Josh Conner, Shannon Martin, Olivia Martinez, Kyla Millican, Lance Millican, Eric Ortega, Brandon Soliz, Chris Torres, Carolina Vera, Cassidy Wink

Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.

**Say yes to smart TV viewing**

Limit viewing for all family members. Children should watch no more than two hours per day. On school days, eliminate TV or limit it to a shorter time.

Carefully select what to watch. Help your children make their selection. With younger children, consider having them choose programs for the week and review those choices with them.

Watch some of your children's favorite shows with them.

Use TV as a chance to talk to your children about values, fantasy versus real life, conflict, and violence.

Discuss TV violence. Talk about better ways to solve problems and how to respect the rights, property, and feelings of others.

Encourage your children to watch educational programs.

Restrict programs that you feel are not right for your children to watch. Explain why. Be a good role model.

Find other things to do with your children besides watching TV. Encourage outdoor activities, reading, art projects, and play time.

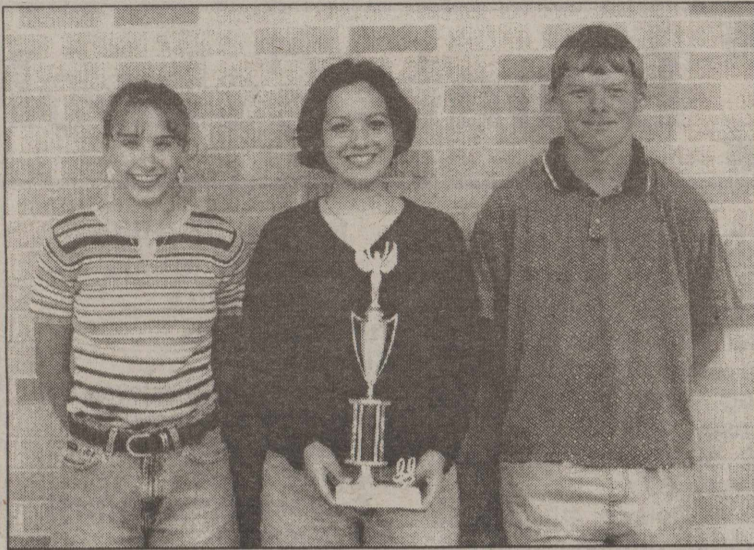
**RLHS All Sports Banquet set for May 2**

The Robert Lee High School All Sports Banquet will be Tuesday, May 2 at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.

For ticket information, contact Sheri Brown at 453-5304.

Please excuse Burma, she has been sick and under the doctor.

Maryann was absent December 11-16, because she had a fever, sore throat, headache and upset stomach. Her sister was also sick, fever and sore throat, her brother had a low grade fever and ached all over. I wasn't the best either, sore throat and fever. There must be something going around, her father even got hot last night.



**CORRECTION:** One of the Robert Lee FFA Farm Business Management Team members was inadvertently misidentified in last week's issue. Team members are (from left) Jennifer Alexander, Christian De Los Santos, and Clifton Bohannon (Jodi Patterson - not pictured). The team will compete at the state contest April 29.

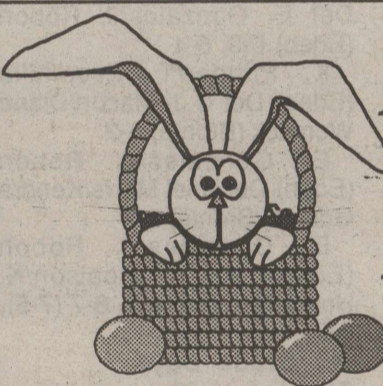
**"64" Study Club meets**

Members of the "64" Study Club met April 11, 2000 at the United Methodist Church in Robert Lee. Second Vice President Nita Duncan welcomed twenty-three members and one guest.

Della Alexander gave our program. She used an Easter theme to make several decorations. The ladies enjoyed learning this, and left saying they would like to make some Easter decorations.

During a short business meeting plans were made for our May meeting. The meeting will be a Salad Supper and installation of our new officers. Each member is asked to bring a salad to this meeting.

Hostesses for the evening were: Lillian Parker, Pat Gunnels, Leta Caston, Reba Tabor, Sue Millican, and Beverly Sinclair. They served a wonderful buffet consisting of brisket, beans, cole slaw, potato salad, cornbread and peach cobbler.



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Easter

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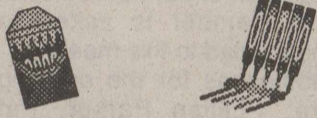
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# Bronte School News

## Bronte Lady Longhorns track meet results

The Area qualifiers competed in the Rotan track meet. The results are as follows:  
 Long Jump - 4th, Codi Monsey, 16'1"  
 400 M Dash - 4th, Codi Monsey, 65.4  
 400 M Relay - 4th, Jessica Sturgill, Jennifer Sturgill, Stormy White, Lauren Williams, 53.6  
 800 M Relay - 3rd, Jessica Sturgill, Jennifer Sturgill, Stormy White, Lauren Williams, 1.54.5  
 1600 M Relay - 3rd, Codi Monsey, Stormy White, Crissie McCoulskey, Lauren Williams, 4.27.6

## SCHOOL MENU



### Breakfast

**Monday, April 24**  
 Holiday  
**Tuesday, April 25**  
 Pancake & Sausage on a stick, Apple Juice, Biscuit, Milk  
**Wednesday, April 26**  
 Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Toast, Milk  
**Thursday, April 27**  
 Breakfast Burrito, Grape Juice, Blueberry Muffins, Milk  
**Friday, April 28**  
 Cereal, Applesauce, Pop-tart, Milk

### Lunch

**Monday, April 24**  
 Holiday  
**Tuesday, April 25**  
 Steak Fingers w/Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Brownies, Milk  
**Wednesday, April 26**  
 Hot Sub Sandwiches Ham & Cheese, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Pear Halves, Bun, Oatmeal Cookies, Milk  
**Thursday, April 27**  
 Chicken Pot Pie, Tossed Salad, Sweet Corn, Apple Sauce, Chocolate Cake, Milk  
**Friday, April 28**  
 Chopped Bar-B-Q, Potato Salad, Pinto Beans, Pickle Spears, Bun, Ice Cream Cups, Milk

## Bronte Jr. High District tennis results

**7th Grade Girls Singles**  
 Kari Reeves (Christoval) Def Ashleigh Kelly (Bronte) 8-0  
**7th Grade Boys Singles**  
 Cody Moore (Bronte) Def G. Ellis (Eden) 8-1  
 J. Reyes (Menard) Def Cody Moore (Bronte) 6-0, 6-0  
**3rd - 4th place**  
 Cody Moore (Bronte) Def M. Cleveland (Christoval) 6-1, 6-1  
**7th Grade Boys Doubles**  
 T. Powers/S. Rivas (Eden) Def Garrett Jackson/Cory Cooper (Bronte) 8-1  
**8th Grade Girls Singles**  
 Brittany Eldred (Bronte) Def C. Hopkins (Christoval) 9-8  
 K. McGuire (Miles) Def B. Eldred (Bronte) 6-1, 6-2  
**3rd - 4th place**  
 R. Eubanks (Christoval) Def B. Eldred (Bronte) 6-3, 6-2  
**8th Grade Girls Doubles**  
 Ashley Denton/Brittany McCutchen (Bronte) Def Pfluger/Escamilla (Eden) 6-7 (12-10), 6-1, 6-1  
**Championship Match**  
 A. Denton/B. McCutchen Def E. Gonzales/J. Robon (Eden) 6-0, 6-4  
 K. Pfluger/T. Escamilla (Eden) Def C.J. Macon/Diane Womack (Bronte) 8-2  
 E. Gonzales/J. Robon (Eden) Def Ariel Marrs/Kendra Graves (Bronte) 9-7  
 E. Gonzales/J. Robon (Eden) Def K. Coalson/K. Howell (Bronte) 6-3, 6-7 (7-5), 6-3  
**8th Grade Boys Singles**  
 Casey McKee (Bronte) Def E. Zuniga (Miles) 8-0  
 R. Sanchez (Menard) Def C. McKee (Bronte) 8-2  
**8th Grade Boys Doubles**  
 C. Longe/T. Lopez (Miles) Def Joseph Isreal/Josh Eubanks (Bronte) 8-0  
 K. Collins/M. Halamicek (Menard) Def Chase Williams/B.J. Hall (Bronte) 8-4  
 K. Collins/M. Halamicek (Menard) Def Justin Moore/Tyson Baker (Bronte) 8-0

## Host families needed for exchange students

The SHARE! High School Exchange Program needs families to host international high school exchange students for the 2000/2001 school year. The students will arrive in August, 2000 and will stay with their host family for one semester or until the end of the school year.

The SHARE! High School Exchange Program is sponsored by Educational Resource Development Trust (ERDT), a non-profit educational foundation that has been promoting intercultural exchange for 25 years. The students are between 15 and 18 years of age and are eager to live with a family and learn about America. They are in need of caring families to provide a bed, meals, as well as friendship, understanding and a genuine desire to share the American way of life with a youngster from overseas. They are carefully selected, speak English, have their own health insurance and spending money.

Families are able to review student applications and select the student they feel will best match their own interests. For more information call the ERDT Southwest Regional Office at 1-800-414-3738.

## BHS students place at Regional UIL

Five Bronte High School students traveled to Hardin Simmons University in Abilene Saturday, April 15, 2000, to compete at the Regional UIL Academic contests.

Morgan McCutchen, sophomore, placed fourth in Headline Writing and is the Alternate to the State contest in this event. She also competed in Feature Writing. Jade Richards, junior, competed in Mathematics and placed eighth in Science.

Elizabeth Morgan, junior, competed in Mathematics. Also competing in Mathematics and Science was Cara Sefcik, junior. Senior Andy Blair competed in Current Events and Issues.



Bronte High School junior, Tessie McMullan, is shown with the All-Around Cowgirl saddle she won in the Region X High School Rodeo Association this year. Tessie has qualified for the Texas State High School Rodeo finals in five events: barrels, breakaway roping, goat tying, pole bending, and team roping. The state finals will be held in Abilene June 5-10, 2000.

## Look Who's New Tanner David Bedford

David and Misti Bedford of Azle are the proud parents of a little boy. Tanner David was born Monday, April 10, 2000, in the Harris County Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth at 4:00 am. He weighed 7 pounds and 9 1/2 ounces and was 19 inches long.

His two older sisters, Brooke - five years old and

Brittany - 20 months old are very proud and excited about their new brother.

Paternal grandparents are Everett and Pat Bedford from Duncan, Oklahoma, and great-grandmother Geneva Haney. His maternal grandparents are Stover and Jerita Taylor of Bronte and great-grandmother Bonnie Taylor.

## Bronte Longhorn track news

Results follow from the Area qualifiers meet at Rotan.  
 Shot Put - 2nd, Blake McKee, 48'10"

400 M Relay - 2nd, Jesse McClure, Wes Howell, Josh Schoenfield, Jerrod McClure, 44.72

1600 M Relay - 2nd, Wes Howell, Tim Green, Josh Shoenfield, Jerrod McClure, 3:35

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You're invited to a  
**Farewell Party**  
 honoring the family of  
**Georgia & Randy Johnson**  
 on Saturday, April 29th  
 1:00 - 3:00 pm.  
 Come & Go  
 Shirley's Place  
 116 N. State Street  
 Bronte, Texas

In the last year, we have seen crude oil prices fluctuate from an actual interest adjusted all time low to the recent highs above 30 dollars a barrel.

How does this affect you? For years, we have relied on the oil evaluations in Coke County to support our tax bases. Last year, oil accounted for over 40% of the Bronte I.S.D. evaluations. Because of the volatility of actual crude oil prices, we have seen oil well after oil well plugged and taken out of production. The oil business is not what it used to be. It is my opinion that each taxing authority in West Texas should have a plan in place for the possibility that our reliance on crude oil will continue to be lessened.

Are our taxing entities prepared to face this eventuality?

## Paul Williams

Candidate for the Bronte I.S.D. Board of Trustees

Please feel free to contact me at 473-3800 or [bronteisd@aol.com](mailto:bronteisd@aol.com).

pol. adv. pd. by Paul Williams

**Bronte Elementary Awards  
Fifth Six Weeks**

**Pre-K - Perfect Attendance**

Shyanne Acker, Jayton Cooper, Stetsen Emfinger, Erika Hargrave, Lyndsay Hargrave, Clint Head, Mason Hoyt, Johnathan Moore, Brenda Pena, Paige Royall, Ethan Sedden

**1st Grade**

**Perfect Attendance** - Tori Acevedo, Peyton Eubanks, Joshua Hargrave, Chase Harris, Arlis McMullan, Heath Richey, Kelsey Sedden, Nicholas Shults

**Super Citizen** - Dustin Brown, Terron Charles, Reid Clark, Arlis McMullan, Kerwin Rawls, Kelsey Sedden

**Met or Exceeded AR Reading Goal:** Victoria Acevedo, Kaycee Baker, Dustin Brown, Terron Charles, Peyton Eubanks, Joshua Hargrave, Reid Clark, Brittani Harris, Chase Harris, Cheyenne Hunter, Nicholas Shults, Arlis McMullan, Dakota Rawls, Kerwin Rawls, Heath Richey, Kelsey Sedden, Justin Saldana

**Social Studies - Made 100 in Social Studies for Six Weeks:** Tori Acevedo, Dustin Brown, Terron Charles, Taylor Cooper-Hartman, Cheyenne Hunter, Arlis McMullan, Heath Richey, Nicholas Shults

**Science Award - Made 100 in Science for Six Weeks:** Tori Acevedo

**Super Handwriting Award:** Chase Harris, Arlis McMullan

**2nd Grade**

**All "A" Honor Roll** - Kasey Glover, Chloe Grigg, Crawford James, Louie Martinez, Denver McCollough, Tyler Riney, Jackson Rowan, Ali Tounget

**Super Citizen** - Samantha Coffey, Ashley Fisher, Crawford James, Emilie Jimenez, Louie Martinez, Krista Moore, Tyler Riney, Jackson Rowan, Ali Tounget, Kimberly Womack

**Math Wizards** - Zachary Boyd, Jackson Rowan, Ali Tounget

**Met or Exceeded AR Goal** - Samantha Coffey, Skyler Ellis-York, Emily Fiveash, Kasey Glover, Chloe Grigg, Crawford James, Emilie Jimenez, Dannie Martinez, Louie Martinez, Tyler Riney, Ashley Royall, Ali Tounget (Outstanding Reader)

**Perfect Attendance** - Zachary Boyd, Samantha Coffey, Kasey Glover, Chloe Grigg, Emilie Jimenez, Dannie Martinez, Denver McCollough, Krista Moore, Tyler Riney, Ashley Royall, Ali Tounget, Kimberly Womack

**3rd Grade - Mrs. Poehls Good Citizenship** - Callen Clark, Sam Rawlings, Ty Mackey

**Met or Exceeded AR Goal** - Israel Cecilio, Callan Clark, Ariel Coalson, Jessi England, Ty Mackey, Samuel Rawlings

**All "A" Honor Roll** - Ariel Coalson, Jessi England, Sam Rawlings

**Great Handwriting** - Ariel Coalson, Jessi England, Samuel Rawlings

**Subtraction Wizard** - Jessi England, Ty Mackey, Sam Rawlings

**3rd Grade - Mrs. Rawlings**

**A-B Honor Roll** - D.J.

Acevedo, Matthew Allen, Cory Glover, Jessica Grasc, Prescilla Lara, Will Macon, Nathan McCoulskey, Nicole Reed, Reece Springer

**Outstanding Reading Student** - Nathan McCoulskey

**Outstanding English Student** - Cory Glover and Prescilla Lara

**Outstanding Spelling Student** - Reece Springer

**Outstanding Math Student** - Matthew Allen

**Outstanding Science Student** - Ariel Coalson

**Outstanding Social Studies Student** - Jessi England

**Outstanding Handwriting Student** - Nicole Reed

**Super Citizens** - Samantha Swagerty, Jessica Grasc, Matthew Allen, Ariel Coalson, Jessi England, Samuel Rawlings, Callan Clark

**AR Goals** - Reece Springer, D.J. Acevedo, Chase Hoyt, Jessica Grasc, Nicole Reed, Nathan McCoulskey, Cory Glover

**4th Grade**

**All "A" Honor Roll** - Estephanie Flores, Gus Saunders

**"A-B" Honor Roll** - Emily Austin, Casey Harris, Terrah Macon, Savannah Martinez, Beth Sanchez, Freddy Soele

**Perfect Attendance** - Zackary Bennett, Christopher Brown, Blaze Coffey, Estephanie Flores, Chris Guzman, Casey Harris, Kyler Lee, Terrah Macon, Savannah Martinez, Brittany Owens, Gus Saunders, Cody Wallace

**Citizenship Awards** - Estephanie Flores, Terrah Macon, Gus Saunders, Brett Wills

**Students who met or exceeded AR goal** - Zackary Bennett, Estephanie Flores, Chris Guzman, Casey Harris, Kyler Lee, Terrah Macon, Savannah Martinez, Brittany Owens, Miranda Parks, Miranda Riney, Gus Saunders, Cody Wallace

**5th Grade**

**Perfect Attendance** - Rebekah Beauchamp, Hazen Coffey, Katie Cooper, Patty Galvan, Jonathan Marrs, Philip Rawlings, Juston Taylor, Crystal Wallar

**Met AR goals** - Patty Galvan, John Paul Martinez, Jonathan Marrs, Philip Rawlings, Juston Taylor, Crystal Wallar, Lahren White

**"A" Honor Roll** - Rebekah Beauchamp, Philip Rawlings

**"A-B" Honor Roll** - Jonathan Marrs, Logan Rawls, Juston Taylor, Crystal Wallar, Lahren White

**100 Average in Spelling** - Jonathan Marrs

**Citizenship Awards** - Rebekah Beauchamp, Patty Galvan, Philip Rawlings, Logan Rawls, Juston Taylor, Crystal Wallar

**6th Grade**

**All "A" Honor Roll** - Garrett Acker, Lillian McMullan, Rebecca Rawlings, Bailey Saunders, Jaylon Saunders, Cheyenne Webb

**"A-B" Honor Roll** - Sarah Basquez, Lindsey Butler, Megan Gibbs, Zach White

**Met or exceeded AR goal** - Garrett Acker, Sarah Basquez, Riley Coalson, Lillian McMullan, Rebecca Rawlings, Rachel Ridgeway, Bailey Saunders, Cheyenne Webb

**Perfect Attendance** - Sarah Basquez, Megan Gibbs, Rosie Lara, Lillian

McMullan, Curtis Moore, Rebecca Rawlings, Rachel Ridgeway, Bailey Saunders, Jaylon Saunders, Cheyenne Webb, Zach White

**Parents Alert: V-Chip helps protect kids from violent TV shows**

**By The Federal Communications Commission**

"V for Victory" was once a popular slogan. Now "V for V-chip" may herald another victory—a victory to help parents protect their children from violent and sexually suggestive TV shows.

The V-chip is a device built into television sets that allows parents to block shows they do not want their children to see. The V-chip works in conjunction with the voluntary ratings system designed by the television industry. The first V-chip equipped TV sets are in stores now.

FCC Commissioner Gloria Tristani, chair of the Commission's V-chip Task Force, noted that children spend about 28 hours a week watching TV, more time each year than they spend in the classroom.

"Much of what they are watching is violent. By the time they complete elementary school, children have witnessed about 8,000 murders and 100,000 acts of violence."

She noted that no parent can possibly know what's on TV all the time and, in many cases, children are in single parent households or households where both parents work.

"These parents want and deserve the ability to protect their children as much as parents who are able to closely monitor their children's viewing habits," she said.

The V-chip will give parents a modern tool to help raise their children in the modern world. Under the voluntary industry rating system, parents will be able to receive the information they need in order to determine whether an upcoming program contains sex, violence, offensive language or suggestive dialogue.

Commissioner Tristani warned that the V-chip will not relieve parents of the responsibility of determining what their children watch on TV, but will help them to fulfill that responsibility.

Television programmers "encode" programming so that the television rating information can be "read" by a V-chip equipped TV set. "The V-Chip is essentially a remote control device with a longer range. It allows parents to 'turn off' programs while



These Coke County children are anticipating the fun as they wait for the Coke County Easter Egg Hunt to start at the Courthouse Tuesday, April 18.

they are at work, at a PTA meeting, or at a movie."

Children are unable to unblock programming because only the parent knows the "PIN" number needed to program the TV set.

Some critics have said that the V-chip is too complicated for parents to use. However, many who have used the V-chip found it to be no more difficult than programming a VCR. In addition, "parents will do things for their children that they won't do for themselves," Tristani said. "I may not take the time to learn to program my VCR to record a movie, but I'll take the time to learn to program the V-chip to protect my children from objectionable material."

Consumers can also purchase a stand-alone box with V-chip capabilities that can be attached to an older television set that does not have the V-chip built-in.

"As parents begin using the V-chip, I am hopeful that they will come to value it as an effective and easy-to-use tool for blocking programming that they deem harmful to their children," Tristani said.

(More information can be accessed on the Commission internet V-chip web site: <http://www.fcc.gov/vchip/>)

**Pens that detect futuristic predictions by 2009**

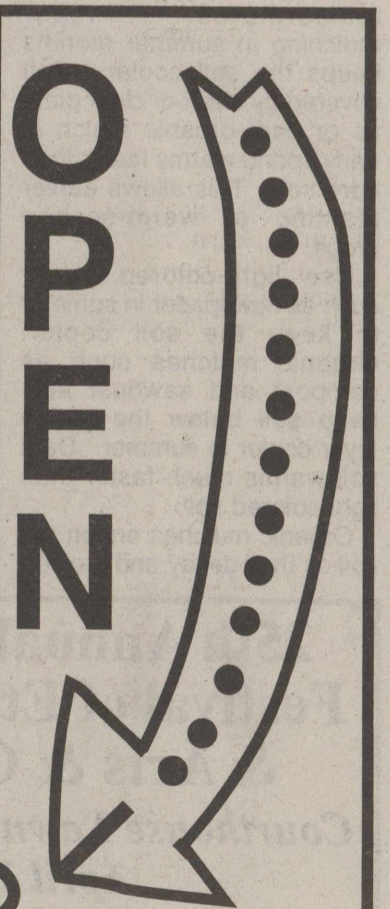
By the year 2009, ordinary pens will be equipped with nanodevices that can detect and correct errors of spelling and grammar...voice-operated computers and word processors will be commonplace...and commercial passenger spaceflight to earth orbiting hotels will have

become reality.

And medical science drawing on a global, Internet-linked pool of instantaneous new research and development data will have produced alternatives to hormones and pesticides, as well as a cure for cancer.

These and other predictions by notables in the arts and sciences, publishing and entertainment industries about the most significant technological breakthroughs in the first decade of the 21st century have been sealed in a specially designed time capsule not to be opened until the year 2009.

The forecasts were gathered to mark the 15th annual L. Ron Hubbard Achievement Awards for winners of the 1998 Writers and Illustrators of the Future Contests. Hubbard established the writers contest in 1983 as a measure of discovering the best new writers of speculative fiction.



**LONGBRANCH  
BAR-B-QUE?**

— Friday & Saturday —  
**April 21st & 22nd**

At The  
Red Light In  
**BRONTE**



COUNTRY AGENTS NEWS

by Tommy Antilley  
Coke County Agent

Easy Gardening....  
Mulching

Mulching your garden shows you really care about your plants. A mulch is any substance spread on the ground to protect plant roots from heat, cold or drought or to keep fruit clean.

Mulching is a long established horticultural practice. Farmers know that shallow cultivation of the soil's surface after a rain slows the rate of water loss from the soil. The shallow layer of dry surface soil acts as a mulch.

Mulches can be classified as inorganic or organic. Inorganic mulches include plastic, rocks, rock ships and other non-plant materials; whereas, organic mulches include straw, compost, sawdust and similar materials. Plastic is the only inorganic mulch used in vegetable gardens.

A thin layer of mulch on the soil surface (especially in sloping gardens) reduces the washing away of soil particles by rushing water. Also, mulches prevent raindrops from splashing on the soil surface. Saving soil moisture is an important use of mulch in Texas. A mulch layer on the soil surface allows the soil to soak up more water. Mulch also reduces the rate of water loss from the soil. A 3-inch layer of mulch on the soil surface dries much faster than the soil below it. Thus it prevents water from moving into the air.

Mulches modify soil temperature in home gardens. Applied in late fall, winter mulch insulates plant roots, crowns and stems of winter crops from extremely low temperatures. Proper mulching in summer months keeps the soil cooler. Soil covered by black or clear plastic or dark organic mulch in early spring warms faster than bare soil. This allows earlier planting of warm-season crops.

Use light-colored paper such as newspaper in summer to keep the soil cooler. Organic mulches such as compost and sawdust also keep soil below the mulch layer cooler in summer. Dark soil warms much faster than light-colored soil.

Organic mulches enrich the soil as they decay and provide

a better environment for plant growth. Soils high in organic matter are easier to till and better suited to vegetable gardening. Adding organic material makes soils more crumbly, especially clay soils that pack and crust.

Mulches help plants by gradually increasing soil fertility. An organic mulch such as straw or newspaper can be turned under the soil at the end of the season. This helps build the soil's organic matter content. Turn the mulch under as soon as the gardening season is over so it breaks down before the garden is replanted.

Most mulches also provide excellent weed control. Mulches do not prevent weed seeds from sprouting. However, weed seedling emergence is blocked by a mulch layer thick enough to exclude light. A 3-inch layer of mulch on the soil surface keeps most annual weed seedlings from coming through. Weeds that break through are removed more easily from mulched soil. Hard-to-control weeds such as nutgrass and johnsongrass may come through the mulch layer but can be pulled more easily or covered by fluffing the mulch with a fork.

A well-mulched garden can yield 50 percent more than an unmulched garden the same size. Space rows closer as there is little or no need to cultivate the soil. Plant food is more available in cooler soil, and the extra soil moisture increases plant growth and yields. You will harvest more fruit because of less fruit rot. Fruit does not touch the soil, and soil is not splashed up on the fruit. This is true for tomato fruits that rot easily when resting on the soil surface. Potatoes can be mulched heavily as the vines grow. This causes tubers to form in and under the mulch layer. These potatoes are less susceptible to soil rot, easier to harvest and less likely to be bruised during harvest.

Garden mulching reduces maintenance. A good mulch layer eliminates the need for weeding, and mulched vegetables are cleaner at harvest time. Fruits of tomato, melon and squash plants never touch the soil.

Many materials are available for mulching a garden. Some examples are: compost, straw, gin trash and sawdust.

Compost is generally the best mulching material for the home garden. It is usually free of weed seeds and is inexpensive. Prepare compost from materials present in your yard. It is not necessary to purchase expensive materials for mulching.

Straw is short lived and coarse textured. More straw is needed for the same effect as compost or lawn clippings. Generally, less of the finer-textured materials is required to provide a 3-inch layer of mulch after settling, compost, however, usually requires only about 4 inches to provide a 3-inch mulch layer.

Gin trash is commonly available in Texas. It is risky to use, however, without knowing its source and prior treatment. Make sure that the farmer did not use arsenicals on the cotton. Arsenicals are long-lived chemicals that can be present in gin trash for several months or years. Also, gin trash may contain weed seeds and diseases. Compost gin trash before applying it to your garden to make it safer and easier to use. The heat generated by composting kills most weed seeds and most disease organisms that infect plants.

Sawdust is commonly available especially in East Texas. If well managed, it can be a good mulch. It can result in a temporary, but sharp, decrease in soil nitrogen. Add a small amount of garden fertilizer to the soil after applying sawdust directly to a garden. Even better, add nitrogen to sawdust, then compost it before spreading it on your garden.

Plastic is an effective mulch if used properly. Use black plastic in the spring and early summer to warm the soil. Black plastic keeps light from the soil and prevents weeds from growing. Clear plastic warms the soil, but weeds can grow beneath the plastic. A disadvantage of plastic is that it cannot be turned into the soil at the end of the season.

When selecting materials, consider these factors:



The Robert Lee Pros Softball team for girls 12 & under includes (top row, from left) Vanessa Saucedo, Becca Skinner, Brettne Reed, Cassidy Wink, Kelsey Duncan, (middle row, from left) Dixie Johnson, Gabbi Saucedo, Sarah Philley, Haylee Neighbors, Andra Braswell, (front row, from left) Rebecca Saucedo, Allison Millican, Julie Samaniego, and Kasie Skinner.

**Cost of the material.** Do not spend money on mulching material when suitable materials are available at little or no cost.

**The crop you plan to mulch.** Never use material from the crop that is to be protected. For example, do not use potato vines from the spring crop to mulch fall potatoes for the possibility of disease is increased.

**When the mulch is to be used.** Select a light-colored mulch during the summer and early fall to reflect heat. Use a dark-colored mulch in early spring to help warm the soil to permit earlier planting and hasten early growth.

When using mulches spread on freshly cultivated, weed-free soil before plants are large enough to interfere. Apply organic mulch thick enough to leave a 3-inch layer after settling. Four inches of fine materials like compost should be adequate. Remember that coarser materials, such as straw, settle and may require 6 inches or more initially. If you use newspaper, place three layers on each side of the row. Add more mulch during the season if you are working with organic materials. The mulch settles and gradually rots during the growing season where it

meets the moist soil surface. Adding additional layers assures continuous weed control, a clean resting place for the fruits or your labor and creates a pleasing appearance all season long.

New attorney assessment fees

A new law, effective February 1, 2000, allows Social Security to charge an assessment fee to recover the costs for determining and certifying fees to attorneys who represent Social Security applicants.

An assessment fee of not more than 6.3 percent will be taken out of the final approved attorney's fee.

People who do business with Social Security have the right to be represented by an attorney who can charge them a fee for their services. Social Security approves the amount of this fee.

Under the change in the law, Social Security will assess the attorney for the cost of processing, withholding and distributing the fee to the attorney. Attorneys and their clients will retain the right to question the amount of the fee approved.

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25th Annual Texas State Festival of Ethnic Cultures & Arts & Craft Show

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April 29 & 30

Downtown Parade • Free Stage

2nd Annual Pioneer Plaza Art Show,

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Arts & Crafts (Non-juried), 3 on 3 Basketball  
Tourney - Youth on Saturday; Adults on Sunday

FMI, Call Chamber at (915) 365-2333 or 365-5611



**Blackwell CISD  
"A" Honor Roll  
5th Six Weeks**

**1st Grade**

Jennifer Allen  
Kaitlyn Gaston  
Caleb Magness  
Jessica Morrow  
Taylor Robertson  
Justin Walker

**2nd Grade**

Zac Burwick  
Marissa Griffin  
Dylan Keiner  
Bill Miller  
Stacie Murray  
Lacey Saunders  
Callen Ware  
Travis White

**3rd Grade**

Darren Griffin  
Jade Hughey  
Kristin Hyde  
Ashton Monroe  
Clay Stanford  
Katelyn Noble

**4th Grade**

Sergio Gatica  
Tyser Robertson  
Samantha Morrow  
Kali Pena  
Marcy McMorris

**5th Grade**

Daniel Jones  
Amanda McWhorter  
Jarred Walker  
Sylvia Solis

**6th Grade**

Philip Buckner  
Jessica Chavez  
Jake Wilkinson

**7th Grade**

Lindsey Brotsch  
Tiffany Coffey

Ambrá Cole  
Melenda Solis

**8th Grade**

Johnny Bryant  
Sharla Holland  
Heather Jones  
Missy Pate  
Ryan Ragland  
Paul Rodriguez  
Latisha Roland  
Angel Saavedra  
Kayla Saunders

**9th Grade**

Meghan McGhee  
Chris Morgan

**10th Grade**

Mindy Boyd

**11th Grade**

Tanya Blackwell  
Katrina Buckner  
Gayna Cantrell  
Katy Driver  
Steven Hayes  
Clint Morgan  
Latosha Roland  
Ashley Ragland  
Pascual Solis

**12th Grade**

Julie Grimes  
Scotty Killough  
Leman Saunders  
Keshia Stidham  
Adam Wilkinson  
Stephanie Cantrell  
Jennifer Solis  
Tiffani Fagg

**"A-B" Honor Roll**

**1st Grade**

Brandon Elliott  
Caleb Jeter  
Juanito Solis  
Malinda Walker

**2nd Grade**

Brandon Harrell

Manuela Solis  
Kolten Pena

**3rd Grade**

Mirella Solis  
Sherri Lantrip  
Caitlin Ware

**4th Grade**

Danielle Breshers  
Garritt Harris  
Chad Holland  
Angelica Sims  
Josh McWhorter  
Brittany Sarratt  
Johnathan Williams

**5th Grade**

Stephen Harvell  
Johnathan Ehl  
Casey Hamilton  
Aaron Noble  
Robert Williams  
Kacee Lowrie  
Heather Mitchel  
Latasha Early

**6th Grade**

Chris Morgan  
Kelly Dove

**7th Grade**

Rosa Camarillo  
Amber Chance  
Lane Lowrie  
Ashley Early  
Monica Whipple

**8th Grade**

Melissa Long  
Justin Roland  
Albert Solis  
Lucy Solis  
Katie Wilkinson

**9th Grade**

Jenifer Breshers  
John Jones  
A.J. Monroe

Kaitlyn Saunders  
Jessica Vanover  
Lindy Wilson

**10th Grade**

Cody Blair  
Jennifer Dove  
Jamie Hodges

**11th Grade**

Luis Solis

**12th Grade**

Leticia Camarillo  
Tony Dove  
Doug Hughey  
Gloria Solis

**Inaugural torch  
award presented to  
Affiliated Foods**

Affiliated Foods Inc. was recently presented with the inaugural Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics. The award was created by the Better Business Bureau of the Texas Panhandle and the T. Boone Pickens College of Business at West Texas A&M University to recognize businesses for their commitment to high standards of behavior in buyer and seller relationships. Criteria for selection included marketing, advertising, communications and sales practices that accurately reflect what is being offered in the marketplace and ethics policies designed to give long-term value to shareholders and customers.

Affiliated Foods was evaluated for the award based on

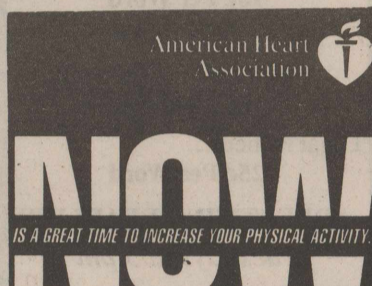
its:  
High ethical standards of behavior toward customers, suppliers and shareholders.

Long standing history and reputation of ethical practices.

Ethical policies that are effectively communicated to employees.

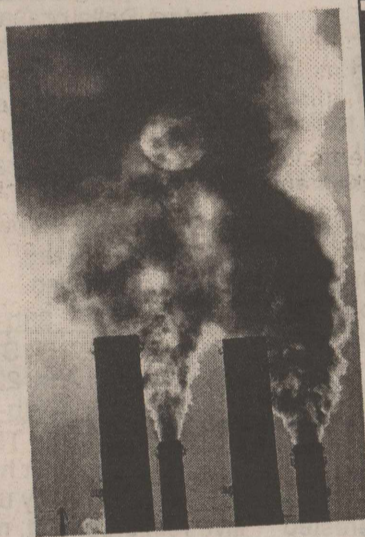
As an Amarillo ethics winner, Affiliated is eligible for the National Torch Awards for Marketplace Ethics to be held in September in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Other finalists in the large-company division, with 100 employees or more, included Amarillo National Bank and NTS Communications.

A supplier for independent retail grocery stores in Amarillo since 1946, Affiliated Foods services 661 independent grocery stores throughout five states. The cooperative also has a food-service division that caters to restaurants, schools, hospitals and other institutional organizations.



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LUNG CANCER, OR SILICOSIS.**

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• PERSONAL INJURY OR WRONGFUL DEATH

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**May 3**

**Holiday Inn**

**441 Rio Concho Dr.**

**San Angelo, TX**

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**1-888-206-2800**

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Texas Board of Legal Specialization





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**FOR SALE**

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37a-1tc

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2 Bath Brick home. Formal Dining and Fireplace. \$40's.

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• **520 Acres** between Robert Lee and Water Valley! Mountainous!

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Marshall Millican

453-9002

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**HOUSE FOR RENT**

2 Bdr/1 Bath. 1515 Washington. Robert Lee. 915-554-7522.

38-2tp

**TAKING APPLICATIONS**

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

29a-EOW

**BRONTE MINI STORAGE**

has storage buildings for rent. Call 473-2221 or 473-2140.

19b-tnc

**MISC**

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Complete systems, repairs, upgrades, internet. Call Ed @ EMCO Computers. 473-3004.

32b-tnc

**RANCH FENCE BUILDING**

and repair, chain-link also. Free estimates. Luis Charles, 473-3911 or 473-3655.

34b-tnc

**NEED LISTINGS**

Have buyers for small acreage up to 300 acres with or without house. Call Steve 944-8611, nights 949-3835. Steve Stewart Real Estate.

29b-tnc

**LOST IN BRONTE**

Black standard poodle. If you have any information please contact Della or Gary @ 473-3131. LARGE REWARD.

38a-1tc

**LOST GOATS**

17 nannies, 1 billy, 8 kids last seen near Colorado River Bridge. Hwy. 277 South of Bronte. Have yellow tag in ear with King on tag. Call 473-6971 Larry Kelso.

38b-1tc

**BUTLER TIRE SERVICE**

will be closed April 22.

38b-1tc

**PUPPY & DOG TRAINING**

Group & private in home sessions for the family using positive reinforcement, motivation and rewards. Group classes start in Robert Lee April 26th. Vallee Pet Dog Training 453-5044.

37-2tp

**TREES TRIMMED**

topped or removed. Call 453-9902 after 6 pm.

37a-tnc

**THE "BARBER" SHOP**

Debora England, 223 N. Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9 am-5 pm, Saturday, 9 am-12 pm.

02b-tnc



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34b-tnc

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45b-tnc

**SUNSHINE CONSTRUCTION**

New Construction, Additions, Renovations, and Home Repairs. Contact Don Parks @ 453-2860 or 656-2686 mobile.

34a-tnc

**BOARDING HORSES**

& Short Hauling. Call 453-2796 for J.F. If no answer, leave message.

10a-tnc

**GARAGE SALES**

**GARAGE SALE**

Saturday April 22 8:00 am - 5:00. 627 N. Franklin. Bronte.

38b-1tc

**GARAGE SALE**

Antiques, Collectibles, junk. The barn behind 706 Westwood, Bronte. Saturday, April 22 10:00 - ? No Early Birds.

38b-1tc

**MOVING SALE**

April 21 & 22. 118 N. Woods, Bronte. Everything must go - no early birds. Christina Uber.

38b-1tp

**PATIO SALE**

501 N. Franklin, Bronte. 8-2 Sat. Lots of plus size ladies clothes.

38b-1tc

**GARAGE SALE**

Saturday, April 22. 9-2 only. No Early Sales. 821 Chadbourne. Robert Lee.

38a-1tc

**HELP WANTED**

**FULL-TIME LAUNDRY**

person needed for Robert Lee Care Center. Contact Johnny Elam @ 453-2511.

38a-1tc

**PART-TIME LAUNDRY**

and Housekeeping person needed for Robert Lee Care Center. Contact Johnny Elam @ 453-2511.

38a-1tc

**DUE TO THE SLOW**

response of the Census Questionnaires in Coke County, the Census Bureau has requested another 50 applicants for Census taker jobs starting @ \$10.25 per/hr & mileage. You may apply on 4/20/00 & 4/27/00 at the Coke County Courthouse at 5:30 pm, or 4/28/00 at 5:30 pm at Bronte City Hall or call 1-888-325-7733 for an appointment.

38a-2tp

**TAKING APPLICATIONS**

for a welder trainee. Must be over 20 years old. Must be able to read a tape measure. Must pass physical and drug test. No tobacco use. Apply at Gregston's Welding.

37-3tp

**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

**CARD OF THANKS**

**THE FAMILY OF**

Alta Bilbo wishes to extend our sincere thanks to all of our Robert Lee friends. We appreciate your expressions of love, your prayers, the food, flowers, and memorials for our mother.

A special thanks to EMS volunteers and our friends at the Robert Lee Care Center. You took good care of Mur.

Alta Bell, Jamie, JoAnn, and Janet

38-1tp

**THANK YOU TO**

everyone for their special prayers and thoughts and keeping me in your prayers - especially the nursing staff at Wackenhut. Please continue to pray for me as I am still fighting this battle.

Christina Uber

38b-1tp

**NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**A RESOLUTION CANCELING THE MAY 6, 2000, REGULAR ELECTION AND DECLARING EACH UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE ELECTED TO OFFICE.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EAST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT, COKE COUNTY, TEXAS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1.**

The following candidates, who are unopposed in the May 6, 2000, General Election, are hereby declared elected to office, and shall be issued a certificate of election:

Director: Edward Cumbie

Director: Larry Robinson

Director: Leon Brooks

**SECTION 2.**

The District Secretary is directed to post a copy of this resolution at each designated polling place on May 6, 2000.

**SECTION 5.**

This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL, 2000.**

Ed Cumbie

President

ATTEST:

Diane Spivey

Secretary

38b-1tc

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**UNA RESOLUCION PARA CANCELAR LA ELECCION REGULAR DE 6 DE MAYO DE 2000 Y PARA DECLARAR A CADA CANDIDATO ELEGIDO A SU CARGO PUBLICO.**

**AHORA, POR LO TANTO, SEA ORDENADO POR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EAST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DE COKE COUNTY, TEXAS, QUE:**

**SECCION 1**

Los candidatos siguientes, quienes no tienen oposicion en la Eleccion General de 6 de Mayo de 2000 son por la presente declarado elegidos al cargo, y va a recibir una certificado de eleccion:

Director: Edward Cumbie

Director: Larry Robinson

Director: Leon Brooks

**SECCION 2**

**NOTICES**

La Secretaria es dirigido a colocar una copia de esta resolucio en cada lugar designado para votacion en el 6 de Mayo de 2000.

**SECCION 5**

Esta resolucio sera en fuerza completo y efecto desde y despues la aprobacion.

PASADO Y APROBADO EL 17 DIA DE ABRIL DE 2000.

Ed Cumbie  
Presidente  
ATESTIGUAR:  
Diane Spivey  
Secretario  
38b-11c

**Gifts of organ, tissues provide a new chance at life**

Dallas orthopedic surgeon Phil Berry has viewed life and death issues from both sides of the medical chart. In private practice since 1971, Dr. Berry was a key player in establishing Dallas' Careflite Air Ambulance Service. He is a former president of the Dallas County Medical Society, the Texas Orthopedic Association and the Texas Medical Association.

But in 1986, Phil Berry, patient, faced a devastating diagnosis.

"I was told I had three weeks to live," Dr. Berry said.

He had contracted hepatitis B while operating on a patient three years earlier, and now his liver was failing. Despite being in the medical profession and having contacts throughout the United States, Dr. Berry's name went on the national waiting list for an organ transplant, just like any other person.

"I was 49. I had three daughters, a wife, a wonderful life," he said. The time he spent waiting to see if he would receive a donated liver left him, he said, "with the most desperate, lonely feeling. It was not knowing that was difficult. Physicians are used to being in charge. But I did not have any control over this issue."

Then a young wife in Brazoria collapsed with a bleeding aneurysm. Her family carried out the wishes she had expressed to them to be an organ donor. "She gave me the gift of life," Dr. Berry said, "and I will be eternally grateful to her and her family."

Other stories play out each day; some with less happy endings. And the list grows longer each year.

The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), which maintains the U.S. organ transplant waiting list, has more than 68,000 people currently registered. In 1998, a total of 21,197 lifesaving transplants were performed; but at the same time 4,855 people died awaiting a transplant.

"Every 16 minutes, a new name is added to the UNOS waiting list; and every 24 hours, 13 people die because suitable organs are not available for transplantation," said Susan Ristine of the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

One person like the young woman in Brazoria can make a tremendous difference, helping as many as 50 others. "Up to 25 different organs and tissues can be donated, some

allowing for multiple transplants," Ristine said. In addition to the liver, the heart, kidney, pancreas, lungs and intestines can provide new life for the sick. Tissue donations include the cornea, skin, heart valves, connective tissue, bone and bone marrow.

Any person potentially can be an organ donor. Those considering becoming a donor should know these facts.

The medical condition of a donor at time of death determines which organs and tissues can be given.

Once a person decides to become a donor, he or she should share that choice with family members.

A person 18 or older may sign a Uniform Donor Card. For people under 18, a parent or guardian must consent. A family member should witness the decision on the donor card.

A patient's death must be determined by doctors who are not involved in organ transplantation.

"People considering becoming a donor need to realize that doctors will do all they can to save that person's life," Dr. Berry said. "Nothing is withheld in the treatment for a person who is a potential donor. A doctor's first ethical tenet is to do no harm. We try to save lives."

But as Dr. Berry points out, "Death does happen. I ask people 'Would you like to save someone else's life? Ultimately, that is the most precious gift you can give when you die'."

Currently Dr. Berry is the chair of a 13-member Task Force, created by the 76th Texas Legislature, to examine current organ allocation in Texas. The group, which includes leaders of Texas' three organ procurement organizations, six transplant surgeons, three patient representatives and one non-voting member representing UNOS, is charged with developing and implementing an optimum organ allocation policy for the state.

Issues before the Task Force include patient survival rates, retransplantation rates, transportation issues, medical urgency, the efficiency of

each organ procurement region, waiting times at transplant centers, standardized listing criteria for transplant candidates and the need to encourage organ sharing within each region of the state.

Another bill from the 1999 legislative session, Senate Bill 673, created an Anatomical Gift Education Program to be funded by a \$1 voluntary check-off fee on Texas driver's license renewals. Funds will be used to educate residents about the laws governing anatomical gifts; the procedures for becoming an organ, eye or tissue donor or recipient; and the benefits of such gifts. The Texas Department of Public Safety will collect the funds, and TDH will develop educational programs, with input from various groups.

Dr. Berry stays in touch with the family of the woman whose liver he received. "I tell them how appreciative my family and I are," he said. "They always reply that they are so glad that part of their daughter is still alive and doing things for other people."

**Study helps fill gaps in child care**

It's a classic Catch-22 - and one that many parents in Texas face. You can't pay for child care if you don't have a job, and you can't get a job if you don't have child care. To make matters worse, some parents who can afford child care still don't have it because there are no openings in their area.

A landmark study released recently by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) could change all that. The study - which profiles the need for child care in every county - takes a more extensive look than ever before at child care across the state, according to TWC Chair Diane Rath.

Other studies have only looked at sample areas, whereas this one is based on responses from 90 percent of the regulated child care providers doing business in Texas at the time of the study. "This is the first time in recent

history that a study of this magnitude has been conducted," Rath said. "It's practically a door-to-door census."

The study looks at the demand, affordability and availability of child care in each county and includes data on the trends in population, workforce and industry that are affecting child care. The data was gathered August 1998 through May 1999.

TWC and the state's local workforce development boards will use the data to better plan child care services and to support requests for more state and federal funding. The additional funding would be used to help more parents pay for quality child care, as well as to create more jobs and high-quality child care centers by training Texans who are interested in becoming providers. The data will also be useful to schools and churches as they plan to provide their own child care services for parents or help them find services elsewhere.

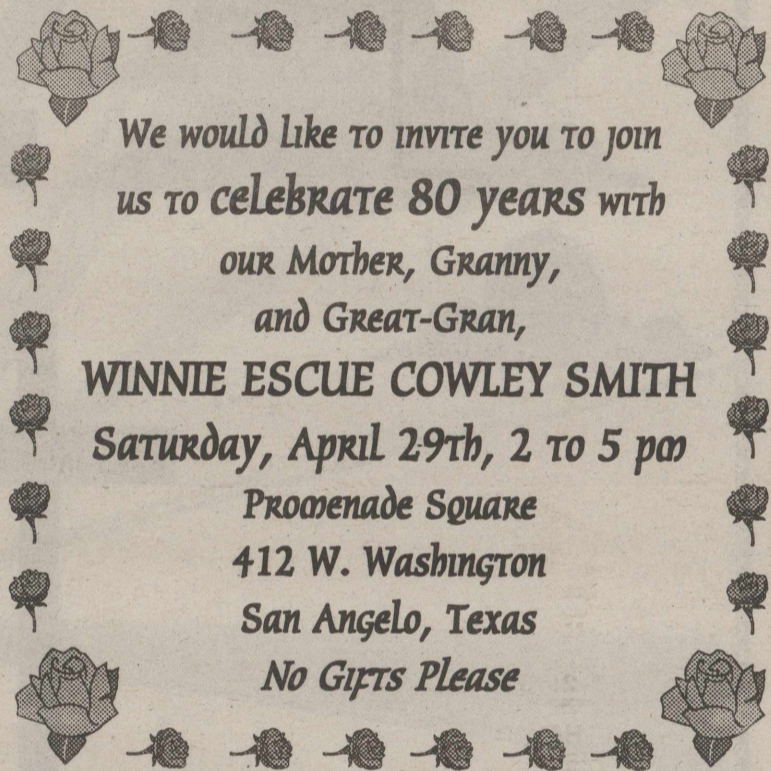
"Texans say child care is one of the biggest barriers to

staying employed," Rath said. "We believe the data will help us align childcare services with what the workforce needs."

"Scientific research has confirmed that children must get quality care and attention in the first few years of their lives to develop their full potential for learning. As we help many parents find employment, we must also ensure that they find quality care for their children."

"We finally have a benchmark," said Nancy Hard, president of the Texas Association of Child Care Resources and Referral Agencies which conducted the study. "Now that we have a database for every county's child care needs, we'll be able to chart our progress as we develop more and better child care services."

As the state agency responsible for providing subsidized child care services, TWC spent \$350 million to serve nearly 105,000 children daily in fiscal year 1999. More than 55 percent of Texas's 4.1 million children are in child care in Texas.


  
 We would like to invite you to join  
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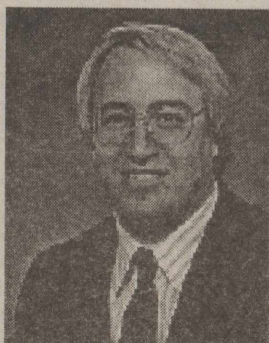
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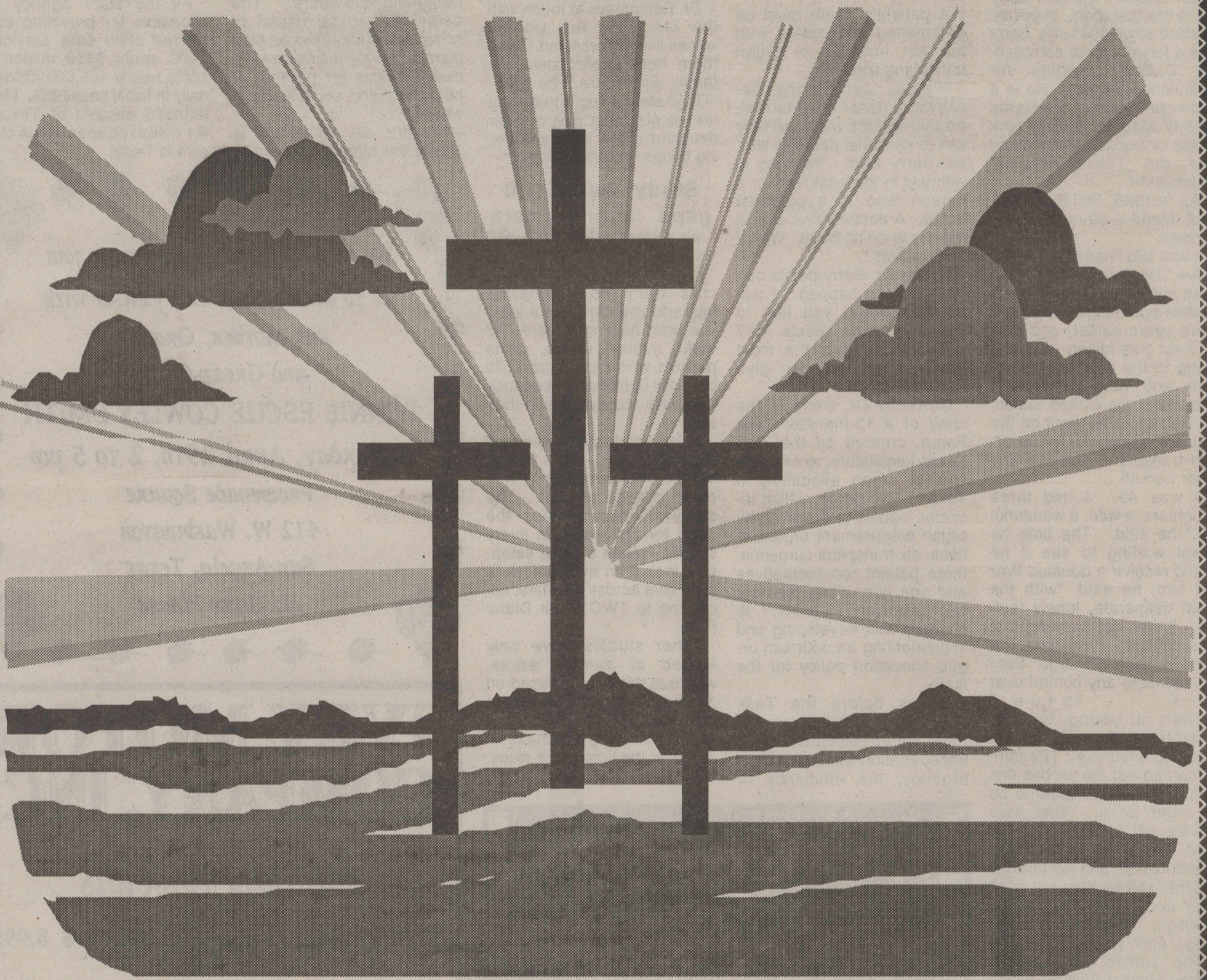
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