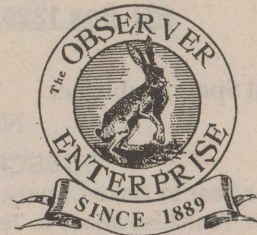


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE



Serving Coke County

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

Vol. 112, No. 40

Friday, May 5, 2000

Saturday is local election day

Coke County voters will go to the polls Saturday, May 6, to elect officers for a number of local governing entities. Polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm.

West Coke County Hospital District voters have four candidates vying for the three vacancies. Incumbents Winton Milliff, Linda Burns and Patty Byrne will be joined on the ballot by Mary Bessent. The election will be held at the Coke County Courthouse.

There are seven candidates running for the three 3-year terms in the Bronte Independent School District Board of Trustees election. 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. BISD voters will cast their ballots at City Hall in Bronte.

Four candidates are running for the three 3-year terms in the Robert Lee Independent School District Board of Trustees election. They include Wes Washam, Brian Hamrick, Ray Aldridge, and

Fredda McCabe. The election will be held at the school.

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.

Winning lottery ticket sold in Bronte

One of two winning tickets from last Wednesday's Texas Lotto jackpot drawing was purchased from our own local grocery store, Hall's Super Save in Bronte. The lucky winner in Bronte will split the jackpot with someone who bought their ticket at Edinburg, Texas.

The winning twosome will split approximately \$4.2 million, but the funds will be paid out in very different ways. The Edinburg winner will be paid an initial \$80,000, with an \$80,000 annual payment for a period of 24 years. The Bronte winner selected the cash value option, which will pay him or her a one-time payment of approximately \$1 million. According to Kerry Hall, whose store sold the winning ticket, the local win-

(cont'd. next page)



The Robert Lee Lady Steers golf team traveled to the Regional Tournament in Abilene on April 24 and 25. The Ladies advance to the State Tournament after finishing in 2nd place at the regional level. Team members include Shanna Wojtek, Dixie Simpson, Whitney Millican, Coach Wayne Alexander, Dee Van Huss, Macy Hill, and Ashley Townsend.

RLHS girls golf team headed for Austin

The Robert Lee Girls Golf Team qualified for the State Tournament this past week by finishing as the second place team at the Region 2-A Tournament in Abilene. The girls shot a 350-364 for a 714 total. Baird won the Regional Tournament with a record-setting 322-326, 648 total.

The Lady Steers found themselves trailing Baird by 28 shots, but 16 shots ahead of Throckmorton & Menard for the all important second spot (only the top 2 teams qualify for the State Tournament). Whitney Millican paced the Lady Steers with an 83 & Dee Van Huss completed her first round in 85.

The second day of competition saw the Throckmorton girls make a charge, but they could only make up 8 shots, as they posted a 356 to the Robert Lee girls 364. Menard faded a bit as they finished with a 378 to finish fourth. Van Huss posted another 85 to finish with a 170 total, good enough for 5th place medalist. Millican finished with a 90 for a 173 total. Other Robert Lee scores included Dixie Simpson 92-92=184; Shanna Wojtek 90-101=191; Macy Hill 111-97=208. Ashley Townsend competed as a

medalist and shot 89-92=181. Other scores of interest included Brooke McCutchen (Bronte) 77-78=155 for 2nd medalist & qualifies her for state; Mia Lopez (Menard) 83-84=167 for 4th medalist & qualifies for state; Andrea Conley (Menard) 85-85=170 tied for 5th medalist.

Team results:

1st, Baird 648; 2nd, Robert Lee 714; 3rd, Throckmorton A 722; 4th, Menard 744; 5th, Loop 795; 6th, Meridian 804; 7th, Petrolia 864; 8th, Trent 873; 9th, Sands 901; 10th, Chillicothe 903; 11th, Muenster 924; 12th, Throckmorton B 950; 13th, Goldburg 968; 14th, Panther Creek 974.

Bronte Senior Center sponsors driving course

The Bronte Senior Center will be sponsoring a 55 Alive Driving Course, May 8 & May 10 at 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

Gospel Singing Sunday

The regular monthly community gospel singing will be held Sunday, May 7 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Central Baptist Church in Bronte. Everyone in the area is invited to come and enjoy this fellowship time together.

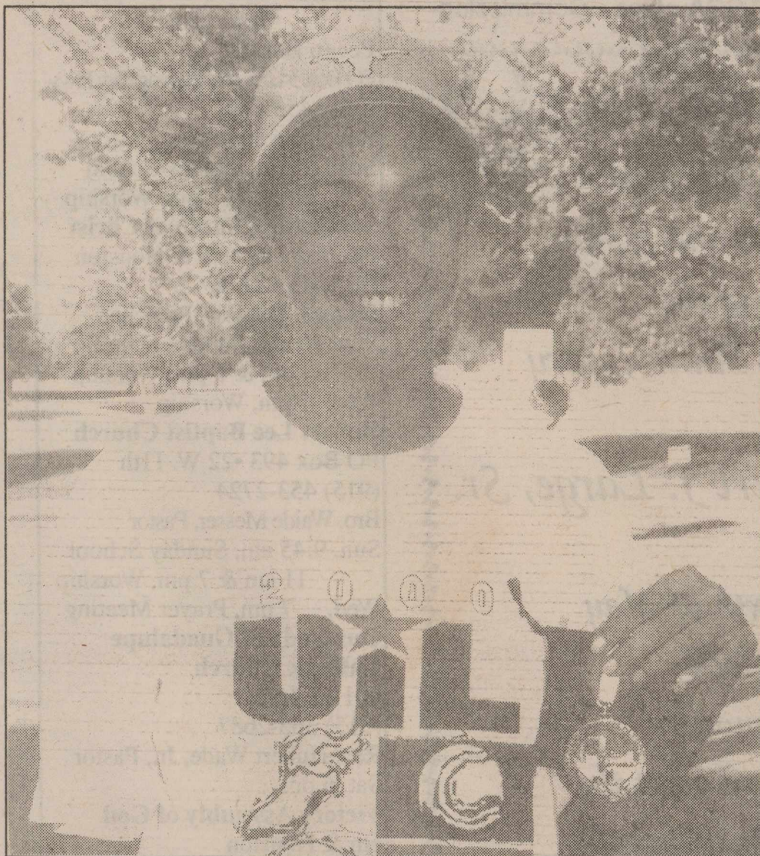
Graduation issues slated

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.

Bronte VFD to host golf tournament

The Bronte Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a golf tournament on Saturday, May 13 at 9:00 am at Singing Winds Golf Course. The format for this year's tournament is a 2 person, 27 hole, select shot. Teams wishing to participate may call Singing Winds Golf Course at 473-2156 to sign up.



Brooke McCutchen, a junior at Bronte High School, competed at the Regional Golf Tournament in Abilene on April 24 and 25. She earned the 2nd place individual medal and a trip to the state contest.

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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

...Lottery

(cont'd. from page 1)

ner will ultimately receive approximately \$750,000 when the 28% income tax is deducted from the the \$1 million amount. Kerry also stated that so far he hasn't received a nickel of the \$20,000 his store is supposed to receive from the sale of the winning ticket. He anticipates these funds will be forthcoming in the next two or three months.

As to the identity of the local winner, he or she did not want us taking his or her picture; so we are honoring that request. Nor will we reveal his or her identity. But if you really want

to find out, all you have to do is contact anyone in the area and they'll let you in on the secret.

Counting the Wingate couple who were recent winners and the Ballinger winner a couple of years ago, this makes for quite a high percentage of local lotto winners, when compared to our area's percentage of lotto ticket sales. And, store employees at Hall's have noted an increase in lotto tickets sales following the sale of the winning ticket. Could be they're hoping that lightning will strike twice.

Death Notices

Franklin

T.H. Franklin, 76, of Bronte, died Thursday, April 27, 2000, in a San Angelo Hospital.

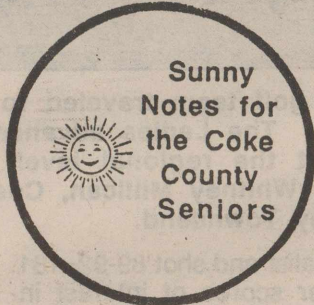
Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm on Monday, May 1, 2000 at the First Baptist Church of Bronte with burial in the Fairview Cemetery. Services were under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include three children, T.H. Franklin, Jr. of Gordonville, Texas; Irene Lanette Aydelott of Rankin, Texas; and Michael Wayne Franklin of Memphis, Texas; two brothers, Fred Franklin of Brownwood, Texas and Ted Franklin of Pelham, Georgia; two sisters Gladys Hill of Abilene, Texas and Mildred

CORRECTION:

In last week's SWCD Poster Contest story, Megan Gibbs was inadvertently omitted as district runner-up in the contest. Megan is the daughter of Kendall and Lisa Gibbs of Bronte and Shellie Gibbs of Robert Lee.

Hill of Jacksonville, Texas; eight grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.



The Bronte Senior Center will be sponsoring a "55 Alive Driving Course". Classes will begin May 8th from 1:00 -5:00 pm. Finishing class, May 10th from 1:00 - 5:00 PM.

Insurance companies give reduced rates on your insurance for attending the course. Please remember to bring your drivers license to class. Call and give us your name and phone number. Age begins at 50 years and up!

For more information call Bronte Senior Center at 473-6471 or Dorothy Collins at 473-5221. Leave a message.

Court votes to opt out of WTRCA insurance pool

by Hal Spain

The Coke County Commissioners met in special session on Monday, May 1, to discuss with employees their next step in the ongoing debate concerning county ties with the beleaguered West Texas Rural Counties Association (WTRCA) insurance pool. The county has insured its employees through this pool since 1995, with catastrophic results. The basic differences between belonging to an insurance pool or doing business with an outside carrier are many. But, the major difference is that the county can maintain lower premiums at the expense of assuming more risk in the costs of the claims against the coverage. Over the past several years, the Coke County Commissioners have opted to maintain lower premiums in the face of declining county revenues. At the same time, claims have increased to the point where the county now finds itself faced with a total bill of from \$230,000 to over \$300,000, just to get out of the WTRCA system.

County Judge Jackie Walker, County Attorney Nancy Arthur, and County Treasurer Phelan Wrinkle had attended an informational meeting on Friday, April 28, to discuss the problems with WTRCA. At the Monday meeting, Judge Walker introduced County Attorney Nancy Arthur to explain their findings to the group. Arthur started out by stating that from what she understood from the meeting, there will be a large shortfall in this year's premiums versus claims against the coverage. Additional problems she discussed included high fixed or "living" expenses of the central office for the association.

Arthur also discussed that there are additional problems with their (WTRCA's) Lloyd's of London account, which handles the insurance for WTRCA. She indicated that Lloyd's might pay up to \$2 million in claims over the next few months (over \$2,237,000 in

claims to date have been filed). For that to happen, WTRCA must pay out \$300,000 each month over the next two months to not reduce their Lloyd's of London reimbursements. Arthur said that even if this happens, there will still be a considerable shortfall concerning payments for claims.

Arthur's recommendation was for Coke County to pay our share of the shortfall and take an assignment against Lloyd's for the money they would owe us. She stated that the sooner we filed our claim, the better chance we would have of being reimbursed.

The group then turned to the letter the court has received from WTRCA stating that Shannon Medical Center and Shannon Clinic will no longer accept the WTRCA insurance coverage. If covered employees do seek medical care at a Shannon facility, they are instructed to pay cash at the time of their office visit. Instructions for reimbursement were then detailed in the remainder of the letter. When one couples this information with the fact that Angelo Community Hospital has filed an \$800,000 lawsuit against WTRCA, the prospects of obtaining local healthcare from the WTRCA policy look dim indeed.

The court then passed a motion to send a letter out to all county employees, detailing the information in the Shannon letter and the procedure for reimbursement of medical claims.

County Auditor Stover Taylor reiterated his longstanding position to withdraw from the WTRCA pool as soon as possible. Taylor stated that he would need very tangible documentation supplied by the commissioners before he would approve another check to WTRCA. Motion was then made and seconded to withdraw from the WTRCA insurance pool as of July 1, 2000. Motion carried unanimously.

The court is in general agreement that the funds owed the pool (from \$230,000 to over \$300,000) will be forwarded to the WTRCA office. Commission-

ers indicated that an official motion to that effect would be forthcoming at the Monday, May 8 meeting of the group.

Several questions remain, even if these debts are paid. One concerns the fact that the court has forwarded advance premiums for WTRCA coverage until October 2000. Will county officials use this coverage for the quarter (July, August, & September) that has already been paid, even though the county may be subjected to additional claims coverage? Another question involves where the money will come from. The total amount owed, which is assumed to be somewhere between \$230,000 to over \$300,000, is the equivalent of from 20 to 25% of the county's annual operating budget, when one excludes the figures for the Wackenhut facility.

These are some of the thorny issues that will confront the commissioners at their Monday meeting.

City of Robert Lee election

The City of Robert Lee will not be holding an election on Saturday, May 6, pursuant to the Election Code provision of unopposed candidates. Garland Davis, Mayor Incumbent and Council Members, Beth Prather and Bonita Copeland will be installed at the May 15 City Council Meeting.

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

1950 2000

*You are cordially invited
to join with friends and family
in celebrating the
Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary
of
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Large, Sr.
on
Saturday, the sixth of May
at two o'clock
in the afternoon.
The celebration will be at the
Robert Lee Baptist Church
22 West Eleventh Street • Robert Lee, Texas
No gifts, please.*

Thoughts on the Scripture

By Rev. Jim Reeves

Ephesians 5: 1, 2 "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..."

At various times, all of us try to imitate someone else, a parent, a celebrity, a favorite relative, etc. Who better to seek to imitate than God, as shown through the life of Christ. To live our lives in such a way that we love everyone, even those who do not love us.

May God bless each one of you.
 Brother Jim



These youngsters were honored with graduation ceremonies recently for participating in the Storyhour at the Coke County Library.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Concerned Citizens of Bronte,

I recently read an article in the American Family Association Journal that has left me greatly disturbed. Are you aware that AT&T Broadband & Internet Services partnered with the National Middle School Association, the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education, and liberal groups like the Anti-Defamation League to distribute a diverse program to middle schools nationwide, one of their major agendas being, to promote the politically correct view of homosexuality. Resources recommended to teachers include materials produced by the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network, which has been tirelessly working to pry open the doors of the nation's public schools to homosexual activists.

Homosexual activists frequently accuse Christians of "mental" or even "spiritual" violence when they state that the Bible calls homosexuality a sin.

National Middle School Association Executive Director Sue Swaim has stated that middle school was the perfect time to reach children with the message of diversity. She further states, that at that age teens are sometimes questioning the behavior of adults. She goes

on to say that adolescence is the best time to reach this vulnerable, sensitive, questioning population with a so called positive learning experience. What these people are meaning by positive learning experience is that kids are taught that homosexuality is normal and moral. They purposefully target kids this age because they are vulnerable to a slick presentation that basically says, parents are bigots if they believe that homosexuality is immoral or not normal.

I have always been one to sit back and say, "Well someone ought to do something about this or that." I've come to realize that that mentality doesn't work, because the majority of people are complacent just like me, and nothing gets done. I look at our society and more and more I see that we as a nation, have lost all sense of moral, and spiritual standards. I for one, am a Christian, but you know what?

I haven't been acting like one. When I see something going wrong in our society, I turn my head the other way and say, "oh well that's our government for ya. Well when I read about this horrific thing they want to teach our children, I realize I cannot sit by and do nothing any longer.

I hope and pray that after you read this letter, you too will feel moved to take a stand. Concerned citizens, parents, and Christians, please contact Sue at 473-2515.

Susan Hufstutler

Annual Easter Hat Parade

The Annual Easter Hat Parade at the Robert Lee Care Center was a great success. Everyone had lots of fun fashioning their Easter Bonnets and parading them up and down the halls singing "In you Easter Bonnet". First place winner was Floy Sawyer, second place was Brookie Bozarth, and 3rd place was Essie Childress.

*Please join us for the first meeting of
MotherWise Training
& support for mothers.*

*Begins Wednesday, May 16, 2000
6 to 7 pm*

Library • First Baptist Church • Bronte

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California Strawberries
Lb. \$1.29

Roma Tomatoes
Lb. .69

Bar S Meat Franks
2 12 Oz. Pkg. / \$1

IGA

Tomato Sauce
7 8 oz. cans / \$1

Selected Varieties Best Yet Sodas
2 12 Pk, 12 Oz. Cans / \$3

Mixed Vegetables, Cut or French Style Green Beans or Cream or Whole Kernel Corn
IGA Canned Vegetables
4 15-15.5 oz. cans / \$1

Selected Varieties Blue Bell Ice Cream
2 1/2 Gal. Rounds / \$6.50

Robert Lee School News



Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these second grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.

Robert Lee ISD school board meets

The Robert Lee ISD school board met in regular session on April 20, 2000 at 6:30 pm in the high school library. Six members of the board were present, Dianne Simpson was absent. The following business was conducted. Minutes of previous meetings were approved. Bills were paid. An Ed-Flex waiver for Title II was approved. The 1999-2000 school budget was amended. Superintendent Hood presented special recognition plaques to Sally Gloria, Lonnie

Bloodworth and Dianne Simpson expressing the district's appreciation for their service as school board members.

The principals and Superintendent gave their respective monthly reports. Frank Moates of TASB met with the Board to establish a time table and profile for the Superintendent's search.

Dates were set for the following Board Meetings:
 May 9 - Canvas the election results
 May 23 - Regular Board meeting
 June 6 - Regular Board meeting
 The public is invited. Prior to the meeting, the

administration, board members and spouses were treated to an appreciation dinner compliments of the Home Economics department.

Robert Lee Regional track news

The Robert Lee Steers traveled to Abilene Christian University on April 28 & 29 to compete in the regional track meet. The results are as follows:
 3200 - 5th, Joel Gallegos, 10:26.07
 110 Hurdles - 6th, Todd Hamilton, 15.72
 300 Hurdles - 4th, Dan McCown, 40.03
 Long Jump - 3rd, Deric Brothers, 21'4"
 High Jump - 6th, Dan McCown, 6'
 Triple Jump - 2nd, Dan McCown, 43'11"
 Pole Vault - 4th, Stewart Millican, 13'; 6th, Matthew Pitcock, 13'

Lady Steers Regional Qualifiers

The Lady Steers placed 8th as a team at the Regional track meet. The results are as follows:
 High Jump - DeShira Dickey
 Shot Put - 6th, Bobbie Sparks, 33'6"
 Discus - 4th, Bobbie Sparks, 105'1"
 400 M relay - 6th, Kizre Matthews, Dixie Simpson, Shanna Wojtek, DeShira Dickey, Alternates: Kindra Matthews, Rachelle Mills, 52.80
 100 M Hurdles - Jodee Helwig
 400 M Dash - 3rd, DeShira Dickey, 61.75
 1600 M relay - 4th, Shanna Wojtek, Rachelle Mills, Dixie Simpson, DeShira Dickey, Alternate: Jodee Helwig, Kindra Johnson, 4:19.15



Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these first and second grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.

Early release for RLISD set for May 11

The Robert Lee ISD will have an early release day on May 11, 2000. Classes will dismiss and buses will run at 2:00 pm. The reason for the early release of students is for additional staff development for the entire staff of the school system.

Hendry congratulates RLES for meeting AR goals
 On Friday, April 28 the

Robert Lee Elementary School students who had met their Accelerated Reader goals for the 5th Six Weeks grading period had a special treat. Cathy Hendry, owner of Cathy's, treated each student to a mylar CONGRATULATIONS balloon. Because of her support of the reading program at RLES, Ms. Hendry donated these balloons. The RLES staff and students appreciate this generous gesture.

The important thing is not to stop questioning.
 —Albert Einstein

SCHOOL MENU

- Breakfast**
- Monday, May 8**
Orange Juice, Donut, Cereal, Milk
- Tuesday, May 9**
Orange Juice, French Toast, Sausage, Cereal, Milk
- Wednesday, May 10**
Orange Juice, Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Milk
- Thursday, May 11**
Orange Juice, Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Milk
- Friday, May 12**
Holiday
- Lunch**
- Monday, May 8**
Nachos, Corn, Chili Beans, Cake, Milk
- Tuesday, May 9**
Chicken Nuggets, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Rolls, Pears, Milk
- Wednesday, May 10**
Baked Potato, Chili w/Crackers, Peaches, Gingerbread, Milk
- Thursday, May 11**
Hamburgers, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Tator Tots, Ice Cream, Milk
- Friday, May 12**
Holiday

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Robert Lee High School Class of 2000

- * Giovanna Barnett
- * Benjamin J. Bessent
- * Deric L. Brothers
- * Daniel J. Cates
- * Shyla Cole
- * Christian M. De Los Santos
- * Jeremy K. Eaton
- * Kent Freeman
- * Joel J. Gallegos
- * Thomas Coke Hendry
- * Macy K. Hill
- * Melanie D. Johnson
- * William C. Lane
- * Jamie L. Luna
- * Andrew H. McCabe
- * Dan R. McCown
- * Cecelia Ortega
- * Jodi Patterson
- * Matthew B. Pitcock
- * Jerry D. Riley
- * Samuel B. Schiwart
- * Nicklas L. Service
- * Gina R. Torres
- * Ashley N. Townsend
- * Ted J. Townsend
- * Brandon G. Van Huss
- * Joseph Wink
- * Shane M. Wojtek
- * Jennifer M. Woods
- * Mandy Jo Blair
- * Jason Sanders
- * Austin Roe

* These seniors have made gift selections at
CATHY'S FLOWERS & GIFTS
 453-2427

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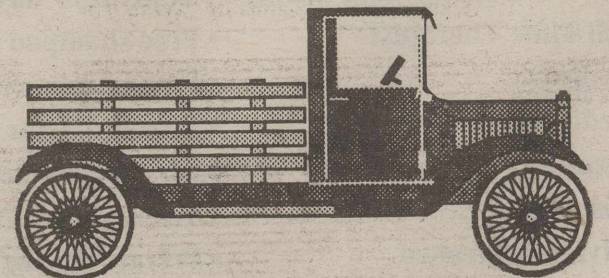


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Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these fourth grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.



Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these fifth grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.

MotherWise classes beginning

MotherWise is a ministry for mothers that provides support and training in bible study and mothering skills. MotherWise materials were written by Denise Glenn to give mothers emotional and spiritual support. Many local women met Denise during the recent retreat, Victory in the Vine.

A local MotherWise class will begin May 16 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at First Baptist Church. The group will meet in the library of the church. The class consists of ten weekly lessons. A workbook will be used for individual study. The homework in the workbook will be completed after viewing the video lesson during class. We will meet each Wednesday during the summer.

To register or to order a workbook, please call the office at First Baptist Church. The workbooks will cost \$15.00. Please call the office if you'll need a nursery provided during the class. You may also contact Susan Graves at 473-7521 for more information. All women are invited to participate.

WCC EMS donations for April 2000

'64 Study Club
Treat-A-Weed, Inc.

RLVFD news

by Marlan Thompson

The fire department held its first meeting for May on the first at the fire station.



Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these third grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.

Chief Rick Drennan presided. Minutes and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Rick reported the sales of the 911 address signs are progressing well.

Collections for the rummage sale are not.

It was voted to postpone the rummage sale until June, as Bronte is having a golf tournament on the 13th. We need a lot more items before we can have the sale.

Anyone wishing to donate

items for the rummage sale can drop them off at the fire station, or contact any fireman to pick up large items.

Bud Thompson and Curtis Walker attended a fire meeting in Winters and reported on a film they had seen regarding the do's and don'ts in case of chemical spills. This was discussed at length.

They had discussions about a rescue truck and what needs to be repaired on the trucks and cost of radio batteries.

ELECT MARY BESSENT WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MARY BESSENT is an ADVOCATE for the elderly and disabled. During her last term on the Board of Directors the Robert Lee Care Center received a deficiency free status from the Texas Department of Health. Mary Bessent is dedicated to bringing the Care Center back to that status.

MARY BESSENT BELIEVES West Coke County Hospital District tax dollars should benefit all citizens of West Coke County. She worked to establish the Therapy Clinic and to maintain the Shamrock Clinic. During her tenure on the board the subsidy to Shannon Medical System was reduced ten-fold without compromising staff or hours of operation at the Shamrock Clinic.

MARY BESSENT is CONCERNED that there be good fiscal management of tax dollars collected. The tax rate was steadily reduced during Mary's tenure. Mary believes that the Robert Lee Care Center should not be dependent on tax dollars for daily operations. She will be diligent in trying to get the Care Center back to that status.

MARY BESSENT has served as a VOLUNTEER EMT with the West Coke County EMS for the past 9 years. She averages 100 hours of on call duty each week and was on 70% of the ambulance calls made in 1999. Mary is an EMS coordinator for the Texas Department of Health, and also an instructor/examiner. Mary has taught basic EMT classes on a volunteer basis and teaches monthly continuing education classes for EMS personnel in Coke County. Mary is a member of the Regional Advisory Council for trauma services in Area K and also serves on the Coke County Emergency Management Committee.

MARY BESSENT has been APPOINTED by Governor Bush to the Concho Valley Workforce Development Board, Mary serves on the executive committee and is chairperson of the finance committee. This board administers all programs concerned with welfare-to-work and has an annual budget of 6.5 million dollars. Mary has served on the Concho Valley MHMR Patient's Rights Committee and is a charter member of the Coke County Library Board.

MARY BESSENT is a MEMBER of the First United Methodist Church where she teaches an adult class and serves as lay leader for the Church. Mary is active in all areas of missions of the Church.

MARY BESSENT WORKS hard to make West Coke County the best it can be and has pledged to spend whatever time necessary serving the West Coke County Hospital District.

This ad has been paid for by supporters of Mary Bessent, candidate for West Coke County Hospital District, Board of Directors, PO Box 1299, Robert Lee, TX 76945.

Some airlines will mark passengers as "no-show" if they don't arrive on time for a scheduled flight, particularly during peak travel times or on flights that are overbooked. The airline will cancel your reservations for all scheduled segments—such as connecting flights or the return part of a round trip ticket—not just the part you missed. Try to confirm flights 24 hours before take off if you can.

Mother's Day Bake Sale

Friday, May 12th

9 am to 12 noon

Robert Lee State Bank lobby

All proceeds will go to the "American Cancer Relay For Life" team from Robert Lee. To make donations of baked goods or to help with the sale, please contact Debbie Wilkes at 453-2819.

Sponsored by Friends of "Relay For Life".

We'll Be There...

...To make your family more secure, to protect your property, to insure your life.

We'll be there. Whenever you need us, we're only a phone call away.

You're part of our family—we'll be there, for you.



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453-2522

Bronte School News

Bronte Elementary sets pre-registration

Bronte Elementary has scheduled pre-registration for the Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students residing in the Bronte school district for Thursday, May 11, from 2:30 - 4:00 pm.

In order to enroll, you must bring the following documents with you: immunization record, social security card, birth certificate and proof of residence (i.e. utility bill, rent receipt, etc.).

Eligibility requirements for enrolling in Kindergarten:

A child must be 5 years old by September 1, 2000.

Immunizations required for Kindergarten:

Three (3) doses polio vaccine including one received on or after their fourth birth-

day.

Four (4) doses DTP/DtaP vaccine including one received on or after their fourth birthday.

One (1) dose MMR vaccine received on or after the first birthday. Children born on or after September 2, 1991, must have two (2) doses of measles vaccine (this dose may be received as part of a second MMR).

Children born on or after September 2, 1992, must have three (3) doses Hepatitis B vaccine (Effective 8/1/98).

Eligibility requirements for enrolling in Preschool program for children with disabilities:

Menard Special Ed Cooperative and Bronte ISD are providing an Early Childhood (Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities) class for children in Coke County, ages 3-5, who have an identified handicapping condition. For information about this program, call Menard Cooperative at 396-4587 or Bronte Elementary at 473-2251.

To enroll in the PPCD program, students must be 3 years old on or before September 1, 2000, and must have an identified handicapping condition.

Eligibility requirements for Pre-Kindergarten students are:

Pre-Kindergarten students must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2000.

Immunizations required for Early Childhood and Pre-Kindergarten students are:

One (1) dose MMR vaccine received on or after first birthday.

One (1) DOSE Hib vaccine on or after 15 months of age, unless a primary series and booster have been completed.

Three (3) doses polio vaccine.

Four doses DTP/DtaP.

Children born on or after September 2, 1994, must have one (1) dose of Varicella vaccine received on or after 1st birthday.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Elementary office at 473-2251.

McClure named to All-State

Jerrod McClure was recently named to the academic All-State Team in basketball.

Dinner Theater 2000

Come enjoy the play the tremendously successful movie starring Julia Roberts was based on. The Bronte High School One-Act Play will be presenting this year's Dinner Theater, featuring the play "Steel Magnolias," on Tuesday, May 9, 2000 at 7:00 pm. The play will be performed in the school auditorium and the meal will be served in the cafeteria immediately following the performance. Tickets may be purchased from any OAP member, in the high school office, or at the door.

This year's OAP has been very successful. The group advanced from Zone competition in Brownwood, and each member of the cast received an award for either All-Star Cast or Honorable Mention All-Star Cast. In the District competition held in Eden, Bronte placed as the alternate play for the Area competition, and several students received awards including Elizabeth Morgan earning the Best Actress honor. Members of the OAP 2000 cast and crew are Khanni Beauchamp, Coby Carper, Amanda Cox, Cassandra Fields, Christine Galvan, Michael Johnson, Morgan McCutchen, Amy Morgan, Elizabeth Morgan, Tiffany Riordan, Rosa

Rodriguez, and Kim Smith.

Zone awards

All-Star Cast

Amanda Cox, Amy Morgan
Honorable mention All-Star cast

Tiffany Riordan, Cassandra Fields, Elizabeth Morgan, Khanni Beauchamp

District awards

Best actress

Elizabeth Morgan

All-Star Cast

Khanni Beauchamp

Honorable mention All-star cast

Amy Morgan

Bronte Regional qualifiers track news

The results of the regional track meet are as follows:

Shot Put - 1st, Blake McKee, 48'8 1/2"

400 M - 2nd, Jerrod McClure, 49.8

400 M Relay - 6th, Jesse McClure, Wes Howell, Josh Shoenfield, Jerrod McClure, 45.12

Blake and Jerrod qualified for the State Track Meet set for May 12.

BHS Color Guard to hold Bake Sale

The Bronte High School Color Guard is having a Bake Sale Saturday, May 6. The sale will be held at the Womack home, 423 Franklin in Bronte beginning at 8:30 am. All proceeds will be used to purchase new uniforms.

Keeping your child physically fit

In this age of computers, cable television and high-tech toys, simple play and physical activity seem to be all but forgotten.

"Children should be physically active almost every day," said Dr. Pat Vehrs, director of the Wellness Center at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. "Walking, hiking, jumping rope, running, playing ball, bicycling, skating and swimming are great ways to stay fit. Structured activities such as soccer and gymnastics can be added as time and resources permit."

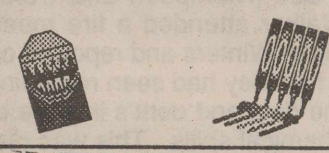
Vary recreational activities and use the proper equipment. Do not force children into a particular sport or activity. Instead, help them find physical activities that they enjoy and in which they can succeed. Keep activities fun, interesting and appropriate for the child's age.

Set a good example by joining your child and being physically active yourself.

It is nonsense to say there is not enough time to be fully informed...Time given to thought is the greatest time-saver of all.

—Norman Cousins.

SCHOOL MENU



Breakfast

Monday, May 8

Breakfast Pizza, Sliced Pears, Biscuit, Milk

Tuesday, May 9

Cereal, Apple Sauce, Donut, Milk

Wednesday, May 10

Sausage, Apple Juice, Pancake, Milk

Thursday, May 11

Scrambled Eggs, Tator Tots, Biscuit, Milk

Friday, May 12

French Toast Stix, Mixed Fruit, Teddy Grams, Milk

Lunch

Monday, May 8

Pizza, Sweet Corn, Tossed Salad, Apple Crisp, Milk

Tuesday, May 9

Pigs in a Blanket, Tator Tots, Ranch Style Beans, Sliced Pears, Milk

Wednesday, May 10

Tacos w/Cheese, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice, Lettuce & Tomato, Taco Shell, Brownies, Milk

Thursday, May 11

Sliced Turkey w/Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Spice Cake, Milk

Friday, May 12

Chick-Fil-Lay Sandwich, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Apple Sauce, Bun, Cinnamon Rolls, Milk

GLENN-BIVINS INSURANCE



See us for your auto insurance.

123 W. Main

Bronte

473-6791

In twelve years or so, my daughter Jael will graduate (God willing) from the Bronte I. S. D. I believe she will be proud of her heritage. Her great-grandfather helped found the school over 100 years ago. She represents the last of the third generation of her mother's family attending Bronte. My prayer is that she and every student in Bronte receive the best education available.

Let me point out a few things that I believe are factual and are relevant to my candidacy for the Bronte I. S. D. Board of Trustees.

- In Texas, the Class of 1998 (of those students taking the ACT or the SAT) 27.2 percent scored above the criterion. In Bronte's class of 1998, only 9.1 percent scored above the criterion.*
- The mission of delivering educational excellence to our children requires integrity, and one of the biggest factors affecting integrity is a board member's objectivity. It is my solemn promise to the voters in this school election that I will be objective, unbiased by gender or relatives**, and impartial.
- In volunteering to serve on the Board, I bring with me an extensive business, financial and budgetary background. I will use this background to serve each constituent of the B. I. S. D. to the best of my ability.

Like it or not, today's students will someday leave our tiny town and enter a national/international job market. My desire is that my child and your child graduate from Bronte well educated, enlightened, and inspired by their school system.

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.

*http://www.tea.state.tx.us/cgi/sas8/broker?_service=alamo&prgopt=1999%2Facct%2Fdisttbl.sas&year4=1999&year2=99&topic=acct&gifname=g_datatable99dist&level=District&title=Accountability+Table&_program=perfpref.perfmast.sas&search=distname&namenum=bronte

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pol. adv. pd. by Paul Williams

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Feature Arrangement: Mary Engelbreit Vase with Fresh Flowers \$29.95 • Also have Roses & Mixed Arrangements & Corsages • Silk Arrangements • Plants - Green Plants, Blooming Plants & Silk Plants • "Tin Pan" & "Old Glory" Candles • "Apron Strings Gourmet" Cookie Mixes in Mason Jars • Books • Teas & Tea Pots • Crystal • "Katherines Collections" Plates & Plate Racks • "Heart Tugs" Figurines • "Chicken Soup" Figurines • Mary Engelbreit Tea Cups, Tea Pots, Frames, Etc.

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Important for Parents to vote in School Board Elections

By Norma Ebbitt
 (Editor's Note: Norma Ebbitt is the mother of two boys in East Central Independent School District and a volunteer with Texans for a Traditional School Year. Mrs. Ebbitt and Texans for a Traditional School Year can be reached toll-free at 877-531-9011.)

There are two topics on which the majority of Texans have little disagreement; the importance of a quality education and the impact family time has on the development of children. Yet, knowing the importance of education for our young, voter turnout for the one election that controls policy in local school districts is embarrassingly low across the state. As a parent who didn't place much importance on school board elections, after becoming active this year, I have learned that school district elections are critical to the educational quality of our schools and should be given the time and energy they deserve by me and parents across the state.

School board candidates are willing to volunteer virtually countless hours of their time each week, toward the betterment of our schools and our children. Yet, many of us find it difficult to learn the various positions candidates have on important issues and to take the five or so minutes it takes to vote.

Each candidate has unique views on key issues and it is more important now than ever to learn the beliefs of each candidate. I urge all parents to join me this year as I let my voice be heard at the polls.

The Scripps-Howard Texas Poll, conducted the summer of 1999, showed that 77 percent of Texans favor a late-August or early September school start date. Poll results were reinforced by parents across the state as they volun-

teered to work on calendar committees, addressed school board members and circulated petitions requesting a later school start date. This work by parents was not done in vain. Due to their efforts, many school districts will be enjoying a later school start date this August. School board members listened to parents' concerns and understood their desire for a more traditional school year. They also understood the early August school start date was detrimental to teachers wanting to maximize continuing education possibilities during the summer months.

Sadly, many school board members and school administrators were simply not interested in the desires of the community - some seemed to forget they are "elected" officials. Maybe they don't feel they are accountable because voter turnout is so dismal and parental involvement is lacking. Or maybe, they simply need to be replaced by those willing to do what is best for Texas families and students.

As a parent volunteer for Texans for a Traditional School Year, I know first-hand the organization received hundreds of calls from frustrated parents. These were parents who took the time to get involved and found their school board member had a closed ear to their frustrations or simply ignored their calls all together. The questions were all the same, "How can I get my school board member to call me back or to discuss this issue with me?" The solution is very simple, yet the opportunity to impact change only comes around every few years: Make your voice heard during the school board election.

There is no doubt in my mind that the time and effort I put into becoming an educated voter will be worthwhile throughout the next few years. You may consider doing what I have done. Begin

by calling and asking each candidates' position on issues important to you - i.e. school calendars, social policy, discipline, teacher pay and budget. Next review voting records of those seeking re-election - does the voting record reflect the stance the school board member communicated to you? Finally, let the candidates know what issues you feel are important and that you will be watching their vote next time around.

The larger the voter turnout for school board elections, the greater impact we will have as parents on new policies and procedures.

Get facts straight when it comes to food and exercise

Whether your athletic activities include working out, running or taking a fast walk, the right food is the key to getting the best results from exercise.

"A balanced diet provides the energy to complete an exercise routine and all the nutrients necessary for tissue growth and replacement after a workout," said Kathy Enright, PA-C, of the Shamrock Clinic of Robert Lee. "Unfortunately, there a lot of myths and half-truths out there that can be, at a minimum, useless and, at worst,

dangerous."

MYTH: Eating more protein helps build more muscle. Protein is important in building and protecting muscles, but high-protein diets or supplements have not been proven to increase muscle mass. Excessive protein intake may also strain kidney function.

MYTH: Eat a lot of carbohydrates before each workout. A high-carbohydrate diet is not necessary for a regular workout. If preparing for a long-distance event lasting an hour or longer, such as a marathon, a high-carbohydrate diet may be needed, starting several days before the event. For events lasting less than 90 minutes, a high-carbohydrate diet for one day can adequately fuel muscles.

MYTH: Sports drinks before and after normal exercise are essential for replacing lost body fluids. During activity, perspiration causes loss of water and minerals such as sodium and potassium that are important for normal body functions. The average American diet contains more than enough sodium to make up for losses, and potassium is widely distributed in foods, especially fruits and vegetables.

MYTH: Beverages that contain caffeine and alcohol

stimulate the nervous system and provide energy. Drinks that contain caffeine and alcoholic beverages have dehydrating effects, which offer no benefits to a person who works out regularly or an athlete in training.

For more information on nutrition and exerciser contact the Shamrock Clinic of Robert Lee, 722 S. Washington, at (915) 453-4516.

To most people nothing is more troublesome than the effort of thinking.

—James Bryce

LONGBRANCH BAR-B-QUE
 — Saturday & Sunday —
 May 6th & 7th
 At The Red Light In BRONTE

COKE COUNTY KICKAPOO WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1	
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 1999	
Revenues	
Tax Revenues (See Note 2F)	\$1,282
Interest Income	1,764
Total Revenues	\$3,046
Expenditures	
Directors' Fees	\$500
Clerk Expense	600
Election Expense	0
Office Rent	300
Office Expense	77
Meeting Expense	79
Audit Expense	450
Bond	67
Tax Collection	69
Dam Maintenance	43
Inspection Expense	50
Miscellaneous	64
Total Expenditures	\$2,299
Excess Revenues	\$747
Fund Balance, January 1, 1999	\$43,664
Fund Balance, December 31, 1999	\$44,411

As a parent of three children, a citizen of this community, and a 1986 graduate of Bronte High School, I am very proud of the direction in which our school has taken. We are very fortunate to have the caring faculty, administration, and parental support that we have here in Bronte.

As a member of the Bronte I. S. D. Board of Trustees, I will do my part at making sure that we continue to move forward in this new millennium. I want to make sure that all students have the best opportunity to excel academically and receive the best opportunities available for each student on an individual basis.

I am asking for your vote for no other reason than to help our school continue in a very positive direction. Although there are some minor issues I would like to address, it is my opinion that we have a great school district for our children.

If you would like to speak to me in person or by phone please call me at 473-3600. Thank you for your time.

Doug Hoyt
 Candidate for the Bronte I.S.D. Board of Trustees
 Pol. adv. pd by Doug Hoyt

Medicine cabinet cleaning

When you embark on spring cleaning in the next few months, go ahead and include the medicine cabinet on your list.

Spending a few minutes cleaning your medicine cabinet could make a big difference in your family's health and safety. A peek into most medicine cabinets might reveal outdated prescribed and over the counter medications and medications without proper child safety measures, said Lois Nash, M.S., R.Ph., director of Pharmacy Services at The Methodist Hospital in Houston. If Nash looked at your medicine cabinet she might also find that some medicine cabinet musts are missing.

But first things first. Nash recommends not even using your medicine cabinet for the storage of medicine if it's in your bathroom. She said the humidity and heat from the shower are poor conditions for storing medications. A better place for your medications is a storage area in the kitchen or bedroom, up high and out of reach from children, and secured with a child safety latch.

Once your "cabinet" is established, Nash recommends

Look Who's New Braden Jameson Smith

Braden Jameson Smith was born at University Medical Center in Lubbock, Texas on March 15, 2000. He weighed eight pounds and one ounce and was 20 1/2 inches long.

His parents are Tiffany and Dr. Jeff Smith from Lubbock, Texas. Proud grandparents are Larry and Barbara Jameson of Silver, Texas and Larry & Diane Smith of Santa Anna.

Jeff is a family practice resident physician at Texas Tech University Medical Center at Lubbock and Tiffany is a marriage & family associate who plans to stay at home with the baby.

sifting through the medications and throwing away all prescriptions not in use and expired prescription and over the counter drugs.

"You really shouldn't be keeping any prescription medications around that you are not currently taking," Nash said. "And you also should keep all medications in the original packages because of important information on the labels."

Nash also recommends that you make a list of all the medications, including herbal remedies, that you are currently taking.

Put one of these lists where you store your medicine and, more importantly, carry one in your wallet so emergency medical personnel can easily determine what medications you are taking. Some drugs, Nash said, can be harmful if they interact with others.

If you have any questions about the medications you are taking, you should not hesitate to ask your pharmacist or call The Methodist Hospital Drug Information Center at 713-790-4190.

Stocking your medicine cabinet

Ipecac: This is used in situations when a child needs to

Emergency Ambulance runs for April

4-3-00, 4:20 pm, Medical Transport
4-5-00, 4:59 am, Medical Transport
4-9-00, 12:02 am, Medical Transport
4-9-00, 6:33 pm, Medical Transport
4-10-00, 12:00 pm, Medical Transport
4-10-00, 6:59 pm, Medical Transport
4-16-00, 10:54 pm, Medical Transport
4-17-00, 2:18 am, Medical Transport
4-19-00, 4:00 pm, Medical Transport
4-20-00, 8:20 pm, Medical Transport
4-25-00, 7:28 pm, Medical Transport

expel a poison. Always call poison control (1-800-764-7661) before using. You could do more harm by giving ipecac, so check first.

Aspirin, ibuprofen, and acetaminophen: These should be handy for pain and fever relief.

Cortisone cream: The anti-itch cream is good to have around for relief of insect bites.

Antibiotic cream: Good for treating scrapes, cuts and scratches.

Decongestants and antihistamines: These medications are good to have for allergy relief and colds.

Antacids: For an upset stomach.

No one knows his true character until he has run out of gas, purchased something on the installment plan and raised an adolescent.

—Mercelene Cox



Macy Hill, a senior at Robert Lee High School, won the talent contest at the FFA district banquet held May 2 at Wall. Macy will advance to Area in San Angelo on May 19th.

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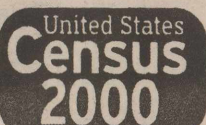
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Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these sixth grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.



Cathy Hendry of Cathy's Flowers in Robert Lee donated balloons to these sixth grade Robert Lee students who met their Accelerated Reading goals for the 5th Six Weeks.

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Don't get me started...

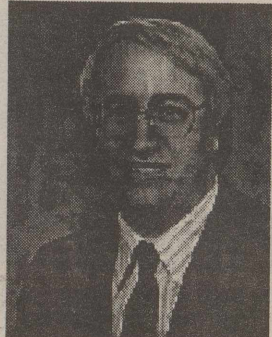
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*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) - interest cannot remain on deposit; periodic payout of interest is required. Effective 05/02/00.



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Farm to Table Meals

Beef By Marti Magruder

Start A Sandwich Tradition With Beef

According to research from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, consumers purchase meat based on cooking ease, cooking know-how and family preference.

Sandwiches can fit into the menu as a quick 'n' easy meal for busy schedules. The sandwich suggestion here comes from Merle Clark, a Farmland member/owner in Hulett, Wy.

The recipe uses a boneless top round roast. The roast takes about two hours to cook, but then you have a roast ready for a family sit-down meal. Afterwards use the leftovers for sandwiches. How you use the roast really depends on your family's preferences.

So, serve a roast beef sandwich the next time your family starts to clamor for a hearty sandwich. Don't forget to include the Fresh Bell Pepper Salsa on the side!

Easy Roast Beef Sandwich

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Farmland Black Angus Beef Boneless Top Round Roast (about 3 pounds) | 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce |
| 1 tablespoon vegetable oil | Salt to taste |
| 1 cup water | 1/4 teaspoon coarsely ground pepper |
| 1 can (10 3/4 ounces) ready-to-serve beef broth | Bread, toast or sandwich buns |

Trim any visible fat from roast. In Dutch oven, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook roast in oil until brown on all sides. Add water. Cover and bake at 325 degrees F for 2 hours or until beef is tender. Drain. Place beef on cutting board; cut into thin slices. Return slices to Dutch oven. Add beef broth and Worcestershire sauce; season to taste with salt and pepper. Heat through. Serve on bread, toast or sandwich buns. Makes enough for 10 to 12 sandwiches.

Serving suggestion: Place sliced beef on toasted slices of French bread (1-inch thick). Top with slices of Swiss cheese and sautéed onions. Broil for 1 minute to melt cheese. Top each with another toasted bread slice.

Fresh Bell Pepper Salsa

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1/2 red bell pepper, chopped | 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice |
| 1/2 green bell pepper, chopped | 1 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro |
| 1/2 yellow bell pepper, chopped | 1 tablespoon vegetable oil |
| 1/4 cup sliced green onions | 1/2 teaspoon salt |

In medium bowl, combine ingredients; mix well. Serve with the Easy Roast Beef Sandwich.



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40-tnc

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de Rentar O Necesita una Casa con mas Espacio? A-1 Homes tiene la solucion. Casa de tres recamaras y dos banos. SIN ENGALUE NECESARIO Llamele a Efraim Puente 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.

40a-1tc

BRICK HOME

close to school with CH/CA, fireplace, and many extras. Lee Associates Real Estate.

FOR SALE
in Robert Lee 6+ acres with 2 story home.



453-2995

FOR RENT

FOR RENT

2 Bdr. trailer w/addition. Very clean. CH/CA. 423 Chadbourne, Robert Lee \$300 mo. w/deposit \$200. Call 453-4359.

39a-1tnc

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

19b-tnc

MISC

PARENTS:

What would you do if you found out your children were not being fed? Well they are not being fed spiritually. Matthew 4:4 (KJV)

40b-1tc

WILL PICK UP

junk. Call Robert Arthur after 5:30 pm at 473-2410.

40b-2tp

MOWERS REPAIRED

Mowers for sale. 305 E. 3rd., Robert Lee. 453-2363.

40-8tp

COMPUTERS

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

32b-tnc

DONNIE'S APPLIANCE & REFRIGERATION

Window Units serviced and repaired. Electrical Troubleshooting. Also rewires floor and table lamps. (915) 453-2188.

36a-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

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

10a-tnc

SUNSHINE CONSTRUCTION

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

34a-tnc

TREES TRIMMED

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

37a-tnc

RANCH FENCE BUILDING

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

34b-tnc

PARKER PLUMBING

Residential & Commercial. All types plumbing repair - new construction, remodeling, fixtures, and sewer service. Licensed Master Plumber. 473-2131, Bronte.

34b-tnc



24 hr. Emergency Water Damage Service

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

45b-tnc

GARAGE SALES

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Bicycles, baby clothes, kids clothes, toys, household items, exercise bike, lots of misc. 1121 Euel, Robert Lee. Sat. May 6 8:00 till 2:00.

40a-1tc

GARAGE SALE

202 W. 12th, Robert Lee. 8:00 til ? Camper shell, table saw, bedding, clothes, misc.

40a-1tc

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Friday & Saturday, May 5-6, 2456 Douglas Drive (off Johnson Street), San Angelo. We have books from the West Texas Collection book sale plus much, much more.

40a-1tc

6 FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Golf cart, furniture, microwave, T.V., clothes, of all sizes, crafts, and lots of misc. 113 W. 4th St. Robert Lee. Last House on left before Fern Haven's Park. 453-9663. 8 am to 2 pm. Saturday only.

40-1tp

GARAGE SALE

May 6, 434 Kickapoo Rd., Bronte. Monico Flores.

40b-1tp

GARAGE SALE

Friday and Saturday. 20 tray dehydrator, paid \$140, only slightly used, \$75. Plants, baked goods, clothes, glassware, gas chain saw, jewelry, hand made baby quilts and other items by Edith Rolls. Border Collie puppy. Nicknacks and so on. 301 S. Washington, Bronte.

40b-1tc

GARAGE SALE

312 West Main St., Bronte. 8 am - 4 pm. 2 riding lawn mowers, stove, coca cola machine, speakers & more.

40b-1tc

SATURDAY SALE

Bronte. May 6, 2000 at 124 Howard behind old Chevron station 8 am til? Furniture, appliances, fishing rods, sm. girls bike, craft supplies, silk flowers, men's clothes, swimming suits, girls clothes, toys, computer, dishes, women's clothes, phone, sewing machine, surger. More misc., some new.

40b-1tc

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Storage Unit 18, Bronte on Highway 277. Furniture, Antiques, Coats, Electric Heater, Copper Pot Rack, Junk & Stuff.

40b-1tp

Garage/Attic Sale

Downtown Robert Lee

Friday & Saturday

May 5th & 6th

9 am to 4 pm



HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED
Cook, waitress, dishwasher. Responsible persons only need to apply. Diane's Chuckwagon. 723 Austin St. Robert Lee, TX. No phone

calls. No Rehires. Apply 2-4 pm only. Ask for Diane. Must be able to work all shifts.

39a-2tc

HELP WANTED

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

36b-tnc

NOTICES

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date (s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (S)

District: San Angelo
Contract 6056-96-001 for MOWING HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY in COKE County, etc will be opened on May 23, 2000 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$83,957.00.

Contract 6057-38-001 for MOWING HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY in STERLING County, etc will be opened on May 24, 2000 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$133,015.50.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract (s) are available at reproduction companies in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 347

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

District Office (s)

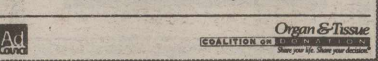
San Angelo District
District Engineer
4502 Knickerbocker Rd.
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Phone: 915-944-1501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

39a-2tc

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For a free brochure call 1-800-355-SHARE





COUNTRY AGENTS
NEWS

by Tommy Antilley
Coke County Agent

Okra

A Texas tradition that takes the heat

To most Texans there is nothing that thrives like okra under our long, hot summer sun.

And thrive in our Texas heat it does. In fact, okra is one of the few garden vegetables that actually prefers hot weather. Plant it too early and it will fail. Plant it late in the spring or early summer and it will provide you with a generous harvest right up to the first frost in the fall.

When to Plant

How hot does it need to be for okra to thrive? When it is warm enough to wear shorts and a T-shirt outside at night, it is warm enough to plant okra. Even if you get a late start with your garden, it is not too late to plant okra. The only problem you may run into by planting late is your harvest may be cut short in the fall by cold weather.

Soil Preparation

Okra is so easy to grow that it requires minimal soil preparation. If your garden soil is fairly fertile all you need to do is plant at the appropriate time. You can, however, maximize your yields by adding liberal amounts of compost to the soil. The key to bed preparation for okra is to provide adequate drainage. If you garden in an area with poor drainage consider planting your okra in raised beds.

Planting

Okra, even the so-called dwarf varieties, will grow like crazy (six to eight feet) and requires a lot of space to reach its maximum potential. Start off by planting your seed three to six inches apart, eventually thinning it to 12-inch spacing. After thinning, top dress with a light application of ammonium sulfate or compost tea. This is more important if you garden in light, sandy soil but your okra will respond with increased yields wherever you garden. If you plant more than one row space them three to four feet apart. This will allow sun to reach all the leaves as well as make it easier to harvest your okra.

Always direct-seed your okra. Okra transplants take so long to recover after being set out that there is no advantage to using them like there is with tomatoes or peppers. You can speed up germination and increase your stand by pre-germinating your okra seed. Just place your seed between several paper towels in a shallow dish and soak with water. In a few days, the seed will germinate and is ready to be placed in the garden.

Watering

Okra is one of the few vegetables that we can often grow in Texas dry land or without supplemental irrigation because it develops a very deep, extensive root system. Watering during periods of prolonged dry weather will help sustain yields. Just be sure not to over water or plant

in a poorly drained area of the garden or the extra moisture will eventually destroy the roots and kill the plants.

Insects and Disease

With one major exception, okra has few enemies. But that exception is cotton root rot and if it exists in your garden then you will probably never be able to grow okra successfully. If your okra seems to wilt or die almost overnight then you probably have cotton root rot.

Nematodes-microscopic worms-are the number-one soil-borne problem in Texas and they love to attack okra. Nematodes enter the feeder roots of plants and will literally suck the life out of your okra. Common signs of a nematode infestation, include yellowing of leaves, slow growth, and poor yield with ultimate death of the plants. By following part of your garden in summer and periodically tilling the soil, you will expose it and the nematodes to the deadly rays of the sun.

You may notice the stink bugs, aphids and fire ants like okra as much as people do but they seldom reach proportions that will harm okra. We like to encourage ladybugs to help keep the aphids in check. The stink bugs and fire ants can be reduced, but not eliminated with contact insecticides but we prefer to just tolerate them and always harvest with gloves on to avoid stings as well as the "okra itch."

Harvest

It is best to harvest your okra when it is immature (two to three inches long) your yields will be reduced somewhat but more mature okra or okra that has been harvested from plants that are under stress

has a tendency to be tough and stringy. Without a doubt, some of your okra will escape your eye and reach maturity before you know it. Not to worry, just let these escapes dry out, remove them and use them in Thanksgiving or Christmas decorations. Spray paint and use them in combination with dried flowers to make an attractive arrangement.

Varieties

It is hard to pick the wrong variety of okra. Many of the hybrid varieties that you see in garden catalogs as well as those we anoint as All-Texas Selections like Clemson Spineless, Emerald and Lee will produce astonishing yields if tended to properly. But when it comes down to it, a favorite is the old-fashioned Longhorn okra. Since it is an open-pollinated variety its seed can be saved. In fact, many Texans grow and share its seed with fellow gardeners. It is very distinctive looking - the pods are thick (almost as wide as they are long). What we like most about it is the way it holds up when cooked. It never gets mushy and maintains its firm texture all the way to the table.

Texas Forts Trail

On May 31, 1881, the American flag over Fort Griffin was lowered for the last time. ON this day, the post was abandoned.

This May, in the year 2000, we are celebrating Texas attractions by proclaiming May 8-13 as National Tourism Week. Tourism is big business in the state of Texas. It is the third largest industry in the state with revenues of over \$30 billion annually. Tourism directly employs almost 500,000 Texans and without the tax dollars generated from tourism, each household in Texas would pay \$615 in additional taxes to maintain existing governmental services. Tourism is big business in Texas.

In West Central Texas, heritage tourism is big business. Heritage tourism means people are traveling to learn about the unique history or culture of an area. The Texas Forts Trail is proud to be a pilot project of the Texas Historical Commission, working within their Heritage Tourism Division. There are so many examples of communities utilizing their history to create tourism. A fabulous example is Eastland, which held a Cemetery Walk - characters in costume representing the deceased tell the stories of the pioneer settlers - a great example of history coming to life. The Fort Griffin Fandangle is another industrious example of heritage tourism - again, recreating a period of time and telling the story through music and song.

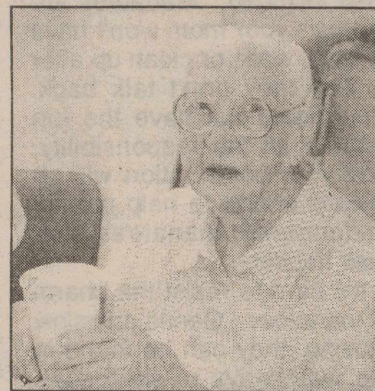
May 18-21 brings an international delegation along the Texas Forts Trail - an opportunity for each of us to showcase our unique heritage along with that famous West Texas hospitality. Watch for the bus and welcome our guests with open arms.

Remember, the daily wild-flower tours in Mason and a polo match at Fort Concho on May 6. Don't forget the first Birding Day at Fort Griffin on May 13 - learn from the experts how to spot and identify many species of native birds.

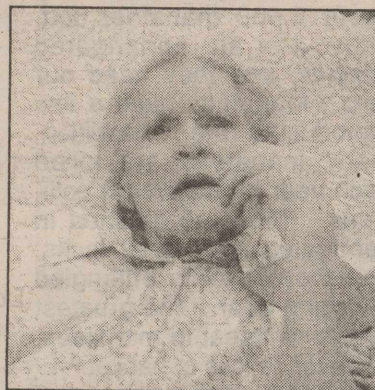
It's May 2000, but the flag is again flying over Fort Griffin and thanks to the tourism - our heritage is shared with many. See you on the trail!



Inez Flores



Lila Cope



Wilda Collins

RLCC residents celebrate April birthdays

Wilda Collins, Lila Cope, Veda King, and Inez Flores were all residents of the Robert Lee Care Center who celebrated April birthdays. The birthday party was sponsored by Order of Eastern Star on Wednesday, April 26 at 3 pm. Coke floats were served and enjoyed by all.

Nita Duncan furnished piano music for entertainment.

Challenge me.

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Ad Council

EDUCATION EXCELLENCE PARTNERSHIP

CITY OF BRONTE
STAGE II
WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

Restrictions: Residential And Commercial Yard Watering will be limited to between 8:00 pm and 12:00 midnight and between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 am. However, watering is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose, faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation.

Residents are asked to curtail the following uses of water:

1. Wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots and other hard surface areas.
2. Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
3. Use of water for dust control.
4. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 27, 2000

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1996 Chevrolet 1500 Ext. Cab	\$15,495
1999 White Mercury Sable	\$12,995
1997 S-10 Flareside	\$ 8,495
1999 Lincoln Town Car	\$25,995
1999 Black Mercury Cougar	\$14,995
1994 Toyota 4-Runner	\$ 9,995
1999 Ford Windstar	\$17,995
1999 Crown Victoria LZ	\$16,995

473-2715

A face your Mother will love

This Mother's Day, add a manatee to your family. Show your mom how much you care by adopting a manatee in her name. You can't take the manatee home, but Save the Manatee Club (SMC) will send a photo and biography of the newest addition to the family. An adoption certificate, membership handbook, and newsletter subscription are also included. Manatees are animals your mom won't have to feed, walk, or clean up after -- and they don't talk back. Your mom will have the fun without all the responsibility, and your contribution will go toward efforts to help protect endangered manatees and their habitat.

It's hard to resist the charm of manatees. Gentle and slow moving, they can be found in the waterways of southeastern United States -- primarily in Florida. Today, there are only about 2,400 manatees left. They are an endangered species, and they need our help. Manatees have a low reproductive rate. In addition, many manatees are killed each year by watercraft collisions. They are crushed in floodgates and canal locks, and they become entangled in fishing gear. The greatest long-term threat to manatees, however, is loss of habitat.

Twenty manatees who regularly winter at Blue Spring State Park in Orange City, FL, have been chosen for one of SMC's three Adopt-A-Manatee programs. Adoptees at Blue Spring State Park include manatee moms such as Phyllis, Success, and Lucille. In the Spring of 1991, Phyllis gave birth to twins, a rare occurrence for manatees. She recently came into Blue Spring this winter with a new calf. Success is another manatee in SMC's adoption program. She hasn't missed a visit to Blue Spring since her birth in 1982. Success is the proud mother of Lola, Lufa, Luke, Liege, Lance, and Lopy! Recently, Lucille brought her seventh calf, a girl, into Blue Spring for a winter visit.

SMC's other adoption program is at Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park (HSSWP), FL. The park is a rehabilitation facility for manatees who are recovering from injuries before being released back into the wild. Five female manatees who cannot be released into the wild for life threatening reasons currently call HSSWP their home. They include Amanda, who suffered injuries from a watercraft collision, and her daughters Ariel, Star, and Betsy. Rosie is another park resident. She is a gentle manatee who likes to "baby-sit" the younger manatees in rehabilitation.

Five manatees frequently seen in the Tampa Bay area along the west coast of Florida are the latest additions to Save the Manatee Club's Adopt-A-Manatee program. Most of these manatees spend all or part of the year in Tampa Bay. The manatees chosen for the Adopt-A-Manatee program include two males and three females. Jemp and Vector are the male manatees. Jemp was rescued in 1995 after being exposed to red tide. He is known to travel in a wide range along Florida's west coast and is often seen in the company of females. Vector is also a traveling manatee, but he is known for traveling solo. The female manatees in the program include Elsie, Ragtail, and Ginger. Unfortunately, Elsie is easily identified by researchers because her tail is badly mutilated from an encounter with a boat propeller. Ragtail is also known for her disfigured tail. She was first identified by researchers in 1993, and she is known for hanging out in Tampa Bay in the summer. Also included in the program is a manatee who frequents the west coast of Florida, south of Tampa Bay. Her name is Ginger, and she has been seen every summer since 1994 in the Marco Island area. Ginger has two known calves -- one of them was born in 1996 and is named Ale! Recently, Ginger was spotted with a new calf.

Save the Manatee Club is a national, nonprofit organization that was started in 1981 by U.S. Senator Bob Graham and singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffett. The Club's mission is to protect manatees and their habitat. Contributions to the Adopt-A-Manatee program are tax deductible and help to support SMC's manatee education and public awareness projects. SMC also funds manatee rescue, rehabilitation, and research efforts in the U.S. and the Wider Caribbean and helps to protect manatees and their habitat through advocacy and legal action.

For more information about manatees for the Adopt-A-Manatee program, contact: Save the Manatee Club, 500 N. Maitland, FL 32751. 1-800-432-JOIN. Visit the SMC web page on the Internet at <http://www.savethemanatee.org>.



Farm to Table Meals
Pork By Hayley Matson

Barbecuing — An American Favorite

Summer evenings and holidays on the farm meant savory meats grilled to perfection. You don't have to live in the country to enjoy that simple pleasure. It just wouldn't be summer without family gatherings and great barbecue. The farm families that own Farmland take great pride in producing great tasting meats to make each and every barbecue a celebration.

The age-old method of cooking over a fire has evolved to include high-tech grills and fancy accessories. Even the simplest grill can produce a great tasting meal by following a few basic steps. The grill enhances the flavor by cooking the meat quickly over high heat, while smoking relies on slow cooking at low temperatures with the flavor imparted from the wood used.

The tried and true country rule for good entertaining and outstanding barbecue—keep it simple and have plenty of food. And it seems many Americans are doing a lot of grill work. According to the grilling experts at Weber Grills, Americans grill an average of 2.3 times a week. So whether you are a novice or barbecue

expert, use patience to make your next cook-out a success. Try some new recipes to eliminate barbecue blahs.

If you are using a charcoal grill—arrange the briquettes in a pyramid shape. You must be patient and let the coals burn to proper temperature. Start about 30 minutes before cooking time to allow coals to appear ash-covered (in daylight) or glowing (at night).

Apply a "rub" or dry marinade to impart flavor to meats without the mess of traditional liquid marinades. Rub Farmland Extra Tender® chops or ribs with a spicy blend of seasonings a few hours ahead of cooking time for the most intense flavor, or at the last minute if time is short. Always keep meat refrigerated until cooking time.

If you use barbecue sauce—brush or spoon onto ribs during the last 10 to 15 minutes of cooking to prevent flare-ups and charred meat. Sugars in sweet or tangy sauces burn quickly.

Always use tongs to turn meat instead of a fork. This prevents the natural juices from escaping and keeps the meat flavorful.

The kick-off of the grilling season was

Memorial Day—when approximately 72% of Americans grilled out. It will be followed closely by Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends. So don't miss out on the fun—try these recipes from the farmer-owners at Farmland:

Savory Sage Rub

- 1 tablespoon rubbed sage
- 1 tablespoon lemon pepper
- 2 teaspoons dried rosemary leaves, crushed
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves, crushed

Combine all ingredients. Rub over all surfaces of Farmland Extra Tender® Ribs before cooking. Makes 1/4 cup, enough for about 2 pounds of ribs.

Also delicious in combination with Blue-Ribbon Barbecue Sauce.

Blue-Ribbon Barbecue Sauce

- 1 cup catsup
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon grated orange peel
- 1/2 cup fresh orange juice
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon celery seed
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder

Combine all ingredients in small saucepan. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 30 minutes. Divide sauce into two 1-cup portions. Baste Farmland Extra Tender® Ribs with 1 cup of sauce during the last 10 to 15 minutes of cooking. Serve remaining 1 cup of sauce with ribs. Makes 2 cups, enough for about 4 pounds of ribs.

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